



## THE COUNTY OF KAUA'I

DEREK S. K. KAWAKAMI, MAYOR

MICHAEL A. DAHLIG, MANAGING DIRECTOR

### News Release

For Immediate Release: April 15, 2019

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OFFICE OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS  
ELLEN CHING, ADMINISTRATOR  
Tel (808) 241-4917  
Fax (808) 241-5127

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### **Kaua'i County Committee the Status of Women, Zonta Club calls community to action on Denim Day, April 24**

LĪHU'E – The Kaua'i County Committee on the Status of Women (KCSW) along with the Zonta Club of Kaua'i and Zonta Club of Hanalei are working together to encourage the community to make a social statement by wearing jeans as a visible means of protest against misconceptions that surround sexual assault on Denim Day, April 24. Additionally, Mayor Derek S. K. Kawakami will present the National Denim Day Proclamation on Denim Day at the Līhu'e Civic Center at noon.

In April 1999, a social service agency in Los Angeles established the first Denim Day in the United States, which remains an integral part of Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

Denim Day was originally triggered by a ruling from the Italian Supreme Court where a rape conviction was overturned because the justices felt that since the victim was wearing tight jeans she must have helped her rapist remove her jeans thereby implying consent. Women of the Italian Parliament protested the decision by wearing jeans to work. This was a visual protest.

Wear denim with a purpose to support survivors, and to educate yourself and others about sexual assault. No matter what, clothing is never an excuse for sexual assault.

The Zonta Club of Kauai and Zonta Club of Hanalei are chapters of Zonta International, a global organization of over 30,000 members in 67 countries, whose mission is to empower women through service and advocacy. All Zonta members believe the best way to improve the lives of women and girls is through advocacy and education.



Zonta organizations locally and around the globe advocate to “Say No to Violence Against Women,” a similar campaign to end violence against women and girls worldwide.

To learn more about the Kauaʻi Committee on the Status of Women visit [www.kauai.gov/kccsw](http://www.kauai.gov/kccsw); Zonta Clubs on Kauaʻi at [www.zonta-kauai.org](http://www.zonta-kauai.org) and [www.zontahanalei.com](http://www.zontahanalei.com); Zonta International at its website at [www.zonta.org](http://www.zonta.org); or contact Edie Ignacio Neumiller at 808-639-9973.

If you need an ASL Interpreter, materials in an alternate format or other auxiliary aid support, or an interpreter for a language other than English, please contact Anela Segreti at 808-241-4917 or [asegreti@kauai.gov](mailto:asegreti@kauai.gov) prior to the event.

# Join Us On Denim Day

Wednesday, April 24, 2019, 12:00 at  
the County of Kauai Rotunda

We Invite You to Wear Denim on April 24, 2019  
Support Victims and Survivors of Sexual Assault



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There is  
**NO EXCUSE AND NEVER**  
an Invitation to **RAPE**



Sponsored in partnership with the Kauai Committee on the Status of Women, The Zonta Club of Kauai and The Zonta Club of Hanalei

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