



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Contact:

Maria Alfonso-Johnson, Director of Development  
The Women's Center of Jacksonville (WCJ)

[email: mjohnson@thewcj.org](mailto:mjohnson@thewcj.org)

Phone: 904.722.3000 ext. 203

## **"Together We Act, United We Change"- Women's Center of Jacksonville (WCJ) Recognizes Sexual Assault Awareness Month with Community Events and Initiatives**

**Jacksonville, FL – 04/03/2025** – The WCJ commemorates the start of **Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM)** in April with a national campaign "Together We Act, United We Change". The campaign highlights the importance of working together to address and prevent sexual abuse, assault, and harassment. It further focuses on enhancing public understanding of sexual violence, amplifying the voices of survivors, and empowering us to work together to promote the safety and well-being of others.

The WCJ is proud to lead the charge in Northeast Florida, offering a month-long series of events and educational programs designed to empower the community and uplift survivors of sexual violence. "We believe that **awareness leads to action**," said Teresa Miles, Executive Director of the WCJ. "Sexual violence affects individuals from all walks of life, and it's our mission to create a community where survivors are supported, and prevention is prioritized."

### **Upcoming WCJ SAAM Events:**

- **Kickball Tournament for Awareness & Fundraising – April 5<sup>th</sup>, 9am to 12pm** at Rondette Park (3500 Rondette Lake Road). A friendly competition to raise awareness with community partners and raise funds. Come cheer on your favorite team as we come together to support survivors of sexual violence.
- **Dodgeball Tournament for Awareness & Fundraising – April 12<sup>th</sup>, 9am to 12pm** at the Peck Center (516 S 10<sup>th</sup> St, Fernandina Beach). Come watch your local community service cohorts engage in a tournament meant to raise awareness and raise funds for WCJ's meaningful cause.
- **"Walk in Her Shoes" 8K Awareness Walk – April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 8:30 AM** starting at the Duval County Courthouse (501 W. Adams Street) and ending at the Women's Center of Jacksonville walk-in center (5644 Colcord Avenue). In partnership with Senator Lauren Book, this event raises awareness of childhood sexual violence.
- **"Surviving to Thriving" Art Showcase – April 26<sup>th</sup>, 6 PM** at Babs' Lab (603 King St). A powerful exhibition where survivors present their healing journeys through poetry, music, and visual art. Join us for an evening of expression, catharsis, food, and activities.
- **"Book Spotlight" Memoir Showcase- April 1<sup>st</sup> to April 30<sup>th</sup>** at San Marco Books and More, Femme Fire Books, The Literary Lounge, Happy Medium Books Café, and The Bookmark. For the entire month of April, these bookstores will be highlighting [Saving Five: A Memoir of Hope](#) by Amanda Nguyen. A portion of all book sale proceeds will support WCJ services for survivors of sexual violence.

## Get Involved

Every action, whether it's attending an event, sharing a resource, or simply believing a survivor contributes to a future where sexual violence is no longer tolerated. This month, we invite everyone to stand with us in fostering a culture of consent, respect, and healing. Those interested can visit <https://thewcj.org/sexual-assault-awareness-month/> for event details or follow WCJ on Instagram at **@TheWCJ\_** or on Facebook at **TheWCJ**

For media inquiries, interviews, or more information, please contact our center at [Development@thewcj.org](mailto:Development@thewcj.org) or **904-722-3000 ext. 203**.

## About the Women's Center of Jacksonville

The WCJ is a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting survivors of sexual violence through advocacy, crisis intervention, prevention education, and community outreach. As the **certified rape crisis center** for Duval, Nassau, and Baker Counties, WCJ provides **confidential advocacy, forensic exams, and support services**, a 24/7 rape crisis hotline, counseling, prevention workshops, prevention education, and support groups. All WCJ services are free of charge. To learn more, visit [TheWCJ.org](http://TheWCJ.org).