

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Denim Day is Wednesday, April 24, 2024

NCEDSV honors Norah Lusk as a recipient of the Visionary Voice Award and encourages the community to wear denim to raise awareness about sexual assault.

[Reno, NV] - [Denim Day](#), an international solidarity movement dedicated to raising awareness about sexual assault, lands on April 24, 2024. NCEDSV is joining the Committee Against Domestic Violence ([CADV](#)) in a community rally to celebrate Denim Day and honor Norah Lusk, co-founder of the Nevada Institute of Forensic Nursing ([NVIFN](#)), as a recipient of this year's [Visionary Voice Award](#).

"Each year, Denim Day stands as a reminder that there is no excuse for sexual assault and the only person responsible is the attacker. What a victim wears is not an excuse. What a victim drinks is not an excuse. The perceived safety of a community is not an excuse. There are no excuses for sexual assault and we as a community need to let victims know that they are not to blame," said Elizabeth Abdur-Raheem, Executive Director of NCEDSV.

The NVIFN provides sexual assault nurse examiner (SANE) services to victim-survivors of sexual assault in rural Nevada, including SAFE (sexual assault forensic exams) through a discreet mobile unit. Norah's unwavering dedication is reflected in her willingness to meet victim-survivors where they are, reducing the likelihood of re-traumatization associated with traveling long distances for a forensic exam.

On April 24, 2024, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., there will be a press conference and award ceremony to honor Norah's dedication to advocacy. The event will be held at the Elko PD Training Room at 1448 Silver St., Elko, NV 89801.

"Norah is an indefatigable advocate for victim-survivors of sexual assault across Nevada's frontier. She brings not only her medical expertise but her compassion, understanding, and calm reassurance every time she meets with or examines a victim-survivor," said Abdur-Raheem. "We are so excited to honor Norah and highlight everything she is doing to intercept the trauma of sexual assault through the Visionary Voice award."

In 1999, Denim Day began after the Italian Supreme Court overruled a rape conviction on the grounds that the victim-survivor's jeans were too tight to take off without her help, implying consent. Since then, Denim Day has swept the world as a movement against victim blaming and to end the stigma faced by victim-survivors of sexual assault.

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About NCEDSV

The Nevada Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence (previously The Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence), is the statewide coalition of domestic and sexual violence programs. NCEDSV provides statewide advocacy, education and support to the front-line organizations that help those

impacted by domestic and sexual violence. To learn more about services provided by NCEDSV, visit [ncedsv.org](https://www.ncedsv.org).