



Special Message from
Governor David Y. Ige

In Recognition of

Denim Day 2021

April 28, 2021

Aloha! Today, we join millions of people across the world in wearing jeans with a purpose, supporting survivors, and educating ourselves and others about all forms of sexual violence.

For the past 22 years, Peace Over Violence has organized the annual Demin Day campaign in response to a ruling by the Italian Supreme Court that found a victim's fashion choice implied consent. In solidarity, the YWCA Kaua'i and Zonta Club of Kaua'i, along with allies of sexual assault survivors across the globe, continue to wear jeans as a visible means of support for victims. This year's theme, "Believe Survivors," serves as a reminder that we must still prioritize the needs of survivors and that there is never an excuse to harass, abuse, assault, or rape. Harmful attitudes are still pervasive in society, and we have much work to do in countering these damaging beliefs and misconceptions about sexual harassment and consent.

I commend the organizations and individuals who have championed this international movement that brings awareness to victim blaming and the destructive myths surrounding sexual assault.

Mahalo nui loa to all participants, including the Zonta Club of Kaua'i, YWCA Kaua'i, and County of Kaua'i for partnering to recognize Denim Day 2021 and for raising awareness and supporting victims of sexual assault.

With warmest regards,

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i