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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **ZCenter to Participate in Sexual Assault Awareness Month Campaign** *2018 Theme, "Embrace Your Voice," Focuses on Expanding Prevention Efforts*

As part of the national 2018 "Embrace Your Voice" Campaign, Zacharias Sexual Abuse Center calls on individuals to use their voice to make an impact when it comes to prevention

GURNEE, IL, March 28, 2018 -- This April, Zacharias Sexual Abuse Center (ZCenter) will collaborate with the broader community as part of its annual Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) campaign.

This year's theme, "Embrace Your Voice," builds on the idea that how you talk about sexual violence matters. Individuals can embrace their voices to show their support for survivors, stand up to victim blaming, promote everyday consent, and practice healthy communications with children.

During Sexual Assault Awareness Month, ZCenter will bring the theme of "Embrace Your Voice" to life by rolling out a calendar of activities throughout the community.

"We all have a role to play in the prevention of sexual assault," says Jennifer Yonan, Executive Director of ZCenter. "By allowing the community to participate, whether via social media hashtags or connecting with us at an event, we can reinforce messages of respect, safety and equality."

Beyond SAAM activities this April, ZCenter leads a wide range of initiatives to prevent sexual assault. These include a membership based ZCenter Prevention Network lunch programs and workshops, panel discussions, special events and more. SAAM is organized nationally by the National Sexual Violence Resource Center.

#### *About Zacharias Sexual Abuse Center*

ZCenter was built on the courage of survivors, staff, volunteers, and donors, and has been serving the community as a non-profit center against sexual assault and abuse since 1983. Now operating from two locations, Gurnee and Skokie, ZCenter provides places where survivors of sexual violence can heal, and mobilizes the community toward action to end sexual violence. Services are available free of charge to all survivors regardless of race, gender, language, ability to pay, sexual orientation, or religion. For more information, please visit [ZCenter.org](http://ZCenter.org).

#### *About the SAAM Campaign*

Launched in April 2001 by the National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC), Sexual Assault Awareness Month is an annual awareness and prevention campaign observed in April and is coordinated each year with assistance from anti-sexual assault organizations throughout the United States. For more information on this year's national campaign, visit [www.nsvrc.org/saam](http://www.nsvrc.org/saam).

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