

SAMPLE LETTER TO THE MEDIA

Date

Name/Title Organization

Address

Phone/Fax

Dear [*Name of Editor, Reporter*]

April is **Sexual Assault Awareness Month** in Washington State. Locally and around the state, individuals, youth, communities, schools, and agencies will be taking action to increase awareness about sexual assault and to end sexual violence. I am writing to ask for your help in this work.

The issue is pressing. One out of every four girls and one out of every six boys will be sexually abused before the age of 18. A recent survey conducted by the Washington State Office of Crime Victims Advocacy found that one third of all women in Washington state have experienced some form of sexual assault. To address these startling statistics, [*local community*] is organizing several community events and activities, including:

- [*Event, Date*]
- [*Event, Date*]

The theme of this year's Awareness Month is **I Can Be the Solution**. By discovering and rethinking the ways that people can be solution, the campaign seeks to make a meaningful impact on sexual violence. You can help us in this endeavor by reporting on local **Sexual Assault Awareness Month** events. We also hope you will consider reporting on some of the following:

- Highlight [*local sexual assault program*] and its work in the community
- Provide information about the prevalence of sexual assault
- Discuss common misconceptions about sexual assault and provide accurate information about sexual violence
- Highlight the sexual assault prevention efforts of a community group or of youth
- Explore connections between media messages that support rape or violence

I can assist you in getting additional information about local events and about issues surrounding sexual assault. Your assistance in reporting on the issue of sexual assault is greatly appreciated. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,