

White Ribbon Day Will Be Held At Library

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For the second year a White Ribbon Day program will be held on Thursday, March 12, from 9 to 10 AM in the Hermann Foundation Meeting Room of the Falmouth Public Library.

The event is part of Massachusetts White Ribbon Day Campaign, which is an annual day of recognition of the role men can play in stopping violence against women and all gender-based violence.

White Ribbon Day was created by a group of men in 1991 in reaction to one man's massacre of 14 female college students in Montreal specifically because they were women. This effort has mobilized boys and men around the world to take a stand against violence against women.

According to Jane Doe, Inc., the Massachusetts Coalition Against Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence, the Massachusetts White Ribbon Day Campaign mobilizes men and boys throughout the year to foster a positive image of masculinity and join in a celebration of personal peace and cooperation, change

societal attitudes and beliefs that perpetuate and make excuses for violence against women and promote safety and respect in all situations and relationships.

The program will include short educational videos, a proclamation from the Falmouth Board of Selectmen and speeches by Independence House, Inc., executive director Lysetta Hurge-Putnam; Dr. David Tager, chief medical officer at the Community Health Center of Cape Cod in Mashpee; the Reverend Will Mebane, St. Barnabas Episcopal Church of Falmouth, and Falmouth resident Rich Duby, a graphic artist and Vietnam veteran.

The pledge states: "From this day forward, I promise to be part of the solution in ending violence against women and all gender-based violence."

Past participants will also be named as ambassadors, who will commit to outreach and education on what men can do to stop all forms of gender-based violence. The public is invited to attend.

For more information, contact Sandra Faiman-Silva, sfaiman@aol.com, 508-274-1131; or Kate Grannemann, kate.grannemann@gmail.com, 617-688-1103

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