



Media Alert

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 5, 2019

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February is Teen Dating Awareness Month

Sojourner to host a "Healthy Dating Talk Back" with Shorewood high school parents and their daughters to deepen the dialogue about teen dating violence.

WHAT: Sojourner will host a "Healthy Dating Talk Back" with 11 Shorewood High School families. The evening will include a breakout session focused specifically for female teens, and another session centered around educating female adult caregivers. This intimate conversation will include topics about the fundamentals of healthy relationships, warning signs of abusive relationships, understanding power and control, how to speak up about dating violence, and how parents/caregivers can help educate and support teens. Special thanks to Verizon's grant funding, which allows us to continue to have these important discussions with Milwaukee youth.

WHEN: **Thursday, February 7, 2019**
5:15 – 5:45 PM – Interviews
5:45 – 6:15 PM – B-roll of parents and teens in opening remarks

WHO: **Interviews Available with:**

Carmen Pitre, Sojourner President and CEO

Jane Foley, retired advocate from the Milwaukee County District Attorney's office

Lynn Cook, Forensic Interviewer at Children's Hospital Child Advocacy Center

(Potential) Shorewood Parent/Caregiver in attendance

WHY: One in ten teens who have been on a date have also been physically abused by a boyfriend or girlfriend in the last year. One of the most important things parents can do is keep the lines of communication open with their children.

WHERE: **Sojourner Family Peace Center**
619 W. Walnut St.
Milwaukee, WI 53212

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

About Sojourner

The mission of Sojourner is to transform lives impacted by domestic violence. Sojourner provides crisis housing, system advocacy, and individual support to people who are hurting. Sojourner is the largest provider of domestic violence prevention and intervention services in Wisconsin, serving nearly 11,500 clients annually. Our primary goals are to ensure the safety of victims of family violence and to provide a pathway out of violence for victims and abusers through opportunities to make positive and lasting changes for themselves and their children. Sojourner is committed to creating communities where people live peacefully. For more information, visit www.familypeacecenter.org or call Sojourner 24-Hour Domestic Violence Hotline: 414-933-2722.

About Family Peace Center

Sojourner is one of the first in the nation to house holistic services for survivors of domestic violence, all under one roof. Sojourner and Children's Hospital of Wisconsin formed a unique partnership to create one of the first co-located child advocacy and family violence centers in the country. The Family Peace Center accommodates a number of co-located and visiting partner organizations including the Milwaukee Police Department Sensitive Crimes Unit, Milwaukee Public Schools, the Milwaukee County District Attorney's Office, Aurora Healthcare Abuse Response Services, and others. Families receiving services at the Family Peace Center have access to a wide array of services to support their efforts to achieve healing, self-sufficiency and freedom from abuse.

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