



MEDIA ALERT

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Peninsula-Area High School Students to Learn Power In Story at 7th Annual Diversity Dialogue Day

What: Diversity Dialogue Day

When: Tuesday, November 1 from 8:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m.

Where: Hampton University, Student Center

Who: Nearly 200 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students and educators from public and private schools in the cities of Hampton, Newport News and Poquoson, along with Gloucester, Williamsburg-James City County and York County will come together in a hands-on workshop setting to learn lessons about diversity, discrimination, and respect that they will then bring back to their peers at school. Diversity Dialogue Day is sponsored by the Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities with support from Dominion Resources. The 2016 Diversity Dialogue Day programming is developed in partnership with I AM MY LIFE (<http://www.iammylife.org/>).

How: This year's theme is Power In Story, with a curriculum taking participants through a process of awareness-to-action. Students will learn to understand their own identities, and construct meaningful ways of telling their story so that they can combat prejudice and intolerance. They will work closely with their peers from a wide range of ethnic, cultural and socio-economic backgrounds as trained facilitators guide them through small group learning activities that will explore personal experiences with discrimination. At the end of the day, students will leave with practical skills to help make their schools more inclusive.

For More Information: <http://www.inclusiveva.org/programs/schools/diversitydialogueday/>

Interview Opportunities: Members of the press are invited to visit the Diversity Dialogue Day anytime during the program. Parents/guardians have granted permission to photograph and interview students. Educators are also available for interview. *For interviews, the preferred visiting time is from 11:45am – 12:00pm. For programming, the preferred visiting times are from 10:05am -- 10:55am or 1:05pm – 1:30pm.* Please contact Jessica Hawthorne, VCIC's Director of Programs, by telephone at (804) 495-1580 or by e-mail at jhawthorne@inclusiveva.org.

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