



MEDIA ADVISORY
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 25, 2018

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**HAMPTON ROADS EDUCATORS WILL BUILD SKILLS TO CREATE
MORE INCLUSIVE SCHOOLS AT “TEACHABLE MOMENTS” SERIES**

The Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities (VCIC) announces a series of Teachable Moments Educator Workshops for public and private school educators from across South Hampton Roads. These professional development sessions will cover a range of topics, including learning about how bias and prejudice affect schools, developing a shared language for exploring barriers to inclusion, gaining perspectives on how to prevent and respond to hurtful comments, and considering ways to effectively and educationally navigate controversial topics by turning them in to teachable moments. The series is made possible thanks to the generosity of the Tidewater Jewish Foundation.

“Educators across Virginia are asking themselves how they can better work toward creating more inclusive schools where every student and educator knows that they can truly belong, achieve, and contribute to their school community,” states Jonathan C. Zur, VCIC President & CEO. “This question is being asked with more urgency and frequency in response to recent incidents of bias and prejudice at schools and in communities. In fact, the Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities has had to respond to a 1,300% increase in requests for support after incidents of bias, bullying, or discrimination between 2015 and 2017.”

“We are proud to support the ‘Teachable Moments’ educator training program through the great work of the VCIC. Working with educators in both public and private schools is an essential way to make an impact across our community to better prepare our educators for an increasingly more challenging world.” adds Scott Kaplan, President & CEO of the Tidewater Jewish Foundation.

The sessions for educators will take place as follows:

- Elementary School: November 30, 2018 (9:00am – 3:00pm) – Simon Family JCC
- Middle School: January 10, 2019 (10:00am – 4:00pm) – Chrysler Museum of Art
- High School: January 11, 2019 (9:00am – 3:00pm) - WHRO

Space is limited and pre-registration is required.

The Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities works with schools, businesses, and communities to achieve success by addressing prejudices, in all forms, in order to improve academic achievement, increase workplace productivity, and enhance local trust. Through workshops, retreats, and customized programs that raise knowledge, motivation, and skills, VCIC develops leaders who work together to achieve success throughout the Commonwealth.

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