



MEDIA ALERT

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Peninsula-Area High School Students Gain Awareness of Diversity and Respect at 6th Annual Diversity Dialogue Day

What: Diversity Dialogue Day

When: Tuesday, October 27, 2015 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 and Newport News, along with 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 funding support from Dominion Resources.

How: This year's theme is "#MoreThanAStereotype," with a curriculum taking participants through a process of awareness-to-action. Students will learn to recognize stereotypes and understand how they contribute to 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 Youth Program Coordinator, by telephone at (804) 495-1580 or by e-mail at jhawthorne@inclusiveva.org.

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