



MEDIA ALERT

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Richmond-Area Middle School Students Gather to “Break the Cycle” of Bullying & Prejudice

*Over 200 Students, educators, and volunteers to participate in
the 18th Annual Prejudice Awareness Summit*

What: 18th Annual Prejudice Awareness Summit

When: Thursday, October 18, 2018 from 8:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

Where: Virginia Commonwealth University, Harris Hall, 1015 Floyd Avenue (Corner of Harrison and Floyd), Richmond, VA

Who: This year, over 200 middle school students and educators from Richmond-area public and private middle schools, including schools from Chesterfield, Goochland, Henrico, New Kent, and the City of Richmond will participate in discussions and activities around diversity, discrimination, and respect.

How: Students will participate in “Break the Cycle: Be the Change,” a fast-paced, interactive presentation that examines the concept of prejudice. Using concepts from the presentation, students will break into teams to develop achievable and concrete solutions to the tough challenges that they face at school each day. Students will identify resources, allies, and timelines to achieve change while also spreading the PAS message to their larger middle school body. Students will return empowered and skilled agents of change and unity, with the goal to reduce conflict and prejudice in their schools.

Web Information: http://inclusiveVA.org/programs/schools/#link_tab-Middle

Supporters: The Summit is conducted by the Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities, with financial support from Genworth and generously hosted by Virginia Commonwealth University. Coalition partners from Initiatives of Change, Partnership for the Future, and the YWCA of Richmond help to create this opportunity for Richmond-area middle school students. The Summit was founded by Jewish Women International.

Interview Opportunities: Members of the press are invited to visit the Prejudice Awareness Summit anytime between the hours of 8:30am-2:00pm. The preferred visiting time is from 8:45am - 9:45am. Parents/guardians have granted permission to photograph and interview students. Educators are also available for interviews. Please contact Jessica Hawthorne by email at jhawthorne@inclusiveVA.org, office phone at (804) 515-7950, or cell phone at (804) 495-1580.