



MEDIA ALERT

Contact:

Jessica Hawthorne

Director of Programs

Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities

Office: (804) 515-7950; jhawthorne@inclusiveVA.org

On-Site Cell Phone: (804) 495-1580

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

*Students, educators, and volunteers to participate in
the Inaugural Prejudice Awareness Summit*

What: Inaugural Lynchburg Prejudice Awareness Summit

When: Tuesday, January 8, 2019 from 8:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

Where: Randolph College, Smith Hall (2500 Rivermont Ave, Lynchburg, VA 24503)

Who: Middle school students and educators from across central Virginia 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 Randolph College. Coalition partners from Goodwill Industries of the Valley, HumanKind, and the University of Lynchburg’s Office of Equity & Inclusion help to create this opportunity for Lynchburg-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.