



Points of Interest

SPRING 2015 The Newsletter for Friends of Turning Point



TURNING THE TOWN TEAL

For Sexual Assault Awareness Month, Turning Point will be tying teal ribbons on trees 6 miles along Gratiot Ave. from M59 to 14 Mile Rd, all through Downtown Mt Clemens and in Tomlinson Arboretum in order to raise awareness about what everyone should know about sexual violence.



TURNING THE TOWN TEAL

Sexual assault is preventable.

Yes, this is TRUE!! Sexual assault is completely preventable. There are no genetic or biological causes of sexual assault, meaning it is not a part of human nature. It is also not caused by a mental illness. The epidemic of sexual violence is tied to messages from the culture of violence, silence around the topic, and the false belief that it is caused by sexual desire when in fact it is the expression of power and control that is the basis of sexual violence.

Myths are not facts.

There are many myths surrounding sexual assault. The basis for most myths is that sexual assault is about sex and that the victim did something to cause the assault. Both perpetrators and victims can believe these myths as they are part of the culture of violence. Dispelling myths about sexual assault will contribute to better treatment of survivors and breaking the taboo that surrounds discussing sexual assault. Until we know the true facts about sexual violence we can't prevent it.

Ending sexual violence begins with ending media objectification of women and girls.

While the media does not cause sexual assault it plays a big role in how society views and values girls and women. Women are often portrayed as a sexual object or stereotype, without human status or feelings. Girls are often portrayed in ways that demean, over sexualize, and equate their sexual image with their worth. De-sensitization is the first step in perpetrating violence. Abusers see their victims as objects. By drawing attention to the link between abuse and objectification of girls and women in the media, we can influence change in the culture of violence.

Learn how to become an effective bystander.

An active bystander is someone who sees something happening and takes the opportunity to intervene in a safe way. Educating on the facts about sexual violence and dispelling myths when you hear them is an example of being an active bystander. It also means supporting and believing

survivors when they disclose. This is how we can break the culture of silence around sexual assault. At some point we will all be bystanders. Survivors need to hear:

- *You are not alone. We are here for you.*
- *It's not your fault. The perpetrator is responsible for their actions.*
- *Sexual assault is about power and control, not sex.*

Healing is possible.

“There is a person you are before you are raped and another after... The person you are after longs to be the person you were before, but you can never be that person again.

- RAPE SURVIVOR

Sexual assault is a life changing crime. It shatters the survivors sense of safety and trust in their world. Some survivors blame themselves for what happened to them. Many survivors cope in silence and isolation with their pain. With support and reconnecting with their community, survivors begin to integrate this experience into their lives. Many not only heal, but thrive.

Sexual assault will be prevented when each of us is part of the solution!



@TurningPointMac



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NEW DIRECTOR OF SEXUAL ASSAULT SERVICES PROGRAM

Paula Schnoblen-M.A., was recently named as the Director of Turning Point's Sexual Assault Services Program. Paula has worked as a counselor and Volunteer Coordinator at Turning Point and will now lead this department's work in the community.

Turning Point has a range of services to help children and adult survivors of sexual assault:

- **The Forensic Nurse Examiner Program (FNEP)** – a trained nurse and advocate provide immediate care, evidence collection and treatment for adult and child sexual assault survivors. Operating 24/7/365
- **Advocacy** – provides information and support through legal and other systems that survivors are navigating
- **Crisis Line** – operates 24/7 and provides a confidential intervention, safety planning and other resources

Sexual Assault Awareness Month

- **Therapists** – with expertise in healing from Sexual Assault provide individual and group support for all ages
- **Personal Protection Order (PPO)** Office-assistance with obtaining a personal protection order and safety planning
- **Emergency Shelter**

Counseling is available to all sexual assault survivors (and their significant others) whether or not the assault happened recently or a long time ago. Services are provided free of charge. Turning Point is committed to ending the use of violence as a means of oppressing and controlling others, and provides services that help people regain power and control over their own lives.

CALENDAR of EVENTS

Oakland University – Take Back the Night

April 7th – 6pm

Marygrove College – Take Back the Night

April 10th – 6pm

MCDVC Community Mapping Meeting at Macomb Community College Center Campus

April 17th – 9am

Wiegand's Ladies Night

April 17th – 6pm

Teen Day at Second Hand Rose

April 18th

Alex & Ani –

Partridge Creek Event

April 22nd – 6pm

SANE Conference

April 27th–May 1st

For more information about any of these events, please visit our Facebook page at www.Facebook.com/TurningPointMacomb



Find us on Facebook!
Turning Point, Inc.

SHOP • DONATE • VOLUNTEER

SECOND HAND ROSE accepts gently used men's, women's and children's clothing, housewares and furniture in an effort to further assist Turning Point clients.

Donation hours are:

Monday–Friday 10am–5pm • Saturday 10am–4pm

Call 586-468-3083 for more information or to schedule a furniture pick-up.

