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Press Release

The Take Back The Night Foundation Announces 10 Points Of Light to Take Back The Night *Nationwide Initiative to Illuminate the Darkness of Sexual and Domestic Violence*

Wayne, PA February 22, 2010 – The Take Back The Night Foundation, a national non-profit organization, in collaboration with 10 key campuses and communities across the nation, is pleased to announce the first 10 Points of Light to Take Back The Night Initiative to be held nationwide on April 29, 2010. Take Back the Night is a powerful movement started in the 1970's to combat sexual violence and abuse on campuses and in communities around the world, including more than 400 annual events across the U.S. alone. This national initiative has assembled community organizers, campus advocates, and student leaders to illuminate the darkness of abuse, domestic violence and sexual assault.

10 Points of Light highlights include a candlelight vigil at points across the country; month- and week-long series' of events at our featured 10 Points of Light locations; a special fundraising campaign to benefit the Take Back The Night Foundation and more! Additional information is available at <http://www.takebackthenight.org/events.html> including event biographies and links to our participants: Harvard University, Brown University, The Advocacy Center-NY, Rutgers University, Kent State University, University of Tampa, University of Texas-El Paso, University of Kansas, Three Rivers Crisis Center-ND and Lehman College.

"With 10 Shining Points of Light circling the country on a single night, the TBTN Foundation aims to bring visibility to crimes that go unreported or under-reported. We hope many more communities will join us in lighting candles on April 29th at 9pm in support of survivors of sexual violence," said Katie Koestner, Executive Director of the Take Back The Night Foundation.

In the United States, 1 out of every 3 women will be beaten or abused. On college campuses and for young people around the country this is a daily reality; 32% of students report dating violence by a previous partner, and 21% report violence by a current partner.¹

The Take Back The Night Foundation is a 501(c)(3) public charity that seeks to end sexual violence in all of its forms including sexual assault, sexual abuse, dating violence, and domestic violence. TBTN empowers survivors in the healing process and inspires responsibility in all with a goal to create safe communities and respectful relationships through awareness events and initiatives. Take Back the Night events have been held on campuses and in communities since the late 1970's. Early events focused on unsafe streets, cities and campuses; and then as a protest to pornography and the degradation of women and sexuality. Today, events highlight the problem of violence against women as well as the broader issues of sexual violence: sexual assault, dating violence, sexual abuse, domestic violence, stalking, sexual harassment, child abuse, and other unhealthy relationships. Men are also lending their voices and standing as survivors at events. All events strive to bring awareness to the problem of sexual violence and support those who have been victimized.

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¹ "Campus Dating Violence Fact Sheet." Dating Violence Resource Center. 2002.

<<http://www.ncvc.org/ncvc/AGP.Net/Components/documentViewer/Download.aspxnz?DocumentID=38056>>