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Jeanne Geiger Crisis Center Joins Global Campaign “One Billion Rising” To End Violence Against Women and Girls

*Center bands together with local community organizations on Saturday, February 15th,
to put an end to domestic violence*

NEWBURYPORT, Mass., January 29 – at 4:00pm, on **Saturday, February 15, 2014**, at The Tannery Marketplace, Newburyport, the Jeanne Geiger Crisis Center will join with activists around the world for ONE BILLION RISING FOR JUSTICE. The campaign will build upon the energy and momentum that was created last year when one billion activists in 207 countries and territories came together to rise, strike, and dance, in the biggest mass action in human history, to demand an end to violence against women and girls.

“We are so proud to be a part of this crucial global movement that implores the world to stand up against violence against women. Last year, it was incredibly moving to see this community, once again, rallying around the work we do at the Center and joining together, over 500 strong to unite and say, “no more,” said Suzanne Dubus, CEO, Jeanne Geiger Crisis Center.

This year, the campaign will focus on the issue of justice for all survivors of gender violence, and ending the rampant impunity that prevails globally. ONE BILLION RISING FOR JUSTICE is a call to women, men, and youth around the world to gather safely on outside places where they are entitled to justice – court houses, police stations, government offices, school administration buildings, work places, sites of environmental injustice, military courts, embassies, places of worship, homes, or simply public gathering places where women deserve to feel safe but too often do not.

The Center will have an informational booth during the ONE BILLION RISING movement in Tannery Marketplace parking lot, 50 Water Newburyport, MA. Local fitness instructor, Tracey Kimball, Nancy McCarthy of Natural High Fitness and Fontaine Dubus of The Dance Place have organized a flashmob that will descend on the parking lot of mill #1 in The Tannery Marketplace, on February 15th @ 4:00pm.

Dance instruction occurs over the next two weeks at the Dance Place and Latitude Sports Club to learn the “Breaking the Chain” dance. The public is encouraged to attend, dance classes listed below, free of charge.

The Dance Place
50 Water St, Newburyport, MA 01950

Instructed by Fontaine Dubus
Saturday, February 1st 2:00pm
Saturday, February 8th 2:00pm

Latitude Sports Club
191 Elm St, Salisbury, MA 01952

Instructed by Tracey Kimball
Sunday, February 2nd 1:00pm
Sunday, February 9th 1:00pm

Participation in the dance class and at the flashmob on February 15th is free of charge. If you would like to fundraise in support of the Jeanne Geiger Crisis Center programs and services, sponsorship forms are available online, at the Jeanne Geiger Crisis Center and at the Dance Place.

Pre-ordered, long-sleeved One Billion Rising t-shirts are available for a \$15 donation - price will increase to \$20 the day of the event. Shirts can be purchased at: The Dance Place, The Jeanne Geiger Crisis Center, www.jeannegeigercrisiscenter.org.

This event is sponsored by Joppa Dance Company, Exit Dance Theater and The Dance Place.

About One Billion Rising

One Billion Rising was the biggest mass action in human history. The campaign began as a call to action based on the staggering UN statistic that 1 in 3 women on the planet will be beaten or raped during her lifetime. With the world population at 7 billion, this adds up to more than ONE BILLION WOMEN AND GIRLS. On 14 February 2013, people across the world came together to strike, dance, and RISE in defiance of the injustices women suffer, demanding an end at last to violence against women. Over 10,000 events took place on the ground and the campaign took over media and social media worldwide for 48 hours, trending in 7 countries – 4 times in the US alone. The wildly successful grassroots campaign was covered widely by media in all corners of world including The New York Times, The Guardian, NPR, and many more. www.onebillionrising.org

About The Jeanne Geiger Crisis Center

For over 30 years, the Jeanne Geiger Crisis Center has been helping individuals and families at risk because of domestic violence. What began as the compassionate mission of several volunteer parishioners of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Newburyport in 1982 has grown into a nationally-recognized nonprofit organization serving victims of domestic violence from Amesbury, Merrimac, Georgetown, Newbury, Newburyport, Rowley, Salisbury, West Newbury, and Groveland. The mission of the Jeanne Geiger Crisis Center is to empower community members to live free from fear, intimidation, violence or the threat of abuse by providing support, advocacy, and education. For more information, call 978-465-0999, visit www.jeannegeigercrisiscenter.org or call the 24-hour confidential crisis hotline at 978-388-1888.

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