

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MY SISTER'S HOUSE ANNOUNCES OCTOBER 2022 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH EVENTS

CHARLESTON, SC, Aug. 18, 2022 -- My Sisters House, the Lowcountry leader in domestic violence survival, today announced the event dates for their October 2022 Domestic Violence Awareness Month campaign, 'Speak Up South Carolina: Stories of Survival'. The events, a Town Hall, Advocacy Luncheon, and 5K Run & Memorial Mile Walk, are designed to unite the Lowcountry community in support of domestic violence victims and their children.

South Carolina currently ranks 6th in the nation for the rate of women murdered by men. Of the victims who knew their killer, 65% were girlfriends, wives, common-law wives, or ex-wives. Significantly outpacing the national average, 42% of South Carolinian women will experience domestic violence in their lifetime. The Tri-County region (Charleston, Dorchester, and Berkeley Counties) reports an estimated 12,834 annual domestic violence victims.

The October events, designed to elevate first-person testimonies from Lowcountry survivors, humanize the overwhelming statistics of intimate partner violence. **MSH CEO Tosha Connors states, "This year, we are shining a spotlight on domestic violence survivors themselves, providing them a platform to share their experiences. Their courage inspires hope in other victims – and each story carries vital lessons for advocates, partners, and providers."**

All 'Speak Up South Carolina: Stories of Survival' events benefit the no-cost services that My Sister's House provides to clients, their children, and the Lowcountry community. Events include:

TOWN HALL 2022: Centering Survivor Voices (FREE)

A morning of personal testimonies from domestic violence survivors followed by a dynamic discussion of barriers faced, learnings for providers, and ways advocates across the Tri-County community can continue to support victims and survivors.

WHEN: Thursday, 10/6, 10:00 AM

WHERE: Wando Mount Pleasant Library

COST: Free (reserved seating recommended)

RESERVED SEATS: Available through www.MySistersHouse.org/SUSC

ADVOCACY LUNCHEON: Stories of Survival

Dedicated allies will gather for a mission-based meal building awareness, increasing advocacy, and generating action in support of Lowcountry domestic violence victims. Keynote address by local documentary filmmaker and childhood survivor of domestic violence.

WHEN: Wednesday, 10/12, 11:00 AM

WHERE: The Harbour Club at Westedge

COST: Individual tickets starting at \$95; limited VIP tables available

TICKETS: Available through www.MySistersHouse.org/SUSC

5 TO SURVIVE: 5K Run and Memorial Mile Walk

Bringing together survivors, staff, and community for a celebratory, inclusive, family-friendly event supporting local domestic violence victims and their children.

WHEN: Saturday, 10/29, event entry starting at 9:00 AM

WHERE: Wannamaker Park

COST: \$10 Supporter / \$25 Walker / \$35 Runner (includes entry, event, shirt)

TICKETS: Available through www.MySistersHouse.org/SUSC

Connors is encouraged by the growing community response to the campaign, now in its fourth year, stating, ***“Now more than ever, as domestic violence continues to escalate throughout our state and nation, it’s critical that we unite in support of domestic violence victims across the Lowcountry. We look forward to seeing longtime advocates and meeting new allies this October.”***

ABOUT MY SISTER'S HOUSE

*MSH is proud to continue its work as the Lowcountry leader in domestic violence victim service, recovery, and advocacy. Programs of note include individual and group clinical therapy, sheltered and community-based client case management, court advocacy, bilingual Spanish-language services (case management, clinical therapy, and court advocacy), housing, career, and transportation support, community outreach and education, and emergency services partner training. For additional information on MSH programs and services, visit www.MySistersHouse.org. **To access safety planning, services, and resources please call the 24/7 MSH intake and crisis hotline: (800) 273-HOPE or (843) 744-3242.***

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