



NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

New Hope responds to news of domestic violence homicide in Norton

ATTLEBORO – In response to news of the alleged domestic violence-related death of Julie A. Meede in Norton on Thursday, Marcia Szymanski, President & CEO of New Hope, Inc., extended her condolences to the family of the victim and sought to remind the community of the trauma and safety services available through the agency.

Szymanski stated: “The New Hope family is deeply saddened by the news of Ms. Meede’s untimely and preventable death. We realize this tragedy is devastating not only to family and friends of Ms. Meede, but to the community as a whole. I want to remind the grieving that New Hope offers free counseling and safety planning services to all members of the community, accessible 24-hours a day via our toll-free hotline: 800-323-HOPE (4673).”

New Hope has confirmed three adolescents were present at the scene of the crime and the agency is working in conjunction with the Children’s Advocacy Center of Bristol County (CAC) to extend services to the children.

Pointing to two cases of domestic violence-related homicides confirmed in Peabody and Waltham earlier this year, Szymanski added: “These senseless deaths are a reminder that domestic violence is a public health crisis that we cannot ignore or dismiss through victim-blaming or false notions of randomness. While we have made progress in the work to end domestic violence and to support victims in building lives of safety and justice, we all have more work to do, as individuals and as a community. I encourage all members of the public to become familiar with the warning signs of high-risk domestic violence and to support friends, family or co-workers in need by connecting them with resources available within their communities.”

For more information about the warning signs of domestic violence, please visit New Hope online at www.new-hope.org.

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About New Hope

New Hope, Inc., founded in 1979, is a 501c3 nonprofit organization providing 54 cities / towns in Massachusetts with “full-spectrum care” to survivors of domestic and sexual violence. Our mission is to break the cycle of violence by “ending domestic and sexual violence in our communities.” New Hope’s spectrum of care includes: Prevention Education; Crisis Intervention; Shelter; Counseling; Transitional Living; Family Reunification and Batterer Intervention. Our programs seek to illuminate a path to violence-free self-sufficiency for each of our clients, regardless of race, age, income level, gender or orientations.

**HOTLINE (TTY/V)
1-800-323-HOPE**

OFFICES

140 Park Street
Attleboro, MA 02703
Phone: 508-226-4015
Fax: 508-226-6917
RESPECT: 508-226-8286

Milford & Taunton

By appointment only
800-323-4673

MJ Leadenham Center

91 Prescott Street
Worcester, MA 01605
Phone: 508-753-3146
Fax: 508-753-3148
RESPECT: 877-222-0083

COURT LOCATIONS

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ENDING DOMESTIC & SEXUAL VIOLENCE
IN OUR COMMUNITY