



NEWS RELEASE

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New Hope Rallies Despite Franklin Schools' Setback

ATTLEBORO, MA – New Hope, Inc. – a nonprofit organization working to end domestic and sexual violence in our communities – announces the cancelation of its June 6th 5K Race and Family Fun Walk due to scheduling conflicts reported by the Franklin School District late last week.

The agency – which was issued a Public Event Permit for the race by the Town of Franklin on March 4, 2015 – was notified on May 7 by the Franklin School District that the permit to use the Remington / Jefferson School grounds had been issued in error. A meeting to determine alternative dates or locations was held on Tuesday, May 12 between New Hope and various Town of Franklin agencies, but the School was not able to accommodate the request.

Of the cancellation, New Hope's Executive Director Marcia Szymanski notes: "Obviously we are saddened by the School District's decision, as the race was an opportunity to promote the free community safety services offered by New Hope to Franklin residents. But, as an agency that coaches resilience, we're going to regroup and try a new approach to reach those in need of our help."

The new approach comes in the form of a "virtual" New Hope 5K the agency has launched on its website, www.new-hope.org. Szymanski continues: "We're encouraging our supporters to share their stories and show their love for New Hope through a virtual community."

Participants who have registered for the race will be contacted directly by New Hope regarding refunds.

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New Hope, Inc., founded in 1979, is a 501c3 nonprofit organization providing survivors of domestic and sexual violence in 54 cities / towns in Massachusetts with full-spectrum care. 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, gender or sexual orientation.

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ENDING DOMESTIC & SEXUAL VIOLENCE
IN OUR COMMUNITY