

MEDIA ADVISORY January 7, 2016 Contact: Olivia Lammel, 412-642-7700 olammel@elias-savion.com

Students Take a Stand, Prevent Dating Violence

- Southwest PA Says No More Invites Students to Submit Videos about Dating Violence Prevention -

WHAT:

Southwest PA Says No More is inviting students to "take a stand" against dating violence by participating in a video competition focused on prevention. Teens and young adults are at the highest risk for all forms of dating violence, including verbal, emotional, physical and sexual abuse. Southwest PA Says No More hopes these videos will help students influence their peers' attitudes and behaviors.

Local high school and college students can submit 30 to 60 second videos for a chance to win prizes of \$500, \$300 and \$200. The videos must use one or more of the following themes:

- It's not ok to act abusively
- Show how bystanders can be upstanders, interrupting disrespectful or abusive behaviors
- Promote healthy, mutually respectful relationships

The selected videos will be posted on Southwest PA Says No More's <u>website</u> and social media channels during Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month in February. Winning videos also might appear on other local or digital media.

WHEN: All entries must be submitted by **midnight on February 5, 2016**

Winners will be announced on February 22, 2016

HOW: To enter the contest and for eligibility rules, please see the entry materials found here.

PHOTOS &

INTERVIEWS: Students' films will be made available on Southwest PA Says No More's website and

social media channels.

Note to editors & reporters: To arrange interviews or for more information, please contact Olivia Lammel at 412-642-7700, <u>olammel@elias-savion.com</u>.

About Southwest PA Says NO MORE

Southwest PA Says NO MORE is a growing community of organizations and individuals who are working to end domestic and sexual violence. FISA Foundation, in partnership with The Heinz Endowments and United Way of Allegheny County developed Southwest PA Says No More to showcase the important prevention-focused work happening in this region, and to make it easier for individuals and organizations to take action to stop gender-based violence. More than 20 organizations across the region have partnered with Southwest PA Says No More, including the Jewish Community Center of Greater Pittsburgh, YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh, and Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. For information, visit southwestpasaysnomore.org.

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