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Press Release

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Day One Response to White House Task Force Recommendations on College Sexual Assault

April 29, 2014, Providence, Rhode Island -- Campus sexual assault has been a pervasive problem for decades. Day One is encouraged that the administration, through The White House Task Force to Protect Students Against Sexual Assault, has taken a leadership role in making some of the [strongest recommendations to date to combat this problem](#). Day One applauds these efforts while recognizing, as noted in the report, that these initial recommendations are only a first step.

“The report is a blueprint for change,” says Peg Langhammer, Day One executive director. “It’s clear that the courageous work of so many survivors at colleges across the country has been the driver of this change and has motivated the government and others to act. We are ready to work with universities in Rhode Island to put these new recommendations into effect.”

Day One acknowledges that the report is a starting point; the work is really just beginning. Some of the report’s strongest recommendations include:

- Campus climate survey to gain a more accurate measure of the problem by leveling the playing field and aid in transparency of reporting.
- Engaging men as allies in the process. Although most offenders are male, most men are not perpetrators. Day One has found that the most effective prevention programs include Bystander Intervention as an essential part of the solution.
- Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)s with local sexual assault centers. Day One is the only agency in Rhode Island that deals specifically with sexual assault and will continue to be a part of the solution.

- A dedicated web site (notalone.gov) with central, accessible resources for students and schools in clear, unambiguous language.

Day One is eager to provide expertise in trauma-informed training, prevention, and advocacy to support colleges and universities in the work that lies ahead. We look forward to helping create real change in our state on the issue of campus sexual assault and believe these recommendations are a good starting point.

About Day One

Established as the RI Rape Crisis Center in 1973, Day One is the only agency in Rhode Island organized specifically to deal with issues of sexual assault as a community concern. Day One's mission is to reduce the prevalence of sexual abuse and violence and to support and advocate for those affected by it. For more information, visit www.dayoneri.org.

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