YWCA Yonkers & Tashera Simmons Freedom of Truth Collaborate for a Panel Discussion on Domestic Abuse

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month and while there has been a decline in the rate of reported occurrences over the past decade, statistics show that there is still substantial work yet to be done. Every 9 seconds in the US a woman is assaulted or beaten. Domestic violence is the leading cause of injury to women—more than car accidents, muggings, and rapes combined. Studies suggest that up to 10 million children witness some form of domestic violence annually. Domestic violence is a pattern of abusive behavior in which someone uses physical, sexual, psychological or other types of harm against a current or former partner, an immediate family member or another relative. It can also include stalking, threats or other behaviors meant to manipulate or control someone else.

YWCA Yonkers (https://www.ywcayonkers.org) and Tashera Simmons, Freedom of Truth (https://audioboom.com/channel/freedom-of-truth), are collaborating to spotlight Domestic Violence in a Panel Discussion and Podcast that will identify the signs of abuse and connect victims to safety resources. On Thursday, October 25, 2018, beginning at 6pm ET Tashera Simmons along with other guest expert panelists will discuss recognizing the signs of sexual abuse, emotional abuse, financial control, and digital abuse. The event will be held on location at YWCA Yonkers, 87 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York 10701.

YWCA, Yonkers offers supportive services to women. For over a century, the organization has served and taken action on behalf of women and girls. The organization is a mission driven, multicultural, and ethnically diverse organization, that currently offers an empowerment program designed to help low-income individuals achieve self-sufficiency, a one-stop childcare center for children of all ages, as well as housing and support services for women, youth, and seniors. With programs that accommodate every age group, the organization's "cradle to grave" services strengthen everyone served, while also impacting the community at large.

"Unfortunately, Domestic Violence continues to be an issue within our communities that must be addressed", says Charlie Knight, Executive Director – YWCA, Yonkers. "As we continue to have conversations and tackle the tough and uncomfortable questions, we educate and create more

awareness. It is imperative to understand the signs of abuse early on and know what resources are available to you if you are a victim. This panel discussion is just one step in continuing the dialog on a topic that effects women and girls within our communities. My hope is that these conversations continue beyond Domestic Violence Awareness month."

Freedom of Truth, by Tashera Simmons, is a new online destination for highlights on some of the world's most interesting people with incredible stories. We hope the audience will leave with something that will live with them forever. The primary goal is to educate and encourage the people who contribute in making an impact and changing the world for the better. "Life has taught me that we cannot assume who is informed and not. Information is powerful, and I truly believe that when people know better, they do better. My intention is to bring about more awareness and education on the topic so that those that may be victims, understand that there are supportive services in place for them if help is needed" says Tashera Simmons.

Panel details include:

Title The "Hidden Closet" With Domestic Abuse

Date Thursday, October 25, 2018

Time 6pm to 9pm EST

Location 87 So. Broadway, Yonkers, NY 10701

Cost to attend Free

Panelists

Tashera Simmons – Motivation & Inspirational Speaker, Host of Freedom of Truth Podcast

Chrissy Monroe – Founder of Survive to Thrive, Global Domestic Violence Foundation

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Susan Carroll, Esq. – Director, Training, Outreach & Education – Pace Women's Justice Center

Judith E. Garcia-Carter – Director, Human Rights Commission, Yonkers, NY

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Organization: YWCA, Yonkers (https://www.ywcayonkers.org)