

ORGANIZING THE WALK IN YOUR HIGH SCHOOL

Students and educators, female and male, have consistently formed the project's core of support. Many schools have sent hundreds of students and their teachers to participate each year. The following is an outline of the organizing process that many schools undertake with us annually:

- **Introductory and regional meetings.** We meet individually with students and staff in schools that are new to the project. Regional meetings where we plan assemblies and walk day events are attended by student and staff representatives of all participating schools along with representatives of women's services and interested community organizations such as labour councils. Organizing kits are distributed at these meetings which take place in late spring and early fall for the fall walks, and in late fall and late winter for the spring walks.
- **Assemblies and Organizing Teams.** A core of students and staff supporters form to co-ordinate the project in each school. Tasks include organizing the assembly, distributing and collecting pledge forms, making signs and banners and planning outreach to elementary feeder schools. Assemblies consist of educational presentations from the Walk, local women's services and individuals and organizations in the school, such as teams, councils and clubs which support the effort. Assemblies are scheduled approximately three weeks prior to the walk date.
- **Pledges and Sign-ups.** Organizing kits contain posters, taped audio announcements, pledge forms and sign-up sheets to keep track of the names and number of participants. Pledges are collected prior to the walk. Each student must raise a minimum of \$20 in pledges to demonstrate their commitment to the issues at hand. All pledges are collected by the Walk and accounted for in our annual financial report which lists all participating schools and the amount of pledges raised as well as the amount of the donations to the women's anti-violence services.
- **Walk and Rallies.** Walks are planned at the regional meetings and take place during school hours. The walk usually consists of a 5km route through the downtown of the host community, with an opening and closing rally to highlight the issues and feature speakers from each school and the other organizations involved. In some cases, community groups will volunteer to provide refreshments for the walkers. Signs and banners identify the schools and communities involved. Walk organizers pay for bus transportation and the Walk itself carries a \$2,000,000.00 liability policy and works with local police to manage traffic and safety on the walk route.

The WALK AGAINST MALE VIOLENCE is organized annually by:

MEN WALKING AGAINST MALE VIOLENCE

P.O. BOX 55 DUNNVILLE ONTARIO, N1A 2Y1

(905) 774-8091 - Ken Hancock

(905) 336-0051 - Mare Brzustowski

I WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN / SUPPORT THE WALK

name: _____

address: _____

postal code: _____

phone: _____

I have enclosed a donation of \$ _____ check to request financial report



- Around the world at least one woman in every three has been beaten, coerced into sex, or otherwise abused in her lifetime. Most often the abuser is a member of her own family.
- Worldwide, as many as one woman in every four is abused during pregnancy.

-Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health, Dec. 1999, Population Reports.

If you would like to get involved in the Walk in your community please contact us at the number listed here. Since the Walk neither seeks out nor accepts government or corporate funding or donations, we rely upon the good will of our supporters to keep the project on the road. If you would like to make a financial contribution, please fill out this section and include it with your donation. Tax receipts for donations of \$100 or more can be obtained by marking your cheque out to "Phoenix Community Works Foundation" and by sending it to us at the address listed here. Please include your mailing address on the cheque. The Walk produces an annual financial report detailing funds raised and donations made to women's shelters and crisis centres. This report is available upon request.