



PRESS RELEASE
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MEN HONORED FOR DECADE OF WORK TO END DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

HARTFORD – For more than 10 years, the members of *Men Make a Difference, Men Against Domestic Violence™* have served as outspoken advocates for Interval House and the cause against domestic violence.

They've spoken to athletes, church groups, boy scouts and countless others. They've attended fundraisers, distributed thousands of brochures and even played basketball to spread awareness. Several have done public service announcements on television and radio, all in an effort to help end domestic and dating abuse.

On Thursday, the 32-member group of prominent Connecticut men received the Breakfast with Champions Award from Interval House, the state's largest domestic violence intervention and prevention organization.

"To say these men have made a difference in this cause is an understatement," said Mary-Jane Foster, Interval House's President and CEO. "They are role models to young men and boys and also other men, telling them it's okay to care and okay to help find a solution to this relentless public health crisis."

More than 400 people attended the annual event at The Riverview in Simsbury. The nonprofit raised vital funds to assist its clients thanks to Riverview owner, John Royce, who donated the entire function so all the money raised would directly benefit Interval House.

Men Make a Difference was founded in the summer of 2009 by Senator Richard Blumenthal (then CT's Attorney General) and Interval House. The group has been recognized by other domestic violence prevention organizations around the country as a significant organization making a positive impact in the cause.

At the breakfast, Interval House also premiered, [Stories of Bravery](#), a moving documentary highlighting personal experiences of survivors of domestic violence.

Since 1977, Interval House has provided services to nearly 250,000 people. It operates a 25-bed safe house, support groups, offers safety planning counseling, advocacy programs in the courts, a children's program and community education. Past Breakfast With Champions honorees are: Richard Blumenthal, Howie Dickenman, William A. Petit, Jr., Cecile Enrico, Fox 61, and George Jepsen.