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Monadnock Men's Resource Center

We are committed to providing all men with a safe space for growth, sharing, connection and community building... and to overcoming men's violence in all our lives.

Volunteers Needed to Facilitate Support Group

The Monadnock Men's Resource Center (MMRC) seeks volunteers to help facilitate weekly drop-in support groups for men. Training will be provided.

"We're looking for volunteers to facilitate one group per month. Trainees will learn to facilitate discussions that are confidential, inclusive, and judgment-free, and that promote non-violence," explains Damien Licata, a co-founder of the MMRC. "We want to create a safe space, to help men speak from their heart and not just from their head."

Fellow co-founder Forrest Seymour adds that there are no specific credentials or background required to take the training. "What we want most of all, is to have a group of facilitators that are representative of the community," he explains.

The MMRC is an independent, locally-based and locally-funded organization. "We want to be both a service to men in their personal growth, and to do outreach in the community to promote positive change," explains Seymour.

For more information, please contact Forrest or Damien at the MMRC message center at 1-866-969-6672.

Step-Up, Men

The MMRC is at a Crossroads, and we need your help.

by Forrest Seymour

These words are not easy to write.

Since 2001, we've grown from an idea to a conversation to a vision to a group to a social service/social change organization. We've done work in schools and colleges, conducted professional training and community events, testified, editorialized, protested and published, we've collaborated with women's groups, peace groups and others, and, perhaps most importantly, provided a free Sunday night drop-in support group for all men for over three years, that's over 175 consecutive weeks.

Should not the arc of such an entity be one of progress, strength and independence, attributes so often praised in men? And yet we need to ask for help.

Perhaps we've been slow to ask. Like the guy with the map who's lost none-the-less, asking for help does not always come easy. We'd like to think we're all past this stereotyped stuff, but change is seldom so easy. So in the spirit of stretching our sense of masculinity, we now make our plea.

What we need, in a word, are MEN. More men. Men to facilitate our support groups, to help launch new programs for fathers and county inmates, to serve on our Steering Committee as it evolves into a board, to share their expertise, their resources, and, most of all, their passion.

For it is passionate men that we seek the most. Men who know that the unearned power and privileges of our gender are also a yoke. Men who know that the constraints of traditional masculinity no longer fit. Men who embrace the feminist ideal of gender equity, are not afraid to face men's violence squarely, and who long to raise their voices and take action with other like-minded men and women.

To these men, perhaps lost themselves despite their maps, I want to call out, "We are here! Come on over. Join us!"



Monadnock Men's Resource Center

Directors

Damien Licata & Forrest Seymour

Steering Committee

Damien Licata, Co-Chair
Forrest Seymour, Co-Chair
Jeremy Youst, Treasurer
Steve Salamin, Secretary
Schultz

Support Group Facilitator Team

Jeremy Jim Josh
Joe Don Tom
Schultz Damien Forrest

The MMRC Community Newsletter

Jim Duffy, *Editor*
Steve Salamin, *Design & Publishing*
The MMRC Community Newsletter is published quarterly and distributed throughout the region for free.

Please consider supporting our efforts!

- Subscribe for only \$20/year
- Come to a Support Group
- Volunteer as a Facilitator
- Make a Tax-Deductible Donation

THANK YOU!

Monadnock Men's Resource Center
P.O. Box 121
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www.MMRCOnline.org

Breaking the Silence: Children's Stories

The documentary, "Breaking the Silence: Children's Stories" was co-produced by Connecticut Public Television and broadcast initially on October 20, 2005.

This powerful new PBS documentary chronicles the impact of domestic violence on children and the recurring failings of family courts across the country to protect them from their abusers. In stark and often poignant interviews, children and battered mothers tell their stories of abuse at home and continued trauma within the courts. The one-hour special also features interviews with domestic violence experts, attorneys and judges who reveal the disturbing frequency in which abusers are winning custody of their children and why these miscarriages of justice continue to occur. We responded on December 1st in the Keene Sentinel:

Dear Editor,

We, the Steering Committee of the Monadnock Men's Resource Center, have viewed the PBS film "Breaking the Silence." We believe this film conveys the accurate message that children involved in custody cases are not being well served by our current national Family Court system.

The Family Court system seems to have developed a method that does not listen to kids. Judges, attorneys, guardian ad litem and others involved in these custody cases need to listen to the children who are involved.

The Family Court system has not

been working toward what is best for the child.

We recognize that too many men have exhibited a very poor history of perpetrating violence against women and children and other men.

We do not believe this film is hate-filled. Instead, it serves to remind us all that we should always oppose the violence and victimization suffered by all women, children and men.

Who dares deny that men are too often violent and abusive? We have taken too many years to come to recognizing the abuses of some men. We will not go back into silence.

Sincerely,

Jim Duffy Schultz
Damien Licata Forrest Seymour
Steve Salamin Jeremy Youst



"Smart career move, Bixby."

**Free • Open • Drop-In
SUPPORT GROUP**

for ALL Men

**Sunday evenings
7:00 pm sharp**

at LifeArt

43 Central Square • Keene