MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday 3 November 2011

MEN URGED TO 'TAKE THE PLEDGE' AT WHITE RIBBON BREAKFAST

The City of Ryde, in association with the Ryde-Hunters Hill Domestic Violence Committee, is hosting a White Ribbon Breakfast at the Ranch Hotel Eastwood on Friday 25 November.

White Ribbon Day brings together communities across Australia as part of a global effort to raise awareness for the elimination of violence against women.

Men especially are encouraged to get involved by supporting White Ribbon Day activities and by publicly saying "no" to violence against women by taking the White Ribbon pledge:

I swear never to commit, excuse or remain silent about violence against women.

City of Ryde Mayor and White Ribbon Ambassador, Clr Artin Etmekdjian, said: "As part of the Council's gender equity platform, the City of Ryde has established a partnership with White Ribbon and is embarking on a journey towards our organisation, and our community, becoming White Ribbon accredited.

"This means that we as individuals, in our workplaces and throughout our community, are all taking action to stop men's violence against women.

"As White Ribbon Ambassadors both the General Manager and I urge all men in our community to band together, take the pledge and wear a White Ribbon on 25 November."

Take the Pledge at White Ribbon Day Breakfast, Friday 25 November The Ranch, Eastwood, 7.15 for 7.30am – 9.00 am Tickets \$10 each. Payment can be made in person through City of Ryde Customer Service Centre, 1 Devlin Street, Ryde, or phone 9952 8222.

All proceeds go to local women's support services and the White Ribbon Foundation.

Special guest speakers at the breakfast are White Ribbon Ambassador and State Member for Ryde, Victor Dominello MP and City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Artin Etmekdjian.

'Take the Pledge' on Friday 25 November and join the band of brothers. Go to the White Ribbon Foundation website <u>whiteribbon.org.au</u> for a who's who.

Photo: To be advised

Media contacts: City of Ryde: Lee Kirkland Media Officer 9952 8083