## MEDIA RELEASE

Monday 13 November 2017

## SECURE, INDEPENDENT & READY WOMEN'S FORUM FOR WHITE RIBBON

The City of Ryde Council is holding a *Secure, Independent and Ready* women's forum as part of its White Ribbon community awareness campaign. This free women's forum will be held at the West Ryde Community Hall, Anthony Road, on Wednesday 29 November from 9.00am – 12.30pm. Books are essential on <a href="https://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/whatson">www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/whatson</a>

The key guest speaker is Melanie Fernandez from the NSW Council of Social Service who will address a range of security issues that impact on women of all ages and life stages. There will also be service provider information stalls and a Q&A panel to join in. Morning tea and a light lunch is provided

The City of Ryde has been a proud supporter of the White Ribbon campaign for prevention of violence against women since 2008, playing a leadership role in highlighting the need for concerted community action.

Council is coordinating and supporting a number of White Ribbon activities across the Ryde LGA and surrounding areas in collaboration with the Ryde Hunters Hill Domestic Violence Committee and community. These activities include:

- 7 21 November: Domestic Violence Information Sessions with high schools conducted by Ryde Police:
  - 7 November, St Joseph's College Hunters Hill
  - 13 November, Cherrybrook Technology High School
  - 21 November , Mount St Benedict College
- Monday 13 November: Facing the Facts: Evening information session with presentations from experts and local services on domestic violence at Christ Church Gladesville. Open to all.
- Monday 20 November 4 December: White Ribbon merchandise will be available at all City of Ryde Customer Service outlets, Libraries and the Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre.
- Saturday 25 November: Multi-lingual White Ribbon Day information stall in Eastwood Plaza providing prevention of violence information and translated community information.
- Wednesday 29 November: Secure, Independent and Ready Women's Forum a seminar focusing on women's security includes guest speakers, information stalls, domestic violence and homeless support services for women

Additional information about the White Ribbon campaign can be found at www.whiteribbon.org.au

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