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MEDIA RELEASE

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2nd Annual Hope Walk Put On By Ashwaubenon High School Hope Squad

Ashwaubenon, WI – April 19, 2024–The Hope Squad program began in Utah in 2004 as a suicide prevention method. Each squad is made up of students who have training to support their peers. The mission of Hope Squad is to prevent suicide through public awareness and education, reduce stigma, and serve as a resource to those touched by suicide.

The Hope Squad at Ashwaubenon High School was started in 2020 and has trained over 100 students in the past three years. This year, AHS Hope Squad is excited to announce the 2nd Annual Hope Walk at the Ashwaubenon High School track on Saturday, June 1st, 2024. The walk will start at 9am and go until 12pm with various games, crafts, resources, and prizes for all ages!

“Every child, teenager, and adult needs someone during those darkest times in life. Our peer Hope Squad members are trained to be that support. To listen, support, and encourage all lives in the message that there is light after the dark,” said Joy VanLaanen, one of AHS Hope Squad’s advisors.

AHS Hope Squad is proud to be a part of thousands of schools across the United States and Canada. Over 98% of administrators whose schools have implemented Hope Squad agree that the programming promotes a positive school climate for their students. As Hope Squad grows, we continue to share hope and save lives. By walking this year’s Hope Walk, our squad hopes to interact with and educate the student body and community members to reduce stigma and change our community's culture.

Participants are asked to register by May 6th, 2024. Walk-ins will be accepted and are encouraged, but will not receive a Hope Walk T-shirt. To register and for more information please visit <http://tiny.cc/ahshopewalk>.

This year’s Hope Walk sponsors and corporate partners include: Focus Property Management
If your business is interested in sponsoring or donating to our cause please contact Joy VanLaanen at joy_vanlaanen@ashwaubenonk12.org or call 920.492.2950 ext. 5396

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