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DAIS

DOMESTIC ABUSE INTERVENTION SERVICES



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Why I joined the Leadership Committee

At the end of February, nine male allies came together to form the Power of One Leadership Committee to support the Power of One campaign efforts in engaging male allies in the movement to end domestic violence. Their leadership will help guide activities and education opportunities to engage male allies in our community.

"I joined the Power of One Leadership Committee because I'm finally to the point where I have a strong understanding of my personal masculinity. It took time and hard work to reach this place. I owe a lot to my wife and the influence of a handful of men who provided the tools to help me define my ideal masculinity and take steps toward achieving it. It's an ongoing process, but I'm proud of the strides I've made. I'm now comfortable with what I see looking inward.

Looking outward, I see men around me living in their own masculinity. Some cultivated healthy relationships with their masculinity and, by extension, they've forged healthy relationships with those around them - both men and women. Most of these men put years of effort into this challenging pursuit. I also see men - a lot of men - harboring toxic notions of what it means to be a man. Notions that poison every relationship they have. These men in particular suffer, but tend not to realize it.

I joined the Power of One Leadership Committee because I want to help foster a healthy masculinity in all men. I wish to shine a light on toxic masculinity, to fight against it wherever I see it. Even when it's hard. Especially when it's hard. I'm tired of sitting in quiet discomfort while myself and others are hurt, both physically and emotionally, by false and destructive notions of manhood. It's time for me to take action. You can take action too."

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You're Invited!



Empower Session
Ally is a verb: Allyship and Bystander Intervention

Wednesday, April 12th
5:30 - 7:30 pm
Red Gym
716 Langdon Street

Join DAIS for an empowering and interactive conversation on allyship and bystander intervention featuring speakers from DAIS, the



Ben Claes is a member of the Power of One leadership Committee.

During the day, he works as an Administrative Assistant in the Dean's Office at the University of Wisconsin School of Veterinary Medicine. He lives in Madison with his wife, Liz, their deaf pitbull, Alastor, and an incredibly mean cat.

LGBT Campus Center, WCASA, and Rape Crisis Center.

This event is free and open to the public. College students and student leaders encouraged. Snacks will be provided.

Please RSVP to our [Facebook Event](#).

If you want to RSVP for a group, please email [Sheba McCants](#).

DAIS 2017 Empower Sessions aim to educate the community about the issue of domestic violence and provide community members the tools to be effective allies in the work to end domestic violence. The 2017 Empower Sessions are sponsored by National Guardian Life Insurance Company and CUNA Mutual Group.

Action Steps

1. Inspire your social networks by sharing on Facebook or Twitter about a time that you practiced allyship. Tag our [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#) accounts in your post.
2. Watch the film [The Mask You Live In](#) that follows boys and young men as they struggle to stay true to themselves while negotiating America's narrow definition of masculinity and ultimately illustrates how we, as a society, can raise a healthier generation of boys and young men.
3. Attend the upcoming [Empower Session](#) to hear from four organizations on how to be an ally and an active bystander.

Power of One

We all have the power to change harmful attitudes, to speak up, and to support the work to end domestic abuse. It is the power of one voice, one message, one conversation, one intervention. The act of helping one leads to the impact of helping all.
One. And for all.



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