

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Contact:**

Courtney Van Auken, Community Outreach & Development Manager

Christine Ann Domestic Abuse Services, Inc.

courtneyva@christineann.net

920-235-5998

[www.ChristineAnn.net](http://www.ChristineAnn.net)

---

### **Christine Ann Hosts 6th Annual “Love Shouldn’t Hurt” Teen Art Gallery in Honor of Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month**

**Oshkosh, WI** — Christine Ann Domestic Abuse Services, Inc. (Christine Ann) invites the community to attend the **6th Annual Love Shouldn’t Hurt Teen Art Gallery**, a youth-focused art exhibit held in honor of **Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month**. The exhibit will be on display throughout the month of February at becket’s, 2 Jackson Street, Oshkosh.

The Love Shouldn’t Hurt Teen Art Gallery features original artwork created by local teens, exploring themes of healthy relationships, boundaries, respect, and the impact of dating violence. The exhibit aims to elevate youth voices while sparking important conversations about dating violence prevention and education.

Teen dating violence is a significant and widespread issue. One in three teens in the United States will experience physical, sexual, or emotional abuse by a dating partner before adulthood (Futures Without Violence). In Wisconsin, one in five teens experiences dating violence (Dare 2 Know, End Abuse Wisconsin). These realities underscore the importance of early education, prevention, and open dialogue.

Christine Ann expects artwork submissions from schools throughout Winnebago and Green Lake Counties and has already received powerful and thoughtful pieces from Menasha High School, Berlin Middle School, and Oshkosh West, reflecting the creativity, insight, and lived perspectives of local youth.

A public opening reception and voting event will take place on **February 5 from 4:30–6:30 p.m.**, followed by a **closing reception on February 26 from 4:30–6:30 p.m.** Community members are encouraged to attend these events and are also invited to stop by throughout the month of February to view the artwork, reflect on the messages shared, and leave notes of encouragement and support for the teen artists as they use creativity to promote awareness and change.

“Education is one of the most powerful tools we have when it comes to preventing dating violence,” said **Megan B., Youth Team Lead at Christine Ann**. “By creating space for teens

to express what healthy and unhealthy relationships look like through art, we are not only amplifying their voices—we are helping young people build the knowledge and confidence they need to recognize abuse and seek support for themselves, their friends, and their families.”

Christine Ann’s Youth Services team works directly with youth and teens throughout Winnebago and Green Lake Counties to provide education, prevention programming, and support services that promote safety and healthy relationships. In addition to classroom and community-based education, the Youth Team offers one-on-one advocacy for youth ages 4-19 as well as group sessions that provide emotional support, connection, and skill-building in a safe and supportive environment. Families seeking support are encouraged to connect with their school counselor or contact Christine Ann directly at 920-235-5998 to speak with an advocate.

Teens interested in participating in the exhibit are invited to submit artwork of any medium inspired by the theme **“Love Shouldn’t Hurt.”** Artwork must be submitted to Christine Ann’s Youth Team by **January 30**, either by dropping it off at **240 Algoma Blvd., Oshkosh**, or by contacting **meganb@christineann.net** for more information.

#### **About Christine Ann Domestic Abuse Services, Inc.**

Christine Ann’s mission is to empower individuals and families through education, safety, and support, and to lead our community in reducing the incidents and effects of domestic abuse and dating violence. Through emergency shelter, advocacy, youth education, prevention programming, and community outreach, Christine Ann works to create safer futures for survivors and their families.

Community members who would like to stay informed about upcoming events, prevention efforts, and ways to support survivors are encouraged to join Christine Ann’s newsletter or consider becoming a monthly donor to sustain this life-saving work. Learn more at [www.ChristineAnn.net](http://www.ChristineAnn.net)