FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Connecting the Dots! Colleges across the country will harness their collective hope into action to reduce interpersonal violence on college campuses.

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Contact: Laura Haave, lhaave@carleton.edu

There is a shift happening in our culture around sexual assault, intimate partner violence, and stalking. We are reading about it more, talking about it more, and most importantly, we are doing something about it. The momentum is building, and we are closing in on the tipping point where we will see the numbers of those impacted by these types of violence reduce rapidly. Colleges across the country implementing the Green Dot Violence Prevention Strategy will be engaging in a National Day of Action to accelerate that momentum.

The Green Dot strategy engages all members of the campus community as bystanders who can identify behaviors that lead to harm (red dots) and respond in a way that will make it less likely the harm occurs or gets worse (green dots). It also focuses on the actions we can take on a daily basis to set norms on our campus that violence is not tolerated and everyone is expected to do their part in contributing to a safer campus.

On the National Day of Action, colleges will simultaneously train students on their campuses to be active bystanders and equip them with the necessary skills to realistically intervene when they see behaviors that could lead to sexual assault, intimate partner violence, and stalking. Students will learn how to respond to situations in a way that is safe, effective and comfortable. Connecting the Dots: Harnessing Hope into Action is the theme for the nationally recognized event. On this day, students from Alaska to Florida, California to Connecticut, Texas to Maine will stand shoulder to shoulder harnessing the unyielding force of their collective will. Culture change is about lots of individuals doing something small. On this day, we are going to amass enough individual, small green dots that their collective impact will create a seismic shift in norms on campuses around the country. At the end of this single training day, there will be thousands of students positioned to stop the next act of violence that would have happened that night at that party, in that bar, in the apartment next door. As a result of this single training day, less of our students will experience sexual assault, intimate partner violence or stalking.

At Carleton College, a six-hour Green Dot bystander intervention training will take place from 1:00 – 7:00 pm on Sunday, September 18 in Weitz 236. All Carleton students are welcome to register for this training at go.carleton.edu/greendot. Students who completed Green Dot training in 2015-16 are invited to join new trainees at 1:00 pm for a group photo, then participate in a video shoot where they will share why Green Dot is important to Carleton. All attendees will receive Green Dot t-shirts.

For more information about the Green Dot etc, Inc organization please contact: Kristen Parks, parks@livethegreendot.com

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