



## PRESS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Seattle Mariners Host Seventh Annual Goodwill Refuse To Abuse® 5K Run/Walk Inside Safeco Field for Domestic Violence Prevention**

Before the Seattle Mariners take on the Chicago White Sox on Saturday, July 21<sup>st</sup>, Safeco Field will be filled with runners and walkers taking a stand against domestic violence. The sold out [Goodwill Refuse To Abuse® 5K](#) is the only 5K that uses Safeco Field as its entire course. Participants will have access to every level of the ballpark, from the view deck to the players' tunnel to the final lap around the field. The event builds on a 22-year partnership between the Mariners and the Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence (WSCADV) to promote healthy, respectful relationships through the [Refuse To Abuse® violence prevention campaign](#).

New data from the National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS) indicated that approximately 1 in 3 adults in the United States has experienced some form of violence at the hands of an intimate partner. Locally, research conducted by the Washington State Domestic Violence Fatality Review found that teens are not getting the critical information they need about dating violence, including information about what a healthy relationship looks like and feels like. Every participant at the *Goodwill Refuse To Abuse® 5K* will receive information about healthy relationships and how to connect with local resources if someone they care about is being abused.

Many of this year's participants are also doing fundraising for the cause. Every dollar raised supports WSCADV's work with teens and youth engagement, the development of [concrete tools](#) to help start [conversations with young people](#) about healthy relationships, [policy advocacy](#) on behalf of survivors of abuse, and [programming](#) to prevent future violence.

"We are incredible grateful to the Seattle Mariners, their fans, and our supporters for coming together each year to play a role in creating a world where all people can live and love freely without fear," said Judy Chen, Acting Executive Director of WSCADV. "Domestic violence is 100% preventable. It's a complex issue, but everybody can do something to prevent abuse. It starts with staying connected with each other and starting the conversation."

In addition to the generous support of the Seattle Mariners through the team's non-profit foundation Mariners Care, event sponsors include title sponsor Seattle Goodwill and support from Sound Publishing and Council 28 AFSCME Washington Federation of State Employees.

**About Refuse To Abuse®**

*Refuse To Abuse®* is a 22-year partnership between the Seattle Mariners and the Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence to promote healthy, respectful relationships. Print, radio, and television public service announcements are produced each year featuring prominent Mariners players and managers, reaching hundreds of thousands of Mariners fans. This year's campaign features Felix Hernandez, Kyle Seager, Dee Gordon, and Scott Servais, and receives in-kind support from the marketing firm Craters of the Moon.

**About the Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence**

Founded in 1990 by survivors of domestic violence and their allies, the Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence (WSCADV) is a non-profit network of over 60 domestic violence advocacy programs across the state of Washington. WSCADV improves how communities respond to domestic violence and works to create a social intolerance for abuse. Their work includes research, training and technical assistance, producing educational tools, and public policy advocacy. To learn more, please visit [wscadv.org](http://wscadv.org).

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