

From the community Jane Doe No More Awarded \$3,000 to Benefit Burlington Students



Jane Doe No More accepts a grant from the Women & Girls' Fund. (Posted by office258, Community Contributor)

By **Community Contributor office258**

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"With this grant we will be able to empower Regional School District 10 students to prevent sexual violence and encourage a safe environment for survivors to come forward," said Donna Palomba, Founder and President of Jane Doe No More.

Jane Doe No More was one of 14 organizations that received a grant award from the Women & Girls' Fund of Main Street Community Foundation during the Fund's Annual Meeting & Grantee Reception. The event, held on January 18, 2018, gathered together donors, community members and Fund representatives to award a record \$51,111 in grants to organizations serving women and girls in Bristol, Burlington, Plainville, Plymouth, Southington and Wolcott. Grants were made possible with the proceeds from the annual Wonder of Women (WOW) event, the Barbara Hackman Franklin Fund for Women, the John & Gloria DiFrancesco Fund for Women and Girls, the Dumont Family Fund, the Furey Family Fund and the Smith Family Charitable Fund.

A \$3,000 grant was awarded to Jane Doe No More to support the Safe Student Initiative program at Lewis S. Mills High School in Burlington. The program is designed to educate students about what is sexual violence and encourage them to respect and protect themselves and each other; increase reporting of sexual assaults; help victims start their healing process; shift the attitude and understanding of the students towards sexual respect, the benefits of by-stander intervention and the effect of rape culture on society. The program will begin with an assembly and then the high school seniors will continue the conversation in small group discussions. In addition, Jane Doe No More will work with school staff to develop a student-run program called Continuing with Conversation.

In addition, Burlington women and girls will be impacted by several other grants awarded. For a complete list of grants awarded from the Women & Girls' Fund, visit www.mainstreetfoundation.org/women-girls-fund.

The Women & Girls' Fund was created in 2001 as a community-based endowment of the Main Street Community Foundation. The Women & Girls' Fund serves females of all ages in Bristol, Burlington, Plainville, Plymouth/Terryville, Southington and Wolcott. Over the past 17 years, the Women & Girls' Fund has awarded over \$450,000 in grants and immediate response funds to over 80 organizations benefiting women and girls in the communities of Bristol, Burlington, Plainville, Plymouth, Southington and Wolcott.

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