**Mothers’ Union encourages churches to RISE UP against domestic abuse**

Mothers’ Union has launched their new campaign RISE UP Against Domestic Abuse campaign. Through its 40,000 strong membership across Britain and Ireland, Mothers' Union aims to play its part in combating domestic abuse through awareness raising, resources, and support for those affected by domestic abuse, as well as fostering a culture of empathy and empowerment within our churches and communities.

Domestic abuse is a pervasive issue that affects individuals and families of all backgrounds, causing lasting harm and trauma. In response to this urgent need, Mothers' Union has initiated the Rise Up Against Domestic Abuse challenge, and are asking branches and churches to get involved.

RISE UP is an acronym for Respond, Inform, Support, Empower, Unite and Pray.

Participants of the challenge are able to achieve bronze, silver or gold awards based on their involvement of the challenge. To achieve a bronze award, churches or branches should:

* Download a poster from Mothers’ Union’s website about domestic abuse with details of their local domestic abuse helpline and display it in public places such as churches, community centres and public toilets.
* Commit to pray for those affected by domestic abuse, including victims, survivors, perpetrators and those who work in the field of domestic abuse
* Make connections with local domestic abuse support organisations and offer support based on their needs.

Hundreds of Mothers’ Union members across the UK and Ireland have committed to take part in the challenge. The organisation is keen that people don’t hide behind miscommunicated Bible passages to justify their actions or feel like they should stay with an abusive partner.

Members to insert information about what local churches or branches are doing.

Emily Brailsford, Domestic Abuse Manager at Mothers' Union, goes on to say “The Rise Up Against Domestic Abuse campaign is just one of the steps in our ongoing commitment to support and strengthen communities and families. We believe that by joining our membership, church and community together we can address this issue head-on, raising awareness and reducing incidents of domestic abuse through simple steps that scale up to create churches that are informed and able to support members and the wider community to combat domestic abuse.”

We invite others to join us in this challenge or any of our campaigns and projects that seek to combat domestic abuse here or around the world. We believe that together, we can make a difference in the lives of those affected by domestic abuse and create a brighter, more secure future for everyone.

For more information about Mothers’ Union "Rise Up Against Domestic Abuse" challenge or our other work, including how to become a member of our movement, please visit our website at [www.mothersunion.org](http://www.mothersunion.org)

**-Ends-**

For more information, contact:

INSERT your contact details: email address and telephone number.

You can also add the Communications Team’s details if you’d like, but no need to if you are managing local media.

Mary Sumner House Central Communications communications@mothersunion.org

020 7222 5533

Attach the RISE UP logo

**Note to Editors**: Images: attached is the RISE UP logo

**ABOUT**

Mothers' Union is a global Christian movement working with people of all faiths and none to develop communities, strengthen families and advocate for change. Our members are active in 83 countries and work tirelessly to serve their communities to build a future where everyone thrives. Ending violence, ending poverty, ending injustice. We are a truly worldwide Christian movement.

**Mothers’ Union website:** [www.mothersunion.org](http://www.mothersunion.org)