



stand

Genocide Prevention Month

A sample press release for chapters

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Students press Nevland City Council to designate April as Genocide Prevention Month

High school students at Union High take part in nation-wide student effort to raise awareness on genocide prevention throughout the month of April

[Nevland, CA] - Throughout the month of April, several students from Union High School will meet with representatives of the Nevland City Council to finalize plans to recognize April as Genocide Prevention Month in this California district. The students are members of the school's chapter of STAND, a nationwide student-led movement to end genocide and other mass atrocities.

"We'll be meeting with Councilman Jones to explain why this is an important initiative," explained senior and Union STAND member Elizabeth Ryan. "Although the world promised 'Never again' after the Holocaust, there are numerous instances of mass atrocities happening right now – Darfur, Congo, Burma, and Syria. We hope to educate the council on these conflicts and convince them that this resolution is worth the Council's time."

The effort was inspired by the success of a similar movement in Georgia, where the state legislature passed a resolution to recognize April as Genocide Prevention and Awareness Month. After two weeks of intensive meetings, Nevland will join the list of cities and states that recognize April as Genocide Prevention Month. The proposed resolution expresses the Nevland City Council's support for efforts by the U.S. government and its international partners to prevent acts of genocide before they occur.

According to members of Union STAND, Genocide Prevention Month is significant because it is an opportunity for activists and advocates to "educate the public about the history of previous and contemporary genocides, and to prevent future genocides from occurring." It is also an opportunity to remember victims of genocide and to perform public service in their honor.

In addition to advocating for this resolution, the students of Union STAND will also mark Genocide Prevention Month by organizing a variety of educational and advocacy events focused on ongoing atrocities in Syria and Sudan.

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Union High School is a part of STAND, the student-led movement to end mass atrocities. STAND mobilizes students across the country to take action to prevent genocide by educating, advocating, and fundraising. For more information, visit www.standnow.org.