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OFFICIAL STATEMENT: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

“Audrie & Daisy” Documentary Highlights Importance of Supporting Survivors, Role We All Must Play in Preventing Sexual Assault

Enola, PA — The National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC) issued the following statement from Communications Director Laura Palumbo in praise of “Audrie & Daisy,” a Netflix documentary released today.

“‘Audrie & Daisy’ represents an important portrayal of why our response to sexual assault cases matters, and offers a compelling illustration of what needs to change across our culture in order to prevent crimes like these from happening in the first place.

“While the assaults in these cases alone were deplorable, the harassment these two young women experienced over social media following their assaults inflicted a second layer of trauma, demonstrating the incredibly damaging impact that blaming and public shaming can have on victims, families and communities – and why it’s so important that we believe and support survivors. In addition, it is particularly troubling that the people who perpetrated these acts interviewed in the film still struggle to understand why their actions were wrong. We must do a better job in educating young people about consent and bystander intervention, as well as the role of alcohol – a tool often used by those looking to cause harm, but one that should never serve as an excuse for acts of sexual violence.

“In highlighting the varying responses of schools, students, local law enforcement, parents and coaches, ‘Audrie & Daisy’ importantly reiterates how we all have a role to play in appropriately responding to and preventing sexual violence in our communities. While the film underscores that our systems need to more effectively hold offenders accountable, we are heartened by examples such as Daisy’s brother, a little league coach, going beyond baseball to instill lessons of respect and integrity in his team. It’s efforts like this that will ultimately help us put a stop to sexual violence once and for all.”

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ABOUT NSVRC

The National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC) is the leading nonprofit in providing information and tools to prevent and respond to sexual violence. NSVRC translates research and trends into best practices that help individuals, communities and service providers achieve real and lasting change. The center also works with the media to promote informed reporting. Every April, NSVRC leads Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM), a campaign to educate and engage the public in addressing this widespread issue. NSVRC is also one of the three founding organizations of Raliance, a national, collaborative initiative dedicated to ending sexual violence in one generation. The organization was chartered in 2000 by the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape through a cooperative agreement with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

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