Walk a Mile in her shoes

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If you saw about fifty men walking around WKU’s campus in high heels this week, there’s a very good explanation.

Amy Bingham has it in this week’s View from the Hill.

You’ve heard the old saying, you can’t really understand a person’s experience until you’ve walked a mile in their shoes. One of many ways WKU is bringing awareness to sexual assault this month is the fourth annual “Walk a Mile in her shoes.”

Melissa Whitley \ Exec. Dir., Hope Harbor

Ryan Mahoney \ Junior, Fort Thomas

John Stevenson \ Sophomore, Hopkinsville

Father Mike Williams \ St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Center

The pain is real….

 “To be honest it’s probably the most painful thing I’ve every done on my feet .”

But so is the cause….

 “nationally, 34 % of college aged students will be assaulted while they’re in college so between ages 18 and 24.”

That’s why close to fifty WKU male students and faculty traded their normal footwear for high heels and walked a mile on campus in order to bring awareness to a statistic that is too high.

 “It really says a lot when a bunch of guys come out and walk a mile up and down a hill in women’s shoes and take a stand against domestic violence.”

 “Right now I could be sitting in the house doing nothing instead to get out in the community, get involved and help an organization that means a lot to a lot of people.”

The walk generated one thousand one hundred dollars for Hope Harbor, a sexual trauma recovery center in Bowling Green.

 “The things we need for our counseling sessions, journals and clothes for hospital packets where we take clothes to the hospital for victims.”

And while they are stepping out of their comfort zone, (26:42 “I have a new respect for ladies”) these guys say it’s well worth it in the end.

 “If it’s happening here we need to do something to get rid of it here so this is a good start.”

 “Good opportunity to say we love you and we’re here for you.”

The question now is would they do it again?

 “My feet say no but yes I would.”

Several other events are planned to recognize sexual assault awareness month including Take Back the Night on March 27th at 6 pm at the Warren County Justice Center.

With this week’s View from the Hill, I’m Amy Bingham.

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