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LOCAL NONPROFIT IS SAVING LIVES IN ORANGE COUNTY

Human Options provides emergency and prevention services to local residents

IRVINE, CALIFORNIA - One in three women will experience at least one physical assault by a partner in her lifetime. Domestic violence is a serious problem in Orange County. It often is unnoticed or ignored because of our county's level of affluence. But many studies have shown that domestic violence affects people indiscriminately, regardless of their income level, age, or ethnicity. Additionally, 1/3 of all calls to police reporting domestic violence are made by children, showing the tragic reach this crime has into the future of our community. Domestic violence is a cycle of physical and emotional violence that engulfs our entire community and creates lasting scars on our children, families, and businesses.

For over 27 years Human Options has been working to stop the cycle of domestic violence. The organization's vision is a community in which every woman and every child is safe in their own home every single day. Last year Human Options served more than 20,000 individuals in various programs proven in independent studies to be highly effective at changing and saving lives. The organization provides a full continuum of services to stop the violence – from prevention and early intervention programs to emergency shelter and long-term transitional housing and follow-up support.

Kathleen, a 1998 graduate of Human Options programs, describes her experience with domestic violence: "Human Options was there to offer me safety from a man who swore he would "kill me first" rather than let me leave him. Human Options saved my life! The support I received has set a foundation for a new future".

"I have been incredibly fortunate to find my work at Human Options a passion, a purpose and a wonderful community" – says Vivian Clecak, Co-Founder and Executive Director of Human Options.

For further information about Human Options' many programs and services please contact Darla Olson at dolson@humanoptions.org or (949) 737-5242 x317.

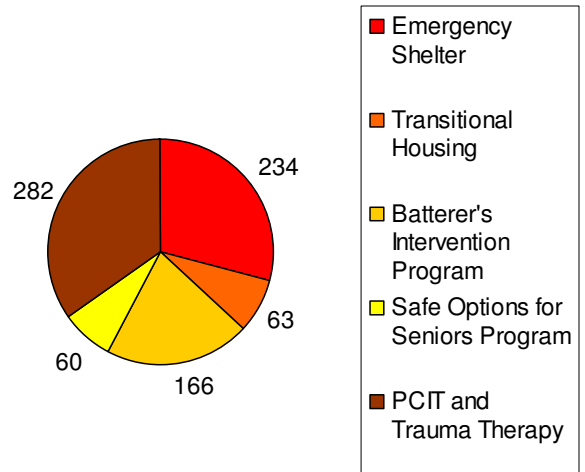
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FACT SHEET

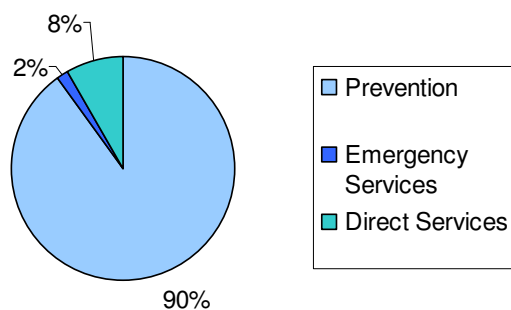
- Human Options was founded in 1981 as an emergency shelter by Vivian Clecak, Ann Wright, Carolyn Churm and Margaret Thoreau
- We offer many comprehensive programs and services including:
 - Emergency Shelter
 - 24-hour Multilingual Crisis hotline
 - Second Step Transitional Housing Community
 - Community Resource Centers, Costa Mesa, Santa Ana and Tustin
 - Batterer's Treatment
 - Safe Options for Seniors Program
 - Community Education Programs: Hands are not for Hitting, Love is not Supposed to Hurt, and Jason's Story
 - Parent-Child Interaction Therapy
 - Trauma therapy and various support services including legal advocacy, educational scholarships and financial management skills training

- In the 2006-2007 fiscal year Human Options served 20,215 individuals
- The emergency hotline fielded over 1,800 domestic violence-related calls last year
- Human Options' emergency shelter provided safe respite to 95 women and 139 children in 2006-2007
- Second Step, Human Options' transitional housing community, was home to 22 women and 42 children in 2006-2007
- Human Options' Safe Options for Seniors, one of the only programs in the state with a comprehensive program to support elder abuse victims, served 60 clients in 2006-2007
- Human Options' community education programs reached over 18,169 youth in the 2006-2007 fiscal year ranging in age from kindergarten to college

**Number of Clients Served through
Emergency & Direct Services**



**Percentage of Clients Served
Through All Programs**



Four separate research studies found that 92% of graduates from Human Options' residential programs are violence-free one year or more after program graduation

VIVIAN CLECAK'S BIO

Vivian Clecak, Chief Executive Director of Human Options: *Alternatives for Abused Women and their Children*, founded Human Options together with three other women in 1981. Ms. Clecak has transformed a small outreach program, which began in a small basement room, into an established safe-haven and comprehensive multi-service agency for abused women and their children in Orange County. In 1994 she brought together a unique private/public coalition to complete a \$4 million capital campaign to build a new emergency shelter and double the program capacity. Human Options now offers four major programs - the emergency shelter and hotline, Second Step Transitional Housing Program, Community Resource and Counseling Center and Community Education Program. Since its beginnings, Human Options has served over 45,000 individuals in direct services, and over 105,000 through the community education program.

Vivian Clecak is a recognized expert on domestic violence and has appeared on both *Good Morning America* and *The Today Show*. She was the first community education chairperson of the Orange County Family Violence Council. As executive director, she has a unique background as both a therapist and an administrator. She developed a staff and volunteer training "Nurturing the Nurturer" which she has done over the past 20 years. In addition, she has been a coach for other executive directors in the Fieldstone Foundation Leadership Program.

In 2003 Ms. Clecak received the Women in Business Award from the Orange County Business Journal and the AAUW Woman of Distinction Award. In 2001 she received the Human Options DOVE Award. Vivian was honored as a 1999-2000 Frances Hesselbein Community Innovation Fellow, a national award given by the Peter Drucker Foundation to five nonprofit leaders annually and was selected by the Freeman, Freeman and Smiley Foundation for Philanthropy as their 1999 recipient of the Vision in Philanthropy Award.

Ms. Clecak graduated cum laude with a B.A. from Stanford University and completed her M.S.W. at the University of California, Los Angeles. She is a licensed clinical social worker and a licensed marriage and family therapist.

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