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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 22,000 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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