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WTLC Opens Community Center for Survivors of Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking

FULLERTON, CA (October 5, 2017) – This Wednesday, WTLC opened the doors to The Center, a community space where survivors of domestic violence and human trafficking can receive legal, clinical, and housing advocacy in support of their recoveries. This week’s Open House was attended by over 100 supporters from the community who participated in tours of the facility and learned about the organization’s history and plans for the future.

Founded in 1976, WTLC is the oldest domestic violence shelter in Orange County and the third oldest in the nation. The agency has grown since its founding as a domestic violence shelter into a multi-service organization that supports all aspects of survivors’ recoveries. While WTLC continues to operate its housing programs at a confidential shelter location, The Center is designed to support the recovery of survivors who have chosen not to participate in an emergency shelter.

Wednesday’s event opened with Certificates of Recognition being awarded to WTLC from a representative of the office of Congressman Ed Royce, California State Senator Josh Newman, a representative of the office of Assemblymember Sharon Quirk-Silva, and Fullerton Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Theresa Harvey. Senator Newman presided over the ribbon cutting ceremony, after which guests took tours of the facility to learn about WTLC programs and services. Staff members were present throughout the building to explain their work with the organization and answer questions. Two Saucy Broads and Rebel City Entertainment sponsored the event, providing pizza and doughnuts to guests. Community partner Shoobilee also hosted a booth to raise awareness of their efforts to empower people in the community through the donation of shoes.

WTLC CEO Gigi Tsontos expressed her gratitude to attendees, saying, “We’re amazed by the overwhelming support and enthusiasm we’ve seen for this event—we are so excited to continue working with the community to ensure recovery is accessible to all survivors of domestic violence and human trafficking.”

About WTLC:

WTLC is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping individuals and families escape the depths of domestic violence and exploitation by providing the tools and resources to build self-esteem and empower people for independent living. If you or someone you know is the victim of abuse, contact our 24-hour bilingual hotline at (877) 531-5522 or love@wtlc.org. For more information about WTLC, visit www.wtlc.org

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