



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Gigi Tsontos
GTsontos@wtlc.org
(714) 992-1939 ext. 106

Orange County DV Shelter Launches Program for Veterans

FULLERTON, CA (November 3, 2017) – With Veterans Day right around the corner, the Women’s Transitional Living Center (WTLC) is working to expand its programs to reach the underserved Veteran and military populations in Orange County.

As the oldest domestic violence service provider in Orange County and the third oldest in the US, WTLC has historically prioritized innovative solutions to ensure services are accessible to all of Orange County’s survivors. The organization was the first domestic violence shelter in Orange County to welcome the pets of survivors alongside their owners, and this year launched its Mobile Advocacy Program to make its services available to survivors outside of an emergency shelter setting. In keeping with the agency’s commitment to reaching all survivors of domestic violence and human trafficking, WTLC launched its Veterans Program earlier this year.

The Veterans Program is designed both to support Veteran survivors of domestic violence in their recoveries, and also work with Veterans who have caused domestic violence to prevent further harm. Survivors and their children have access to shelter, housing, counseling, and supportive services designed to meet them at the intersection of their experiences and traumas, receiving individualized services to support their specific recovery needs. Veterans who have caused harm work with WTLC’s Prevention team to end abusive behaviors and replace them with healthy relationships, participating in group sessions designed to educate and prevent further violence.

With the implementation of Mobile Advocacy this year, WTLC services are now available off-site, allowing Veterans and military personnel to receive support in safe and comfortable spaces in the community. “Our vision is to end the cycle of violence and exploitation, and this program aims to do so by supporting Veterans from both sides of a violent situation,” explains WTLC CEO Gigi Tsontos. “These individuals and families often have a unique relationship with trauma, and our goal is to support their needs as they work towards violence-free lives.”

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

###