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YWCA of Palm Beach County Leading the Way in Recognizing October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month

WEST PALM BEACH – The YWCA of Palm Beach County, the leader in providing comprehensive domestic violence support and prevention programs has a full slate of activities plan to recognize October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The YWCA will be participating in and hosting an array of activities throughout the month including:

1. **Opening Ceremony** on **October 3** 8:30am-11:00am; PBSO Training Division, 4215 Cherry Rd, West Palm Beach; featuring keynote from **Lynn Rosenthal**, former White House Advisor on Violence Against Women
2. **The Clothesline Project** on **October 6**; 12:00pm-6:00pm; SP&GG Art Gallery, 711 Lucerne Avenue, Lake Worth; Art exhibit featuring work of domestic violence survivors
3. **In Her Shoes** on **October 9**; 10:00am-1:00pm; Mayme Frederick Building, 1440 Martin Luther King BLVD, Riviera Beach; A simulation of real survivors stories and their journey to escaping an abusive relationship
4. **Week Without Violence** Social Media Campaign **October 13-18**; 24/7; Facebook, Instagram and Twitter; A social media campaign to bring awareness to violence against women; please post why you believe “Ending gender-based violence is important”; what you think “A world without violence looks like”; and why “I stand with survivors” along with the hashtag WWV2019 and tag the YWCA of Palm Beach County at @YWCAPBC on facebook and twitter or ywca_pbc100 on Instagram
5. **We Are Stronger Together** on **October 23**; 5:00pm-6:30pm; Waterway Café, 2300 PGA Blvd, Palm Beach Gardens; bring women together and recognize Domestic Violence Awareness Month and National Business Women’s Week and collect women’s clothing and accessories for survivors residing in Harmony House

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As a precursor to this month of celebrating the strength of domestic violence survivors and bringing awareness to this public health epidemic, Commissioner McKinlay’s office sponsored a proclamation on September 10, 2019 recognizing **October 2019** as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. As a member of the Palm Beach County Domestic Violence Council, the YWCA is pleased to help facilitate the month’s Opening Ceremony on **October 3, 2019**.

The YWCA of Palm Beach County will also host Breaking the Cycle with the YWCA of Palm Beach County in partnership with SP&GG Art Gallery on **October 6, 2019**. The YWCA of Palm Beach County will display the Clothesline Project along with art from the local Lake Worth community. The Clothesline Project is art created by survivors of domestic violence and other forms of violence against women expressing their struggle and their survivor. “Art is a profound way for survivors share their experience and their journey to recovering from domestic violence-if they are lucky enough to survive” says **Dr. Mary Cauthen**, Chief Program Officer for the YWCA of Palm Beach County. “Survivors are the true storytellers of domestic violence”.

About the YWCA of Palm Beach County

The YWCA is the oldest and largest multicultural women's organization in the world. As a is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, we are dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women, and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all. Our programs include Harmony House, a 72-bed domestic violence shelter, comprehensive support services for domestic violence survivors including rapid re-housing; injunction for protection; economic empowerment and more. In addition, we operate an early learning center in West Palm Beach, youth empowerment programs in the Glades, as well as women’s health and racial justice programs and initiatives across Palm Beach County. Last year, we served more than 3,000 individuals through our programs aimed at eliminating racism and empowering women. For additional information or to make a donation, visit: www.ywcapbc.org. ###