



Family Violence Prevention Center of Orange County and The Women's Center to Merge to Provide Comprehensive Services to Women and Families

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CHAPEL HILL, NC – After more than a decade of collaboration to serve the needs of women and families, Family Violence Prevention Center of Orange County and The Women's Center announced today that they have made the decision to merge. The organizations expect to finalize a merger agreement during the first quarter of 2012.

Family Violence Prevention Center and The Women's Center complement each other in mission and operations. Family Violence Prevention Center's mission is to prevent and end domestic violence through direct services and community education. The Women's Center's mission is to partner with women and girls to build their knowledge, skills and confidence to become self-sufficient by providing financial literacy, career exploration and preparedness, legal information, adolescent empowerment programs, and connections to community resources.

Brandie Ambler Revoy, Family Violence Prevention Center Board President said, "The key benefit of the merger is our combined ability to better serve the needs of women and families. Standing together, both agencies will do much better and indeed be truer to our missions."

Jennifer Strauss, The Women's Center Board Chair said, "Both agencies have missions that at their core strive to improve the safety and self-sufficiency of women and their children. Both share a vision of empowerment and self-sufficiency, towards ensuring that both women and men have the ability to take care of themselves and their families over the long term."

Both agencies see the merger as a way to be the best stewards of their limited resources and to demonstrate community leadership. "Our overarching goal in doing this is to provide comprehensive services to our clients in the most seamless way possible," Revoy said. "We will accomplish this through quality improvements and improved efficiency in existing services, better fundraising abilities and a new and

stronger brand. We would also have the capacity to expand our geographic footprint and to offer new services to our clients,” Strauss added.

Strauss expressed strong gratitude for the long-standing support of The Henderson Street House Foundation. “The Women’s Center has benefited over the years from the use of the Henderson Street house, provided to us by the Foundation. It was through the vision and support of community leaders that The Women’s Center has served women and girls for over three decades.”

The merger is not expected to result in any immediate change to locations or services. No job loss is expected due to the merger. The combined organization’s board will include members from the boards of both organizations.

For more information contact:

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The Women’s Center
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About Family Violence Prevention Center

Family Violence Prevention Center offers a number of services to adults and children who are experiencing or have experienced emotional, physical or sexual abuse in their intimate or personal relationships. They serve victims and survivors of domestic violence through several phases of healing, from crisis onward. Family Violence Prevention Center maintains high quality crisis intervention services and on-going client support through a 24-hour hotline, crisis counseling, safety planning, court advocacy, support groups, emergency shelter and financial assistance, and individual follow-up and support. It also provides community education programming to prevent domestic violence, including providing school-based dating violence prevention education to middle-school students.

About The Women’s Center

The Women’s Center offers a wide variety of programs and services for women and girls. The goal is to connect women to their potential by helping them with a variety of support services including legal information, financial literacy education, career advising and referral services. These programs are offered through individual, in-person appointments; support via telephone; ongoing support and coaching groups; and

workshops. We reach adolescents in our community through media literacy programming and Teens Climb High, a comprehensive sex education and empowerment program for middle school girls in Chapel Hill.