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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## UNITE IN THE FIGHT AGAINST ABUSE

*Domestic Violence Solutions invites the community to attend Annual Candlelight Vigils in honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month and support of intimate partner violence victims.*

**SANTA BARBARA, Calif., September 24, 2019** – Domestic Violence Solutions (DVS), Santa Barbara County’s only full-service provider of 24-hour emergency shelter and services for domestic violence victims, is proud to present October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.



Family, friends and members of the community remember the lives lost to intimate partner violence at the 2018 candlelight vigil in Santa Maria.

Every year since 1987, the month of October has been set aside to bring awareness to the prevalent societal issue of domestic violence. The facts are shocking: one in three women and one in four men will be victims of intimate partner violence in their lifetimes.

Throughout the month of October, DVS hosts and participates in candlelight vigils in Lompoc, Santa Maria and Santa Barbara.

Please join the community in honoring domestic violence survivors, **uniting our strong voices together as one.**

***The vigils will be held at the following locations and times:***

- **Thursday, October 10 in Lompoc at Centennial Park:**  
Vigil Ceremony begins at 6:00 pm, followed by a candlelit memorial walk.
- **Thursday, October 17 in Santa Maria at Ethel Pope Auditorium (Santa Maria High School):**  
Meet and Mingle at City Hall at 5:00 pm. *Handmade burritos provided by Lideres Campesinas!*  
Memorial Walk (starts at City Hall) at 6:00 pm and Vigil Ceremony at 6:30 pm.
- **Thursday, October 24 in Santa Barbara at Paseo Nuevo:**  
Community Resource Fair begins at 4:00 pm. *Pizza provided by Rusty’s Pizza Parlor!*  
Vigil Ceremony at 6:00 pm and Memorial Walk at 6:30 pm.

“Intimate partner violence is a silent epidemic,” said Jan Campbell, executive director of Domestic Violence Solutions. “Due to shame and fear, victims are hesitant to seek the support they need. We need to come together as a community to say “No More!” to violence and abuse.”

*Domestic Violence Solutions is dedicated to ending the cycle of domestic violence by providing prevention and intervention services, emotional support and advocacy to those in crisis, and playing a leadership role in effecting social change.*

*For more information, to make a donation or to learn about upcoming events, please contact Julia Black at*

*[juliab@dvsolutions.org](mailto:juliab@dvsolutions.org) or visit [www.dvsolutions.org](http://www.dvsolutions.org).*

**DVS 24-Hour Crisis and Information Line: 805.963.4458**