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**CORA RECOGNIZES LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES
FOR NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT APPRECIATION DAY**

*CORA thanks law enforcement for their commitment to addressing domestic violence
in the community with a specially created piece of art.*

SAN MATEO, CA – Monday, January 9, 2017 is national Law Enforcement Appreciation Day (LEAD). CORA – a local nonprofit and the only organization offering comprehensive assistance to those experiencing domestic violence in San Mateo County – recognizes the bravery and commitment of local law enforcement. To commemorate the day, CORA has given a specially created piece of art to local law enforcement agencies for their commitment to addressing domestic violence in the community.

Domestic violence calls are one of the most dangerous situations for police officers. (See a breakdown by a recent study here: <http://www.nleomf.org/assets/pdfs/officer-safety/cops-facts/Fact-Sheet-Call-Type.pdf> .) Officers place themselves in a hazardous environment each time they respond.

Law enforcement plays an essential part in addressing domestic violence in San Mateo County. City police departments and the County Sheriff's office have officially partnered with CORA since 1994 (and informally for many years before that) to address relationship abuse and ensure victims are not just safe in that moment, but also receive the assistance and support they need.

"Police play a critical role in helping survivors of domestic violence," says Emily Flemming, CORA's Emergency Response Program Specialist. "We are lucky to work with law enforcement that care about domestic violence and want to ensure victims are safe."

CORA and over 20 law enforcement agencies work hand-in-hand through CORA's Emergency Response Program (ERP). The goals of CORA's ERP are to provide immediate, telephone-based crisis counseling to domestic violence survivors at the scene of 911 domestic violence calls and to connect survivors with CORA's supportive services.

The ERP program benefits both those affected by domestic violence and local law enforcement. With CORA's trained crisis counselor attending to the needs of the survivor using a trauma-informed approach, the officer can focus on legal aspects. In cases when immediate crisis intervention is not needed or appropriate, the police summary is sent to CORA via a secure web-based system and an ERP crisis counselor attempts to contact each survivor within 48 hours after the initial referral to offer appropriate services.

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About CORA

CORA (Community Overcoming Relationship Abuse) provides safety, support and healing for individuals who experience abuse in an intimate relationship, and educates the community to break the cycle of domestic violence. The only agency in San Mateo County with the sole purpose of serving victims and survivors of domestic abuse, CORA provides confidential emergency, intervention and prevention services, including the County's only emergency shelters, as well as a 24-hour hotline, an emergency response program, therapeutic counseling, legal services, children's specific programming and supportive housing for survivors. Services are free of charge and are open to anyone needing help. Services are available in English and Spanish, as well as many other languages. To learn more, visit www.corasupport.org. You can also see the latest information by following CORA on twitter ([@ENDtoDV](https://twitter.com/ENDtoDV)) and Facebook ([@facebook.com/corasupport](https://facebook.com/corasupport)).