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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LIGHTING THE PATH TO HEALING

The community is invited to attend Domestic Violence Solutions' Annual Candlelight Vigils in honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month and support of intimate partner violence victims.

SANTA BARBARA, CA, October 3, 2017 - 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.

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 that one in three women and one in four men will be victims of physical violence by an intimate partner in their lifetime.

Throughout the month of October, DVS will be hosting and participating in candlelight vigils in Lompoc, Santa Barbara and Santa Maria. Please join the community in raising a candle to honor survivors and remember victims of domestic violence:

- **Thursday, October 5 in Lompoc at Centennial Park. Vigil at 6:00 p.m.**
- **Thursday, October 19 in Santa Barbara at Paseo Nuevo Mall. Community Resource Fair at 4:00 p.m., Vigil at 6:00 p.m. and Memorial Walk at 6:30 p.m.**
- **Thursday, October 26 in Santa Maria at Ethel Pope Auditorium (Santa Maria High School). Memorial Walk (starts at City Hall) at 6:00 p.m. and Vigil at 6:30 p.m.**



Family, friends and community members remember Alexandra Tang at a 2015 Candlelight Vigil.

In Santa Barbara County this past year alone, DVS answered more than 4,981 calls to our crisis lines and responded to 472 calls to aid victims in emergency situations. DVS also provided 4,687 safe nights of housing, and participated in 244 educational and outreach events throughout the community. Over half of those supported in the DVS shelters this past year have been children.

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 or visit www.dvsolutions.org.