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Media Contact: Ashlee Wolf
Director of Philanthropy and Communication
Phone: (559) 487-1313; Mobile: (559) 916-5101
Email: ashlee@mmcenter.org

Marjaree Mason Center announces 43rd Annual Top Ten Professional Women Awards Honorees and Powerful Keynote Speakers for October 21st Event

Fresno, CA (August 6, 2026) — The Marjaree Mason Center is honored to announce this year's 43rd Annual Top Ten Professional Women Awards honorees, presented by CalViva Health. This distinguished event celebrates women whose leadership, service and impact have strengthened the Central Valley. This year's event will feature a keynote address, presented by Valley Children's Healthcare, from the mother and stepfather of the late Gabby Petito, Nichole and Jim Schmidt. They will share the heartbreaking story that captured the nation – a 22-year-old whose promising life was tragically cut short, later chronicled in Netflix's *American Murder*.

2026 Top Ten Professional Women Award Honorees, sponsored by Pacific Service Credit Union:

- **Loren Booth**, President, Booth Ranches
- **Dr. Danielle Campagne**, Chief of Emergency Medicine, UCSF Fresno and Community Regional Medical Center | Emergency Medicine Physician, Inspire Health Medical Group | Professor of Clinical Emergency Medicine, UCSF School of Medicine | Medical Director, American Ambulance
- **Coreen Campos**, Chief Executive Officer, Coreen Campos & Associates, LLC
- **Rickie Dhillon**, Superintendent & CEO, Kepler Neighborhood School | Managing Principal, Niam Capital Group LLC
- **Trina Frazier**, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services, Office of Fresno County Superintendent of Schools
- **Susan Holt**, Director of Behavioral Health and Public Guardian, County of Fresno Department of Behavioral Health
- **Midori Howo**, Chief Deputy District Attorney of the Sexual Assault and Child Abuse Unit, Fresno County District Attorney's Office
- **Elizabeth Laval**, President, Fresno City and County Historical Society
- **Christy Patch, JD, PhD**, Chief Impact Officer, Central Valley Community Foundation
- **Dr. Janice Stain**, Obstetrics and Gynecology, United Health Centers

All honorees were nominated by their peers in the community who firmly believe in their deservingness of such an accolade for their exceptional work. A committee of 4 community judges meticulously reviewed and scored numerous outstanding candidates. The nominees were evaluated based on their exemplary achievements, leadership, and unwavering commitment to making a positive impact. They join an alumni class that has greatly impacted the Central Valley community over the last four decades.

The 43rd Annual Top Ten Professional Women Awards will be held on Wednesday, October 21st at 11:00 AM at the Fresno Convention & Entertainment Center, New Exhibit Hall. The event will bring together more than 1,500 attendees to celebrate leadership and ignite a commitment to end domestic violence in our community.

Keynote Speaker Spotlight, sponsored by Valley Children's Healthcare:

Nichole and Jim Schmidt, mother and stepfather of the late Gabby Petito, are the co-founders of the Gabby Petito Foundation, an organization dedicated to preventing domestic violence, supporting organizations and first responders that assist survivors, and helping locate missing persons through education, awareness, and prevention.

Gabby Petito's story captured national attention in 2021 after she was killed while traveling across the country with her fiancé. She was only 22 years old. Her death sparked widespread conversations about intimate partner violence, coercive control, and the importance of recognizing warning signs in unhealthy relationships.

In the wake of this unimaginable tragedy, Gabby's family established the Gabby Petito Foundation to transform their grief into purpose. Through advocacy, education, and community partnerships, the foundation works to raise awareness of domestic violence, empower individuals to recognize the signs of abuse, and support efforts that help protect others from experiencing similar tragedies.

Today, Nichole and Jim honor Gabby's legacy by sharing her story, advocating for survivors, and encouraging communities to recognize the signs of abuse before violence escalates.

Event Information

Individual tickets for this event are priced at $100, while those interested in sharing this experience with colleagues and friends can purchase a table of 10 for $1,000. Tickets are available for purchase online at https://mmcenter.org/top-ten and several sponsorship opportunities are also still available.

This year's program promises not only to recognize extraordinary women in our community, but also to shine a light on the warning signs of domestic violence, and how communities can work together to prevent abuse and support survivors. For more information, visit www.mmcenter.org.

About Marjaree Mason Center

For over 45 years, the Marjaree Mason Center has offered safe housing and support services to adults and their children affected by domestic violence in Fresno County. As the only comprehensive domestic violence agency in Fresno County, which has the highest per capita calls to law enforcement in the State of California, the Marjaree Mason Center provides safe housing, legal services, counseling and education to survivors and youth. The Center was founded in 1979 after the murder of Marjaree Mason, a native of Easton, at the hands of her ex-boyfriend, a Fresno County Sheriff's deputy. A graduate of Washington High School and Reedley College, Marjaree lived in Fresno for 31 years and was well known in the community. To contact the Marjaree Mason Center, call the business center at 559.237.4706, or the 24-hour confidential emergency helpline at 559.233.HELP (4357) or help@mmcenter.org. To learn more, visit www.mmcenter.org.