



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Marjaree Mason Center's Trees of Hope Program Needs Community Support to Help Grant Holiday Wishes for Those Affected by Domestic Violence

Fresno, CA — (December 5, 2023) — This holiday season, the Marjaree Mason Center is once again asking the community help bring warmth and joy to survivors of domestic violence through the annual Trees of Hope program.

Families fleeing domestic violence often experience financial insecurity and the holiday season can be especially difficult. Parents often feel scared and alone and kids don't always understand why they're not at home. It's a very complicated and difficult time for those the Marjaree Mason Center serves.

Through the Trees of Hope program, the Marjaree Mason Center staff collects wishes from those receiving their services, uploads those wishes to a registry, and asks those from throughout the community to help us fulfill those wishes for the holidays.

The link to the registry can be found here: <https://rb.gy/dmqqjy>

This holiday season, the Marjaree Mason Center is currently serving nearly 600 adults and children impacted by domestic violence through emergency and transitional housing services, counseling and/or group support, children's programs, legal advocacy, family stabilization program, and life transition program. This does not include new clients in crisis who will come to the Marjaree Mason Center between now and the end of the month.

Community support of Trees of Hope and in filling these wishes means those served by the Marjaree Mason Center will have something to open this Christmas, that people care about them, and that there is hope in a brighter future.

Those who choose to fill the wishes others have two options:

- 1. Ship/Mail Your Gift:**

Fulfill the wishes of a Marjaree Mason Center child or client by having your gift shipped directly to them before December 18th. Ship to: Marjaree Mason Center, 1600 M Street, Fresno, CA 93721.

- 2. Drop Off Your Gift:** Visit Marjaree Mason Center's future home at 255 W. Bullard Ave, Fresno, CA 93704 (previously Milan Institute) on December 14th, 15th, and 18th between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm to drop off your gift in person. Please ensure gifts arrive unwrapped, as they will be sorted and given directly to the child, teen, or adult who requested them. Consider providing wrapping paper or gift bags to add an extra special touch to their holiday!

Cash and check donations are also welcomed and appreciated. Donations can be made online at www.mmcenter.org.

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About Marjaree Mason Center

For over 40 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, the Marjaree Mason Center provides 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. 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 MMC, call the business center at 559.237.4706, the 24-hour confidential emergency hotline at 559.233.HELP (4357) or help@mmcenter.org, or learn more online at www.mmcenter.org.