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Marjaree Mason Center Announces Opening of Nominations for 33rd Annual Top Ten Professional Women and Leading Business Awards

FRESNO, CA (June 1, 2016) – Marjaree Mason Center, Fresno County's only dedicated provider of domestic violence shelter and support services, including education for victims and youth, announced today that nominations are being accepted for ten women and one business for the 33rd Annual Top Ten Professional Women and Leading Business Awards on Friday, October 14, 2016 at the Fresno Convention Center.

The 33rd Annual Top Ten Professional Women and Leading Business Awards, a prestigious awards ceremony honoring local professionals, will bring approximately 1,200 attendees together with the goal of honoring these outstanding individuals in our community while also raising awareness for domestic violence. This event pays tribute to ten women who have served as role models and given back to their communities, all while making strides in their professions. One business is also honored as the Leading Business of the Year for its support of women and women's issues.

Any community member may place a nomination by visiting <https://www.mmcenter.org/top-ten>. Nominators must complete the online form and provide references for the nominee. The deadline to submit nominations is Friday, July 22, 2016 at 5pm PST. A panel of judges will thoroughly review each candidate and provide a ranking based on preset criteria. The Marjaree Mason Center will announce award recipients in August.

"The Marjaree Mason Center has been honored to host the Top Ten Awards for the past 33 years. The success of the event is all due to the dedicated support we receive from our community members, partners and local businesses. We're pleased that PrideStaff is our exclusive presenting sponsor again this year and look forward to unveiling our keynote speaker soon." said Genelle Taylor Kumpe, Marjaree Mason Center's Executive Director.

Tickets to the luncheon can be purchased for \$60 each or a table of 10 for \$600, visit <https://www.mmcenter.org/top-ten> to order online. To sponsor the luncheon or for media inquiries, contact Kaysha Rajani, Marjaree Mason Center's Director of Development and Communications, at kaysha@mmcenter.org or 559.487.1313.

About Marjaree Mason Center

For over three decades, the Marjaree Mason Center has offered shelter and support services to victims of domestic violence in Fresno County. Currently, the Center operates Fresno County's only dedicated provider of domestic violence shelter and support services, including education for victims and youth. And, MMC is one of the largest domestic violence shelters in the state of California.

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. The Marjaree Mason Center's mission is to support and empower adults and their children affected by domestic violence, while striving to prevent and end the cycle of abuse through education and advocacy.

To contact MMC, call the business center at 559.237.4706, 24-hour confidential emergency hotline at 559.233.HELP (4357) or visit online at:

Website: mmcenter.org

Facebook: facebook.com/marjareemasoncenter

Instagram: [@marjareemasoncenter](https://instagram.com/marjareemasoncenter)

Pinterest: pinterest.com/marjareemason

Twitter: [@marjareemason](https://twitter.com/marjareemason)

About Top Ten Professional Women and Leading Business Awards

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Major sponsors include:

- Presenting Sponsor: PrideStaff
- Keynote Sponsor: CalViva Health
- Morning Meet and Greet Sponsor: AT&T

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