



House of Ruth



Annual Report

2019



From the **Board President**

Over the past year we have been able to provide safety through our emergency and transitional residential programs to more than 185 people. Through our outreach program we have provided services to more than 900 people including relationship

classes and therapeutic support groups, as well as our 24-hour crisis line that has supported, 1321 callers. The House of Ruth continues to provide services to those victimized by domestic violence. We have a committed and dedicated staff who work tirelessly to carry out the agency's mission to prevent domestic violence and ensure the safety and well-being of those impacted by it through our core services – residential shelter, community outreach, and counseling. While we are dedicated to the mission, we are continually faced with the demands to adapt in order to meet the changing needs of the population we serve, as well as the political and social factors that we are all facing today. For instance, the homeless epidemic in this country is disproportionately affecting those in violent situations, with “one half of all homeless women and children becoming homeless while trying to escape intimate partner violence.” In response, we have seen the expansion of our housing programs, it now reaches beyond the emergency shelter to include transitional housing, rapid re-housing, and domestic violence housing first programs.

This past year we have continued working with organizations in our community to support our programs. In October, we continued our partnership with the Pomona Police Department and Foothill Family Services to sponsor our annual candlelight vigil to honor both survivors of domestic violence and those who were killed by an abuser. In February, we sponsored our 5th Annual Awareness Through Art Showcase to support ‘Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month.’ Featured artwork was from local teens to raise awareness about dating violence as well as promoting

healthy relationships. We have also continued to provide opportunities for community partners and neighbors to participate in our social fundraising events, which include Moveable Feast and Table to Farm.

Fundraising and fund development continue to be a core focus of the agency as we continually monitor the political climate with potential shifts in federal, state and local priorities. While most of our funding comes from government grants, we are focusing on building our foundation and individual donor funds in anticipation of any changes in public funding to further our program development. This year, we were the second-place winner in the Allstate Purple Purse Challenge. As the second-place winner we received an additional \$50,000 bonus prize for our fundraising efforts competing against 120 other domestic violence agencies nationwide. Since Allstate has elected to end this fundraising campaign our priorities and strategies over the next year is to increase our private donations and strategize other funding sources.

We have continued to respond to the current trends when providing services to our clients and reaching out to our donors. We understand the expectations of using social media as a standard communication platform and delivery tool in addition to our face to face and telephone communication. Our development department supports these fundraising and marketing efforts.

I trust that you understand that your continued contributions are vital to the health of House of Ruth. Your generosity goes toward supporting our outstanding staff, led by our new Executive Director, Pat Bell and in working to achieve our vision to end domestic violence and promote healthy relationships. ‘Every home deserves to be a safe home.’ Thank you for your continued support.

Renee Young

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From the Executive Director



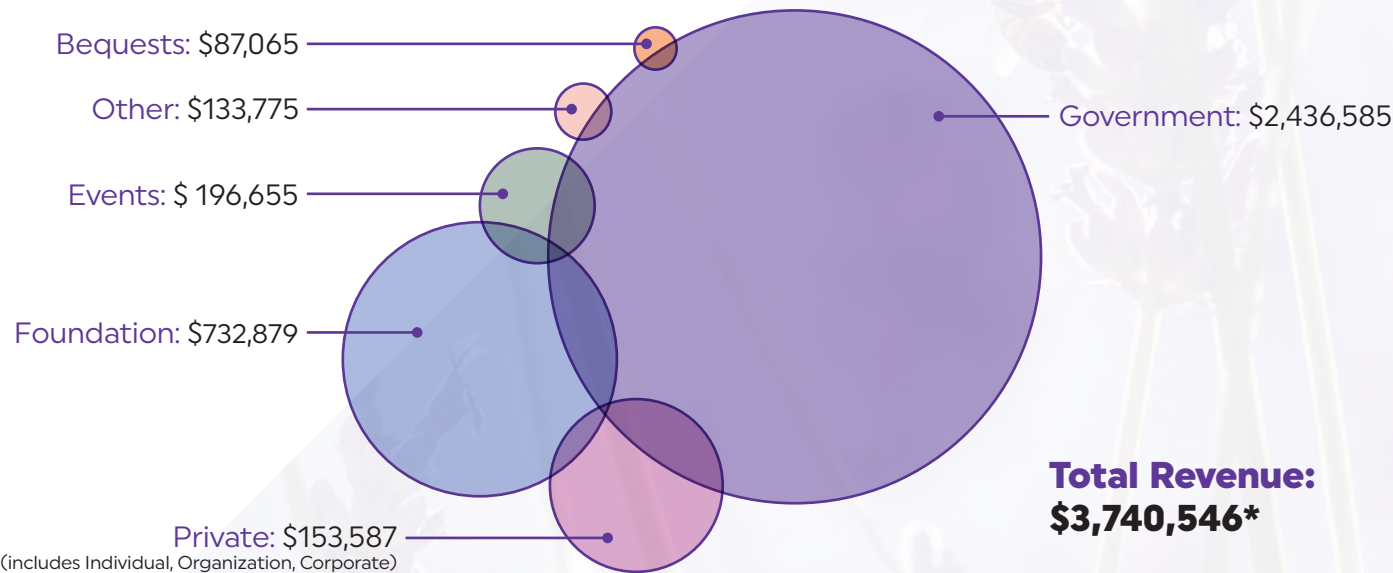
Greetings! I'm so excited to be named Executive Director of House of Ruth! House of Ruth has been providing critical services to the surrounding communities for the past 42 years and I'm thrilled to take on the responsibility of leading them into the future! As a long-term employee, I've had the opportunity to watch the organization grow in response to needs of survivors, such as transitional and permanent housing and prevention education. As we look toward the future, we are faced with many truths. Domestic violence continues to be a public health crisis, impacting all people that suffer from abusive intimate partner relationships. Domestic violence continues to impact the whole family, including the survivor, the children and the person who harms. Some of the shifts in trends that we see are the need to provide services for the whole family. Our vision is to end domestic violence and promote healthy relationships. In order to accomplish that, we have to put a concentrated effort on prevention. As our staff work with youth in the community it gives youth the opportunity to have an open conversation about what makes a healthy relationship. Teaching the warning signs of abusive behavior is just the beginning of the conversation. Many teens will repeat the cycle of violence, because they've grown up in violent homes and they don't have positive healthy behaviors to replicate. We're excited to introduce a new educational curriculum "Coaching Boys to Men," designed for athletic coaches to reach out to young men once a month during practice and discuss those hard character-building topics like respect, consent and how to be an upstander.

I'm hopeful about the future. I burst with pride when I watch our Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) representing House of Ruth on the steps of Capitol Hill, advocating for domestic violence awareness and education. It encourages me having teens stand with us to advocate for a violence free world. Figuring out how to help the whole family gives me hope for a violence free world. Working with an amazing group of people that make up our incredibly diverse staff gives me hope that we are providing quality services to every single person that crosses our door. I'm so grateful for the opportunity to lead this team into the future and I can't wait to report to all of you about our success!

I encourage you to join me in this exciting new chapter for House of Ruth, as each of you play an integral role in our future success. Please reach out to me to take a tour of our outreach office. I'm forever grateful for our supporters who are making a difference in the lives of the survivors and families we serve.

Pat Bell
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Sources of Revenue



* Unaudited Financials

Second Place Award in The Purple Purse Challenge



In the month of October House of Ruth participated in the Allstate Purple Purse Challenge a campaign to help domestic violence non-profits nation-wide raise awareness about financial abuse and crowdfund for their agencies. The top three agencies that raised the most funds were awarded an additional sum of money from the Allstate Foundation. House of Ruth developed a team page that was shared with supporters through social media platforms allowing followers to create their own page and share it with family and friends. ***The Community outpouring of support was overwhelming and enabled House of Ruth to enlist***

forty-four team captains, who then appealed to 447 of their family & friends and raised an impressive \$117,000 in the month of October. Earning us second place nationwide and receiving an additional \$50,000 prize from the Allstate Foundation. Thank you to hundreds of board members, volunteers, staff, community and corporate supporters for participating in this challenge. Your dedication and hard work have demonstrated your passion for helping end domestic violence. The funds raised from the Purple Purse Challenge assisted House of Ruth in providing free supportive services to those affected by domestic violence.



HOW YOUR DONATIONS HELPED ...

13,179 teens learned about healthy relationships through our prevention educators

Children Need to Feel Safe

What types of conversations are we having regarding violence in the home? Do children have the appropriate words to voice their concerns? "Children are experiencing trauma in the home and they have opinions about the violence," stated Dee Dee Carter, Children's Program Director. Children are often aware that abuse has happened but are unable to verbalize their emotions. Our Children's Program team helps kids have frequent conversations about their feelings and assists them with having a voice in the family. The team supports the entire family in addressing trauma, anger, self-esteem issues, parenting skills, grief and loss, communication, and strengthening the family unit. The parents are educated about adjustment behaviors, re-establishing new routines, and gaining new parenting skills. ***Last year House of Ruth spent over 1,300 hours providing supportive services to children participating in our programs.*** In addition to group and art therapy, the team coordinates year-round field trips to the park, community pool, beach, movies, zoo, museums, and performances to cultivate family bonding and create



new awe-inspiring moments. The children feel empowered to use their words and verbalize their newly gained feeling of safety and confidence after completing the Children's Program at House of Ruth.

Mended Heart

In order to reach self-actualization, according to Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs theory, one's physiological needs, water, food, sleep and shelter must be attained before ascending to the final stage of self-actualization. The following story illustrates how a community can come together to mend a heart and help a person on their journey to self-actualization.

53-year-old Yvette was in an on and off again abusive relationship for six years. Throughout the relationship she experienced verbal and mental abuse from her partner. The relationship was becoming volatile, and after several attempts to leave, she thought she escaped for good. Yet again, the abuser tracked her down and continued to stalk and harass her and persuade her to return. The violence escalated after failed attempts of reconciliation. The nightmare worsened with a smashed bedroom window, then the car windows, escalating with setting her car on fire. Yvette feared for her life and risked everything once more by leaving her old life behind.

These violent actions against her disrupted her life so heavily that it led to a period of homelessness. Yvette was referred to House of Ruth by a county worker and began counseling and attending healthy relationship education classes. Yvette stated, "I was a mess, my heart needed

mending and House of Ruth was the only support I had." Yvette recalls feeling depleted and out of options, but after initiating House of Ruth services, she was finally beginning to feel whole again. The Housing Services Program was able to assist Yvette with obtaining her own apartment in a safe city, away from the abuser, and help her get back on her feet. Yvette is thankful to be alive and has a message to individuals suffering from abuse. ***"You can walk away from the situation and move on; you don't have to go through this by yourself."***

Yvette is optimistic about the future and all that she has learned in the last few months. Today Yvette focuses on moving forward with her children who are college and high school students. She is grateful to have her own apartment with her family and at 53 years old has decided to achieve her dream

of obtaining her GED. She is working on building up her credit so someday she and her family can combine incomes and buy a home. Yvette has worked since she was 16 years old and continues to strive for a better future. She is thankful for the counseling and support provided by House of Ruth and for the donors who made it all possible, and stated, ***"It gives me strength and hope to know that there is a community out there that cares about the people and wants to see them succeed."***



HOW YOUR DONATIONS HELPED ...

**House of Ruth staff answered
1,321 hotline calls**

Shelter Beautification Project



We recently received a generous donation from the Ahmanson Foundation to renovate our emergency shelter rooms. This grant allowed us to replace the old carpet with laminate flooring, purchase new furniture in the shelter rooms, repair dry rot in the courtyard, and install a new fence around the perimeter of the shelter. This project was coordinated by our shelter Director Kim Mason and Facilities Manager Roger Johnson and has made the shelter rooms more welcoming and homelike for the families entering our program.

Affordable Housing

There are several barriers a domestic violence survivor must consider before leaving an abusive relationship. Many times, survivors are fearful of retaliation from their partner, have existing custody issues, financial barriers or lack affordable housing. According to the National Center on Family Homelessness, "approximately 50% of all women who are homeless report that domestic violence was the immediate cause of their homelessness." Housing Services Manager, Toni Schrader stated, "There's a housing crisis in California and survivors of domestic violence are at a high risk of homelessness, but our department believes that affordable housing is a fundamental right that should be afforded to everyone." The housing team aids individuals with rental subsidies and move-in costs, and serve as liaisons between landlords and clients, advocating for those with low credit and past evictions. Our Housing Navigator, Walter Solorzano said, ***"The most rewarding part of my job is seeing individuals open the door to their home for the first time. That against all odds, they finally have a place to call home."*** The Housing program also offers in-home counseling, case management and financial planning. Cecilia Gonzales, Community Care Coordinator stated, "It's



a rewarding feeling to provide resources and education to survivors to improve their quality of life." Yuliana Moreno, Housing Assistant stated, "It's satisfying to know the impact we are making on clients lives and alleviating a portion of their financial stress through the rental subsidies we award them." Last year the housing team provided over 1,900 supportive service hours and housed 46 families. The program is tailored to meet individual needs and empowers clients to begin living independently and free of violence.



HOW YOUR DONATIONS HELPED ...

Thank you to House of Ruth volunteers for donating 7,765 hours of your time. We value you!



Telemundo

House of Ruth teamed up with Telemundo 52, a Spanish language television station owned by NBC serving the greater Los Angeles area, to spread the word about House of Ruth Services. Our very own Brenda Davila, Cal-Works Case Manager, sat with Acceso Total, and delivered a compelling message of hope to all viewers impacted by domestic violence. Brenda stated, ***"As a domestic violence advocate, being able to reach numerous viewers through this forum and supply them with domestic violence education was a very empowering experience."*** Brenda talked about our menu of services consisting of Emergency & Transitional Shelter, Counseling, Children's Programs, Prevention Education and Permanent Housing Programs. Viewers were also directed to call our 24-hour Bilingual Crisis Hotline if needing support. Last year our Spanish Speaking staff provided over 5,300 supportive service hours in Spanish to the community. Thank you to all the Telemundo staff, reporters, and camera crew for making this interview a possibility. You have helped us spread the word about ending domestic violence and changing people's lives.

Everyone is Worthy of Help

Robin Leonhard has been involved with House of Ruth for the last 14 years and has been one of our biggest supporters. Robin's willingness to help is unparalleled. Whether it's making her delicious Lemon Bars for staff or stepping in as Vice President of the Board, Robin enjoys working with people who share the same enthusiasm for helping others and making a difference in her community. When asked why she supports House of Ruth, Robin stated, "We have a social responsibility to help others. Everyone is worthy of help. It's not people's fault where they are. We all have the capacity to give." Robin has served as a board and events committee member and assisted us with numerous galas, receptions, and annually caters our Moveable Feast cocktail party. We are appreciative of Robin and her dedication to House of Ruth. Executive Director Pat Bell expressed the following, **"Robin is one of a kind. Her passion for our mission is at the heart of the work she does for us. We consider her a member of the House of Ruth family."** Thank you, Robin, for all your years of service and commitment in ending domestic violence.



HOW YOUR DONATIONS HELPED ...

*House of Ruth staff provided **2,659 hours** of domestic violence education classes.*



Team Member Makes a Lasting Impact

Children need a safe place to heal and the Children's Program offers a nurturing environment for kids to gain a sense of autonomy and reduce their fear and isolation.

Dee Dee Carter has been with House of Ruth for 19 years and

has been the Children's Program Director for 14 years. Dee Dee is passionate about empowering families affected by domestic violence and helping them express their feelings about the abuse. The children are encouraged to participate through play therapy and art groups. We also plan year-round field trips to various fun & educational locations. Dee Dee recalls, "Every year I encounter at least one child who's never been to the beach, movies or enjoyed a family picnic and the new experience impacts them profoundly."

In her 14 years as Director, Dee Dee's proudest accomplishment is developing the Children's Program from the ground up and appreciates her dedicated and enthusiastic staff. Her team shared the following thoughts about her:

"Dee Dee is one of a kind, I enjoy seeing her interact with the children and how well they react to her. She gives them stability and makes them feel safe. Every day I learn something new about her and about our program. I love when she is in the toddler room helping us, because we get to see the gift she was blessed with in action. I'm grateful to work under her and learn from such an amazing boss/mentor." Karina Campos, Residential Youth Advocate.

"Dee Dee is just amazing at what she does, and you can tell just by the way the children look at her. She carries herself with wisdom, grace and beauty and these things come so effortlessly. She is also hilarious and lighthearted; I feel entirely lucky to have her as my supervisor." Elizabeth Esparza, Youth Advocate.

"Dee Dee is so experienced, and I have learned so much from her. I enjoy watching her interact and teach the children to express themselves in healthier ways. It's awesome to see how she gets to know them and provides them with individualized services. I'm thankful to learn from her every day." Siasmar Vargas, Residential Advocate.

House of Ruth applauds Dee Dee for her 19 years of service to the community and positively impacting so many lives at House of Ruth!

Youth Advisors Advocate for Policy in Sacramento

This year four of our Youth Advisory Committee members had the opportunity to travel to the State Capitol on behalf of House of Ruth to advocate for \$50 million in violence prevention efforts in California's state budget. Policy Advocacy Day is hosted every year by California Partnership to End Domestic Violence (CPEDV) in collaboration with California Coalition Against Sexual Assault (CALCASA). On April 23rd, our Prevention Educator, Sophia Weidner, and four youth advocates – Moana Tuliaupupu, Clara Kim, Maria Gonzalez, and Sarah Miyashiro – hopped on a plane to Sacramento, ready and excited to speak to state legislatures about the need for investing in prevention education. Many of our youth advisors have attended House of Ruth Wellness Circles in their classrooms and spoke first-hand about the knowledge they gained and are now sharing with their peers.

"As a teenager in California, it's difficult to believe that I could actually have a political impact. Engaging with legislators about the importance of prevention was incredibly rewarding. Working with the CALCASA program was such an amazing experience. I'll forever be grateful for this program for enhancing my passion to help others enduring abuse." – Moana Tuliaupupu, Claremont High School

On April 24th, the team got up early and made a strategic plan for each meeting they had scheduled that day. After breakfast, they walked to the State Capitol Building for the Denim Day Rally, surrounded by hundreds of advocates from across California. Dressed in denim jeans and "No Respect No Relationship" T-shirts, the youth advisors met with six state legislatures including Assembly Members Freddie Rodriguez and Blanca Rubio. Although our youth advisors were the only teenagers attending the event, they walked into the legislature meetings with confidence and willingness to share their personal stories and make their voices heard. After this visit, our youth advocates are even more motivated than ever to continue the fight to end domestic violence in our communities.

"The Sacramento trip was important to me because it made me realize the importance of teamwork and how without a group of people nothing can be accomplished; but with a few others, we can accomplish even the small things." – Maria Gonzalez, Montclair High School



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Andrew Zanello
Andrea Zavala
Yanping Zeng
Jinyuan Zhou

Employee Directed Giving

AT&T Employee Giving Program
Allstate Giving Campaign
Bank of America Charitable Giving Fund
California Department of Corrections and Rehab
California Department of Food and Agriculture
California Department of Transportation
California Highway Patrol
California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
California State University San Bernardino
Costco Employee Giving Program
Edison International Employee Contributions
Enterprise Rent-A-Car Giving Program
Give With Liberty Employee Donations
Inland Empire United Way
Johnson & Johnson Employee Contributions
Kaiser Permanente Giving Program
MarkeI Corporation Match Gift Program
Morgan Stanley Annual Appeal Campaign
Pomona College Charitable Giving
Target Employee Giving Campaign
United Health Group Employee Donations
United Way Arrowhead
United Way California capital Region
United Way Inland Empire
United Way of the Inland Valleys
United Way Orange County
UPS Employee Giving Program
Walt Disney Company Foundation
Wells Fargo Community Support Campaign
Wescom Credit Union - We Care Foundation

Government Funding

California Department of Education Child and Adult Food Care Program
California Office of Emergency Services Child Abuse Treatment Program
California Office of Emergency Services Domestic Violence
Assistance Program
California Office of Emergency Services Family Prevention Program
California Office of Emergency Services Housing First Project
California Office of Emergency Services Increased Access to
Services Program
California Office of Emergency Services via Los Angeles County
Victim Services Program
City of Chino Community Development Block Grant
City of Chino Hills Community Development Block Grant
City of Ontario Emergency Solutions Grant
City of Pomona Community Development Block Grant
City of Rancho Cucamonga Community Development Block Grant
Administration on Children, Youth & Families via Foothill Family Services
HUD via Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority Transitional Services
Los Angeles County CalWorks Domestic Violence Supportive Services
Los Angeles County Department of Public Social Services Presley Domestic Violence
Emergency & Transitional Shelter Program
Los Angeles County Emergency Food and Shelter Program
Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority Domestic Violence/Intimate Partner Violence
Rapid Re-Housing Program via Volunteers of America of Los Angeles
San Bernardino County Cal-Works
San Bernardino County CalWorks/Presley Domestic Violence Supportive Services
San Bernardino County Child Family Services
San Bernardino County Emergency Food and Shelter Program

TRIBUTES

In Honor Of Alfredo & Brandy Duarte
David Colclough

In Honor Of All the Women Who
Have Been Victims
Jenson and Brittny Button

In Honor Of Aunite
Joleysha Cotton

In Honor Of Brenda Olivas
George Trindle

In Honor Of Bucket Tubbs
Dan and Sara Domonoske

In Honor Of Carol Tanenbaum
Ann Stromberg and Rudi Volti

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In Honor Of Elke Biggs
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In Honor Of George Trindle
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In Honor Of Joyce Ann Burman
Adrienne Bavar

In Honor Of Keith, Dianne, Tyler
and Brooke McManigal
Dan and Sara Domonoske

In Honor Of Kerry Stern
Oliver C Varnes

In Honor Of Kim Bruce and Fatma Kassamali
Ann Stromberg and Rudi Volti

In Honor Of Kn
Kathy Nugent

In Honor Of Liz Courtney
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In Honor Of Lousie Gustin
David Colclough

In Honor Of Madalyn Geller
Jennifer & Dave Geller

In Honor Of Marion I. Siu
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In Honor Of Mita Banerjee
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In Honor Of Natalia Fierro
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In Honor Of Noah Shiozaki
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In Honor Of Ruth Carter
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In Honor Of Susan Hume
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In Honor Of Susan Seymour
Ann Stromberg and Rudi Volti

In Honor Of Vera Baker
Andrew Griffiths

In Honor Of Violet
Hailey Magana

In Honor Of Yolanda Quintana
Richard and Denise Kozak

In Memory Of All the Victims
Of Domestic Violence
Adi Oz

In Memory Of Anita Sher
David Briggs

In Memory Of Carol Beagley
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In Memory Of Dan Guidera
Trudi Blair

In Memory Of Dorothy Princeton
Joseph Spinnichio

In Memory Of Florence Labarrere
M. Dianne Edman

In Memory Of Frank Lambert
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In Memory Of Loretha Gafford
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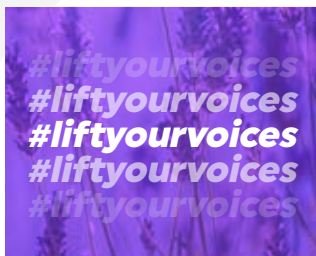
In Memory Of Xusheng Mo
In the Love Of God Xusheng Mo

Create a **Lasting Legacy**

You can continue to support families affected by domestic violence beyond your lifetime by including House of Ruth in your trust or estate plans.

For further information, please contact the Development Department at **(909) 868-8007**.

Save the Date!



October 1-31, 2019

Domestic Violence
Crowdfunding
Challenge



October 24, 2019

Candlelight Vigil



December 6, 2019

Donation
collection for
Holiday Store

MISSION

House of Ruth is dedicated to the prevention of domestic violence and to ensuring the safety and well-being of those impacted by it.

VISION

Our vision is to end domestic violence and promote healthy relationships.

VALUES

We are committed to our values of non-violence, client centeredness, dignity and worth of all people, social justice and social change, and integrity and competence.



House of Ruth

A NON-PROFIT TAX EXEMPT ORGANIZATION

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