



Media Contact:

Rena Lee
Marketing, Communication & Events Director
A Safe Place
2710 17th Street, Suite 100
Zion, IL 60099
Office: 847-731-7165, ext. 104
Cell: 224-565-2982
Email: rlee@asafeplaceforhelp.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 16, 2017

The EmpoweRun 5K Raised \$68,000 for Domestic Violence Families

LAKE COUNTY, IL – The 5th Annual EmpoweRun 5K raised almost \$68,000 for A Safe Place. The 5K, held on the morning of Saturday, May 6, had over 400 participants running, jogging, and walking the trails of Independence Grove in Libertyville. The EmpoweRun is the oldest and largest walk/run for domestic violence in Lake County.

Congratulations to first place runner Flynn Castellanos (19:20), second place Vincent Domier (19:28), and third place Mike Carlson (20:10) as well as the top three female runners, Lindsey Parker (24:18), Ady Figueroa (24:19), and Nancy Gonzalez (24:43).

Attending the race were Illinois Congressman Brad Schneider, Illinois State Representative Carol Sente, Illinois State Senator Melinda Bush, and Zion Township Supervisor Cheri Neal.

Lake County State's Attorney Mike Nerheim proclaimed Saturday, May 6 A Safe Place Day. "Domestic Violence continues to be a significant issue that affects our entire community," said Nerheim. "Far too many people live in the shadows, fearful of coming forward. We want those people to know that there is a network of support out there for them."

The EmpoweRun 5K brings together men, women, children, businesses, and partners to support the organization's lifesaving services to victims and their children, assistance in transforming lives after domestic violence, preventing future abuse by addressing its root cause through abuser intervention programs, and education in the community about ending domestic violence.

For 38 years, A Safe Place has served victims of domestic violence and educated Lake County and beyond about the devastating effects of abuse. This year, the 5K comes at a time when domestic violence funding from the State of Illinois was eliminated, threatening the foundation of all programs and services, from the emergency shelter and court advocacy to counseling and life skills. Last year, over 500 individuals were turned away due to lack of funding.

Generous sponsors of the 5K include Northbrook Toyota, Great Lakes Credit Union, Waukegan Police Department, Sports Flags Pennants Company, Consumers Credit Union, Emily's Pancake House, State Senator Melinda Bush, Modern Family Dentists, The Law Offices of David R. Del Re, Corporate Wellness Partners, The Law Offices of Roderick A. Drobinski, Waukegan Exchange Club, Illinois State Representative Carol Sente, Rodriquez Home Inspectors, Noah's Rest, Greenhouse Scholars, Taqueria Guerrero #1 and #2, Redfin, The Law Offices of Jason R. Mercure, and Creative Rehab.

Photo 1:
The EmpoweRun had over 400 participants this year.



#####

Founded in 1978, A Safe Place is the leading advocate for eliminating domestic violence in northern Illinois, and is Lake County, Illinois' only provider of services exclusively for victims of domestic violence. A Safe Place provides emergency shelter, permanent housing, a 24-hour crisis line (847-249-4450), court

and non-legal advocacy, individual, group, and children's counseling, art therapy, family visitation services, batterer intervention services; and community outreach, prevention education, and professional training. Our service area includes Lake, McHenry, and northern Cook counties in Illinois; however, our clients come to us from across the state, region, and country.

For more information about A Safe Place, visit www.asafeplaceforhelp.org, [Facebook](#), and [Twitter](#).