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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
September 30, 2015

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GOOD SHEPHERD SHELTER AWARDED GRANT TO ENSURE ACCESS TO SERVICES FOR SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Blue Shield of California Foundation recognizes Good Shepherd Shelter as important member of California's domestic violence field

San Francisco, CA (September 30, 2015) - Blue Shield of California Foundation today announced a grant of \$15,000 to Good Shepherd Shelter in Los Angeles to support their capacity to provide critical services and shelter for survivors of abuse in Southern California. These core operating funds offer the flexibility to respond to new demands and opportunities, so that Good Shepherd Shelter can continue to reach many of the most vulnerable Californians.

"As the state's largest private funder of domestic violence services and prevention, the Foundation is committed to supporting strong organizations like Good Shepherd Shelter," said Peter Long, Ph.D., president and CEO of Blue Shield of California Foundation. "Ensuring they have the resources to adapt and meet the needs of all survivors is critical to achieving our ultimate mission of ending domestic violence in California."

The Foundation recognizes that reliable and flexible core support is needed to help the field drive even greater impact, and adjust to changes and challenges as they arise.

"Without the support of organizations, like Blue Shield of California, our mission would be much harder," said Amanda Gibson, Executive Director, Good Shepherd Shelter, "Our program focuses on ending the generational cycle of

domestic violence by treating the family and giving the youngest victims of domestic violence – children – the tools to lead non-violent lives. Capacity support like this from the Blue Shield Against Violence program enable us to focus on our mission and its success.”

This funding is part of a group of grants designed to empower California's domestic violence services providers, and enable them to continue making a difference in the lives of thousands of victims, survivors, and families. The Foundation is proud to support Good Shepherd Shelter and nearly every shelter and domestic violence service organization in California.

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About Blue Shield of California Foundation

Blue Shield of California Foundation is one of the state's largest and most trusted grantmaking organizations. Our mission is to improve the lives of all Californians, particularly the underserved, by making health care accessible, effective, and affordable, and by ending domestic violence. To learn more, visit www.blueshieldcafoundation.org.

About Good Shepherd Shelter

Good Shepherd Shelter's program focuses on reawakening dignity and self-confidence, giving the mothers the tools and the time to heal from the trauma of domestic violence and become independent, while giving the children new ways of interacting and communicating that are violence-free and respectful. Good Shepherd Shelter's mission is to stop the generational cycle of domestic violence by providing individualized, comprehensive services and shelter to battered women and their children and by raising the level of community awareness through advocacy and education. For more information, visit www.goodshepherdshelter.org or follow us on Twitter @GSShelter and hashtag your tweets **#110actsofkindness**, celebrating the Sisters of Good Shepherd 110 years of service in Los Angeles.