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Safety Starts with a Plan:
Kern County Family Justice Center Announces Domestic Violence Panel and Safety Planning Workshop in Honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month

(Bakersfield) – In recognition of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the Kern County Family Justice Center (KCFJC) will host a special community event designed to inform and empower those affected by domestic violence. On October 22, 2024, from 9:00am– 12:00 pm, we invite the public to join us for a Domestic Violence Panel and Safety Planning Workshop that will take place at 1300 18th Street in Bakersfield.

This event will feature leading professionals from KCFJC partnering agencies who will share essential insights and resources available through the KCFJC. Attendees will have the opportunity to participate in open discussions, gain valuable knowledge, and create a personalized safety plan—all in one supportive environment. The panel will include speakers from various agencies including:

- [Kern County Family Justice Center](#)
- [Kern County District Attorney's Office](#)
- [Kern County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services](#)
- [Greater Bakersfield Legal Assistance](#)
- [Open Door Network](#)
- [Women's Center - High Desert](#)

This year's theme, "Safety Starts with a Plan," emphasizes the life-saving measures of emergency planning in domestic violence situations. Each participant will be walked through how to build a personalized safety plan. A safety plan offers both physical and emotional protection, empowering domestic victims to remain safe and make well-informed choices. This plan equips victims to respond swiftly by identifying a safe location, preparing essential items, and arranging transportation in a time of emergency. Additionally, it ensures the victim is aware of critical resources like legal services, shelters, and emergency hotlines. For those with children, it outlines measures to ensure their safety as well.

Kern County District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer commented; "This month is dedicated to raising awareness about domestic violence and the resources available in our communities. Our Family Justice Centers bring these essential services together under one roof for those affected by interpersonal violence.

This event serves a similar purpose, uniting key community partners in one place to provide direct access to information and support for anyone seeking guidance on available resources.”

Please note that for the privacy and safety of participants, media outlets will not be permitted at the event. The event is free and open to the public. RSVP is required. To reserve a limited seat, community members may visit: <https://kcfjc.org/events>. For participant safety, a confirmation email will not be sent to their inbox. For questions, please contact the KCFJC at 661-868-5950.

About the Kern County Family Justice Center

The KCFJC is a safe, confidential and friendly place where assistance is provided to victims of crime. The KCFJC is a unique collaboration of community partners and agencies working together under one roof, to provide a safe and welcoming environment for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking, child abuse, and elder abuse.