



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF KERN

CIVIC CENTER JUSTICE BUILDING
1215 TRUXTUN AVENUE
BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA 93301
(661) 868-2340, FAX: (661) 868-2700

CYNTHIA J. ZIMMER
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

ANDREA S. KOHLER
ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY

JOSEPH A. KINZEL
ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY

September 11, 2020

MEDIA ADVISORY

CONTACT:
ADA Joseph Kinzel
(661) 868-2340

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Approved by JAK
Press Release #20-35

Assistance Available for Survivors of the Las Vegas Route 91 Harvest Festival Shooting

Kern County District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer announced today that ‘Give an Hour’ has been awarded a contract and is partnering with the California Victim Compensation Board to offer support services to victims of the October 2017 Las Vegas Route 91 Harvest Festival shooting who reside in Southern California. Founded in 2005, Give an Hour is a national nonprofit that specializes in mental health and emotional wellness, and has extensive experience in providing recover assistance after mass trauma events.

Approximately 65 percent of the more than 24,000 attendees of the 2017 Route 91 Harvest Festival were from California, with most residing in Southern California. Funding for this project, **SoCalRoute91**, will benefit eight counties – Kern, Ventura, Santa Barbara, Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino, Riverside, and San Diego. The Kern County District Attorney’s Office Victim Services Unit has assisted more than 100 Kern County residents affected by the Harvest Festival Shooting. Based on ticket sales, it is estimated that more than 300 Kern residents attended the Harvest Festival, and the impacts of the shooting extend beyond those who were directly present.

The SoCalRoute91 project will begin offering the following **no cost** services in late September 2020:

- Ongoing Support Groups: Initially, support groups will be available online using a web-based platform. When it is safe to do so, face-to-face groups will be offered in each county;
- Emotional wellness training and coaching;
- An Evidence-Based Peer Support Model that will provide training to survivors who are interested in becoming a peer supporter in the project;
- An online Trauma Resource Library;
- Referrals for mental health services; and
- Annual anniversary and memorial events in each county. For 2020, the project is producing video memorials from survivors to share online. If a survivor is interested in sharing their story, they should contact Give an Hour Outreach Coordinator Michael Morisette at: mmorisette@giveanhour.org.

Funding for this program is provided by a federal grant from the Antiterrorism and Emergency Assistance Program in the federal Office for Victims of Crime awarded to the California Victim Compensation Board. The Ventura County District Attorney's Office is assisting to coordinate support services throughout the several affected counties.

The Kern County District Attorney's Office is encouraging anyone impacted by the Route 91 Harvest Festival Shooting to inquire further about the services available by visiting the website: www.giveanhour.org/route91.