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Local Trafficking Victims Win a Chance At New Life

Opportunity Made Possible by LB Community Foundation and LB City Prosecutors Office Partnership

Long Beach, CA –The Long Beach Community Foundation and the Long Beach City Prosecutor announced today the award of a \$5,000 grant from the Opus Community Foundation to be used to assist human trafficking victims in Long Beach.

“We are excited to be a recipient of Opus Community Foundation Funds,” said City Prosecutor Doug Haubert. “The funds will be used to assist with tattoo removal for victims of sex trafficking, some of whom suffered physical abuse that included having their pimp’s names tattooed on their bodies. This service means more to some women than anyone will ever know.”

The grant was awarded to Long Beach Community Foundation’s Crime Prevention Fund, established to help prosecutors reduce crime locally.

“This is what a partnership with the Community Foundation enables in our city. We are delighted to help the City Prosecutor improve safety and help those in need,” said Long Beach Community Foundation President & CEO Marcelle Epley. “Anyone can make a tax-deductible contribution to the Crime Prevention Fund and also make a meaningful difference.”

The City Prosecutor’s Office arranges a variety of social services for human trafficking victims, including counseling, housing, and job assistance. The \$5,000 is earmarked for tattoo removal. Tattoo removal has been identified by victims as an area of great need. In some cases, pimps have inflicted tattoos on girls as a form of punishment or humiliation, or to send a message to others that the girl is the pimp’s property. Removing the tattoo is a significant and visible step in recovery for some trafficking victims.

Opus Community Foundation improves the quality of life for those that are less advantaged in our neighborhoods by providing financial support to nonprofit organizations that make a positive and meaningful impact in our communities. For information about Opus Community Foundation, visit www.opusbank.com/opus-community-foundation.

The Long Beach Community Foundation is a 501(c)3 nonprofit, public organization with over \$26 million in assets and more than 100 charitable funds. LBCF’s mission is to initiate positive change for Long Beach through charitable giving, stewardship, and strategic grantmaking with a vision of being the preeminent steward of endowments serving the needs of Long Beach in perpetuity. For information about the Long Beach Community Foundation, visit www.longbeachcf.org.

For information about the Long Beach City Prosecutor, visit www.cityprosecutordoughaubert.com.

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