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**New hope and a fresh start:
providing housing opportunities for victims of domestic violence**
*The WHO (Women Helping Others®) Foundation awards \$15,000 to
Women of Worth*

Cedar Ridge, CA – Women of Worth was founded in 2001 by Sandy Schmidt, a survivor of domestic violence with a passion to see the lives of abused women and children restored. Since then, Women of Worth has been providing temporary shelter, food, clothing, furniture, personal items, educational and career assistance, emotional support and other assistance that women need to rebuild their lives after escaping a domestic violence situation.

One difficult part of this, however, is the uncertainty of housing. A lack of space in many shelters forces several victims to return to their abusive living situations. It is because of this that Women of Worth has started the Fresh Start Housing Project, a program designed to give victims a fresh start by providing move-in costs for new permanent housing. The project provides up to \$1,000 per client and will go directly toward the first month's rent, security deposit and/or establish utility service.

WHO is pleased to grant \$15,000 to this Fresh Start Housing project.

“Many women leave their abusers with only what they can carry,” said Outreach and Development Director Wendi Lehman. “If they stay at a domestic violence shelter temporarily, they still need to find a home of their own after 60 to 90 days. The WHO grant gives women and their children resources to acquire stable, permanent housing and a chance for a fresh start.”

The WHO Foundation is a non-profit charitable organization that was founded in 1993 and born from the philosophy of Women Helping Others. For 15 years, WHO has been giving and making a difference by supporting community-focused charities that serve the overlooked needs of women, children and families. Since its inception, the Foundation has awarded more than \$3.5 million to over 332 organizations throughout the U.S. and Puerto Rico.

For more information, call 1-800-WHO-4-ONE (1-800-946-4663); write to P.O. Box 816029, Dallas, Texas, 75381-6029; or visit www.whofoundation.org