



September 29, 2015  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Media Contact:**

Daniel Holloway

**Tel:** 650-522-3948 / **Cell:** 415-994-5374

[danielh@corasupport.org](mailto:danielh@corasupport.org)

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## **LOCAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ORGANIZATION RECOGNIZED FOR ITS LEADERSHIP**

*CORA was awarded a Revolutionary Advocate Award for its role  
in the Bay Region Collaborative changing the course of domestic violence.*

**SAN MATEO, CA** – Local domestic violence organization, CORA, was recognized by the California Partnership to End Domestic Violence this September for its leadership in the field of ending domestic violence. The Revolutionary Advocate Award was presented to CORA and its partners in the Bay Region Collaborative in recognition of the Collaborative’s excellent and innovative work in the Bay Area.

On September 16th, the group was honored at The Partnership’s Annual Membership Meeting in Sacramento, as advocates from across the state cheered them on.

“We are honored to receive this recognition of our work,” said CORA Executive Director, Melissa Lukin. “Collaborating over the last few decades and capitalizing on the strengths of this extraordinary group of Bay Area leaders, we have brainstormed, invented and worked together tirelessly to ultimately make domestic violence victims safer. It truly shows what a small group of committed people can do.”

Further underscoring its leadership in the field, CORA’s Director of Programming, Cori Manthorne, was also voted onto the California Partnership to End Domestic Violence’s Board for a second three-year term.

Background on the Revolutionary Advocate and the Bay Region Collaborative:

Revolutionary Advocate Description: This leader has catalyzed innovative, long-range plans to end domestic violence in the 3+ years they have been part of our movement. The Revolutionary Advocate makes bold moves in risk-taking and speaking truth to power. Not afraid to fail, they spark new ideas and carry them out; this could be a new service delivery model, changing working conditions for advocates, or fresh ideas for education, outreach or prevention.

Background Information on the Bay Region Collaborative: This group has been committed to working together for 5 years to create a stronger Bay Area Regional approach to service delivery and sustainability for domestic violence shelter programs in the Bay Area. Together, they have saved their agencies thousands of dollars in insurance costs, and have assisted several agencies with their financial management services through financial consolidation. They have been exploring collective impact models and marketing strategies in an effort to use their identity as a region to reduce domestic violence. The Bay Region Collaborative has bonded together as a team with the idea that they can have a more broad reach when we work together. Each of these members has done amazing work in their individual organizations and has given much to the field, some for over 3 decades. The commitment to continue to work together on behalf of the field exemplifies innovation and commitment to a stronger future.

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### **About CORA**

**CORA (Community Overcoming Relationship Abuse)** provides safety, support and healing for individuals who experience abuse in an intimate relationship, and educates the community to break the cycle of domestic violence. The only agency in San Mateo County with the sole purpose of serving victims and survivors of domestic abuse, CORA provides confidential emergency, intervention and prevention services, including the County's only emergency shelters, as well as a 24-hour hotline, an emergency response program, therapeutic counseling, legal services and supportive housing for survivors. Services are free of charge and are open to anyone needing help. Services are available in English and Spanish, as well as many other languages. To learn more, please visit [www.corasupport.org](http://www.corasupport.org) or follow CORA on twitter ([@ENDtoDV](https://twitter.com/ENDtoDV)) and Facebook ([@facebook.com/corasupport](https://facebook.com/corasupport)).