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## **Haven Hills Celebrates 40 Years of Providing Safety, Shelter and Support to Victims of Domestic Violence**

**With Federal Budget Cuts Looming, One of the Oldest and Largest Domestic Violence Organizations in Los Angeles Focuses on Raising Awareness and Funds at its “Evening of Hope” Gala on May 18th**

**LOS ANGELES, CA — April 14, 2017 —** For 40 years, [Haven Hills](#) has provided shelter, crisis intervention, counseling, advocacy, and activities supporting increased economic opportunity for victims of domestic violence. Each year, the organization helps hundreds of women and men find strength within themselves to break the cycle of abuse and build new, productive and positive lives for themselves and their children. [Haven Hills](#) is staffed by trained counselors and volunteers 24/7 and operates a 24-Hour Crisis Line (818.887.6589). It offers a 30-Day Crisis Shelter and Haven Two, an 18-month transitional housing shelter, a children’s program, support groups and counseling. It also provides a CALWorks GAIN Program to help survivors move toward self-sufficiency and employment.

[Haven Hills](#) is celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with an array of activities, campaigns and events to increase public and media awareness of the devastating impact of Domestic Violence on our society, and to counteract the new administration’s threatened budget cuts to critical Domestic Violence-related programs by enlisting the support of new individual donors, foundations and corporate sponsors.

The highpoint of the year will be Haven Hills' annual "[Evening of Hope](#)" Gala on May 18th at the Sheraton Universal (see details below). It will be an evening of music and fun where four prominent city leaders – all supporters of Haven Hills and its mission - will be honored: The Honorable [Mike Feuer](#) – Los Angeles City Attorney; Rebecca Gray Grossman & Dr. Peter Grossman – Co-Founders of the [Grossman Burn Foundation](#); and [Steve D. Spile](#) – Senior Partner at Spile, Leff & Goor.

"We are thrilled to be celebrating our 40 years of service to the community and grateful to all of our distinguished honorees for their passionate support of Domestic Violence victims and survivors," says Iliana Tavera, executive director of [Haven Hills](#). "All of us are looking forward to having a great time at our 'Evening of Hope' Gala on May 18th. At the same time, the harsh reality of the proposed federal budget cuts this year and next year is ever-present in our minds. It makes us appreciate even more the vital importance of our annual fundraising gala and the generosity of our individual donors, strategic partners and corporate sponsors. Organizations like Haven Hills are literally fighting to keep the lights on, to answer crisis calls, and to provide essential services for victims fleeing violence. If you know anyone who has been affected by Domestic Violence, if you care about this cause, now is the time to step up and support Haven Hills."

At the "Evening of Hope," a new [Haven Hills](#) video will premiere, featuring six women survivors of Domestic Violence who tell their personal stories and speak openly about how Haven Hills saved and transformed their lives. The video is being produced by [Telepictures](#), Warner Brothers' principal television production company.

Throughout 2017 and leading up to the "Evening of Hope" 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration, [Haven Hills](#) has been working to defend vital federal programs that support and protect victims of Domestic Violence from the new administration's proposed budget cuts. These programs provide such essential services as emergency shelter, legal advocacy and

transportation for women and men fleeing intimate partner violence. It recently launched a powerful [Change.org campaign that urges Congress to save the Violence Against Women Act and the millions of victims it protects](#). This initiative is being reinforced by an ongoing educational campaign on Haven Hills social media titled [#FocusOnDV](#), comprised of storytelling visuals and testimonials from victims-turned-survivors and striking statistics about the pervasiveness and destructiveness of Domestic Violence.

The [Evening of Hope Gala](#) will take place on Thursday, May 18, at the Sheraton Universal Hotel, 333 Universal Hollywood Drive, Universal City, CA 91608. The Reception, Silent Auction and Cash Bar will open at 6pm; Dinner and Program will start at 7:15pm. The Gala will celebrate Haven Hills' 40 years of service to the San Fernando Valley and Greater Los Angeles as well as honor exceptional partners who are doing incredible work to advance domestic violence awareness and advocacy in the community. Through their philanthropic efforts and investments, this year's honorees are saving and transforming lives, inspiring volunteerism and community building, and offering hope to LA's most vulnerable citizens.

This year Haven Hills' major awards will be given to these four honorees:

**Citizen of Distinction Award - [The Honorable Mike Feuer, Los Angeles City Attorney](#)**

- **Citizen of Distinction Award:** Recognizes an exceptional individual who has made significant contributions to improve the lives of Los Angeles' most vulnerable citizens.

Los Angeles City Attorney Mike Feuer has long been one of California's leading lawyers and lawmakers. As LA's chief lawyer and prosecutor since July, 2013, he has brought an innovative, problem-solving focus to the office that combines tough and effective prosecution with creative initiatives to improve public safety and the quality of life throughout the city. As City Attorney, Mike has focused on neighborhoods, nearly tripling

the widely-touted Neighborhood Prosecutor Program and establishing a Community Justice Initiative - an array of inventive neighborhood-based programs that apply restorative justice strategies to quality of life offenses, truancy, prostitution, issues confronting homeless people and more - to address root causes of crime and reduce recidivism. In addition, he has fought elder abuse, targeted polluters, sued to protect consumers and become a national leader in preventing gun violence. Mike is a Phi Beta Kappa, magna cum laude graduate of Harvard College and a cum laude graduate of Harvard Law School. His legal acumen and advocacy continue to spark change throughout the state and the nation.

### **The Betty Fisher Legacy Award – [Rebecca Gray Grossman & Dr. Peter Grossman, Grossman Burn Foundation](#)**

- **The Betty Fisher Legacy Award:** Honors an individual who has demonstrated exemplary service and commitment to support victims of domestic violence.

Dr. Peter H. Grossman and Rebecca Gray Grossman established the Grossman Burn Foundation to promote effective, sustainable partnership solutions for the comprehensive treatment, care, and support of burn survivors and their families in the United States and around the world. Established in 2007 and headquartered in Los Angeles, the Grossman Burn Foundation was created as the philanthropic arm of the Grossman Burn Centers, a pioneer in international burn treatment facilities. Peter, who is the director of the world-renowned Grossman Burn Centers, is a board certified plastic surgeon whose medical practice is divided between cosmetic and reconstructive surgery. Rebecca Gray Grossman is currently the CEO of Powerhouse Lux Media, Inc., a multimedia publishing and software development company. She is the publisher and editorial director for *Westlake Magazine* (established in 1992) and *West Luxury Magazine*, two premier west coast luxury publications. Rebecca is also the chair of The Grossman Burn Foundation and has developed training, treatment and telemedicine programs as well as the Foundation's "Stop Violence Against Women Globally" campaign.

## The Community Hope Award - [Steven D. Spile, Esq.](#)

- **The Community Hope Award:** Honors an organization or individual who has made significant contributions to support healthy communities by promoting economic opportunity, education, safety, human development, and health and wellness.

Steven Spile, a senior partner at Spile, Leff & Goor, LLP, is widely known for his extensive litigation, dispute resolution and transactional experience to raise awareness of critical issues in the real estate community and to improve the quality of life for all residents of Los Angeles. He was involved in the creation of the California Association of REALTORS® (“C. A. R.”) Strategic Defense Panel and is one of the handful of attorneys selected to serve on this Panel. Steve also supports C. A. R. and various REALTOR® Associations through his participation in a variety of committees and the C. A. R. Legal Affairs Forum. He is counsel for California Real Estate Technology Services (“CARETS”) and for the Burbank Association of REALTORS®. Steve is a certified Department of Real Estate instructor, and appears regularly as a guest lecturer throughout the State of California. He is the chairperson for the Southland Regional Association of REALTORS® (“SRAR”) Risk Management Committee. He was the 2010 recipient of the “SRAR Affiliate of the Year Award” for his contributions to the real estate brokerage industry. Steve, along with Shannon Jones, also co-founded the California Real Estate Legal Alliance (“CRELA”), which provides statewide risk management and legal services to members of the real estate profession.

For more information, tickets and sponsorship opportunities for the “Evening of Hope,” please visit the [Evening of Hope page](#). For more information about Haven Hills and its services, please visit the [website](#).

For media inquiries or to arrange an interview with Executive Director Iliana Tavera, please contact The Busby Group - [scottb@thebusbygroup.com](mailto:scottb@thebusbygroup.com) or [jianh@thebusbygroup.com](mailto:jianh@thebusbygroup.com) or call 310.475.2914.

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