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NONPROFIT WAYMAKERS OFFERS SERVICES TO THOSE AFFECTED BY THE THOUSAND OAKS MASS SHOOTING

Santa Ana, Calif. (November 12, 2018) – Waymakers, a nonprofit dedicated to providing aid to those who have been victimized by tragedy, extends their outreach to Orange County community members who were present, or have a loved one who was present, at the Borderline Bar and Grill after the tragic shooting that took place on November 7.

Waymakers will provide victims with supportive services, including therapy referrals, emergency assistance, employer notification/intervention, funeral/burial assistance, Victim of Crime Compensation Application Assistance, and more. To access victim services in Orange County, North Orange County residents are encouraged to contact Yessenia Torrecilla, Victim Advocate, at ytorrecilla@Waymakersoc.org or 562-383-4372. South Orange County Residents may contact Cyndi Anzenberger, Crisis Response Coordinator, at canzenberger@waymakersoc.org or 949-250-4058 ext. 202.

The Victim of Crime Compensation program may be able to help victims pay for expenses such as medical bills, funeral expenses, mental health treatment, or lost wages. Victims are encouraged to apply whether they currently have expenses or not. Even if there are no expenses today, we encourage you to apply now. Waymakers Victim Advocates can assist with the application, which can be downloaded at <https://victims.ca.gov/victims/>.

For Mental Health Services, victims are encouraged to contact:

- Community Counseling and Supportive Services (CCSS) for no-cost, trauma counseling services: (714) 645-8000
- SAMHSA's Disaster Distress Helpline- 24/7 national hotline that provides immediate over the phone crisis counseling: (800) 985-5990
- Crisis Prevention Hotline provides 24/7 services to those in crisis: (877) 7-CRISIS or (877) 727-4747
- OC Links is an information and referral line for behavioral health services 855-OC-LINKS or 855-625-4657
- Crisis Assessment Team (CAT) for behavioral health crises where a psychiatric evaluation is needed :(866) 830-6011

In addition, the Orange County Department of Education has a link available on their website to help kids cope with crisis: <http://newsroom.ocde.us/five-things-to-keep-in-mind-when-helping-kids-cope-with-crisis/>.

To learn more about the programs and service Waymakers offers please visit <https://waymakersoc.org/>.

About Waymakers

Every day throughout Orange County, people find hope after trauma. They don't simply survive; they find ways to heal – all with the help of Waymakers. Our ten model programs guide over 120,000 abused children, crime victims, struggling families, acting-out adolescents and people needing mediation services annually. Waymakers has been sheltering children, supporting victims, counseling families, resolving conflicts and educating communities in Orange County since 1972.

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