MAYORS OF EAST & WEST HARTFORD TO SERVE AS HONORARY CO-CHAIRS FOR INTERVAL HOUSE FUNDRAISER

HARTFORD – The 2019 “Breakfast With Champions” -- an October award and awareness-raising event benefitting Interval House -- will be co-chaired by East Hartford Mayor Marcia Leclerc and West Hartford Mayor Shari Cantor.

Cantor and Leclerc, ardent supporters of Interval House and its mission to end domestic violence, represent two of the largest towns in the agency’s service area. The mayors’ participation is focused on increasing awareness of the issue of domestic violence in all communities and across all socio-economic groups, and shedding light on the work that Interval House does in assisting victims.

“We are absolutely thrilled to have Mayor Leclerc and Mayor Cantor playing lead roles in this year’s breakfast,” said Mary-Jane Foster, Interval House President and CEO. “To have two remarkably accomplished women like Shari and Marcia rallying to support our mission is an honor. We are incredibly fortunate that they both care deeply about our cause, and sincerely hope that their presence inspires others to get involved.”

“Breakfast With Champions” is scheduled for 7:30 a.m. on Thursday, October 17, at The Riverview in Simsbury. Both Cantor and Leclerc will speak during the program, which will honor the members of Men Make a Difference, Men Against Domestic Violence™, Interval House’s 10-year-old men’s
advocacy group. The theme of the event is “Make a Difference,” so while breakfast is complimentary, guests will be asked to make a gift of significance to the agency. Those interested in attending or hosting a table should call Amanda Delaura at (860) 838-8461.

**About Interval House**

Founded in 1977, Interval House has made a positive difference in the lives of nearly 250,000 women and children who have experienced psychological and physical abuse at the hand of a domestic or intimate partner. In addition to providing a 24-hour hotline and 25-bed emergency safe house, Interval House works to ensure clients have the assistance they need to create safety plans and remove themselves from dangerous situations, seek education and employment to support themselves, build self-esteem through support groups and counseling, find a new home, and receive advocacy in the criminal and civil courts as they work to establish independence from their abusers. Interval House serves the residents of 24 towns and cities in the Greater Hartford region. Those needing help can reach the hotline at (860) 527-0550.

**About Men Make a Difference, Men Against Domestic Violence™**

Founded in 2009 by Interval House and Senator Richard Blumenthal, Men Make a Difference, Men Against Domestic Violence™ is currently comprised of 31 well-known and influential men that have dedicated themselves to do whatever they can, personally and professionally, to help Interval House and serve as role models to young men and boys. In addition to Blumenthal, members include: Attorney General William Tong; State Rep. Dr. William A. Petit, Jr.; Channel 8 Meteorologist Joe Furey; Channel 3 News Anchor Dennis House; Fox 61 Sports Director Rich Coppola; USA Olympian Donn Cabral; and many more.

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