



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **RESOLVE of Greater Rochester Named 2016 Agency of the Year by the National Association of Social Workers, Genesee Valley Division**

**March 21, 2017, Pittsford, NY:** RESOLVE of Greater Rochester, Inc., a Pittsford-based non-profit agency focused on empowering people and communities to break the cycle of domestic violence, is pleased to announce that it has been named the 2016 Agency of the Year by the National Association of Social Workers, Genesee Valley Division.

“We are grateful and excited to be selected as 2016 Agency of the Year by the Genesee Valley Division of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW),” said Allison O'Malley, RESOLVE of Greater Rochester, Executive Director. “This is a testament to the high quality of care our program staff, who are credentialed social workers, delivers to victims and survivors of domestic violence and our innovative approach to engaging our community in prevention of domestic violence .”

RESOLVE was selected as 2016 Agency of the Year because of their commitment to the practice of social work, their employment of credentialed social workers and their support for the development of future social workers through intern placement. The NASW specifically cited RESOLVE's dedication to delivering superior care in the Survivor Transition counseling program for female survivors of domestic violence; their innovative Domestic Violence Stinks! public awareness campaign, and their collaboration with the URMC Primary Care Network to develop domestic violence screening protocols for patients in a health care setting.

Domestic violence can happen to anyone regardless of gender, socioeconomic status, education or zip code. In fact, according to the 2015 Monroe County Domestic Violence Report Card, issued by the Rochester/Monroe County Domestic Violence Consortium in partnership with Willow Domestic Violence Center, 51% of all domestic violence incidents are reported in the suburbs, where most people believe it does not occur. The RESOLVE Survivor Transition program was designed to serve the needs of suburban victims and survivors, who often fall through the cracks of traditional social service programs due to household income.

“One of the things that make RESOLVE unique in our community is our belief that finding solutions to domestic violence requires both men and women,” said O'Malley. “While there is a moral imperative to respond compassionately to the needs of victims and survivors, it's simply not enough. We are committed to engaging all people in finding solutions that we hope over time will help us to reduce, and ultimately eliminate, the violence that permeates homes and families.”

To learn more about RESOLVE's programs and services, consider attending the third annual Resolutionary Awards Breakfast on Thursday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, at Monroe Golf Club. Tickets are available online at [www.resolve-roc.org](http://www.resolve-roc.org) for \$40-\$50 each. RESOLVE is available upon request to speak to community groups, health care providers, schools, and the faith community about domestic violence. Anyone needing support during or after an abusive or violent intimate relationship is invited to call RESOLVE, Monday – Thursday, from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. No referral required. Quality counseling services are offered by licensed social workers at low or no cost. For more information about RESOLVE, or to become a volunteer or donor, visit [www.resolve-roc.org](http://www.resolve-roc.org).

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**About RESOLVE of Greater Rochester:**

RESOLVE, a 501c3 nonprofit, empowers people and communities to break the cycle of domestic violence. We develop and deliver innovative, community-centered solutions enabling every woman to thrive and realize her full potential. Founded on an inherent and compassionate belief in people, RESOLVE brings women and men together to create communities that value equality, dignity and respect.

**About National Association of Social Work, NYS Chapter:**

Founded in 1955, the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) is the largest membership association for professional social workers in the world, with 130,000 members in the United States and overseas. In New York alone there are more than 16,000 NASW members; the New York State (NYS) chapter, which encompasses all New York except the five boroughs of New York City, has more than 8,000, while the New York City chapter has the remainder. The two chapters work together to carry out the mission and goals of the Association.