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We believe that everyone deserves to live a life free from violence.

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Raphael House of Portland Receives Record Grant Award Through MacKenzie Scott's Yield Giving Open Call

This investment will support life-saving shelter and services for survivors of domestic violence, in addition to innovative and upstream prevention efforts in area high schools.

PORTLAND, OREGON (March 19, 2024) – Raphael House of Portland, an Oregon nonprofit that has supported families fleeing domestic violence since 1977, was announced today as one of Yield Giving's 361 Open Call grantees. In recognition of decades supporting survivors, they have been awarded a record \$2 million gift through MacKenzie Scott's philanthropic organization.

In response to this momentous news, and the largest single donation in Raphael House's history, Executive Director Emmy Ritter, LCSW shared, "We are deeply honored to receive this incredible acknowledgement from MacKenzie Scott and Yield Giving! For nearly five decades, Raphael House of Portland has been a leader in our community, working alongside survivors of domestic violence to help families find the safety and stability they deserve – while also taking steps every day to prevent abuse and achieve our mission of a violence-free future."

"At a time when the need for our services is greater than ever, and when funding for agencies like ours is both unpredictable and precarious, we plan to carefully leverage this grant to ensure we can continue providing innovative and truly life-saving services for survivors."

Just prior to receiving notification from Yield Giving, Raphael House embarked on developing their next 5-year strategic plan. As shared by Ritter, "It's serendipitous that we can now use this process to decide how best to utilize these funds to meet growing needs and further our mission. As always at Raphael House, we are guided by survivors, and will bring together the expertise of our program participants, staff, board, and community to inform these critical decisions."

While celebrating this crucial unrestricted funding, Raphael House also remains focused on ways to further enhance their impact. A 2023 Oregon Secretary of State Advisory Report on domestic violence confirms that one-third of adults in Oregon experience intimate partner violence, and that 1 in 5 homicides statewide are the result of domestic violence. The report also reinforces that critical services for survivors – like those provided by Raphael House of Portland – are far too limited to meet community need.

"Programming like ours has been historically underfunded, and it's going to take unprecedented levels of investment in domestic and sexual violence agencies for us to catch up with need," shared Ritter. "This grant is a phenomenal step, as we work toward sustainability and ultimately reaching more

survivors.” Raphael House is calling upon donors and partners to join Yield Giving and MacKenzie Scott in investing in life-saving services for survivors.

In March 2023, Yield Giving in partnership with Lever for Change launched an Open Call for community-led, community-focused organizations with the purpose of enabling individuals and families to achieve substantive improvement in their well-being through foundational resources. Yield Giving initially planned to distribute 250 awards of \$1 million each and received 6,353 applications from across the country. In Fall 2023, organizations top-rated by their peers advanced to a second round and underwent review by an external Evaluation Panel and a final round of due diligence. In light of the incredible work of these organizations, as judged by their peers and external panelists, the donor team decided to expand the awardee pool and the award amount.

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Raphael House of Portland

Raphael House of Portland helps families end the cycle of domestic violence and rebuild their lives, while simultaneously working upstream to prevent future abuse through education. Each year their gender-inclusive, culturally-responsive programs serve over 4,900 survivors and community members. Operating uninterrupted since 1977, Raphael House’s emergency services—including confidential shelter and 24-hour hotline—meet the urgent need for safety for adults, children, and their pets in imminent danger after fleeing abuse. Meanwhile, ongoing supportive services—focused on safe housing, economic empowerment, addiction recovery, and holistic wellness—are a resource for families long-term. Raphael House couples these with Prevention Education programming in all 9 Portland Public High Schools, building a culture of consent by teaching youth about equitable relationships, while also providing teens with confidential support. Key to their effectiveness is that Raphael House is a survivor-led agency; among a staff of over 50 people, 75% identify as survivors, including four team members who are former program participants. For more information, visit raphaelhouse.com.

Yield Giving

Established by MacKenzie Scott to share a financial fortune created through the effort of countless people, Yield Giving is named after a belief in adding value by giving up control. To date, Yield’s network of staff and advisors has yielded over \$16,500,000,000 to 1,900+ non-profit teams to use as they see fit for the benefit of others. To learn more, visit www.yieldgiving.com.

Lever for Change

Lever for Change connects donors with bold solutions to the world’s biggest problems—including issues like racial inequity, gender inequality, lack of access to economic opportunity, and climate change. Using an inclusive, equitable model and due diligence process, Lever for Change creates customized challenges and other tailored funding opportunities. Top-ranked teams and challenge finalists become members of the Bold Solutions Network—a growing global network that helps secure additional funding, amplify members’ impact, and accelerate social change. Founded in 2019 as a nonprofit affiliate of the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, Lever for Change has influenced over \$1.7 billion in grants to date and provided support to more than 145 organizations. To learn more, visit www.leverforchange.org.