



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dawn Jackson, Development Director
203.458.6699
djackson@womenandfamilylife.org

**THREE LOCAL WOMEN COME TOGETHER TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE
FOR WOMEN AND FAMILIES ON THE SHORELINE**

Guilford, CT (December 14, 2018) – The unique collaboration between three local women: a founding member of Women & Family Life Center, a volunteer at the Center and a local photographer & artist came together to share the beauty of the Guilford Green and raise funds for the Women & Family Life Center.

When local photographer and artist, Kate Mercer, came to the center in October of 2017 and shared her print of the Guilford Green to Center volunteer, Carol Baugh. The detailed print of the Guilford Green is a collage that was created by layering hundreds of Kate's photographs to create an aerial perspective of the homes and businesses surrounding the historic green. The collaboration on this project continued when Carol Baugh took on the role of Project Manager while Shirley Girioni, a founding member of Women & Family Life Center, jumped into action and introduced the Howard and Michael Brown families to the project. The Brown's generously underwrote the printing of this limited edition print of 160 pieces which was sold at Breakwater Books, a retailer located on the Guilford Green. "It's one thing to create art, but this piece, I wanted to give to the town in a meaningful way and to have it benefit a great organization in our town," says Kate Mercer the artist & photographer behind the project.

On December 6, 2018, the proceeds from the sale of these 160 prints were donated to Women and Family Life Center. Kate Mercer, Carol Baugh, Shirley Girioni and Liza Fixx proudly presented a gift of over \$5,000 to the Center. The funds from this gift will support women and families in crisis on the shoreline through the programs and resources provided by the Women and Family Life Center.

"We are incredibly grateful to Kate, Carol, Shirley, Liza and to all of our neighbors who bought the print. Their generosity and belief in the good work we do to help women and families thrive again is the hope that fuels us and inspires the women we serve to reach higher. We could not do any of this without the community and to have four dynamic women leading this effort makes it all the more special to me, the staff and our participants," said Meghan Scanlon, Executive Director of the Women and Family Life Center.

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About Women & Family Life Center: The Women & Family Life Center (WFLC) is a nonprofit organization empowering women and their families on the Connecticut Shoreline since 1991 to face challenges and transitions in their lives within a safe and intimate setting in Guilford, CT. At its core, WFLC helps women and families in crisis move to new strength, life transitions become a time of positive change rather than a time of isolation, fear, and financial distress. Women and families are able to access a strong network of support, education, and community through the staff and programs offered at WFLC. Through the support of donors, local businesses and the annual Men Who Cook event, WFLC has been able to address some of the community's most pressing needs, including freedom from violence and harassment, access to affordable housing and economic security and success for women and their families. For more information, visit: www.womenandfamilylife.org.