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**AUTHOR OF #1 NEW YORK TIMES BEST SELLING MEMOIR CHERYL STRAYED
TO HEADLINE CENTER FOR COMMUNITY SOLUTIONS' 19th ANNUAL TEA & TONIC EVENT**

*Annual Event Increases Public Awareness of Sexual Assault, Stalking & Intimate Partner Violence
While Raising Much-Needed Funds to Support Prevention and Intervention Services*

(SAN DIEGO, CA) – March 5, 2018 – Center for Community Solutions (CCS), a non-profit agency that offers a complete range of sexual assault, stalking, and intimate partner violence prevention and intervention services, announced that its annual “Tea & Tonic” event will be held on Friday, April 6, 2018 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. followed by a VIP Reception - “*Tonic After Tea*” - at Hyatt Regency La Jolla at Aventine.

CCS welcomes Cheryl Strayed as the celebrity keynote speaker. **Cheryl Strayed** is the author of the #1 New York Times bestselling memoir *WILD*, the New York Times bestsellers *TINY*



BEAUTIFUL THINGS and *BRAVE ENOUGH*, and the novel *TORCH*. Her books have been translated into forty languages around the world. *WILD* was chosen by Oprah Winfrey as her first selection for Oprah’s Book Club 2.0. The Oscar-nominated movie adaptation of *WILD* stars Reese Witherspoon as Cheryl and Laura Dern as Cheryl’s mother, Bobbi.

At the Tea & Tonic event, Ms. Strayed will talk about her adventure hiking the Pacific Crest Trail and share her journey and experiences with intimate partner violence and sexual assault.

The event sponsored by The Weil Family Foundation, Sycuan, The Pride Law Firm, and Dr. Therese Collins & Byron Georgiou is being held in observance of Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

As a thought leader in the areas of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking, CCS is holding the “Tea & Tonic” event as a platform from which to raise awareness and inform our community that help is available. The event will also raise much-needed funds for the various types of assistance for survivors of intimate partner violence and sexual assault. Net proceeds from the event will be used toward CCS’ full range of domestic violence and sexual assault crisis intervention programs, including a 24-hour crisis hotline, emergency shelters, victim advocacy, court accompaniment, hospital accompaniment during forensic exams, counseling services, and legal services.

Tickets for the 2018 “Tea & Tonic” start at \$150 per person with table sponsorships available starting at \$1,500. Tickets can be purchased online at www.ccssd.org. For more information, contact Kimberly Jenks at 858-272-5777, ext. 151 or kjenks@ccssd.org

About Center for Community Solutions

Center for Community Solutions (CCS) is a 501(c) 3 nonprofit corporation that provides prevention and intervention services for sexual assault and relationship violence survivors. Founded in 1969, we have remained committed to solving the problems of relationship violence and abuse, improving the lives of survivors, and changing the social conditions that breed and tolerate their existence. We assist more than 21,000 San Diegans each year and operate the only Rape Crisis Center in San Diego. For more information, visit www.ccssd.org

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