



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Women United to Host First Annual Luncheon**

*Lateefah Simon – California’s Woman of the Year for 2005 is the featured speaker; proceeds to benefit programs supporting single mothers*

**(Camarillo, CA)** April 17, 2017 – Women United, an affinity group within United Way of Ventura County is hosting its first Annual Luncheon on Thursday, May 18 at the California Lutheran University Lundryng Event Center. Proceeds from the luncheon will support programs targeting single-mothers in need in Ventura County who are committed to improving their station in life. “We’re excited to host our first annual luncheon, along with co-hosts California Lutheran University and Sage Publishing. Our goal for this luncheon is twofold – we want to raise lots of money to assist single moms in the county and more importantly, we want to build awareness about United Women and its mission,” said Leanne Neilson, Chair of Women United.

The keynote speaker for the luncheon is Lateefah Simon, a nationally recognized advocate for civil rights. She has more than 20 years of executive experience advancing opportunities for low-income communities in the Bay Area; and is a 2003 MacArthur Fellow and was named “2005 California Woman of the Year” by the California State Assembly. Miss Simon’s personal story is inspirational and she is a shining example of the “can do” spirit. “We are so fortunate to have Lateefah Simon as our speaker for our very first luncheon. She knows firsthand the plight of the single-mother; she is an extraordinary speaker,” said Erin Simqui, Event Chair.

The luncheon will kick-off at 11:00 a.m. with Check-In and networking and from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. – sit down luncheon, guest speaker, followed by a Questions and Answers session. Sponsorship opportunities and tables are available at the following levels:

- Presenting sponsor \$10,000 – includes table for eight, full-page ad in the printed program
- Advocate sponsor \$5,000 – includes table for eight, half-page ad in the printed program
- Ambassador sponsor \$2,500 – includes four seats, quarter-page ad in the printed program
- Supporting sponsor \$1,000 – includes two seats, listing on all event printed materials
- Table for eight \$600 or \$75 for a single ticket

For more information about the Women United First Annual Luncheon and to purchase a table or individual tickets go to [www.vcunitedway.org](http://www.vcunitedway.org). To become an event sponsor or for information on joining Women United please contact Vicki Raven at 805-485-6288, ext. 229 or email [Vicki.Raven@vcunitedway.org](mailto:Vicki.Raven@vcunitedway.org). The deadline for sponsorships and ticket/table purchases is May 5.

**About Women United:** *The mission of the United Way of Ventura County’s Women United is to mobilize the power of women as change-makers, creating a community where women, families and communities thrive. Its main focus is supporting single-mothers and empowering them through financial capability and education, which is a critical first step to building stronger communities. Women United is comprised of a diverse group of women leaders who are engaged with philanthropy, volunteerism and advocacy.*

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