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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**National conference to reduce mothers on welfare coming to Texas**  
*National initiative taking off!*

MCKINNEY, TX. (August 18, 2016) – The McKinney Housing Authority in partnership with Can I Live, Inc. is bringing the national One Million Moms OFF Welfare® (1MMOW) statewide conference to McKinney in October.

McKinney is the final destination in 2016 on its national tour. This two-day conference is an intense training to bridge the gaps that impede economic uplift for low-income families. The McKinney event will take place October 7 and 8 at the Courtyard by Marriott Dallas Allen, 210 E. Stacy Road, Allen TX 75002.

“The 1MMOW consist of moms who has lived, are living and or have exited the welfare system and are on a mission to help 1 million moms make their exit,” said RW-Jones, president and CEO of Can I Live. “It is important that people understand that poverty has absolutely nothing to do with money and that no one wakes up in the morning and say, today is the day I choose to be a single mother.”

According to RW-Jones, the conference is ideal for housing authority and family self-sufficiency staff charged with meeting program goals, resident leaders wanting to improve the quality of life for their residents and head of household members who desire real economic independence but struggle with implementation.

The 1MMOW exists to coordinate resources across public and private agencies to enable assisted families to achieve real economic independence. The initiative aims to increase earning for moms, increase two parent households, reduce dependency on social welfare and increase the tax budgets for local, state and federal governments.

The initiative kicked off in Washington D.C. in August 2015. The goal of moving One Million Mothers OFF Welfare ® by 2025 started with 1 of 10 exit strategies—to reduce dependency through education and empowerment. The 1MMOW conferences educate women about the pitfalls that maintain the cycle of dependency. Branded as the 3M Syndrome, the 1MMOW initiative has identified three key areas that disproportionately affect moms on welfare: Their Mindset, Their Men and Their Money.

“It took me 15 years to release myself from the dependency of government programs,” said RW-Jones. “I want moms to know that what they will learn at this conference will put them in the driver’s seat of their life, so that they can begin to live out the life they’ve always hoped for. It is possible because I’ve done it—I am the blueprint.”

RW-Jones is a survivor of the welfare system. Today she is an advocate for single mothers and a noted national expert on self-sufficiency, resident engagement and leadership development.

Additional conferences are planned for the Connecticut, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, New York and Illinois areas in 2017.

There are over 3 million people in the state of Texas that participate in some kind of federal subsidized program from TANF, SNAP, Child Care, Rental Assistance, WIC<sup>1</sup>, etc.

Registration is available until October 3, 2016. An affordable one-time registration fee of \$79.00 grants access to attend this powerful convening of low income individuals wanting to say no to welfare!

Can I Live is a resident driven, private, non-profit organization dedicated to challenge the U.S. welfare system by revealing the problems in policy implementation that, for America’s moms, too often promote dependence rather than independence.

<sup>1</sup> <http://spotlightonpoverty.org/states/texas/>

The McKinney Housing Authority is dedicated to serving the housing needs of low to moderate income families, enhancing self-sufficiency, fair housing opportunities and increasing the overall quality of life and economic viability of its communities.

For more information, call McKinney Housing Authority at 972-542-5641 ext. 102 or visit  
<http://mckinneyha.org/>

For more information on the One Million Moms OFF Welfare® initiative, call at 919-802-7439 or visit <http://www.1mmow.org/>

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