****

**Media Contact:**

Sara Hickman-Himes  
Marketing & Communications Specialist

[shickmanhimes@BivonaCAC.org](mailto:shickmanhimes@BivonaCAC.org)

(585) 935-7823 office

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**BIVONA CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER’S ANNUAL GALA — OPEN THAT BOTTLE NIGHT — COMES TO LOCUST HILL THIS SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9   
*The night will feature wine, food, auctions — and incredible guest speaker***

***NYS Police Investigator Sayeh Rivazfar sharing her survivor story***

**ROCHESTER, NEW YORK; February 6, 2019 -** Bivona Child Advocacy Center hosts its annual gala — Open That Bottle Night (OTBN) — Saturday, February 9, from 6-11 p.m. at Locust Hill Country Club (2000 W. Jefferson Rd., Pittsford 14534).

The event will feature a cocktail hour with wine tastings, hors d’oeuvres, a large silent auction, and a chance for attendees to find out more about the work Bivona does.

During the seated dinner that follows, amidst an always exciting live auction, **we will have incredible guest speaker, NYS Police Investigator Sayeh Rivazfar, talking to our attendees about her harrowing survivor story, and why the work done at Bivona is critical in helping survivors of abuse move forward\*.** We are lucky to call Sayeh part of our Multi-Disciplinary Team here at Bivona, where she works with us to protect children in our region every day.

“Open That Bottle Night is our community’s strongest showing of support for the work we do here at Bivona, helping some of the most vulnerable children,” says Deb Rosen, Executive Director of Bivona Child Advocacy Center. “The outpouring of support at this event each year really means the world to us. We couldn’t do the important work of helping these children on the path to healing without it.”

In its 14th year, OTBN has been around almost as long as Bivona itself, and has raised more than $3 million for the agency. This year’s event is expected to bring in upwards of $300,000 — which is a large chunk of Bivona’s operating expenses.

“I’ve been proud to help support Bivona over the years at OTBN and other events the agency hosts. The work they do makes an important impact on this community,” says Don Tomeny, Bivona Board of Directors Secretary and OTBN Event Chair. “This is my first year chairing OTBN, and I’m looking forward to a great event that helps keep this organization strong.”

OTBN is made possible through the generous support of event sponsors, including our Presenting Sponsor, Sage Rutty and Company, Inc.; as well as our Bordeaux Sponsors B&L Wholesale Supply, Inc.; Constellation Brands; ITX; Monroe Capital; and Two Point Capital Management.

*\*Sayeh Rivazfar can be available for interviews before or after the dinner.*

Questions? Contact Sara Hickman-Himes, Marketing & Communications Specialist, at 585-935-7823 or shickmanhimes@BivonaCAC.org.

WHAT IS OPEN THAT BOTTLE NIGHT?

OTBN was created in the late ‘90s by John Brecher and Dorothy Gaiter, who wrote a wine column for the Wall Street Journal. They had noted that many people would buy special bottles of wine, store them in their homes or wine cellars and never open them because they were deemed “too special” for almost any occasion. Dottie and John thought that once a year people should get together with their friends and “open that bottle” and designated the last Saturday in February as Open That Bottle Night. The concept resonated with people and thousands of people started hosting OTBN parties, and it continues to gain in popularity every year.

BIVONA'S OPEN THAT BOTTLE NIGHT TRADITION

OTBN is Bivona’s signature fundraising event and the preeminent OTBN party in Rochester. Over the last 13 years, OTBN has raised more than $3 million for Bivona. Each person or couple is asked to bring a bottle of their favorite wine to share with their table. The evening includes a silent auction and wine tasting during cocktail hour, dinner (when guests enjoy and share the wine they brought), and a live auction.

ABOUT BIVONA CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER

Bivona Child Advocacy Center is a place where children who have endured the trauma of physical and sexual abuse can begin their journey of healing. Bivona provides critical, comprehensive services through collaborative partnership in a safe, child-friendly environment - all under one roof.

Although Bivona receives some government funding, approximately 60% of its support comes from the community. Bivona is an accredited member of the National Children’s Alliance and has become a resource to the community for all issues related to child sexual and physical abuse.

Bivona's multidisciplinary team approach provides services to abused children and their families. Our formal partnerships with the following agencies makes it possible.

* Catholic Family Center
* Law Enforcement – *all 12 jurisdictions*
* Linden Oaks Specialized Assessment and Treatment Services
* Monroe County Child Protective Services
* Monroe County District Attorney’s Office
* Monroe County Law Department
* REACH Program of UR Medicine’s Golisano Children’s Hospital
* RESTORE Sexual Assault Services
* Villa of Hope

For more information, please visit [www.BivonaCAC.org](http://www.bivonacac.org).