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## SINGER-SONGWRITERS ROCK AGAINST MISTREATMENT: NEW "GIRLS AGAINST ABUSE" ALBUM MARKS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

**Murrieta, CA** -- This October, a chorus of new voices will join the growing national conversation on domestic violence: the thirteen young recording artists featured on *Girls Against Abuse Vol. 4*. This new compilation album is the latest release from **The Girls Against Abuse Foundation**, a Murrieta-based nonprofit that, since 2009, has been harnessing the power of music to help women and youth recognize, resist, and recover from abuse and mistreatment.

Founded five years ago by music industry veteran **Jason Brawner** -- whose production and songwriting credits include Beyoncé, Hilary Duff, Carrie Underwood and Thompson Square -- The Girls Against Abuse Foundation has raised tens of thousands of dollars for women's shelters while spreading their message to hundreds of thousands of listeners through their music.

Explains Brawner, "Writing albums with artists on a daily basis, I get to know them quite quickly. Far too often, I'm horrified to encounter recurring themes of mistreatment and abuse in the lives of young women. Whether it comes from someone in their home or family, school, work, or a boyfriend, emotional and physical abuse has critical effects on the victims."

On *Girls Against Abuse Vol. 4*, Brawner collaborates with thirteen up-and-coming young artists -- Alexis Umathum, Jillian Calkins, Misha Williams, Jessica Tourino, Aliann Brawner, Robynne French, Lincelie, Bekah Spaargaren, Hayley Stayner, Cherish, Kenna Nicole, Patricia Jewel, and Mary Lancaster -- on compositions that tackle these themes. As Girls Against Abuse president Bonnie Terk describes, "Within the album's lyrics are messages that heighten awareness of the first signs of disrespect that lead to abuse. The edgy, heartfelt music reflects the artists' commitment to stand against all forms of mistreatment and abuse. By empowering young women and youth through awareness and intolerance, we aim to stop abuse for generations to come." In keeping with that mission, Terk emphasizes, "*Girls Against Abuse Vol. 4* is dedicated to Tori Amos, Emma Sulkowicz, and all abuse survivors who break their silence."

The Girls' ambitious mission -- and their music -- has garnered the attention of activists on the national level. "Music is a powerful tool for spreading a message of survival, healing, and hope," says anti-sexual-violence activist **Paul McComas**, who serves on the National Leadership Council of the **Rape**, **Abuse & Incest National Network (RAINN)**. "What's more, the new release from Brawner and company is truly win-win-win: an eclectic, moving collection of songs that raise awareness through their lyrics while raising funds, through album purchases, to address the issues about which 'The Girls' are singing."

With the new album's October release coinciding with **National Domestic Violence Awareness Month**, Brawner and "The Girls" will be posting music, artwork and videos from *Girls Against Abuse Vol. 4* to the foundation's Facebook page throughout the coming weeks. "We don't need sales -- we need outreach," says Brawner. "We can't wait to reach as many people as we can."

Learn more about The Girls Against Abuse and listen to *Girls Against Abuse Vol. 4* -- as well as the foundation's first three albums -- at **Girls Against Abuse.com**.