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MARYLAND-BASED GUIDEWELL FINANCIAL SOLUTIONS ACCELERATES GROWTH WITH OPENING OF NEW OFFICE IN LOS ANGELES

New office will offer access to reverse mortgage counseling services in LA County

BALTIMORE (Oct. 4, 2017) – <u>Guidewell Financial Solutions</u>, a fully-accredited, HUD approved nonprofit housing and credit counseling provider based in Maryland, will open a new office in the Los Angeles Metro area and offer home equity reverse mortgage counseling services in LA County. The office is located within a Los Angeles suburb approximately 15 miles from Los Angeles at 1050 Lakes Drive, Suite 225 West Covina, California 91790.

"The decision to expand our presence to Los Angeles was a logical step in our business growth strategy and our commitment to strengthen our nationwide footprint with comprehensive education and budgeting services. Ultimately, this lets us reach more people – more consumers – who need financial guidance now more than ever," said Guidewell Financial Solutions CEO, Helene Raynaud. "In addition, we're now able to offer in-demand financial counseling services on reverse mortgages to a community in California who will benefit from it greatly. This new office is a step in the direction to further expand and service current and future markets as many report that credit card debt is at an all-time high."

The new office will offer Home Equity Conversion Mortgage (HECM) Counseling, better known as reverse mortgage counseling, at both the local and national levels. Reverse mortgage counseling is a <u>pre-requisite step</u> in filing and receiving a reverse mortgage in any given area nationwide per federal Housing and Urban Development regulations.

Guidewell Financial Solutions' in-person counselor, Housing Outreach Specialist Dan Grafius will lend more than 20 years of financial education experience to educate clients on the process of reverse mortgages and provide them with the means to make an informed decision about their finances and housing. Grafius joined Guidewell Financial Solutions as a certified HECM counselor following a long career as a financial credit counselor at Clearpoint Financial.

Guidewell Financial Solutions (also known as Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Maryland and Delaware) is an accredited 501(c)(3) nonprofit agency that helps stabilize communities by creating hope and promoting economic self-sufficiency to individuals and families through financial education and counseling. Maryland License #14-01 / Delaware License #07-01