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WOMEN'S CONFERENCE ANNOUNCES 2022 KEYNOTE: Dr. Jennifer Ashton ABC News' Chief Health & Medical Correspondent <u>www.ccwc-fresno.org</u>

Fresno, CA – The Central California Women's Conference announced Monday, Dr. Jennifer Ashton will be the Keynote speaker when they return on September 20, 2022. This will be the first in-person CCWC since 2019.

Tickets go on sale Wednesday, June 15, for the <u>33rd Annual Central California Women's</u> <u>Conference</u>. This day of inspiration, empowerment and growth is the largest women's event in the region and will be held from 7:15 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 20, 2022 at the <u>Fresno</u> <u>Convention & Entertainment Center</u>. The Central California Women's Conference is a nonprofit organization that gives proceeds of their one-day event to local community organizations benefiting women and children. To date, the conference has given over \$1.3 million dollars in grants.

Dr. Ashton is ABC News' Chief Health and Medical Correspondent and is a familiar face across the ABC News platforms, as well as appearing daily on GMA3 "What You Need to Know". Previously, Dr. Ashton worked with CBS News as a senior medical correspondent and cohosted "The Doctors", as well as, various other television appearances across multiple networks.

Dr. Ashton is double Board Certified in OB-GYN and obesity medicine, as well as having a Masters Degree in nutrition, making her the only physician with these credentials on a national media platform. Dr. Ashton has been honored for the emergency medical care she has provided to the Englewood Police Department, Haitian earthquake victims, and for her advocacy for women's health.

Dr. Ashton is also an accomplished author, having published 6 books including: The New Normal, Life after Suicide, and The Selfcare Solution. Dr. Ashton is a graduate of Columbia

University, College of Physicians and Surgeons. In addition to her on-air work, Dr. Ashton maintains a private medical practice and is a mother of two children.

"On behalf of the board, we are so excited to be back and bringing Dr. Jennifer Ashton to our conference!" says CCWC Board President, Teri Amerine. "She has personal experience of love, loss, challenges and successes that all women can relate to. Dr. Ashton brings levity, candor, and expertise – who would not want to have lunch with her!"

The theme of this year's CCWC is *"I am____."*. Attendees, sponsors, and exhibitors are invited to fill in the blank and celebrate where they are in the moment! "This conference is a collaboration of all the unique qualities women in the Central Valley bring to our community every day," Amerine said. "This year we want to allow each attendee to pause and enjoy where they are in the moment, celebrate it and take what they need from the day."

The Warm-Up will begin with a motivational speaker who celebrates all that she is, Elizabeth McCormick. McCormick is a former U.S. Army Black Hawk Helicopter Pilot who takes to the stage to energize and inspire attendees world-wide.

Attendees choose three breakout sessions to attend throughout the day from 21 options. Topics include health, fitness, money/finance, relationships, courage, lifestyle, strength and mental health.

"We really looked at what needs we saw in the community," said Amerine. "We are thrilled to be presenting a balanced, thought provoking, fun and inspiring variety of speakers, as well as the return of the Marketplace – it's always an attendee favorite."

CCWC will again bring the Marketplace back to Valdez Hall with more than 175 businesses and nonprofits sharing all they offer to the community.

The jam-packed day will come to a close with the Cool-Down reception complete with prizes, delicious treats from generous sponsors and comedy from Engineer-turned-Comedienne Amy Barnes. Barnes brings a lifetime of experience to the stage in a side-splitting hour of observations on what it's like to be a woman, a wife, a mom and a person in 2022.

As it has in previous years, CCWC anticipates a sell-out event. Tickets go on sale on Wednesday, June 15, 2022 for \$125 each. Ticket price will increase to \$140 on August 12. Admission includes continental breakfast, all seminars, the celebrity keynote speaker luncheon, the Warm-Up session and the Cool-Down reception. Tickets are limited to the first 3,500 attendees. Early registration is encouraged. Visit www.ccwc-fresno.org for tickets and additional information.

The conference is made possible through the <u>support</u> of national and Central Valley businesses. The presenting sponsor is Community Health System. Founding sponsors are The Fresno Bee and ABC 30. Saint Agnes Medical Center is the Keynote Speaker Sponsor. Major sponsors include Chukchansi Gold Resort & Casino; Valley Children's Healthcare; Nor Cal Acura Dealers; Chevron; Macy's; Fresno/Clovis Convention & Visitor's Bureau; California State University, Fresno; UCSF Fresno with CCFMG; The Wonderful Company; The Brownie Baker, Inc.; Cumulus Broadcasting; FTB Print & Mail; Univision Radio; Deli Delicious; Digital Attic; State Center Community College District; Pepsi; PG&E ; AT&T and many more.

<u>Sponsorships</u> and <u>exhibit booths</u> are still available. For sponsorship information contact Karen Franz at <u>Karen@ccwc-fresno.org</u>; for exhibit booth information contact Sonya Nagai-Menapace at <u>Sonya@ccwc-fresno.org</u>.

More information about the conference and speakers is available at <u>www.ccwc-fresno.org</u>.

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The **CENTRAL CALIFORNIA WOMEN'S CONFERENCE** was founded in 1988 by the late State Senator Ken L. Maddy of Fresno, Calif. The conference is a 501(c) (3) non-profit, non-political organization, and the event is designed to educate, motivate and inspire women to be the best they can be in their professional and personal lives. (Tax I.D. #77-0178140).