

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 30, 2025 Contact: Maria Johnson | (904) 722-3000 ext. 203 Jasmine Mason | (904) 722-3000 ext. 232 Press Center - WCJ

The Women's Center of Jacksonville Celebrates 30 Years of Healing with "Women, Words & Wisdom" Featuring National Keynote Speaker Amanda Nguyen

Jacksonville, FL – The Women's Center of Jacksonville (WCJ), the certified rape recovery crisis center serving Duval, Baker, and Nassau Counties, is proud to announce its 30th anniversary event, *Women, Words & Wisdom*, featuring renowned activist, author, and Nobel Peace Prize nominee Amanda Nguyen as keynote speaker. The event will take place on August 26, 2025, from 5:30–8:00 PM at the Florida Blue Conference Center.

Since 1995, the WCJ has been a lifeline for survivors of sexual violence, offering 24-hour rape crisis services, trauma counseling, advocacy, forensic exams, education, and more—entirely free of charge. As the region's certified rape recovery center, WCJ has supported countless individuals and families in healing from trauma and reclaiming their lives.

To mark three decades of service, *Women, Words & Wisdom* will bring together community leaders, advocates, and changemakers for an evening celebrating women's stories, leadership, and resilience.

The evening's keynote speaker, **Amanda Nguyen**, is a globally recognized voice for survivors of sexual violence. After surviving rape as a student at Harvard, Nguyen spearheaded the **Sexual Assault Survivors' Bill of Rights**, which was signed into U.S. law in 2016. She later gained recognition as a leader in the Stop Asian Hate movement, and in 2022, was named TIME Magazine's Women of the Year. Most recently, on **April 14, 2025**, Nguyen became the **first Vietnamese and Southeast Asian woman in space** aboard Blue Origin's New Shepard rocket. Her journey from survivor to space traveler inspires a message of healing and limitless possibility.

"I studied the stars—astrophysics at Harvard and MIT—but life got in the way," Nguyen shared after her historic flight. "In this moment, I just want all survivors to know: You can heal. No dream is too wild."

Event details and registration information can be found at: Women, Words & Wisdom 2025 - WCJ

Media outlets are encouraged to cover this extraordinary event and the inspiring story of Amanda Nguyen.

About the Women's Center of Jacksonville:

The Women's Center of Jacksonville is a nonprofit organization committed to improving the lives of women through advocacy, support, and education. WCJ serves all survivors of sexual assault and their loved ones, regardless of gender identity, completely free of charge. Learn more at <u>www.thewcj.org</u>.

Women's Center of Jacksonville | 5644 Colcord Avenue, Jacksonville, Florida 32211 24-hour Rape Crisis Hotline (904) 721-7273 info@thewcj.org