



HopeLine

Refuge House *Saving Lives, Building Hope, Ending Violence!*

Summer 2008

Mike's Limousine Service and AMC Theatres Team Up to Support Refuge House

Often times, it is difficult for mothers and children affected by violence to focus on strengthening and maintaining an healthy relationship with one another. To address this vital need, the Children's Program at Refuge House coordinates lively activities to help survivors reconnect. Recently, Mike's Limousine Service and AMC Theatres joined Refuge House to give mothers and children a night out at the movies. AMC Theatres provided moviegoers with what they called "a night to remember!" One attendee expressed the sentiments of the group saying, "I really appreciate AMC's generosity. I so enjoyed seeing the movie *Kung Fu Panda* which made me laugh out loud. The film gave me a much needed break to spend quality time with my child."

Mike's Limousine Service spared

no expense, picking up the guests in a brand new 2008 Land Yacht Party Bus, considered by many in the industry as the finest limo bus in the Southeast.

"I get about eight requests a day to provide free transportation service, and I usually respond unfavorably due to cost and other considerations, said Mike Vaughn, owner of Mike's Limousine Service. "I didn't hesitate to say yes to Refuge House."

"Enabling them to experience a ride in a limousine, which for most of

them is probably a first, is my way of giving back and letting them know I care!"

To express their gratitude, the children of Refuge House gave Mike handmade thank you cards. The Children's Program director, Shan Brinson, added her appreciation as well, saying, "The love and compassion Mike and others demonstrate gives our clients a sense of normalcy and healthy unconditional love, for which we are deeply grateful."



Thank You Mike

for taking us to the movies in the limousine... many of us have never experienced that before. We had a great time! *-The Children and Staff*

If you or your business would like to do something "special" for the women and children of Refuge House, call Diane Jefferson at 922-6062.

Warrior Meg Honored for Life's Work for Survivors

Congratulations to our own Refuge House Executive Director, Meg Baldwin! Meg was named the recipient of the 2008 Florida Council Against Sexual Violence (FCASV) Anne Gannon Warrior for Women Award at the Council's annual conference in June. The award is presented for outstanding advocacy on behalf of survivors of sexual violence and women's rights.

"Meg not only leads Refuge House, but also understands the issues on multiple levels, and always goes above and beyond the call of duty," said Jennifer Dritt, FCASV executive director. "Her work and life center around making sure that victims of sexual violence get what they need to begin recovery and seek justice."

Meg has been the executive director of the Refuge House since 2005, and prior to that, was a professor of



Meg Baldwin
Executive Director

Law at FSU and served on the Refuge House board of directors.

"Meg has worked tirelessly for years to advance the mission of the agency," said Refuge House Board Chair Janet Stoner. Since joining Refuge House as executive director, the agency has expanded sexual violence and domestic violence services to prostituted and trafficked women and has initiated a community response team among agencies serving prostituted women and children. Our SANE rape crisis program is now a model for the state.

Stoner added, "This recognition is so well deserved, and comes as no surprise to those of us who know her work for Refuge House."

Teams, Sponsors Needed for Sheriff Campbell Golf Tournament

When: Monday, October 6, 2008
Where: SouthWood Golf Club

It is time to get your golf team together for the 9th Annual Sheriff Larry Campbell Refuge House Golf Challenge. The select-a-shot 18-hole event will be held at the SouthWood Golf Club, with registration and lunch beginning at 11:00 a.m. and a shotgun start at 12:30 p.m.

"Sheriff Campbell has been a very good friend to the Refuge House," said tournament chair Cecile Reynaud. "Our local law enforcement officers are often on the front line of domestic and sexual violence and the Refuge House supports their efforts in so many ways."

Again this year, we would like individuals as well as local businesses to join us by enrolling in the tournament, serving as event sponsors, registering teams of golfers and/or donating items for giveaway prizes and goodie bags. Please note that contributions are tax-deductible.

Thanks to the generosity of participants, last year's benefit was a glowing success. More than 125 golfers and several major sponsors signed up to assist battered mothers and children in our community.

To download a registration form or review the event sponsorship levels and high profile benefits, go to www.refugehouse.com.

Florida Commerce Credit Union "Commit-a-thon" Helps Thrift Shop

Thanks to the Florida Commerce Credit Union, the Refuge House Thrift Store has many more items from which its clients and patrons can choose. As part of its Commit-a-thon, Florida Commerce selects a local nonprofit each month and supports its cause. Employees volunteer, fundraise, and participate in hands-on-activities to assist the organization.

In July, Florida Commerce selected Refuge House as its charity of choice. Employees coordinated donation drives at each of the branch locations for the Refuge House Thrift Store. Staff members gathered clothing, household items and children's toys to boost the store's inventory.

"We're committed to making a difference with every person we meet and proudly support organizations like Refuge House that exhibit the same level of passion and commitment," said Community Relations Manager Kristin Richardson.

To thank the staff of Refuge House for working to improve the lives of others, Florida Commerce partnered with Po'Boys restaurant and provided employees with a delicious summertime lunch.



Be the Lucky Winner of a St. George Beach Getaway

Enter a Refuge House chance drawing to Win a 5-Day, 4 Night Stay at a luxurious St. George Island beach house!!! This Get-A-Way prize includes a lovely three bedroom (sleeps 8), two bath home with spacious furnished screened porch and a wonderful Gulf view. Enjoy looking at dolphins from the widow's walk with a panoramic view and a



sunning deck! Wood-burning fireplace, multiple TVs, VCRs, and DVDs, stereo and CD/tape player. Steps away from the beach and the bike path. The drawing will be held, Monday, October 6, 2008, at the SouthWood Golf Club. You do not have to be present to win. For tickets or more information, contact Diane Jefferson at 922-6062.

Thanks Kathie

Our St. George Get-A-Way fundraiser was made possible due to the generosity of Kathy Emrich, board member and long time supporter of Refuge House. If you have a beach or mountain house that you wouldn't mind sharing for a similar promotion, please call Diane Jefferson at 922-6062.



Refuge House

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Apalachicola
850-653-3313

Crawfordville
850-926-9005

Tallahassee
850-922-6062

Madison
850-973-4144

Monticello
850-342-3518

Perry
850-584-8808

Quincy
850-627-9377

P.O. Box 20910 * Tallahassee, Florida 32316 * 24 Hour Crisis Line 850-681-2111 Local or 800-500-1119 Toll Free



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