



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**An open letter to Chris Brown from SafeHaven of Tarrant County**  
*You can help us end domestic and dating violence*

Dear Chris,

SafeHaven of Tarrant County would like to help you address what you are experiencing following the recent episode of dating violence with Rihanna. If you choose to take responsibility for your actions, the following information will interest you. Violence against women cannot be ignored and must be addressed by every member of the community, whether celebrity or not. With that in mind, we would like to invite you to participate in our Batterer's Intervention Program, where we educate abusers on new behaviors and skills that will aid in ending domestic and dating violence. The 36-hour psycho-educational program, designed to stop abusive behavior, includes sessions in anger management, effective communication, problem solving skills and assertive versus aggressive behavior. The sessions take place twice a week over an 18-week period. During the sessions, you can ask questions and share perceptions and feelings related to abuse. We will be happy to help you find accommodations and a recording studio during your stay.

As a result of this educational experience, you may find the courage to take a strong stand against dating and domestic violence. After you learn the skills you need to lead an abuse-free life, your voice can help us keep all girlfriends, wives, mothers, daughters and sisters safe from violence. You can spread the word among the public, your fans, and the Hollywood community alike that violence against women is never the answer and will not be tolerated.

Sincerely,

Mary Lee Hafley  
President and CEO

- More -

Add one: **An open letter to Chris Brown from SafeHaven of Tarrant County**

**About SafeHaven**

SafeHaven of Tarrant County is a nonprofit organization that exists to end family violence through safety, support, prevention and social change. SafeHaven's two emergency shelters, one in Arlington and one in Fort Worth, accommodate a combined 174 women and children, making SHTC one of the largest shelters in Texas.

In 2008, SHTC sheltered over 2,700 adult and child victims and provided non-residential services through our Resource Centers to more than 3,700 other clients seeking emotional, legal and practical support to move from "victim" to "survivor". *Staff and volunteers answered 41,767 hotline calls in 2008, an 81% increase over 2007.* In addition to protecting victims and creating opportunities to achieve independence and self-sufficiency, SHTC also educates approximately 60,000 individuals annually. The majority of these are students who learn warning signs of relationship abuse

A leader in the domestic violence field, SHTC operates a full continuum of specialized programs, utilizes community volunteers and runs a successful resale store, Berry Good Buys.

For more information on how you can help, visit our website at [www.safehaventc.org](http://www.safehaventc.org) or call 817 535-6462.

For immediate assistance regarding domestic violence, please contact the 24 hour toll free crisis hotline at 1-877-701- SAFE (7233).

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