



NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Sarah McClellan-Brandt
Community Relations Coordinator
E-mail: sbrandt@safehaventc.org
Phone: 817-535-6462, ext. 119
Mobile: 817-480-5041

Giving opportunities with SafeAngels Holiday Programs
Brighten the season for domestic violence survivors and their children

Fort Worth, TX (Nov. 11, 2009) –SafeHaven launches its 2009 SafeAngels holiday programs to make the upcoming holidays happy ones for survivors of domestic violence in Tarrant County.

SafeHaven’s SafeAngels Holiday Program includes Thanksgiving Baskets, Santa’s Sack and Adopt-a-Family programs.

From Nov. 16-Nov. 23, SafeHaven will accept baskets of non-perishable foods such as stuffing mix, boxes of mashed potatoes, canned vegetables and cranberries as well as gift cards for turkeys so that our clients can cook Thanksgiving dinners for their families. The drop-off points are our Arlington Resource Center at 401 W. Sanford and Berry Good Buys at 1701 W. Berry St. in Fort Worth.

Santa’s Sack and Adopt-A Family start December 5th. Santa’s Sack locations accept new, unwrapped toys and clothing for children of all ages as well as gifts for moms. Mothers in our shelters “shop” for their children at a “toy store” set up in the shelter after all gifts are collected. Children also shop for their mothers. Donations of wrapping paper, gift bags, etc. are also needed. For Adopt-A-Family, members of the community can provide holiday gifts and necessities for a family in our SafeLiving transitional housing program. Your company, neighborhood group, Sunday school class or family selects a family to adopt and provides a complete holiday experience for them.

From Dec. 5 through Dec. 22, drop-off locations for all holiday donations are at Lincoln Square shopping center (436 Lincoln Square) in Arlington and University Park Village (1616 S. University) in Fort Worth.

“It’s really emotional for the clients because some of them have never been able to provide Christmas for their children,” said Mindy Sutherland, SafeHaven’s Children’s Program Coordinator. “We often hear that it’s the best Christmas they’ve ever had.”

- more -

Add One: Holiday help opportunities at SafeHaven

Toys collected during Santa's Sack are also used for children's birthday presents all year and to comfort children when they enter the shelter.

Volunteers are needed to staff both Santa's Sack locations, help set up the shelter "stores" and assist clients in wrapping gifts.

For more information, please call Geri Medlin at 817-548-0583 x226 or gmedlin@safehaventc.org. You can also find information on our Website, www.safehaventc.org.

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 FY 2009, SHTC sheltered nearly 2,700 adult and child victims and provided non-residential services through our Resource Centers to more than 3,800 other clients seeking emotional, legal and practical support to move from "victim" to "survivor". *Staff and volunteers answered more than 50,000 hotline calls in FY 09.* 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 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).