



SafeHaven of Tarrant County  
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# SafeNews

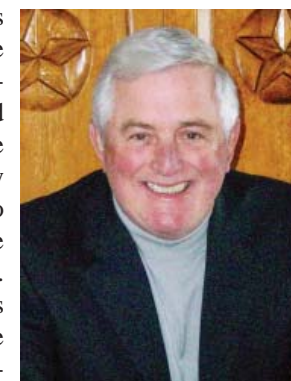
## Legacy of Men features Mack Brown as keynote

*Mike Stone will receive Legacy award*

SafeHaven of Tarrant County is pleased to announce Mike Stone as the recipient of this year's Legacy of Men Award and UT Head Football coach Mack Brown as the keynote speaker at the February 15 Legacy of Men Breakfast. The event's purpose is to engage and mobilize men to take a stand against domestic violence.

Stone, former president of the Texas Rangers, has been a devoted and active supporter of ending violence against women and children since the late 1970s. As a psychologist, Stone saw numerous clients who experienced abuse. This gave him a heightened sensitivity to the importance of empowering women and ensuring their safety. Now retired, Mike continues to volunteer throughout the community. He is married to Ellen Ray and has two grown daughters and a stepson and stepdaughter.

"This award is very meaningful to me in that it is my fervent hope that the true legacy of men will be one of partnerships characterized by respect, equality and conflict resolution devoid of abuse," Stone



Mike Stone



Mack Brown

said. "I salute SafeHaven for its dedication to ending domestic violence and I encourage men to become involved allies in their efforts."

Mack Brown, head coach of the championship Texas Longhorns, is our featured speaker. He will share his perspective on how champions are bred on and off the playing field and provide his unique take on men's responsibility in ending abuse of women and children. Event Chair Scott Murray, president of Murray Media, will also emcee the breakfast. Hal Brown, publisher of Fort Worth, Texas Magazine, is chair-elect.

The event will be in the grand ballroom of the Renaissance Worthington Hotel at 200 Main St. in downtown Fort Worth at 8 a.m. Individual reservations are \$100. Individual VIP tickets are \$150 and include a reception with Mack Brown after the breakfast. Host tables are \$1,000. To reserve your spot, contact Valerie Salter at 817-546-6040, ext. 246 or vsalter@safehaventc.org. You can also purchase your spot online at [www.safehaventc.org](http://www.safehaventc.org).

Sponsors include: Urology Associates of North Texas, Chase, XTO, TXU, Olenjack's Grille, Daireds Salon and Spa Pangea, the Fort Worth Business Press, Fort Worth, Texas Magazine and Murray Media.

The host committee includes: Bill Bowie, Meadowbrook United Methodist Church, Scot Hafley, Weldon Hafley, Hall's Pharmacy, Angel Karr, Minuteman Press, Fonda Enterprises, John Mitchell, Alice and Buddy Puente, Dan and Patty Shaw, Ellen Ray and Mike Stone, Wes and Shirley Turner, Frost Bank, Graham Pate, Keene & Associates, Olenjack's Grille, Mid-Cities SOS, John Mitchell, Don Small and Andy Rector.

## SafeHaven Stats

### In 2009, SafeHaven:

Answered **50,120** hotline calls to **1-877-701 SAFE (7233)**  
Logged **23,880** volunteer hours  
Educated **32,986** people about family violence  
Provided emergency shelter to **2,579** adults and children

### What we need now:

Women's pajamas in all sizes  
Women's and children's underwear  
Women's sweat pants  
Pillows  
Towels  
Kids' coats

**Our mission is to end domestic violence through safety, support, prevention and social change.**

#### Monthly E-mail Newsletter

To receive our monthly e-news, please e-mail Sarah McClellan-Brandt at [smbandt@safehaventc.org](mailto:smbandt@safehaventc.org) or call 817-535-6462, ext. 119.

## Leaving a Legacy

If you'd like to leave a legacy of providing for Tarrant County's victims of domestic violence by making arrangements to include SafeHaven and its programs in your will, please contact Reece Small at 817-535-6462, ext. 105.

### Contact us:

Community Relations office: 817-535-6462, ext. 119  
**24-hour Emergency Hotline: 1-877-701-SAFE (7233)**  
[www.safehaventc.org](http://www.safehaventc.org)

## Critical needs for SafeHaven before Spring

SafeHaven has a few urgent needs that must be met before spring! We depend on our supporters to help us complete projects that enhance the comfort and safety of the women and children we serve. Your monetary donations will help with:

- **New mattresses**

The shelters are in need of 105 new mattresses, which are specifically designed to be waterproof and hygienic. Each mattress costs approximately \$120. Comfortable bedding is essential to the shelters, as sufficient sleep is necessary to enable our clients to make

the decisions they need to in order to create a violence-free life. Many clients suffer through years of not sleeping peacefully before entering the shelter. One client told us that her abuser had not let her sleep a full night in years, and that when she entered the shelter she was able to feel safe and sleep well.

- **Spring break activities for children**

SafeHaven provides fun, recreational and educational activities for the children who reside in our shelters. During Spring Break, we plan special outings while the children are out of school. Social activities are an important thera-

py for child victims of domestic violence. During recreational activities, staff and volunteers model appropriate behavior and teach children the importance of sharing and resolving conflicts without violence. Group outings to local museums, the zoo, movies and other community events strengthen each child.

Your help with these needs will increase safety and promote healthful lifestyles. If you are able to donate, you can do so by filling out the enclosed envelope or by visiting our Web site at [www.safehaventc.org](http://www.safehaventc.org). Thank you for your support!

# SafeHaven Snaps



Thanks a million to Payless ShoeSource for selecting SafeHaven's children as recipients for the Payless Gives Shoes 4 Kids program.

Instead of asking for presents for herself at her recent birthday party, Alexia Zarate (left) asked her guests to bring presents for children in SafeHaven's shelters. Way to go Alexia!



The Fort Worth Police Department along with city council members, Texas Ranger Tommy Hunter and other officials organized a holiday party for SafeHaven's kids. Thank you for all you do!



Hangman's House of Horrors raised more than \$76,000 for local charities during this year's Halloween celebrations. The organization donated \$15,000 of that to SafeHaven. What an amazing gift!



SafeHaven's Children Can Succeed Program uses art and play therapy to counsel child victims of domestic violence. Above is a piece of art one child created to show how violence makes him or her feel.

## Volunteer: How to help

There are many ways to get involved at SafeHaven. Volunteers are the heart of the services we provide.

Opportunities include:

- Hold a donation drive.
- Work in the children's program.
- Sort donations at Berry Good Buys, SafeHaven's resale shop
- Provide meals for our shelter residents.
- Answer Hotline calls.
- Assist women with information and resources at the hospital or police station.
- Staff a community fair booth to provide information about SafeHaven and domestic violence.

These are just a few ways that you can get involved with helping the families at SafeHaven. For more information on how you can impact the lives of domestic violence victims, please contact Krista Moffett, Volunteer Coordinator, at 817-548-0583, ext. 226 or kmoffett@safehaventc.org. You can also visit our Web site at www.safehaventc.org.



Rookie of the Year volunteer for 2009 Melissa Levesque (left) and her two sisters Cindy Jackson (middle) and Tammy Reed (right) held a coat drive for the women and children at SafeHaven's shelters. They collected 70 coats and jackets. Thanks for thinking of our clients' needs at the holidays!

## JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL MEETING, MARCH 25

We invite you to join us for our annual meeting March 25 at 11:30 a.m. at Woodhaven Country Club. SafeHaven's board officers and President/CEO Mary Lee Hafley will discuss financials and accomplishments from fiscal year 2009. One of SafeHaven's former clients will also be speaking about her experiences with the agency and with domestic violence. SafeHaven will also recognize key donors and supporters with the Pat Jaynes Philanthropic award, the Katie Sherrod Advocacy Award, the Board Member of Excellence Award and other awards.

If you would like to attend, please call Valerie Salter at 817-546-6040, ext. 246 or vsalter@safehaventc.org. The cost to attend is \$35. Woodhaven is located at 913 Country Club Lane, Fort Worth, 76112.

## Client and daughter find legal aid and solace at SafeHaven

Case Manager Victoria Rodriguez shared the following story:

Sofia entered into shelter last September, after learning that her abuser had sexually assaulted their daughter. He was extremely abusive towards Sofia as well. When she arrived at SafeHaven she was very quiet, speaking in an almost whisper-like voice. She was frightened and unsure of what was going to happen to her and her family.

While working with me, she did everything that was asked of her. Although afraid, she worked closely with CPS and Alliance for Children due to the sexual abuse of her daughter.

When I first met her, she rarely showed any emotion, but as time passed, she began to open up. She worked on her case management service plan and attended counseling sessions. She applied for legal services, including a protective order against her husband. She was accepted into our SafeLiving transitional housing program, where she is learning self-sufficiency.

Sofia and her daughter still have struggles to overcome, but they are working hard on achieving a violence-free life. Sofia is determined to teach her daughter that abuse of any kind is never ok.

Mary Lee Hafley

## Mary Lee Hafley, President and CEO:

Recent headlines proudly announced a decrease in crime during 2009 for North Texas cities, including Arlington and Fort Worth. With the population of our area rapidly expanding, that's an amazing statistic worthy of headlines. However, the last line in the Fort Worth Star-Telegram article noted the one exception: *domestic violence*.

Domestic violence keeps dialing SafeHaven's hotline. Women and children seek safety, practical ways to forge a new life and the tools necessary to do that. In today's world, that new life is more difficult to obtain requiring more time, resources and creativity from our dedicated staff. Further, the specific incidents of abuse stagger the imagination.

## Crime is down but domestic violence rates hold strong

We must look at how to end domestic violence through a new lens -- welcome to the second year of SafeHaven's Legacy of Men event! While our signature Legacy of Women event celebrates the often unrecognized legacy of women to our communities, Legacy of Men offers leadership opportunities on building a legacy only men can create.

While most batterers are men, *most men are not batterers*. It's time for those men who believe in and fully demonstrate mutual respect for women to hold other men accountable. Speak up, monitor your language, examine your actions. Don't let inappropriate words, behavior or attitudes of others go unchecked. This is our greatest hope for

ending domestic violence.

Join with SafeHaven in this endeavor. Help create a legacy for our community that holds real promise for ending domestic violence.