

Director's Message

Recently I was asked to look at the increase in services SafeSpot provided to Fairfax County children over the last four years. I was floored to see that from 2015 to 2018, we increased our forensic interview percentage by 38%! Mental health sessions have also increased, but by an astounding 50%. Every day, we see more children who are victims of crime and need our swift intervention.

Thank you for supporting SafeSpot! Know that the children coming to our program each day are receiving the best possible care, and because of your generosity they will grow and flourish!

Happiest of holidays to you and yours!

Best, Michele Thames Executive Director

Here We Grow Again!



Here we grow again! SafeSpot has grown exponentially over the years, with child forensic interviews reaching an all-time high in 2018. In November, the SafeSpot Board of Directors approved hiring a full-time Child Interview Specialist/Family Advocate for 2019. Family **Joyful Giving** The season of joyful giving is here and we hope you will consider a gift to SafeSpot!



Due to unfortunate demand, SafeSpot hopes to increase the number of children helped by our



Advocates are essential in bringing resources to the families which help stabilize family dynamics and ease some of the stress during difficult times.

Look out for the job description on our website and social media soon!

programs each year. However, this expansion of free services greatly depends on the generosity of the community. Please consider including SafeSpot in your year-end giving. Any donation amount will be greatly appreciated. Thank you in advance for helping us provide hope and healing to families in crisis.



Save Your Sponsorship Dollars for 2019's Eagles & Aces for Safe Places Afternoon competition & evening camaraderie



Westwood Country Club Vienna, Virginia April 29, 2019

Join us for a great day of swings, sips and spreads! Play golf, play tennis, or host a table of dinner guests – all options, your choice! Proceeds benefit the SafeSpot Childrens Advocacy Center.

For sponsorship details, tournament information or volunteering opportunities, please email <u>Angelique Bennett</u>.

The Process Works!

Providing Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy helps clients and families with the aftereffects of child abuse. One such case illustrates how a child manages this very adult situation with our essential therapeutic help.

This SafeSpot client is named Caleigh. Caleigh's therapist was able to increase her understanding of child abuse and recognize that the abuse was never her fault. With therapy, Caleigh learned appropriate and healthy ways to express her feelings as well as a variety of relaxation strategies. The offender in Caleigh's case is awaiting trial and in the meantime, she is learning coping skills to manage emotions as the criminal case progresses.



Gift Card Donations Needed

A Grand Fundraising Success Leading to the Hire of an Additional Forensic Interviewer!



SafeSpot's sixth annual **Passion for Fashion** show was a tremendous success, Thanks to the support of our charitable community, Passion for Fashion raised nearly \$200k! Your generous donations will allow SafeSpot to hire another fulltime forensic interviewer and significantly expand its services.



SafeSpot is hoping to provide gift cards to families who are in our mental health program. These families have trouble meeting basic daily needs, so any help with gift cards over the holidays is greatly appreciated.

Please mail gift cards to SafeSpot, PO Box 148, Fairfax, VA 22038

\$3,000 Raised on #Giving Tuesday





We would also like to thank our fabulous and hard working co-chairs, Lauren Kushin, Jacqui McVey and Jamie Weber, who led us to the most successful and exciting show yet, with nearly 250 guests sipping mimosas, enjoying brunch nibbles, bidding on our coveted auction items, and cheering models down the runway.

The fun didn't end with the runway! Guests were invited to stay and take advantage of personalized denim consultations, swag from local vendors, pop up beauty bars, gourmet marshmallow toasting, and more!

This event would not have been possible without our sponsors. We are eternally grateful for your support! We would also like to offer our gratitude to the many volunteers and models, who worked so hard to make the show a success.

Hope to see you in 2019!

Kendra Scott Event January 23rd - Save the date!



Nothing can remedy a cold evening in January like the warmth of friends! Meet them all at the Mosaic District's Kendra Scott jewelry store on the 23rd. Shop from 6 pm until 9 pm, and Kendra Scott will donate a portion of their sales to SafeSpot. *A gathering with friends, new treasures, and a good cause - what a win-win*!

#GI<mark>≫ING</mark> TUESDAY

Giving Tuesday was a huge success, thanks to an effective campaign based upon social media and a very kind donation match. The Center raised \$3,000, using #GiveResilience as its anchor phrase. Thank you to everyone who donated and supported this important cause. A very special thanks to SafeSpotters, Alex and Kara, who both spearheaded this project!



A Quick & Easy Give Back



SafeSpot's Amazon wish list provides a quick and easy way to give back while you shop! Click on the Amazon image above to reach our wishlist

Visit our website

OUR MISSION:

The mission of SafeSpot Children's Advocacy Center of Fairfax County is to provide a childfriendly, culturally sensitive environment that promotes the safety and well-being of child victims of abuse while facilitating a comprehensive, multi-disciplinary team approach to the intervention, investigation, prosecution and treatment of sexual abuse and severe physical abuse.

STAY CONNECTED

