



# 2024 Impact Report



**SAFESPOT**  
Children's Advocacy Center of Fairfax County



Dear Friends,

Another year has come to an end, and I am delighted to share the impact SafeSpot has made in our community in our 2024 Impact Report. All of us here at SafeSpot know that the year would not have been a success without the support of our incredible community. From in-kind donations, event sponsorships, and monetary donations, the outpouring of support allowed SafeSpot to provide hope and healing to more than 600 child abuse survivors and their families. As you will read in our report, 2024 also marked the final year of our strategic plan, which focused on strengthening our services and reaching even more children and families impacted by abuse.

On May 17th, SafeSpot proudly celebrated the opening of our new Center. The 7,000+ square foot Center includes two forensic interview rooms and observation rooms, six trauma-informed therapy offices, and four advocacy offices. We are grateful to the Fairfax County Department of Family Services for making this new Center possible and for their ongoing partnership. To showcase this new, child-friendly, trauma-informed space, we have launched our monthly Hope & Healing Tours. To register for an upcoming tour, visit our website at [www.safespotfairfax.org/tours](http://www.safespotfairfax.org/tours). I hope to see you there!

In June, SafeSpot hosted our first-ever Casino Royale! All-In For Children, which raised over \$200,000. The evening was truly a night to remember, and we look forward to bringing the event back in 2025. On October 21st, we hosted our 9th Annual Champions for Children Golf Tournament, raising over \$400,000 for our core services! We are so thankful for our incredible event committees, generous donors, and amazing volunteers who gave so much of their time and passion to make our 2024 fundraising events such a success!

As we approached the end of 2024 and the conclusion of our strategic plan we officially welcomed several new partners to our Multidisciplinary Team, including the Fairfax County Police units that investigate domestic violence, child trafficking, and child sexual abuse material. We are grateful to be able to extend our services to children who have experienced these insidious forms of abuse, as well as those who have been exposed to family violence. We also welcomed the Title IX Office of Fairfax County Public Schools to the team, allowing for closer coordination of abuse investigations and support services within our schools.

I want to thank you on behalf of myself, our Board of Directors, our staff, and all the children and families we serve at SafeSpot. Your compassion, positivity, and dedication to our mission continue to shine in our community. I look forward to partnering with you to achieve even more for abused children in 2025.

In Partnership,

Heather Lyn O'Malley

CEO, SafeSpot Children's Advocacy Center of Fairfax



## MISSION

*The mission of SafeSpot Children's Advocacy Center is to provide a safe environment and support services for child abuse victims and their families as they navigate the investigation and aftermath of abuse.*

## VISION

*To reduce the trauma and improve the lives of child sexual abuse victims as they navigate the investigative, legal, and post-trauma treatment systems following an allegation of abuse.*

## 2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jessica L. Greis Edwardson, *President*  
Denise Balzano, *Immediate Past President*  
Pat Harrison, *Vice President*  
Lauren Kushin, *Secretary*  
Phil Odeen, *Treasurer*  
Jessica Bourgeois  
Brook Carlon  
Debbly Cochran  
Bryan Gibson  
Bootsie Humenansky  
Annette Kerlin  
Michelle Kingsley  
Andrew Klaff  
Armen Manoogian  
Claudia Manoogian  
Ralph Masino  
Tina Mather  
Jacqui McVey  
Marge Odeen  
Catie Price  
Charlie Price  
Clishia Taylor  
Randy Turk

## 2024 JUNIOR BOARD

Nolan Dee, *President*  
Ryan Klaff, *Vice President*  
James McKey, *Secretary*  
Paige Barger  
Benjamin Callanan  
Ali Cochran  
Debbie Cross  
Nicholas DiChiara  
Ricky Gibson  
Austin High  
Claire Kelly  
Colin Klaff  
Andrew McClellan

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

*We believe that every child in Fairfax County has the right to receive prompt, thorough, and complete child-focused attention when abuse has been reported, using a best practices model that puts the needs of the child first. We are committed to providing an inclusive and welcoming environment for our clients, staff, multi-disciplinary team partners, volunteers, and vendors. We recognize that our team members are our most important asset, and we strive to ensure an environment for their growth and development in line with SafeSpot's business needs.*



## SAFESPOT STAFF

Carla Claudio-Silva  
Hannah Cordova  
Sarai Dutcher  
Leannah Farbotko  
Angela Haslett  
Lindsey Kerber  
Zoe Lavesque  
Alexandra Monan  
Kelsey Mulhall  
Angela Niblett  
Heather O'Malley  
Haley Padgett  
Emily Perez  
Karina Pilinko  
Artemis Silva  
Isabel Simmerman  
Julia Stewart  
Jharezee Villalba  
Chelsea Watkins

## CORE VALUES

Empathy  
Teamwork  
Respect  
Integrity  
Accountability  
Excellence



# Save the Date



October 20, 2025

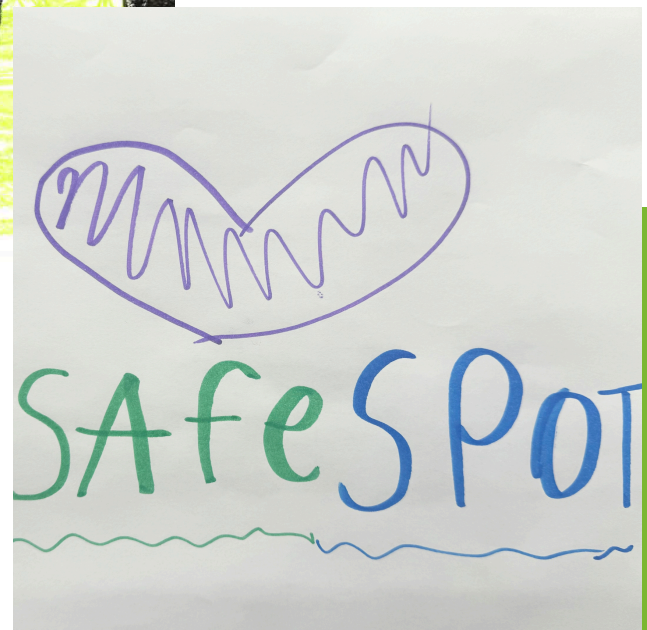
Westwood Country Club





***Me gusto que todas las personas sean muy amables.***

***-Child served at SafeSpot***



***It's calming and has good fidgets and the people are amazing.***

***-Child served at SafeSpot***



***Walking into the space felt calm and peaceful. Staff are calm and personable and I felt at ease with our conversation. Easy to trust.***

***-Caregiver served at SafeSpot***

# Our Impact



617

Children were served at SafeSpot.

458

Caregivers received **advocacy services** including crisis counseling, community resource referrals, and guidance on how best to support their child(ren).

640

**Forensic Interviews** were conducted by our highly trained child interview specialists to **assess safety, gather evidence, and support justice and community safety.**

98%

of **children surveyed** reported that **Center staff** were helpful or very helpful in making them feel safe.

99%

of **caregivers surveyed** reported that Center staff **provided them with resources to support their child** and respond to their needs in the days and weeks ahead

100%

of **children surveyed** reported that Center staff were **good or very good at listening to them.**

92%

of **caregivers surveyed** agreed that **SafeSpot** did **everything it could** to help their child and themselves.



# Our Impact



99

Children received **trauma-focused therapy** to reduce symptoms of depression and anxiety, address negative behaviors, build coping strategies, and **regain the ability to form trusting, healthy relationships.**

93%

of children who completed therapy in 2024 demonstrated a decrease in trauma-related symptoms.

10

Member agencies of the **Fairfax County Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Team (MDT)**. Close coordination with our partners ensures each child and family receives wrap-around services that reduce trauma and prioritize safety and healing.



Office of the Fairfax  
Commonwealth's  
Attorney





## LOOKING BACK: SAFESPOT'S 2022 – 2024 STRATEGIC PLAN

Just over three years ago we began work on an ambitious strategic plan with the goal of expanding our capacity to promote safety, justice, and healing for more children and families impacted by abuse in Fairfax County. Since that time, we have increased the number of children served through our forensic interviewing and mental health programs and expanded services for caregivers and teens, all while engaging a greater community of supporters.

### KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#### FORENSIC INTERVIEWING

- Grew the number of forensic interviews conducted by nearly 15%.
- Developed capacity and competencies to serve child victims of trafficking, exploitation, or sexual abuse material, as well as those who have witnessed domestic violence or homicide.

#### FAMILY ADVOCACY

- Grew capacity in family advocacy program with the additional of a full-time position, allowing for more in-depth services for caregivers.
- Added Caregiver Support Groups to provide opportunities for caregivers to build networks and develop skills to best support their children.

#### MENTAL HEALTH

- Grew capacity in mental health program by more than 60% with the addition of a full-time position, providing more children with no-cost, trauma-focused therapy.
- Added Teen Support Groups to provide opportunities for young survivors to build networks and develop skills for self-care and resiliency.
- Certified therapists in additional evidence-based treatments, including *Child and Family Traumatic Stress Intervention* and *Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing*, broadening our treatment

#### PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

- Earned 5-Year Reaccreditation from the National Children's Alliance, demonstrating that our programs are effective, efficient, and trauma-informed. .
- Developed Program Dashboard and Balanced Scorecard approach to program and performance management, ensuring the voices of our clients are represented.

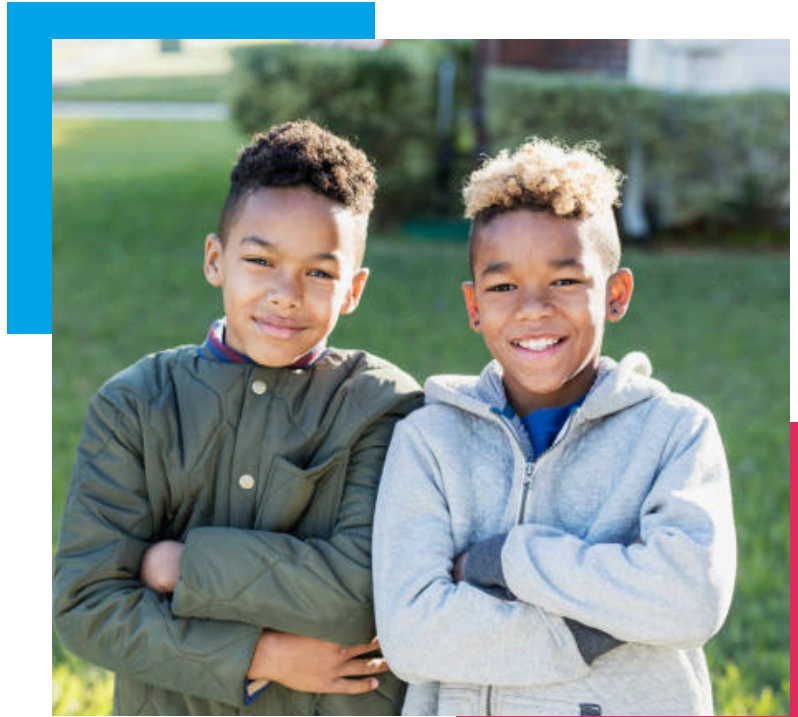
#### FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

- Grew private revenue by more than 20% over 3 years, diversifying our funding model and supporting greater sustainability.
- Grew reserve funds to equal 6 months of operating expenses and developed an investment strategy to maximize financial resources.
- Reflected on 10 years of service to the Fairfax community at our 10th Anniversary Celebration in 2023!

# Christopher and Adam's Path to Healing

13-year-old Christopher lives with his mom, Jessica, his 10-year-old cousin, Adam, and his Aunt, Kathy. Having grown up together, Christopher and Adam are more like brothers than cousins. Both boys love playing outdoor sporting activities but are particularly passionate about basketball and are star players on their school's basketball teams. Growing up together in a loving home taught them to value their family above all.

In 2024, Adam and Christopher disclosed to each other that they were sexually abused by their uncle after learning another cousin had uncomfortable experiences with the same uncle.



In an effort to ensure their younger cousins don't face the same abuse, they made the decision to come forward with their disclosure. While wanting to protect their mothers and family, they decided to go to the school counselor and disclose the abuse they had experienced. Immediately after the disclosure, Adam and Christopher were brought to SafeSpot for a forensic interview. The boys were interviewed separately by SafeSpot's trained forensic interviewers at which time they disclosed they were sexually abused by their uncle for 3 years.

While Christopher and Adam met with the forensic interviewers, both Jessica and Kathy met with a SafeSpot family advocate and expressed feelings of guilt and sadness for trusting a once cherished brother to look after their boys after school. Jessica and Kathy had been struggling for a few years to make ends meet financially, and now felt like the world was crumbling around them after learning about the abuse their boys had endured. SafeSpot's family advocate immediately began working on a plan with our community partners to help both mothers and ensure they have all the resources needed to support Adam and Christopher.

# Christopher and Adam's Path to Healing Continued

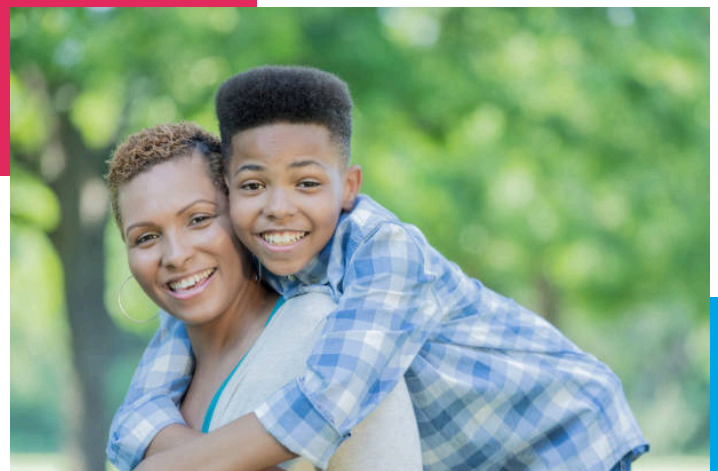
After learning the family did not have enough beds in the home, SafeSpot's cherished partner, Boost Others, a nonprofit in Fairfax County working to assist families urgent and unmet needs, rallied together and was able to purchase new beds for the family so each person in the home could have their own place to sleep each night.

As Jessica and Kathy continued to work with the family advocate, Adam and Christopher began individually meeting with a SafeSpot therapist. The therapist conducted a mental health assessment and felt both boys would benefit most from child and family traumatic stress intervention (CFTSI). Over the course of two months, both Christopher and Adam participated in weekly CFTSI therapy sessions with their therapist and mother. Each session aimed to enhance their ability to cope with the trauma reactions and increase communication between child and caregiver. This greatly improved both Kathy and Jessica's ability to support their child's individual needs.

After 8 sessions, Christopher's symptoms significantly improved, and he graduated from SafeSpot's therapy. Adam transitioned to trauma-focused cognitive-behavioral therapy (TF-CBT), which gave him the opportunity to process his feelings more in-depth. At the end of 2024, Adam displayed a significant decrease in trauma-related symptoms and successfully graduated therapy at SafeSpot.

Once the court proceedings began, Adam and Christopher made the decision to testify in front of the court. Their therapist provided court support which included booster therapy sessions leading up to testifying, and accompanied them to court.

While the court proceedings are still ongoing, Christopher and Adam are focused on continuing to heal and getting back to playing the sports they always loved. Jessica and Kathy have noticed a major change in their boys, as they are more vocal on their triggers and emotions, and communicate more effectively with each other. While court is still ongoing, they are focused on their future filled with hope and working together to continue to heal as a family.







***Estoy muy feliz de como han ayudado con todo para ayudar a mi hija.  
-Caregiver served at SafeSpot***

***I can talk to an adult I trust.  
-Child served at SafeSpot***



***I truly believe in this model and enjoy working with SafeSpot.  
-MDT Partner***

# Supporting Local Needs Through Monthly Gifting

## One Donor's Perspective

*By: Pat Harrison*

As I approached retirement from my role as Deputy County Executive for Health and Human Services in Fairfax County, I found myself grappling with a profound question: How could I continue to support the critical needs of our community in a meaningful way? I realized that a monthly gifting plan would allow me to make a consistent and lasting impact on an organization that I deeply care about—SafeSpot.



*Pat Harrison (on left) at SafeSpot's first Ribbon Cutting Ceremony in 2021.*

Initially, my support for SafeSpot came through annual gifting campaigns. However, I soon discovered that monthly gifting not only allowed me to better plan my charitable contributions but also provided SafeSpot with the stability to budget and grow effectively throughout the year. With my intimate knowledge of Fairfax's needs and the nonprofit community, I chose to support SafeSpot through their monthly gifting plan. I have witnessed firsthand their remarkable effectiveness, their unwavering commitment to children, and their pivotal role within Fairfax County's human services and public safety systems.

SafeSpot holds a unique and vital place in our community, supporting children who have experienced the unimaginable trauma of sexual abuse and offering solace to their families. As Deputy County Executive, I championed their mission and saw the profound impact they had on our public safety and social workers. Now, as a Fairfax County resident, I remain steadfast in my support for their critical work to help abused children heal and thrive.

Each dollar donated to fight and treat child sexual abuse brings us one step closer to a future where every child can grow up free from fear and pain. By committing to a recurring monthly gift, I am contributing to the creation of a safe and nurturing community where child sexual abuse is eradicated, and children can flourish in their homes and neighborhoods.

The positive outcomes achieved by SafeSpot over the years inspired me to initiate a monthly giving donation. As a board member, I firmly believe that offering supporters the opportunity for monthly giving helps the organization strategically plan their annual budget, target outreach efforts, and enhance critical services such as forensic interviewing, family advocacy, and mental health support. These services are essential in providing a lifeline to children experiencing sexual abuse and their families.

I am immensely proud to support SafeSpot, knowing that my charitable donations are making a tangible difference in the lives of children in our community. Together, we are building a future where every child can grow and thrive without the shadow of trauma.



# Corporate Spotlight



As SafeSpot reflects on the accomplishments and milestones reached every year, we know that it would not be possible without our community partners. Beyond monetary donations, every year our partners come together and support the needs from the families we serve. One of those partners has been PBG Consulting, a small women-owned digital consultancy headquartered in Fairfax County.

From pantry donations, coat drives, summer activities and more, the impact PBG has made on the families coming to SafeSpot has been tremendous.

Since joining the SafeSpot community in 2023, PBG has donated over **\$6,500** in in-kind donations and has been a sponsor of SafeSpot's Casino Royale and Champions for Children fundraisers. "From the beginning, PBG has been an active partner. They want to know the critical needs of the children and caregivers we serve so they can make the most meaningful impact possible. And they have, time and time again," said SafeSpot CEO, Heather O'Malley.



When asked why they chose to support SafeSpot, Pawla Ghaleb, President and CEO of PBG Consulting says "All PBGers share a deep commitment to making an impact—both in our day-to-day work supporting critical federal missions and right here in Fairfax County. PBG's giving strategy is to build a long-term partnership with an organization tackling complex social challenges . . . where together we could pursue tough causes with passion, boldness, and grit. SafeSpot exemplifies that, and they have embraced us as partners, not just donors. SafeSpot's mission is close to my heart, and it's truly an honor and a privilege to support the children in our community."





SafeSpot Children's Advocacy Center's Hope and Healing Tour, which occurs from 6:00pm - 7:00pm on the second Thursday of every month, is an opportunity for community members to visit our center and learn more about our core programs of:

» **FORENSIC INTERVIEWING**

» **FAMILY ADVOCACY**

» **MENTAL HEALTH THERAPY**



**SAFESPOT**

Children's Advocacy Center of Fairfax County

Hope and Healing Tour

Whether you are currently supporting SafeSpot, or new to our community, we invite you to join us for this 1 hour tour to learn how we create hope and healing for children impacted by abuse in Fairfax County.

*To sign up for an upcoming tour, scan the QR code below!  
Once you register, you will receive a confirmation with the center address.*



# SafeSpot's Board of Directors

SafeSpot was honored to welcome **4 new members** to our **Board of Directors** in 2024!

**Frank Antezana** is the CEO and co-founder of iTech AG, a technology consulting firm specializing in digital transformation for government and commercial clients. With over 20 years of experience, he has led strategic initiatives across federal agencies and Fortune 500 companies, driving innovation and business growth. In addition to leading iTech AG, Frank has successfully built and managed enterprises spanning multiple industries including technology, hospitality, and international business. He completed Stanford Graduate School of Business's program in Entrepreneurship and Business Scaling and holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from Universidad Privada Boliviana (UPB). Frank lives in Northern Virginia with his three sons and is passionate about giving back to the community. He proudly supports SafeSpot's mission to ensure child abuse victims receive the care, protection, and advocacy they deserve.



**Marianne Burkart** has over 30 years of experience in commercial real estate, most recently as Senior Director of Design and Construction at international real estate firm Tishman Speyer. Marianne's success is attributed to a strong track record of collaborating with diverse stakeholders and consistently meeting deadlines and budgets on complex projects. An active volunteer, mentor, and community leader, she has provided support at her daughters' schools and various non-profit organizations in the D.C. area.

# SafeSpot's Board of Directors

**Kathy Dominguez** is an experienced financial leader with over 20 years of experience in corporate, non-profit and public accounting. She spent most of her career in financial management positions in the non-profit sector. She was Vice President and Director of Finance for a national association, Rails to Trails Conservancy, where she led Finance and Accounting operations along with various human resource functions. Kathy also held financial management positions for various other DC-based associations providing budget preparation and analysis, multi-year financial forecasting, government contract negotiations and grant reporting. She also worked as an auditor in the public accounting sector conducting audits, reviews, and compilations for clients in an array of industries including government contracting, construction, property management and mortgage banking. She currently works in the Finance department of Saidman Design Law Group.

Kathy received her Bachelor of Science Degree in Accounting from the University of Maryland, College of Business.



For over 40 years, **Rich DiPippo** has guided business owners, key executives, and families to help clarify their objectives and to take action. He works with a holistic approach to planning working with many local attorneys, CPA's, and wealth advisors to guide clients. He is a graduate of The George Washington University and currently serves on the GWU Business School Board of Advisors. He started his career with New York Life and sold his practice to NFP in 2008. He continues to support many different non-profit causes including the SafeSpot Champions FORE Children Golf tournament



# SafeSpot's Junior Board

SafeSpot's Junior Board is comprised of passionate volunteers who dedicate their time, energy, and talents to support our mission. Junior Board members help raise funds, build community awareness, and engage their peers in our efforts to support child survivors and their families as they seek justice, build safety, and begin the journey to healing.

SafeSpot welcomed 2 new members our Junior Board in 2024! If you or someone you know is interested in joining the Junior Board, please contact Heather O'Malley at [homalley@safespotfairfax.org](mailto:homalley@safespotfairfax.org).



**Debbie Cross**, a Northern Virginia native, was raised in Fairfax County and now lives in Leesburg, Virginia, with her husband and their two children. Her experience as a mother fuel her passion for supporting children's well-being and contributing to Safespot's mission to ensure safety and healing for all children. Debbie is eager to raise awareness in support of this this vital cause. Professionally, she is a part of Newmark, where she specializes in real estate leasing strategies and negotiations for both tenants and landlords. In her free time, Debbie loves exploring new parks and playgrounds with her children and enjoys fitting in yoga sessions whenever possible.

**Claire Kelly** recently graduated from George Washington University with a Master of Public Health specializing in communications and marketing, and she is exploring her next career path. She earned her Bachelor of Arts in American Studies at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, Virginia. Claire grew up in North Carolina and now resides in Washington, DC. She enjoys traveling, working out, and spending time with family and friends.





In 2024, SafeSpot hosted our first-ever Casino Royale! All-In For Children on June 1st! Guests enjoyed delicious cocktails and tasty bites while testing their luck at the casino tables and exciting raffle items!

SafeSpot would like to thank our event chair, Kathy Dominguez, Emcee, Phil Simonides, and our many incredible volunteers for truly making it a night to remember! We are so grateful to our generous sponsors and donors, who helped us raise over \$212,000 for children and families recovering from abuse! We look forward to bringing the event back on in 2025!



Click the QR Code above to watch the video presented during the Casino Royale Program





SafeSpot was proud to host our 9th Annual Champions for Children Golf Tournament in 2024! It was a truly special day and evening in support of child abuse victims and their families. Thanks to the generosity of our sponsors and volunteers who put the tournament together, we raised over \$400,000 for our core services of forensic interviewing, family advocacy, and trauma-focused therapy.

Our most **sincere gratitude goes to our generous sponsors, donors, golfers, and dinner guests.** We want to give a special thanks to our leadership team who made this possible: ***Andy Klaff, Ralph Masino, Jessica Bourgeois, Ruthe Franke, Tommy McVean, Phil Simonides, Catie Price, and Jessica Greis-Edwardson.***







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