

Fall 2021 News



Dear Bootsie,

I hope this finds you healthy and in good spirits. It is hard to believe that we are already experiencing the cool days and frosty mornings of November, and yet here we are with under two months to go until the end of 2021.

At SafeSpot, we are seeing the results of children's return to school and in-person activities this Fall in the increasing number of child abuse reports and referrals from our partners in law enforcement and child protective services. Last year, SafeSpot served 448 children and their caregivers. As of October, we have surpassed last year's total and are on our way to serving approximately 550 children and caregivers this year - a 23% increase over 2020. While I would much rather report a downward trend in the number of children and families needing our services, I remain grateful for each and every disclosure that brings a child to our attention and care.

As we approach the holiday giving season, I want to draw your attention to the many ways you can support children and families impacted by abuse in our community. This year, in addition to our end-of-year fundraising campaign, we are launching *Winter Wishes*, a program that allows members of our community to "adopt" a SafeSpot family by fulfilling their gift wish list. You can find more information about this and other opportunities to support SafeSpot and the families we serve below. I also want to take this opportunity to personally invite you to attend an upcoming tour of our Center to learn more about our work and impact. I hope you will be able to join us.

With Appreciation, Heather Lyn O'Malley Managing Director, SafeSpot

# **SafeSpot November Tours**

**RSVP** Now to See SafeSpot Children's Advocacy Center in Action!



https://app.constantcontact.com/pages/campaigns/email-details/details/activity/7ee1d215-0fbe-4ad6-af1f-f38372d68828

#### II. SHOP FOR A CAUSE - KENDRA SCOTT & BLOOMIE'S @ MOSAIC DISTRICT



#### **KENDRA SCOTT**

Join us on **December 1st & 2nd** for Kendra Scott Gives Back! Shop online both days, or visit the Mosaic District store (2920 District Avenue, Ste. 125) on Wednesday December 1st from 5:30 -7:30pm. Simply use the code GIVEBACK-AXPPZ in you online cart or mention it at checkout in-store, and 20% of your purchase will benefit SafeSpot!

Preview the beautiful jewelry you can snag on 12/1 and 12/2 here!



#### **BLOOMIE'S**

Join us on Tuesday, December 7th, from 4 - 7pm at the Bloomie's Mosaic District. Shop the latest looks for the season and pick up last minute gifts on your shopping list. You will enjoy styling tips from published author and style coach, Lauren Rothman, DJ beats, two complimentary drinks from Colada and more! <u>Registered</u> guest will receive a \$25.00 Bloomingdale's gift card at check-in.

RSVP By December 3rd: visit SafeSpot\_Bloomies.eventbright.com

#### III. WINTER WISHES - ADOPT A SAFESPOT FAMILY

Many of the children and families we serve at SafeSpot face economic challenges. For them, the tragedy of child abuse is only compounded by their limited resources. You can turn a family's holidays into a joyous celebration this year by purchasing items from their wish lists.

Email Heather O'Malley at <u>homalley@safespotfairfax.org</u> to to adopt a family and make their winter wishes come true!



### IV. DONATE MUCH NEEDED SUPPLIES AND SNACKS

SafeSpot's Amazon Wish List includes office needs, therapy supplies, snacks for the children, and more! Help us replenish our supplies by purchasing items from our Wish List. **Be sure to let us know the donation came from you by adding your name to the gift note!** 

Shop SafeSpot's Amazon Wish List Now!

V. MAKE A TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATION This year, SafeSpot will serve close to 550 children and their caregivers. We rely on the generosity of our supporters to bring safety, justice, and healing to survivors. 70 cents of every dollar donated goes directly to the children and families we serve. Donate now and help ensure that we can be there for those who need us today, tomorrow, and every day after\*. Click here to make your year-end donation now!

\*SafeSpot accepts donations of appreciated stock. To make a stock donation, please contact Heather O'Malley at 703-385-5437.



# Fall Event Round-Up Crossing the Finish Line and Hitting a Hole-in-One!





We enjoyed begin "out and about" this fall with our many friends and supporters!

Thank you to everyone who came out for our inaugural **Superheroes for SafeSpot 5K & Fun Run**. We welcomed nearly 200 runners to Lake Fairfax Park for a wooded trail run, family entertainment, costume contest, and more! Thank you to our many sponsors and runners, and to our incredible volunteers led by Co-Chair's Jacqui McVey and Lauren Kushin!

Building on the success of the 5K was our **Champion's for Children Golf & Tennis Tournament** on October 18th. We could not have asked for more perfect weather, or more generous sponsors and donors! Thank you to our Co-Chair's Andy and Christin Klaff, special guest Michael Becketts of the Department of Family Services, Auctioneer Philip Simonides, our tireless volunteers, and our many supporters!

Did you miss one of these fantastic events? Check out our photos (and imagine yourself there in 2022!)

### SafeSpot In the News: Stronger Sentencing for Convicted Child Abusers

We believe strongly in our role as advocates for justice and healing. That is why we are proud to share that we went on record in the Washington Post to argue for stronger sentencing for convicted child abusers in Fairfax County. Working together with our partners, we will continue to advocate for the rights of survivors and the safety of our community.

Read Executive Director Michele Thames Letter to the Washington Post



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