



Dear SafeSpot Supporter,

*I hope this postcard finds you rested
and soaked in the warmth of vitamin D.
As we regain focus this fall, please
keep the SafeSpot children in your
lens. Your support is the only reason
our work continues and grows.*

Thank you,

The SafeSpot Volunteers



*SafeSpot Community Member
501(c)(3) Resilience Drive
BecauseWeCare, Virginia
USA*

Director's Message

September is upon us and that means cooler weather, school buses and fall foliage. It also means that SafeSpot is busier than ever! With children attending school, our agency typically sees an increase in referrals. We are grateful to those caring community members who report child abuse and strive to keep children safe from harm.

In order to meet this annual rise in demand, our program needed additional forensic interviewers and longer office hours. While the SafeSpot team was busy working on a number of solutions, one direct path towards obtaining these goals was to secure additional grant money. And that is exactly what we did! The Virginia Department of Social Services grant increase allowed us to hire a second, full-time forensic interviewer and a part-time receptionist. Conducting interviews later in the evening is now a reality and a tremendous help to local law enforcement and social workers.

An increase in awareness was also at the forefront of our summer task list! Since forensic interviewing and mental health services are integral pieces in the well being of children who have witnessed domestic violence, our center focused on making this better known. As members of the Fairfax County "Step Up 4 Kids" committee, SafeSpot is able to do just this! Sitting on a committee solely dedicated to young witnesses of such violence, allows us to reach the right service provider ears.

Our SafeSpot voice continues to broaden as our center continues to expand and evolve.

Thank you for your support,
Michele Thames
Executive Director

To this amazingly fun & worthwhile event!
Friday Evening, November 15th

SAVE THE DATE FOR



PASSION FOR
Fashion
...and the children we serve

BLOOMINGDALES, TYSONS
ANNUAL FASHION SHOW & FUNDRAISER

Passion for Fashion continues to expand and impress! Clever alterations to this year's show should once again produce sell-out results, so purchase tickets or become a sponsor today.

Held at the very elegant Bloomingdale's Tysons Corner Galleria, you and your guests will spend a glamorous and delightful evening surrounded by the latest in holiday fashion! All guests, men and women alike, will adore this private shopping experience as they sip cocktails and savor hors d'oeuvres. Irresistible silent and live bidding action will assuredly captivate party goers!

Join us on November 15th!
Register Here

Update on Growth and Expansion



BOARD MEMBER KRIS DEBYE PROPOSES EXPANDING VIRGINIA CODE TO PROTECT MORE CHILDREN

SafeSpot Board member Kristina Debye is a former Director of the Baltimore County Children's Advocacy Center. Her knowledge of Maryland laws that protect children from abuse prompted her to look into similar laws in Virginia. When Kris learned that individuals living in a home but not designed as a "caregiver" are not covered by Virginia law, she met with members of the Commonwealth Attorney's office to draft a legislative proposal that might close this loophole. The state chapter of Children's Advocacy Centers (CACVA) is considering making the proposed legislation part of its advocacy efforts during the 2020 General Assembly session. Thank you, Kris, for doing all you can to strengthen the protection of children in Virginia!

BOARD ADDS BENEFITS FOR SAFESPOT STAFF

Under the guidance of Board Treasurer Phil Odeen, SafeSpot has been able to provide health care and retirement benefits for all employees who choose to participate. Phil's efforts have enhanced our ability to attract and retain outstanding employees.

**The Junior Board: Speakers and
Active Planning**



Summer of 2019 has been a busy one for the SafeSpot Children's Advocacy Center. More specifically, growing and expanding were two main goals, on which we worked very hard. There is great progress to report!

The Center hired five new staff members!
 Leannah Farbotko, Therapist
 Carla Tenorio-Rueda, Receptionist
 Lindsay Bullock, Therapist
 Tyler Lunsford, Family Advocate
 Anissa Tanksley, Forensic Interviewer

Center space now includes a new therapy suite.

A child friendly mural was added to the multidisciplinary team observation room.

Center hours have been greatly expanded to include after-hour forensic interviews, which better caters to the needs of child abuse victims.

SafeSpot on the Tele!
Making News by Making a Difference!



Two SafeSpot Children's Advocacy Center staff members joined the Junior Board for their latest meeting on August 21st. The goal was to share center updates and advise on ways in which the Junior Board can continue to help SafeSpot accomplish its goals. Board members are grateful for their time, guidance and continued success together!

Please keep your eyes peeled for email regarding our upcoming Fall event!

International Country Club Golfers
Raise \$18,000!
Thank You!



A huge thank you to the International Country Club WGA Lady golfers for dedicating proceeds from their 10th annual charity golf tournament to SafeSpot! This year a whopping \$18,000 was raised for our expanding mental health program and its new office space.

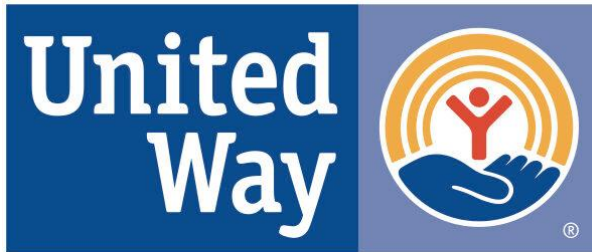
It was a beautiful day for 13 holes of golf! The event also featured a raffle and luncheon, during which attendees heard a few words from SafeSpot's Executive Director, Michele Thames, and from Fairfax County Police Department's Detective Courtney Young.

Thank you for your support, WGA Lady Golfers! We couldn't manage our

Angela Haslett, SafeSpot Forensic Interviewer, was a recent guest of Delegate Ken Plum on his local cable program. Delegate Plum featured Ms. Haslett and other state and local leaders like her, who are making a difference within our community.

Watch Here

You've Got Our Number! United Way's Federal & State of Virginia's Campaigns Begin Soon!



**United Way
of the National Capital Area**
Proud Partner

Join the world's largest and most successful annual workplace charity campaign - *United Way's Combined Federal Campaign (CFC)*! This campaign runs from September 9, 2019 – January 12, 2020. If you would like to donate to SafeSpot through your employer - federal government, state government or a participating company - it's easy to designate your donation to SafeSpot with the numbers noted below. This can be a recurring or a one time donation.

SafeSpot's Federal Government Employer designation number is 93973.

Our designation number for the state of Virginia is 04-008813.

For participating companies, SafeSpot's United Way designation number is 9170.

Volunteer Time:

Another aspect of our United Way partnership includes opportunities to represent SafeSpot within the workplace and at community events. We need volunteers who are willing to become these SafeSpot representatives by staffing a table or delivering a brief presentation. Functions are generally one-day events

important work without such generous community advocates!

**Mark Your Calendar for This Year's
#GivingTuesday -
December 3rd**

Join this 24 hour international movement in giving back!



#GivingTuesday refers to the Tuesday directly following Thanksgiving. It is a 24 hour international movement with the intent to drive charitable giving at the beginning of the holiday season. Please support SafeSpot during this short time frame, by joining this world-wide wave of generosity!

Keep your eyes and ears peeled for updates and reminders!

A Simple Way to Provide a Smile



Amazon Smile is an easy and automatic way for you to support SafeSpot as you shop on Amazon.

After you designate SafeSpot as your charity choice, via smile.amazon.com, every eligible purchase you make will result in a donation to SafeSpot!!

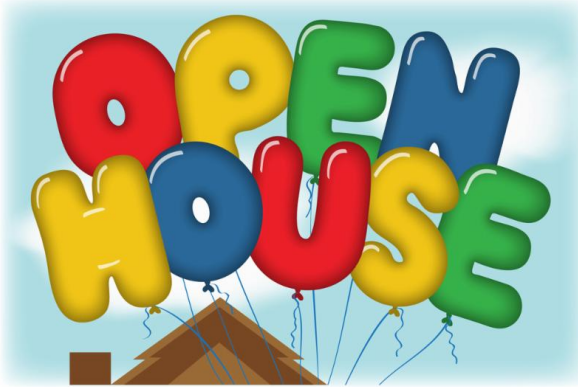
Can I use my existing Amazon.com account on AmazonSmile?

Yes, you use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are also the same.

without any long term commitments. The more volunteers we have, the better we share our programs and story. *Training will be provided.*

Please contact
info@safespotfairfax.com

Open House Scheduled for Friday, November 22nd



Visiting the SafeSpot Children's Advocacy Center is seeing to believing! Completely understand how our soothing surroundings and state of the art programs, both of which are designed and proven to provide comfort, concern and care to our youngest victimized neighbors, works as well as it does!

Please rsvp here.

How do I select a charitable organization to support when shopping on AmazonSmile?

On your first visit to AmazonSmile smile.amazon.com, you need to select a charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. Amazon will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation.

Can I change my charity?

Yes, you can change your charity any time. To change your charity, sign in to smile.amazon.com on your desktop or mobile phone browser and simply select "Change your Charity" in "Your Account."

[Smile.Amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)

A Paws-atively Good Time!



SafeSpot's facility dog, Pecos, would like to invite you to a day devoted to celebrating trained service dogs! Gather your friends, family, and dogs for the fun and festivities!

Head to Reston Town Center on September 22nd from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm for the 6th Annual DogFest! Everyone is invited to join in for a day of vendors, inspiring speakers, dog demonstrations, music, food, and more! Registration is free.

Join our team, Pecos & Pals

[Visit our website](#)

OUR MISSION:

The mission of SafeSpot Children's Advocacy Center of Fairfax County is to provide a child-friendly, 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



