SAFESPOT Speaks

Winter 2023

Dear Heather,

I hope this note finds you healthy and in good spirits. As we dive into the holiday season, I must share that for me, this is truly the most wonderful time of the year. For the weeks between Thanksgiving and New Year's, we collectively and individually prioritize the wellbeing of others - family, friends, and strangers alike. And in the process, we often become the best versions of ourselves. It's truly magical what we can accomplish when we



celebrate shared values like generosity, love, and compassion. I am immensely grateful that these are values the SafeSpot community embodies all year long!

This holiday season, we hope you will remember SafeSpot and the children and families we serve.**Start by joining us on November 28th for Giving Tuesday**, the national day of giving that highlights the power and impact of philanthropy. **Thanks to a very generous donor, all donations made to SafeSpot on Giving Tuesday will be matched \$1:\$1 up to \$10,000!** There is truly no better time to financially support SafeSpot, as your gift will have 2x's the impact. If you are looking for a more direct opportunity to support children impacted by abuse, **I hope you will consider becoming a Winter Wishes sponsor**by adopting one or more of the families participating in our trauma-focused therapy program. You can also purchase and donate an item from our **Amazon Wish List**, which includes toys, children's books, and much needed office supplies - all of which make an impact.

As we approach the end of our 10th year anniversary, I would like to thank all those who have supported us through the years. We are deeply grateful that so many members of our community have understood the value and importance of our work and have stepped up to help the vulnerable children we serve find brighter futures. On behalf of our board, staff, and partners, thank you!

Wishing you and yours a happy, healthy holiday season! With Appreciation,

H. L. O'Malley

Heather Lyn O'Malley CEO, SafeSpot Children's Advocacy Center of Fairfax County

SafeSpot Earns Re-Accreditation from the National Children's Alliance



ACCREDITED Member Every five years, SafeSpot must pass a rigorous review of standards to ensure we are following established guidelines and providing services to our young clients in the best manner possible. The standards include areas such as multidisciplinary team facilitation, cultural competency, forensic interviewing, victim advocacy and support, mental health services, and case review and program evaluation. Following an in-depth application and sitereview process this year, SafeSpot was notified of our official re-accreditation in October, demonstrating that "children and families in our community receive effective, efficient, relevant and compassionate services."

Mark Your Calendar: Giving Tuesday is 6 Days Away!

Support SafeSpot and join the global day of giving on Tuesday, November 28!

We are happy that again this year every dollar you donate will be matched up to \$10,000 by a generous donor! This is a great opportunity to double your impact, help us meet our goal and "Maximize the Matching."

Follow us on social media for updates throughout the day, and for more opportunities to leverage your support for children and families



Even More Ways to Support SafeSpot During the Holidays



As you consider how you can support SafeSpot and the children and families we serve during this time of giving, we want you to know that there are many ways to make an impact!

- <u>Make a Tax-Deductible Donation</u>: please consider a donation to SafeSpot in your year-end giving. We welcome many forms of donations in addition to cash, checks, and credit cards, including appreciated stock and IRA distributions. It is easy – just visit our website at <u>www.SafeSpotFairfax.org/Ways-to-Give/</u>.
- **Sponsor a Family:** SafeSpot's Winter Wishes Program matches generous community donors with one or more of the families being served in our mental health therapy program. Our team works with caregivers to develop wish lists for each member of the family, and we make shopping and delivering those items to the Center as easy as the click of a button through Amazon. To sign up or learn more, please contact Heather O'Malley at homalley@safespotfairfax.org.
- <u>Shop from our Amazon Wish List:</u> we are always in need of new toys, art therapy supplies, snacks, and more! For our most urgent needs, <u>visit our Amazon Wish List</u>.

To learn more about ways to give, please contact Heather O'Malley at<u>homalley@safespotfairfax.org</u> or 703-385-5437.

SafeSpot Welcomes Julia Stewart



We are thrilled to welcome Julia Stewart, SafeSpot's new Manager of Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) Advancement. The multidisciplinary team approach - team members working together in the best interest of the child - is the fundamental element of a children's advocacy center and critical to its success.

Julia is well prepared for the job! Prior to SafeSpot Julia worked for a non-profit Treatment Foster Care agency with a focus on licensing foster families and placing foster children in foster homes. She previously worked as a case worker for children, families, and vulnerable adults needing mental health treatment and case management. Julia strives to develop relationships with an emphasis on the safety, growth, and healing of children and families. We are thrilled to welcome Julia to the SafeSpot team!

2023 Champions for Children Tournament



This year's **Champions for Children Golf Tournament** was a day to remember with beautifulweather, delicious food, great golf (for some), and exciting pickleball! Besides all the fun, this year's tournament was a financial success raising over \$300,000 for children and families impacted by abuse in our community! Our most sincere thanks to all our generous sponsors and guests, including our Presenting Sponsors Marc and Shaza Andersen, EY, Trustar Bank Foundation, and Gary and Tina Mather. Thanks also to our tireless volunteers led by Bob & Jenny Johnson, Andy Klaff, Phil Simonides, Jill Feeko, Angelique Bennett, Ruth Franke, and the team at Quince Imaging! Special thanks to guest emcee Doug Kammerer for NBC! For more photos from this years event, click here or on the banner above.

It was so much fun, we'll do it again! Mark your calendar for next year's tournament on Monday, October 21!



SafeSpot is Moving!

SafeSpot will be moving to a bigger and newer location in January! We are very excited that our new center will be designed for us to operate more efficiently and provide more space for us to grow and serve even more children and their families.

We look forward to sharing more about our move and the design of our new center throughout the year, including opportunities to tour in Fall 2024.

SafeSpot Children's Advocacy Center of Fairfax County www.SafeSpotFairfax.org



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