

Spring 2019



HomeSafe

Preventing | Protecting | Preparing

HomeSafe Happenings

**Our Mission: Creating safer, more productive lives for
infants, children, young adults and families**

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month

Be on the lookout for blue pinwheels around Florida this month. In 2008, Prevent Child Abuse America introduced the pinwheel as the national symbol for child abuse prevention, representing the great childhoods all children deserve. April was declared National Child Abuse Prevention Month, and nationwide efforts are dedicated to raising awareness and preventing child abuse while also promoting child and family well-being.

Child abuse and neglect are among our nation's most serious concerns. Four common forms of child abuse are physical, sexual, and emotional abuse, as well as neglect. The Child Maltreatment report series, prepared by the Children's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, is an important resource relied upon by thousands of researchers, practitioners, and advocates throughout the world. Two key findings from the Child Maltreatment 2017 report show:

- The number and rate of victims have fluctuated during the past five years. Comparing the national rounded number of victims from 2013 (656,000) to the national rounded number of victims in 2017 (674,000) shows an increase of 2.7 percent.
- The 2017 data show three-quarters (74.9%) of victims are neglected, 18.3 percent are physically abused, and 8.6 percent are sexually abused. These victims may suffer a single maltreatment type or a combination of two or more maltreatment types.

We all need to do our part to help prevent child abuse. Do something or say something if you suspect abuse is taking place.

You can also make a difference during National Child Abuse Prevention month by supporting HomeSafe through The Great Give!

Great Give Palm Beach and Martin Counties is a community-wide 24-hour online giving day designed to raise money for local nonprofits and celebrate the spirit of giving. We hope you will donate to HomeSafe on Wednesday, April 24. Your support will enable a child abuse victim in our residential group program to get the continuum of care they need to heal and move forward with their life.

How to give:

1. Simply visit **greatgiveflorida.org** on **April 24**.
2. Select "HomeSafe" from the nonprofit list and make your donation.
3. Spread the word on social media!



Save the Date!

Monday • May 20, 2019

Shotgun Start • 9 am

Scramble format with contests and prizes

Men, women and couple teams invited

\$500 per player \$2,000 per foursome

Cathy Zumkehr, Tournament Chairman

**For sponsorship and ticket information visit
HelpHomeSafe.org/GolfTournament2019**



RPYCC

Residential Program Makes Changes

For many years, HomeSafe operated four Specialized Therapeutic Group Care (STGC) group homes and one Enhanced Behavioral Health Overlay Services (BHOS) group home for adolescent boys ages 13-17, which was a less restrictive “step down” from the STGC program. In response to the 2018 federal overhaul of child welfare funding, which aims to limit institutional placements, the BHOS home was phased out in December 2018 and converted to an STGC home for younger boys. The new Libra Boys program that opened has required a major transformation for staff working at the house who are now adjusting to clientele who are much younger.



Instead of caring for older teens, the staff now cares for boys between the ages of 8 and 12, and is getting accustomed to the issues that come with elementary school, and to the weekend outings to Chuck E. Cheese. Adjustments in therapeutic interventions and expectations by our therapists have also been necessary, and therapy has certainly become a focal point in helping these kids overcome their trauma.

Our Libra Boys North home, which is also on the campus, continues to care for 12 older boys between the ages of 14 and 17. Here, therapy is also key in helping these boys recover from their trauma. Recently during individual sessions with client “J.W.,” his therapist noticed a significant breakthrough. The client was able to verbalize that he is the one who has the power to make positive changes in his life that will impact his future. This young man initially arrived with the conviction that therapy and residential treatment was unnecessary, and for the first few weeks, was adamant in not participating. However, through consistent effort by the clinical team, the staff on campus, and family involvement, this young man has slowly begun letting his guard down and is more trusting of the process. For him to identify, realize and verbalize his own powers and importance was a major achievement. This only further cemented his belief that he can reach his goals, and for now, that is to be with his family.

Spring Break Fun

During the week, kids in our residential group care enjoyed a variety of activities including trips to Lion Country Safari and Miami Seaquarium.



Classic Rock & Roll Party Raises \$397,000 for HomeSafe!



KC & the Sunshine Band rock the audience



Bob Sheetz & Debbie Lindstrom



Nicko has fun welcoming guests



Co-Chairmen Aggie & Jeff Stoops



Ward Kellogg, CEO of Paradise Bank and Matt Ladika, HomeSafe CEO

At this year's Classic Rock & Roll Party, HomeSafe supporters put on their boogie shoes and '70s attire and shook their booties to the hits of KC and the Sunshine Band. This year's event was one of our most successful, raising \$397,000 for HomeSafe programs and services.

The Hard Rock Event Center at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino was transformed into a colorful disco where 350 guests enjoyed a fabulous surf and turf dinner while enjoying the music of our house band led by entertainer Dale Powers. Celebrity host Nicko McBrain, Iron Maiden drummer, welcomed guests and thanked them for their support. "There is nothing more gratifying than to see the growth of this charity and its wonderful work with the kids, and this event, which are both very close to my heart," said McBrain.

Local company Paradise Bank, represented by its chairman, Ward Kellogg, was named the 2019 HomeSafe Hero for its longtime generous support of the agency. Mr. Kellogg encouraged everyone to be "heroes" and support HomeSafe in its daily efforts to heal child abuse victims.

The success of this event would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of our co-chairmen, Aggie & Jeff Stoops and Steve & Janessa Bernstein, and the Classic committee. HomeSafe also recognizes the generosity of our sponsors whose support makes the Classic happen each year.

To see more photos and the party video, please visit www.HelpHomeSafe.org



Nicko McBrain & KC



Co-chairmen Janessa & Steve Bernstein

Thank you to our sponsors



**Bernstein Family
Foundation**



**Stoops Family
Foundation**



**Bob Sheetz &
Debbie Lindstrom**



**Gary Peters
Family
Foundation**





HomeSafe

Preventing | Protecting | Preparing

2840 Sixth Avenue South
Lake Worth, FL 33461

NON-PROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID
WEST PALM BEACH, FL
PERMIT No. 1076

In the last three months, our Healthy Beginnings program has given out 41 Pack & Plays, and touched 489 homes to educate families and monitor development in children ages birth through age 5.



Board of Directors 2018-2019

Rex B. Kirby *President*

Aggie Stoops *Vice-President*

Lawrence W. Gonnello *Treasurer*

Ward Kellogg *Secretary*

Roberto Vargas *Member at Large*

Steve Bernstein *Past President*

Michael J. Bruno, CFA

David M. Layman

Alice Nelson

Mike Nichols

Tarra L. Pressey

Diego Rico

Matthew Ladika *Chief Executive Officer*

HelpHomeSafe.org

Phone: 561-383-9800

Facebook: HomeSafeFla

Twitter: @HomeSafeFla

Instagram: HomesafeFla

A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE (800-435-7352) WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE. (CH#3335) HomeSafe receives 100% of each contribution.