

# HAPPENINGS

**OUR MISSION:** Creating safer, more productive lives for infants, children, young adults and families.

## Where Art Meets Healing: The Power of Art & Music Therapy



Art and music therapy is a transformative tool for promoting emotional healing and self-expression. As a form of nonverbal communication, it enables children to express feelings that are difficult to convey. Because of their young age and the extent of their trauma, many of HomeSafe's kids are unable to access language to discuss their trauma with their therapist. Art and music therapy helps them open up and work through their feelings.

Thanks to a generous gift from Cleveland Clinic, children from all four Palm Beach County HomeSafe residential campuses and those in

our SafetyNet domestic violence program are experiencing art/music therapy sessions. This programming provides restorative therapeutic sessions within safe spaces for children and teens who have experienced significant and life-altering abuse, neglect, or family violence. As part of Cleveland Clinic's commitment to fund the program for a second year in 2026, HomeSafe will offer specialized music and art lessons to children who are interested in pursuing the arts at a higher level.

HomeSafe deeply appreciates the Cleveland Clinic and all our funders who support innovative,

evidence-based approaches to provide healing for our kids. These investments provide our team of professionals the ability to develop resources that help our kids resolve deep-seated anger and despair, and restore a sense of wellbeing.

It is through your generous support that HomeSafe continues to expand its programming to better serve the most vulnerable in our community.

*If you would like to know more about our future programmatic enhancements or how you can contribute, contact Laura Barker, [LauraBarker@helphomesafe.org](mailto:LauraBarker@helphomesafe.org).*

WINTER 2025

**WHAT'S INSIDE:** NEW BOARD MEMBER | THE CLASSIC | WAYS TO MAKE AN IMPACT

## Healing from Family Violence with HomeSafe's SafetyNet Team

Elizabeth and her three children are survivors of domestic violence who endured years of physical, emotional, and financial abuse. After a violent incident in 2024, Elizabeth bravely called 911, leading to her abuser's arrest and removal from the

home. Despite this, she faced overwhelming responsibility for her household—working 18-hour days and caring for her children and sister, while managing limited resources and covering mounting bills.

Through HomeSafe's SafetyNet program, Elizabeth and her children engage in psychoeducational group therapy and individual therapy, providing a safe space to process trauma, build coping skills, and strengthen resilience. These services have helped Elizabeth navigate the complexities of leaving her abuser, manage stress, and regain a sense of control over her life.

Recognizing her courage, HomeSafe nominated Elizabeth for *The Palm Beach Post's* Season to Share initiative, through which community donations will soon help cover urgent expenses, including her mortgage and car payments. This support will be life-changing, allowing her to continue rebuilding a safe, stable, and hopeful future for her family.



Photo credit: Damon Higgs, Palm Beach Daily News

## Meet Our Newest Board Member

HomeSafe is pleased to announce that attorney Charles J. Abrams has joined our board of directors.

Mr. Abrams is an esteemed real estate shareholder with the West Palm Beach office of global law firm Greenberg Traurig, P.A. He represents developers, investors, owners, landlords, tenants, borrowers and lenders across commercial real estate and secured financing transactions.

He received his Juris Doctorate from Florida State University and currently resides in Boca Raton.

We are thrilled to have community leaders like Chuck on our board. With our staff's expertise and the board's governance, we will continue to transform the lives of the most vulnerable children and families in our community.



# Charity GOLF TOURNAMENT



Save the Date – Monday, May 4, 2026



### Golf Ambassadors

Fern Schmidt  
Patty Larkin  
Brooke Qualk

Pete Austin  
Phil Procacci  
Logan Shalmi, The Atlantic Group



Photos from our 2025 tournament  
*Patty and Peter Larkin; Debbie Schmidt, Beverly Ginter, Lisa Addeo, Ibe May; Joe Scaggs and Jim MacCutcheon; Chris Malfitano, Luc Desjardins, Pete Austin*

**Scramble format with contests and prizes.  
Men's, women's and mixed foursomes invited.**

Questions? Contact Chere Brodi at (561) 383-9842 or [ChereBrodi@helphomesafe.org](mailto:ChereBrodi@helphomesafe.org)



**Encore Performance By Mike DelGuidice**  
 Nationally renowned vocalist, singer songwriter and recording artist  
 and full-time touring member of Billy Joel's band.

### Meet our Co-Chairs

Long-time supporters, Steve Bernstein and his daughter Abby Bernstein-Henderson, are co-chairs of our 23rd annual Classic Rock & Roll Party. We invite you to support the efforts of Steve, Abby and our event committee who have planned an unforgettable evening of celebration, fund raising and fabulous music – all to help the kids!



### Our 2026 HomeSafe Hero: Rob Vargas

Rob Vargas, a shareholder in Jones Foster, has given years of time, talent and resources to supporting the children, families and staff at HomeSafe. A board member since 2009, Rob has not only helped lead and grow the agency, but has also provided valuable support through his legal expertise.

Rob's passion for our work, leadership, and financial investment has helped provide hope and comfort to thousands of neglected children and struggling families during their most difficult times.

Rob will be honored at the Classic Rock & Roll Party.



For sponsorship or ticket information, please visit [www.HELPHOMESAFE.org/TheClassic2026](http://www.HELPHOMESAFE.org/TheClassic2026) or contact Chere Brodi at (561) 383-9842.

Join us for an unforgettable evening – made possible by our generous sponsors!



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The Skaletsky Family

Kenny & Maggie Rosenberg

**GOLD SPONSORS**

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## Help Us Transform More Lives this December



### Make an End-of-Year Gift with a Note of Love

Cash contributions, large and small, help HomeSafe provide safe, loving, therapeutic environments for traumatized children and families. This December, feel free to include with your donation a hand-written or typed note addressed to our kids and/or staff. These messages of encouragement will be shared with them during the holiday season.

### Donate from Your IRA

If you are 70½ or older, you can donate from your IRA with a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). This gift will help you meet your required minimum distribution while fueling life-saving programs at HomeSafe.

### Give Appreciated Stock

Did you know HomeSafe accepts gifts of stock? Donating appreciated stock is a simple, advantageous way you can invest in our impactful programs.

### Support HomeSafe's Long-term Sustainability

Every year, HomeSafe positively impacts the lives of over 15,000 infants, children, young adults, and families—providing them with the tools, resources, guidance, and love that they need to lead happy, productive lives. A gift to support HomeSafe's endowment will help South Florida's children and families break the generational cycle of abuse and plan for brighter paths forward.

### Make a Legacy Gift

When you invest in the children we serve, you become part of something bigger—one community united to end the cycle of abuse. Not only does your planned gift to HomeSafe ensure we have the resources we need to continue our mission, but you empower children and families to create lasting change in their own lives and communities. Your generosity creates a ripple effect that will last for generations.

*Reach out to Laura Barker, CFP® at (561) 383-9829 or [laurabarker@helphomesafe.org](mailto:laurabarker@helphomesafe.org) for more information about these giving opportunities.*

## More Ways to Impact HomeSafe's Children and Families

### Win Big While Changing Lives

Take a chance on something extraordinary! Enter Boca West Children's Foundation's annual raffle by purchasing one or more tickets for \$100 each. Amazing prizes—including two tickets to Football's Biggest Night on February 8, a two-night stay at the Eau Palm Beach Resort & Spa, and a Dine-Around-Town package—are up for grabs.

**Purchase your tickets by Friday, January 9, directly from HomeSafe** by contacting Chere Brodi at (561) 383-9842 or [cherebrodi@helphomesafe.org](mailto:cherebrodi@helphomesafe.org).



HomeSafe is grateful to Boca West Children's Foundation for their continued support of our residential program. Their generosity provides traumatized foster youth with social, recreational, and educational outings that enrich their lives and show them that their futures are filled with possibility. Most importantly, these opportunities provided by the Foundation make our children feel safe, valued, and loved.

### The Correct Guess Could Win You \$10,000

HomeSafe has once again been selected by the Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches to participate in their exciting Birdies for Charity program. For a minimum donation of just \$20, guess the exact number of birdies (or get the closest) that will be made at the 2026 Cognizant Classic for a chance to win a \$10,000 grand prize! Best of all, 100% of your donation comes back to HomeSafe and directly benefits our children and families. **Guesses must be made by Wednesday, February 25.**

Scan the QR code to participate.



The Children's Healthcare Charity, in partnership with the Cognizant Classic has been a valued supporter of HomeSafe, providing our team with safe sleep materials for new parents and their babies. Their support for our safe sleep program has helped educate hundreds of parents about the importance of creating safer sleep environments for their little ones and has provided more than 300 free portable cribs and sleep sacks per year—all to reduce the likelihood of SIDS (sudden infant death syndrome).



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2024/2025

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## Celebrating Our Dedicated Employees

HomeSafe recognizes that our team members are the lifeblood of the organization. They play a critical role in helping our clients heal from their trauma. We are proud to share that ten employees have been with the agency for 20 or more years.



Congratulations to **LeSchawn Flowers, Lakesha Cato, Danna Monroe** and **Eric McGirt**, who were recently recognized for 20 years of service!