

Island Dunes' Three Years of Support for SafeSpace



In Photo: IDLGA Event Co-chair Christine Olazagasti (right) presents check to SafeSpace CEO Teresa Albizu

Article by: Joan Amerling / Photo by: SafeSpace

For the third year in a row, the Island Dunes Ladies Golf Association (IDLGA) held a fundraiser to benefit SafeSpace, which is the only state-certified domestic violence center serving the Treasure Coast. Fifty-two ladies gathered on March 16th, 2022 for "Chip in for SafeSpace," an event enhanced by a St. Patrick's Day theme, green decorations and a mimosa cart on the 6th hole.

The ladies enjoyed a round of golf, a delicious lunch at Pietro's on the River, a silent auction, gift bag drawings and raffle. Sponsorships of holes and donations brought this year's total contribution to \$8,360. Over three years, IDLGA has raised a total of \$27,360 for SafeSpace.

Dr. Teresa Albizu, CEO of SafeSpace, expressed appreciation for the ongoing support at the luncheon; and highlighted some of the many services provided to victims at SafeSpace, including the 24-hour hotline, emergency shelter, legal assistance, mental health counseling, financial literacy training, children's protective services and youth prevention education programs.

"Your support means a lot to SafeSpace," said Dr. Albizu, "because you understand the importance of our work in saving and changing lives here on the Treasure Coast. The pandemic has increased the incidence of domestic violence and our help is needed more than ever."

The statistics of domestic violence are sobering and this group of women were honored to have the opportunity to support an organization that is protecting adult victims and their children from physical and emotional abuse here in our community. Fifteen IDLGA members joined together in planning this event, which was led by Co-chairs Ellen Kelly and Christine Olazagasti along with the support of our golf Kathy Cassese.

For more information about SafeSpace, visit www.safespacefl.org or call (772) 223-2399. Help is available 24/7 by calling (772) 288-7023.