



Piper's Landing Holds Golf Tournament Fundraiser for SafeSpace

by Michelle Maguire

On February 21, 2023 the Pipers Landing Women's 18 Hole Golf Association (PLWGA) held a Golf Tournament Charity Event for SafeSpace, the only state certified agency serving domestic violence victims and their children in Martin, St. Lucie and Indian River counties. Members of the PLWGA and other members of the Piper's Landing community supported the event by sponsoring golf holes, making donations, buying raffle tickets and auction items. The event co-chaired by Nancy Wong and Rosemary Burns included a luncheon with a live auction conducted by Mik Panavas, silent auction and a tea cup raffle of over 60 items and a talk by SpaceSafe CEO Teresa Albizu.

The event raised \$26,535 which included over \$3,000 from about 50 PLWGA members who paid to buy welcome bags/purses containing personal hygiene and toiletry items to give to domestic violence victims when they enter the emergency shelter, many of whom come with nothing but the clothes they are wearing. This helps defray the costs of about 50 bags SafeSpace will give to victims who come to the shelter for safety.

Albizu shared that besides a hotline and emergency shelters, SafeSpace also provides a wide range of other services to victims seeking help inside and outside the shelter such as, safety planning, mental health counseling for victims and their children, legal assistance, financial literacy training, child protective services, youth violence prevention education, and more – all free of charge.



“Federal and state grants cover only about half of the agency’s expenses,” says Albizu, “so SafeSpace is very grateful to Piper’s Landing for raising over \$26,000 to help us sustain the programs and services that will help victims become survivors and transition to a life free from violence.”

The Charity Event would not have been successful without the donations of items for the auctions and raffles from PLWGA members and Piper’s Landing staff, as well as from others in the Martin County community: Diane Anthony’s Permanent Make-Up, Frank Bianco/Miracle Jewelry Exchange, Marjorie Collins Massage Therapist, Lourdes Cortina/Tapas by Lourdes, Cat Kaltenhauser Personal Trainer, Dr. Charles Oliveri/Spinal Health & Wellness Center, Michelle Radich/Alyce & Co., Sailfish Point Golf Club, The Gafford and The Lyric Theatre.

Piper’s Landing could not have held this fundraiser without the help of its many volunteers. They are: Susan Ash, Zenta Barger, Nancy Bowden, Michele Bragg, Lois Brooks, Sue Chase, Sandra Conley, Micki Dion, Pattie Dunn, Sonita Farr, Barbara Flynn, Ann Grace, Linda Harlan, Maryann Kiely, Shirley Kohl, Gretchen Kundahl, Deborah Lovequist, Shirley MacDonald, Judy Papayanakos, Nancy Patterson, Leslie Robinson, Mary Sabbatelli, Mary Simpson, Ellen South and Helene Young.

For more information about SafeSpace, visit www.safespacefl.org or call 772-223-2399. Hotline help is available 24/7 at 772-288-7023.