



THE HAVEN

# A New Beginning

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION

2021 | SPECIAL EDITION

Thank You



FROM THE HAVEN

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# Sharing Hope

I recently read that a person can live approximately 40 days without food, three days without water, eight minutes without air, but only for one second without **HOPE**. Many people believe when you lose hope, you lose everything.

For abused women and children hope has a unique look and feel. For some, hope can be the lifeline to surviving one more night or the fuel to break free and seek safety and security in a shelter. Recently, a woman who resided in our shelter invited us to share with you how her time in the shelter transformed her world view and gave her hope.

*Margaret's Home, The Haven's shelter, is, to me, like being on "home base." It provides me with a sense of safety that I have never experienced before. Not to mention, the good healthy meals, warm showers and baths, personal hygiene items and clothing which assists every survivor in rebuilding their lives. I was not one to receive praise, love and acceptance throughout my life, but the unconditional support and empowerment I received from advocates, counselors, and administration was just icing on the cake! Today, I smile, I laugh, I'm happy, and I feel healthy. I feel as if I am regaining my self-worth, self-esteem, self-control, and independence that was all taken from me over the past years.*

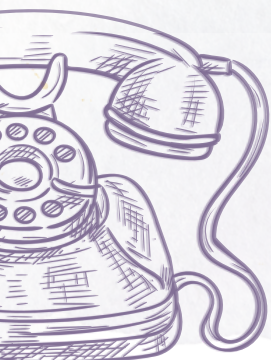
Every spring with your help, we put on **Home Is Where the Heart Is**, our annual gala and fundraiser. This fundraiser is a vital source of revenue that provides for 150 local families to receive safe shelter and another 500 to receive crisis intervention, counseling, safe housing, advocacy, and safety planning. Due to continued health and safety concerns of holding large events as a result of COVID-19, we have cancelled our 2021 traditional event. However, we are thrilled to announce that with the support of Martin Folse owner of HTV-10 and Greg Stock, CEO of Thibodaux Regional Health Systems, we are hosting an old-school telethon; complete with live entertainment, celebrity guests, a virtual auction and testimonials from violence survivors who are forever changed by your kindness and generosity. Our exciting, reimaged event will broadcast live on HTV-10 and stream live on HTV-10 Facebook page on Saturday, March 27th from 6pm to 9pm allowing you to enjoy from the comfort and safety of your home.

Want to be a part of this exciting event? There is still time to join Platinum Sponsor, Cardiovascular Institute of the South and Gold Sponsors Kathy Chauvin, Cenac Marine, and Kirk & Julie Trussell. Flip to page 4 for levels of sponsorship or visit our website at [www.havenhelps.org](http://www.havenhelps.org) for complete sponsorship information. Your generosity guarantees that we continue to be at the forefront of providing shelter, safety, resources and most of all, hope for a safe future to women and children plagued by violence.

Be sure to follow us at The Haven, Inc. on Facebook for more exciting announcements on our celebrity entertainers and guests.

With Gratitude,

*Julie M. Pellegrin*



THE HAVEN  
*home is where the heart is*



THIBODAUX REGIONAL  
HEALTH SYSTEM

# LIVE Telethon

*March 27, 2021*  
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm



WATCH **LIVE** ON HTV-10



# Spreading Joy

## CHRISTMAS DONORS

*We would like to acknowledge and thank the many individuals, families, groups, and businesses who donated meals, treats, presents, and supplies to help make the holidays special for families plagued by violence. Their contribution allowed families, if just for one day, to forget about the realities of surviving violence and experience the magic of Christmas.*

Todd Anderson \* Maria Bocella \* Mark Bourgeois \* Marty Collins \* Michael and Kendall Duplantis & Family\* Judith Zollinger \* Todd Keller \* Layne Mistretta \* Lacie Olivier \* Daniel and Julie Smith & Family \* Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court Cardinal Gibbons #177 \* The McElroy and Pellegrin Families \* Houma Jr. High Beta Club \* Terrebonne High School-Cheerleaders, Tigerettes, Beta Club and National Honor Society \* Tammy Martin and Diamond Elite Volleyball Club \* Employees of Haydel Hospice - *In Honor of Chad Haydel, Shannon Boudreaux, and David Schonberg* \* Blanchard's Refrigeration-Cool Crew \* Employees of Enterprise Marine Services \* Infinity Energy Services \* La Terre Federal Credit Union \* Shealyn Liner \* Terrebonne General Medical Center \* Employees of South Louisiana Bank - Westside \* Janae Arcemont \* Employees of Baywater \* Rene and Becky Breaux \* Mark and Kerry Diebold & Family \* Easterseals LA Region 3\* Sarah Landry \* Vaughn Luquette \* St. Bernadette Knights of Columbus and Ladies Auxiliary \* Marie Morris \* Russ and Heather Lundstrom \* Brenda Babin & Family \* Terrebonne Ford \* JB Daigle with LeBijou Salon & Day Spa \* Jen Hale with Sideline Pass and Thibodaux Regional Health System \* David Konur & Family \* Nathan Bruce with Pizza Hut - St. Charles \* Blooming Orchid Florist \* PNP Norma A Liner Unit Women's Auxiliary of the Marine Corps League Det. 475\* Robbie Pellegrin \* Houma Jr. Women's Club \* 2nd & Charles \* Naomi Guidry \* Jr. Auxiliary of Houma \* Annette Hodges - Landmark Furniture \* Candice Francis \* Dr. Ruthanne Gallagher \* Melissa Chiasson \* Megan Knabal \* Terrebonne Parish Animal Shelter \* Cajun Meat Market \* Abigail Matherne \* US Coast Guard \* The Michael Leblanc, Sr. Family \* The McElroy and Dupre Families \* Loretta and Dan Duplantis \* Amanda Voisin \* Bayou Pediatrics \* Zack, Felicia, Helena & Elise Hill \*

## GIVE THANKS FOR YOUR SAFE HOME

Assurance Financial \* Cardiovascular Institute of the South (CIS) \* Chabert Medical Center \* TGM Hospitalist Group \* The Wellness Center of Thibodaux Regional Health System \* GIS families of company \* Pizza Hut - St. Charles location \* South Louisiana Bank \* United Community Bank \* Gulf Island \* Kathy Chauvin \* Jacques and Fran Lapeyre \* Dawn & Dale Prosperie \* The Kohls Family \* Judy Kelton \* Starr Remont \* Dana Butler \* E. Breaux \* Heidi & Ryan Dupre \* In Honor of Roy & Kathy Gautreaux \* Synergy Bank \* David & Terri Konur \* Kimberly Barner \* Annunziata Catholic Church \* Annette Hodges \* Friend of The Haven\*

## MONETARY DONATIONS









Kenneth & Yolanda Trahan \* Amanda Voisin \* Michael LeBlanc & Family \* Dana LeBlanc \* Nathan Bruce & Pizza Hut employees \* Rod's Superstore, Inc. \* Thaddeus & Mary Barber \* Carolyn Alcock \* Dr. & Mrs. Robert Haydel \* William & Joyce Thibodeaux \* Kathy Chauvin \* Bill & Jelene Boyd \* Chuck Weaver \* Brenda Babin \* Synergy Bank \* Bedford Nieves-Cruz & Norma Sanchez-Torres \* South Louisiana Bank Employee Gift Fund \* Robert & Donna Ross \* Karen Rhodes \* Burton & Shirley Marmande, Sr. \* Joanne T. Smith \* Brackish, LLC \* Alyse Blanchard \* Southeast Louisiana Homebuilders Association, Inc. \* Eugene Gouaux, Jr. \* Arthur & Mary Ellen DeFraitres \* M. S. Breaud \* KDP Management, Inc. \* David & Leah LeBlanc \* Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Harris \* Bobby Corte, Sr. \* Houma Women's Carnival Club, Inc. - Krewe of Aphrodite \* Cajun Meat Market \* John Brennan \* Joanne Ferriot \* Knights of Columbus Immacolata Council No.13819 \* Jacqueline Cenac \* John & Jacqueline Hassell \* Jude & Susan Laprouse \* Chapman H. Burguières, Jr. \* Patrick H. Yancey Law Firm, LLC \* Todd & Michele Danos \* Ms. Understood Float \* In Honor of David Konur from Casey & Shelly Bergeron and the CIS IT Department \* Jude Fanguy \* Patricia Fakier \* Sonoco \* Roy Beyer \* O'Reilly Auto Parts Store #477 \* Mr. & Mrs. Barry Landry \* Lori LeBlanc \* SACO \* Evergreen Lions Club \* LA Lions Camp Camper Alumni Association \* Morris & Sandra Hebert \* Dr. Darrell & Lois Solet \* George Dierich \* Bayou Partners Investments, LLC /dba Keller Williams Realty \* Brian Marceaux \* William & Gwendolyn Talbot \* Dr. Ted & Mrs. Cheryl Price \* Mr. & Mrs. Edward Leblanc \* Nathan & Christine Aucoin \* Dale & Dawn Prosperie \* Robert & Mary Picou \* Sonny & Sue Leblanc \* Randy Ledet \* John Hebert \* Elizabeth Taylor \* Deborah Stiel \* Dr. Ruthanne Gallagher \* Charles Rodrigue \* Ron Menard \* TPSB - Consolidated Drive \* Gentile Properties \* Margaret & Mark Lee \*

# Donors & Volunteers

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## Sponsorship Levels

2021 LIVE Telethon

 Presenting Sponsor		 Silver Sponsor	\$2,500
 Platinum Sponsor	\$7,500	 Bronze Sponsor	\$1,000
 Gold Sponsor	\$5,000	 Patron Sponsor	\$500
 Other Amount	_____		

*\*For details on advertising and other benefits visit <https://havenhelps.org/upcoming-events> or call Julie Pellegrin at 985.872.0757.*

### Method of Payment

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Mail form to: **The Haven** P.O. Box 4279 Houma, LA 70361

# Finding Peace

Mrs. D, a 51-year-old mother of three, entered Margret's Home, The Haven's safe and temporary shelter. That same day, only hours before initially reaching out to The Haven for emergency services, Mrs. D was physically assaulted by her husband in front of their teenage children. During the assault, the oldest daughter tried to intervene and was also physically attacked. Mrs. D says seeing her daughter hurt she knew that she had to get out and get help. Upon entering shelter, Mrs. D and her children reported overwhelming feelings of fear, confusion, sadness, uncertainty, disbelief, and anger.

Mrs. D wears many different hats daily. She is a loving and passionate mother of three teenagers, one diagnosed with autism. She is also a full-time employee with a local grocery store working in customer service. Mrs. D also provided care to her elder mother-in-law who had multiple health concerns. Mrs. D chaperone field trips, made sure her children got to and from band practice, church youth group, and other activities. She worked closely with her son with autism's school making sure he had all his needs met for therapy. Her husband and father of the children refused to contribute to the household reserving his income for himself only. Throughout the years, he struggled with drug addiction and alcohol abuse.

Despite the challenges she knew she would face; Mrs. D made the courageous decision to uproot her family and seek safe shelter. As the family entered Margret's Home, Mrs. D repeatedly stated, to The Haven's staff, that seeing how her children were adversely affected by the ongoing, chaotic, abusive environment aided her in making the difficult decision to exit the abusive and unhealthy relationship. Her son was struggling with extreme anxiety and both girls were experience drops in their academic performance. Mrs. D voiced that she was a victim of the cycle of abuse for over 15 years. While telling her story, Mrs. D explained that her partner used many tactics, beginning with threats and ending in physical harm, to gain and maintain power and control over her and their children. He repeatedly told her he would kidnap they children and she would never see them again or he would kill her if she left the relationship.

While at Margret's Home, Mrs. D was an very active participant in the program. She attended individual and group counseling. Made sure her children worked with the counselors. She understood the need for all of them to recover from the horror that had been their daily struggle. Mrs. D made a brave decision to file a protective order against her abuser for the safety of herself and her children. While in the process of completing the protective order, Mrs. D was offered legal services which she gladly accepted. The attorney went to work on gather documentation for the court proceedings. This process was not without its challenges, in court her husband used tactics and accusations to delay the court process. She was fearful but persevered. In the end, after three postponed court dates/continuances Mrs. D was granted a protective order and full custody of her children.

After the protective order was issued and she felt safe, Mrs. D turned her attention to the next step of locating a new home for her and her children. With the help of the grant from the Houma-Terrebonne Community Development Corporation (HTCDC) and The Haven's transitional housing program, The Haven and Mrs. D began searching for affordable housing. Mrs. D felt empowered and hopeful for the future.

After an extensive search, a safe, budget friendly home was located. With generous donations from the community and the assistance of a few Nicholls State University students, Mrs. D and the children moved into their new place. Here is how the children describe their new home---- They absolutely love it. They describe it as peaceful. They no longer must hide to avoid the verbal attacks their father issued daily. They no longer have to witness their mother being beat, humiliated, or threatened. For Mrs. D she describes it as being free.

In June 2019, the perpetrator violated the permanent restraining order. He made physical threats to harm not only Mrs. D but their oldest daughter. Through coordination with local law enforcement the perpetrator was arrested. The Haven's legal services assisted Mrs. D in filing for a contempt charge for the restraining order violation and an amendment to the petition granting Mrs. D a lifetime permanent restraining order. The motions were both granted.

Although, the pain of trauma will not be erased and the impacts of the cycle of violence may be long-lasting, the family has begun their journey of healing. They continue to participate in group counseling. Mrs. D has secure and stable employment with a local grocery store chain and in December will begin paying the rent on her home. Mrs. D is a great example how the comprehensive services (shelter, advocacy, legal services, counseling, transitional housing) offered by The Haven are critical to assisting families remain free form harm and further violence.

" To live in a peaceful home is to experience paradise on earth."

— Shri Radhe Maa

# Give Today!

Ending violence in our community is possible but it requires a commitment from each and every one of us. We are asking you to support battered women and their children, victims of sexual assault, and our community education and awareness activities with your financial contribution. Your contributions support the upkeep and maintenance of our 24-hour safe, emergency shelter, as well as allowing The Haven to provide trauma-informed counseling to women and children healing from trauma. **Mail form to: The Haven, P.O. Box 4279, Houma, LA 70361**

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