

# 15th Annual Hike for Homeless Breaks Record



Our hearts and spirits were warmed by the generosity and support of everyone involved with the 15th Annual Hike for the Homeless presented by Curb Records, First Farmers Bank and Hippie Radio. Special thanks to our Hike Co-Chairs Richard Courtney and Kerry Brock. More than 1,000 people joined us at the Hike, and together, we raised over \$155,000, more than we have ever before. What an incredible way to mark this special 15th anniversary of the event! Visit [hike4homeless.org](http://hike4homeless.org) to learn more about the 15th Annual Hike for the Homeless.

Thank you to our 2019 Hike for the Homeless sponsors:

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4th Quarter 2019

# Safe Sounds



Empowering Homeless Families

## Celebrating 35 Years

By Joyce Lavery, CEO

**T**his year with your help, Safe Haven was able to increase arms of service and double the amount of families housed; reaching an organizational milestone of serving over 300 families. Reaching such a significant milestone in our anniversary year fills us with gratitude for you, a member of our Safe Haven family, that makes it all possible. As 2019 comes to a close, we remember that Safe Haven began in 1984, 35 years ago. What started as a small initiative in the basement of St. Patrick's Church, in the Chestnut-Trimble neighborhood, to meet an emerging need has evolved to a state of the art facility on 3rd Avenue South. The neighborhood (now called We-Ho) has changed dramatically in just the ten years I have served as CEO, as have our programs, services, and impact. Safe Haven has adapted best-practices in all we do, partnered with a multitude of organizations to achieve greater impact, dramatically increased the number of families we serve through rapid rehousing and the addition of prevention services. In these 35 years, we have helped well over a thousand families find their way home. On this journey, we have also inspired and delighted our community with such popular events as Hike for the



Homeless (our 15th) and Dancing for Safe Haven (our 10th). Looking back on the last 35 years of institutional memory, clearly, Safe Haven is a community treasure, and I am proud and privileged to have been a small part of its success. Safe Haven would not be what it is today without our community's support, love, and dedication to serving families experiencing homelessness. While there is much to celebrate, Safe Haven will continue to do more for families in 2020. Join us as we work to keep families together and provide the HEART in the journey including hope, stability and success by making a gift today. Use the enclosed envelope or visit our website at [safehaven.org](http://safehaven.org) to donate online. Thank you for being the heart of the journey home for Safe Haven's families.

## 5th Annual "A Taqueria Holiday" Raises Over \$100,000



On Monday, Dec. 9, Taqueria del Sol teamed with platinum-selling singer/songwriter Dierks Bentley to host the fifth annual "A Taqueria Holiday" fundraiser to support Safe Haven Family Shelter. The lively, family-focused event attracted more than 450 supporters and raised \$103,000 to support families experiencing homelessness. Over the past five years, the event has donated \$271,390 to Safe Haven Family Shelter.

For every \$1 spent on food and beverage, Safe Haven received \$9. Taqueria del Sol donated 100% of the evening's proceeds, and eight matching gifts generated a nine-fold donation. Matching donors included Dierks and Cassidy Bentley, Zac and Caroline Thomas, Vic and Liz Thomas, Brian and Sarah Layton, Ross and Katlin Copperman, Mark and Sherry Deutschmann, Taqueria Nashville and Taqueria Atlanta.

The Taqueria Nashville team, led by managing partner Tony Halligan and general managers Javier Salado and Will Spiva, created and staffed the event on an all-volunteer basis. Restaurant team and alumni members were deeply involved, coming in on the restaurant's typical day off to volunteer their time to prepare the food and staff the event.

# Achievement Club

by Jennifer Reason,  
LSMW, Program Director

Safe Haven started a new program in November, the Achievement Club (AC). AC is a program that our team heard about at the SIEMER Conference last October. It is a way to continue to engage families in setting and meeting goals once they are in housing, along with being intentional in creating space for families to build social connections and support. We have spent the last several months tweaking a list of about 45 goals to make them specific to the Nashville



area and the families we serve. These goals span a variety of topics including strengthening the family unit, finding a career path, financial education, and more. Each goal is broken down into sub-goals with action steps and as each sub-goal is achieved, the family receives \$25.

The "Club" part comes into play with a monthly meeting that will start with dinner and an encouraging speaker. Families will share their progress towards their goals and offer support to help each other overcome barriers in meeting their goals. Each family will also have a monthly personal meeting with their coach/case manager. Regular meetings will begin in January and run through June. We will also need speakers for each meeting on a variety of topics to inspire families participating. We also want to offer career shadowing for participants, so let us know if you are open to having someone shadow you. Please contact Jennifer Reason [here](#) for more information.

www.safehaven.org

# Guardian Angel Program



Each family comes to SHFS with a unique story and very specific needs. Our Guardian Angel program allows you to help our families with different levels of support throughout our continuum of services. For a list of our Guardian Angel donors or information on how to become a Guardian Angel, please visit [www.safehaven.org](http://www.safehaven.org).

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**Mission Statement** Safe Haven Family Shelter leads our community's efforts to house, support, empower and advocate for families experiencing homelessness.

Safe Haven Family Shelter is a 501(c)(3) organization; contributions are tax-deductible.

# Our Volunteers Are All Heart

by Emily Rattle, Volunteer & Community Relations Manager

Volunteers are integral to Safe Haven's work and mission. From providing tutoring, meals, group projects, event volunteerism, wellness, family fun activities, administrative support and much more, I am so grateful for all that is accomplished daily thanks to our amazing team of volunteers!

Here is a snapshot of your impact on the agency:

- Over 100 volunteers have given their time and expertise to the children's program providing everything from basic childcare to tutoring to enrichment programs (science, art, fitness, etc).
- Over 1,000 volunteers have provided time and support to Safe Haven this year.

We enter this season of giving thanks, we are grateful for the support, passion and expertise of our volunteers. They are all heart and we love them.

Volunteers provide dinner 365 days a year. These dinners not only provide food for Safe Haven families, but they also provide a sense of community support for the families.



# 10 Years of Dancing for Safe Haven

In March of this year, we kicked off our 35th Anniversary year by celebrating raising more than \$400,000 at the 10th annual Dancing for Safe Haven. The event, presented by Chris Young, Cerner and Data Blue/ Dell EMC, paired six Nashville notables with professional ballroom dancers who performed for a sold-out crowd. Thank you to our amazing celebrity dancers who took the dance floor by storm to help raise money and awareness for Safe Haven Family Shelter: Scott Breece (Community Health Systems) - Fundraising Favorite, Mingnon Francois (The Cupcake Collection) - Judges' Favorite, Becky Harris (Huskins-Harris Business Management) - Audience Favorite, Hayley Hovious (Nashville Health Care Council), Brad Peterson (Regions Bank) and George Rowe (Compass Real Estate). We awarded the Safe Haven Hero Award to BlueSky Filmworks for the amazing work they do in producing Dancing for Safe Haven.



Their commitment to delivering high quality production that captures the heart of our mission in a powerful way has been an incredible gift for over a decade. Visit [bit.ly/dfsh2019](http://bit.ly/dfsh2019) for more info about the event including links to photos and videos. Mark your calendar for the 11th annual Dancing for Safe Haven on Saturday, March 28 at the Omni Nashville Hotel. Visit [dancingforsafehaven.org](http://dancingforsafehaven.org) for more details!

Thank you to our 10th Annual Dancing For Safe Haven Sponsors:  
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