



The lifeline for victims of family violence

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Celebration of Hope Luncheon to Benefit Local Domestic Violence Shelter

Columbus, GA (September 3, 2015) – Georgia is ranked 9th in the nation for females killed by males. Much closer to home, last year there were 22 homicides in Muscogee County – 10 were related to family violence. Often victims leave their homes with nothing and turn to domestic violence shelters for safety and support.

Local domestic violence shelter Hope Harbour is excited to announce **Celebration of Hope**, a fundraising event that will take place at the Columbus GA Convention & Trade Center on Thursday, September 17, 2015. “This annual luncheon helps tell Hope Harbour’s story. Our speaker will be *New York Times* bestselling author, Leslie Morgan Steiner. Steiner’s memoir, *Crazy Love*, is about surviving domestic violence in her first marriage. At 22, Steiner seemed to have it all: good looks, a Harvard diploma, and a glamorous job in New York City plus a handsome, funny boyfriend who adored her. But behind her façade of success, this golden girl hid a dark secret. She’d made a mistake shared by millions: she fell in love with the wrong person,” says Board President Bonnie Kennedy. “It is going to be a wonderful lunch to raise money for our local domestic violence shelter and support those in need.”

Lindsey Reis, Executive Director of Hope Harbour, said, “Hope Harbour’s shelter and crisis line give thousands of individuals and families affected by domestic violence the critical support and resources to help them rebuild their lives. Events like **Celebration of Hope** help drive funds so desperately needed to help victims of domestic violence move toward safe futures.”

The event is open to the public. The luncheon begins at 11:30 AM and will conclude at 1:00 P.M. Reservations are required. Tickets can be purchased now through September 11 for \$35 each or \$280 for a table of eight. Large baskets filled with wonderful items will be raffled off. Tickets are \$1 each available for purchase from any Board or Auxiliary member or at the luncheon with all proceeds benefiting victims of domestic abuse. For ticket or event information visit www.hopeharbour.org or please call Lindsey Reis at (706) 256-0238.

About Hope Harbour

Columbus Alliance for Battered Women, Inc. d/b/a Hope Harbour, a state certified domestic violence shelter, has served Muscogee County and the surrounding area for over 36 years. We offer crisis intervention through our 24-Hour Crisis Hotline and emergency shelter, as well as counseling and support for victims and their children. We also provide education and professional trainings on domestic violence and teen dating violence in schools, the workplace, churches, and throughout the community.

If you would like to make a donation to Hope Harbour, please mail your check to P. O. Box 4182, Columbus, GA 31914.

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