



Dear Friends:

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Sue Hand

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Sixteen years ago a group of board members led by President Bill Smart, gathered around a conference table to discuss his vision of creating a *signature* event for FavorHouse. Bill's vision was to have an event in May of each year; to create an occasion that would recognize FavorHouse as the only certified provider of safe shelter and direct services for domestic violence victims and their children. His vision included the opportunity to honor survivors of domestic violence in a celebratory atmosphere which embraced the essence of spring.

Spring is a season looked forward to each year and whose arrival symbolizes hope and healing from the darkness that surrounds families living in violence. A new season for "a new beginning" for hundreds of women and children in our community who suffer the horrors of family violence. The White Rose Luncheon of 2005 was then created, with our first guest speaker, Governor Jeb Bush welcoming survivors and honoring them for their strength.

For 15 years this event provided the occasion for survivors to be recognized and honored. But in May 2020, we find ourselves pressed into dealing with Covid-19 and not able to host our 16th White Rose Luncheon.

Domestic violence does not cease during a pandemic, and some of our sponsors have already donated the funds allocated in their budget for the White Rose Luncheon. These funds go directly to our Shelter Program, which is always the recipient of the funds raised at this event. We are truly grateful for their support.

As we approach May 2020, we would like to share that you can still donate to help survivors have a safe place. If the White Rose is in your heart and budget, we would appreciate receiving your gift.

We are saddened that due to the current circumstances of covid-19, we will not be able to gather at Sanders Beach and honor survivors, recognizing their extraordinary capacity for surviving the harshest of domestic violence circumstances. We have rescheduled for May 21, 2021. Put us in your calendar and thank you for your support.

Donate on line at Favorhouse.org or Text Favorhouse 44-321

Sincerely,

Kate DeBlander
President

Sue Hand
Executive Director