



**Building communities
free of domestic violence
and sexual assault**

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Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 12, 2009

MEDIA ALERT - MEDIA ALERT

SafeHouse Center hosts Sexual Assault Awareness Month Events

SafeHouse Center will be hosting an Open House for Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) from 6:00-7:30 PM on Wednesday April 1, 2009 at SafeHouse Center, located at 4100 Clark Road. SAAM Open House is open to the community and will include a survivor art display, "guest speakers", and open mic for those who would like to share their poetry, music, or speak out about sexual assault.

On April 25th, 2009, at Kerrytown, SafeHouse Center will be ringing the bells every two and half minutes between 11:30am and 12:30pm to enhance awareness of sexual assault in our community. SafeHouse Center will have a table at the Farmer's Market with information concerning sexual assault, services, and other events.

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SAAM is observed in April worldwide and is dedicated to making a concerted effort to prevent and raise awareness of sexual violence and its prevention through special events.

"Sexual assault is the most under-reported crime in the world and affects someone in our country every two and a half minutes. We must, as individuals and as a community, Speak Out. It is an act of violence that silences its victims. SAAM events provide an opportunity for the community to come together and break the silence that surrounds these issues" said Barbara Niess, Executive Director of SafeHouse Center.

SafeHouse Center is a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation in Washtenaw County, Michigan. We are a social change and social service organization dedicated to ending gender-based violence. We provide 24-hour response to survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence and we work to educate our communities about what they can do to end domestic/dating violence and sexual assault.

If you are in danger, or would like more information about domestic/dating violence and sexual assault, please call our **24-hour helpline** at 734-995-5444.

If you would like to volunteer with SafeHouse Center, please call Kathy Winterhalter at 734-973-0242 x252. Or, if you would like to make a donation, please call Julaine LeDuc at 734-973-0242 x273. *Together, we will do more to end domestic violence and sexual assault.*

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