

To the Friends of SafeHouse Center:

As ongoing supporters of SafeHouse Center, it is important to keep you informed of developments within the organization.

We are pleased to announce that we have come to a settlement with the Michigan Department of Human Services (DHS). We are very pleased that DHS is partnering with us to allow a payment plan over the next 25 years, which ensures that our programs and services will not be interrupted, nor will we need to direct donor dollars toward the repayment plan.

In May of 2005, SafeHouse Center received a letter from DHS requiring us to reimburse the state for services rendered during previous years. The settlement amount, \$483,856.00, represents repayment of a portion of DHS grant funds due to documentation problems of those grant funds used to provide services during 1999 to 2002. It is important to note that since April of 2002, restructuring of the Board, leadership, policies and procedures has included strict financial and documentation controls, to prevent such a situation from recurring.

As our partner in our mission to end domestic violence and sexual assault, we want you to be assured that your dollars will be spent to support our mission, programs and services and non donor income will be used to repay the debt. We gratefully appreciate your support over the years, and hope you will continue to partner with us as we put a difficult situation behind, and move forward with an even stronger organization. We invite you contact us with any questions or concerns you may have. Please feel free to contact Barbara Niess, Executive Director, at 734-973-0242 ext. 203, or email at barbaran@safehousecenter.org.

With best regards,

Barbara Niess
Executive Director

Tom Knight
Board President