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**S.A.F.E. House RECIEVES PART OF \$3 MILLION NATIONWIDE GRANT  
FROM THE MARY KAY FOUNDATION TO COMBAT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE  
IN Albuquerque**

**Domestic violence shelters receive much needed cash infusion in light of the  
economic downturn**

**ALBUQUERQUE, NM** (October, 06, 2009) – S.A.F.E. House has been chosen to receive a \$20,000 grant from The Mary Kay Foundation as part of the organization’s annual \$3 million national domestic violence grant program. S.A.F.E. House is one of 150 domestic violence organizations participating in the program. The grant will be used to defray costs associated with educational, employment, daycare and medication costs, as well as to purchase personal hygiene items and basic shelter costs such as utility service and our 24-hour hotline.

“This grant is such a blessing to S.A.F.E. House in a variety of ways,” said Crystal Hollon, Communications Director. “Not only does it make up for a deficit in funding this year but gives us hope and strength to continue what we do. Domestic violence is not going away and deserves very serious attention. Programs to help battered women and their children require a lot of resources. That’s why we are so thankful The Mary Kay Foundation is helping us help families in Albuquerque.”

The economic climate has not only caused a decrease in donations but can also be attributed to an increase in the need for domestic violence services. In May 2009, *Mary Kay’s Truth About Abuse* survey of domestic violence shelters across the country revealed some alarming results: three out of four domestic violence shelters report an increase in women seeking assistance from abuse since September 2008, a major turning point in the U.S. economy. The survey data directly connects the downturn in the economy to an increase in domestic violence.

“In light of the economic downturn and alarming increases in domestic violence, The Mary Kay Foundation’s mission is more critical than ever before. S.A.F.E. House has helped so many women and their families in the Albuquerque area. We know they will use these funds to benefit even more domestic violence survivors and their children and help end domestic violence,” said Jennifer Cook, The Mary Kay Foundation board member.

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S.A.F.E. House is an emergency shelter and supportive services provider for survivors of domestic violence. S.A.F.E. House provides a safe and confidential haven for individuals and their children who are homeless as a result of intimate partner domestic violence. In addition to safe emergency shelter, we offer 24-hour crisis intervention, comprehensive support and education services for victims and their children who have been affected by physical, sexual, emotional/mental, or economic abuse. Survivors and their children receive case management, advocacy, coordinated services, free transportation, nutritious meals, snacks, and healthcare.

**About The Mary Kay Foundation**

The Mary Kay Foundation was created in 1996, and its mission is two-fold: to fund research of cancers affecting women and to help prevent domestic violence while raising awareness of the issue. Since the Foundation's inception, it has awarded nearly \$22 million to shelters and programs addressing domestic violence prevention and \$13 million to cancer researchers and related causes throughout the United States. To learn more about The Mary Kay Foundation, log on to [www.marykayfoundation.org](http://www.marykayfoundation.org) or call 1-877-MKCARES (652-2737).