

# Be Open To Change

Winter, 2022

Havasu's Only Domestic Violence Safe Houses

Faith and Grace, Inc.

Lake Havasu City, AZ



Dear Friend,

"I like staying at your house," I was told by a four-year old girl, while hugging my leg because she wasn't tall enough to reach my waist.

A smiling six-year old boy ready for school with his little backpack strapped tightly to him, told me "I want to come back here after school."

I watched a five-year old girl jumping with excitement when I told her she could have her very first birthday party with her friends in our backyard. There was cake, presents, decorations, and lots of playing!

At Faith and Grace, I hear many, many distressing and emotionally draining stories from women and children staying at our safe houses. Yet seeing the children's smiles and sensing their contentment, tells me it's worth every bit of our efforts on their behalf.



"It has become crystal clear to me that our children's needs and their comfort are directly tied to their Mothers being safe and providing for them. If the Mother is secure, her children are secure."

**Kathleen DeClark | President & Board Chairman**

The key to success for women in our safe houses is to remove the barriers that keep them from living in horrific conditions. Only by achieving a Mother's security, are we able to provide the framework that builds security, trust, and comfort for their children.

In honor of these sweet children, I'd like to share with you what their Mothers need from Faith and Grace to become independent, employed, and productive community members.

What children need is their Moms to understand how to **navigate the legal system** that provides court orders for child custody issues, visitation rights, and child support. Close to 100% of our survivors need some kind of legal help. Currently, we provide legal assistance through a paralegal, who is educated and talented with years of experience. As Faith and Grace becomes better known in our community, greater demand for our service is needed, making us work even harder to provide the necessary finances to pay for legal services.

What children need is their Moms to **own a vehicle** to handle all the transportation needed for their family. She needs to drop them off at school and pick them up at the end of the day. She must shop for groceries, go to appointments, and drive to work.

"Rarely do the women at our safe houses have a car to call their own so our Advocates take time to drive them in our van. If that's not possible, we purchase pre-paid cards for Havasu shuttle services. Either way, it's time consuming and expensive. We need a few reliable, used vehicles every year provided to individual Mothers to allow them to perform the most basic needs for their children."

**Shelly | Advocate**



What children need is their Moms to provide **activities outside the home**. It's especially important for children staying at our safe houses to participate in extracurricular activities. After school programs, summer camps, sport practices, dance classes, and martial arts are all typical, fun activities that children love to do. It helps them grow mentally and physically and feel like they're living a normal life. We're doing a pretty good job of keeping up with extracurricular activities expenses, but we're straining as the number of women and children increase every year in our homes.

A former resident of Faith and Grace:

"My kids really wanted to be part of a soccer team and join other kids in after school events. And, I badly wanted them to be in summer camps while out of school. I was never able to provide any of these activities for my kids until I got help from Faith and Grace."



Our children also need their Moms to get counseling, be confident and self-assured, stay healthy, obtain an education for better paying jobs, and provide qualified childcare for them. It's a long, costly list, but it's what we do and **we love it**.

Thank you for allowing me to share the successes of our last three years providing Lake Havasu City's **only** safe houses for women and children fleeing domestic violence. And, I think it's important for you to understand some of the ways we apply your donations.

Our community efforts, countless presentations to groups and clubs, and complimentary marketing campaigns that build awareness have allowed us to identify and receive more and more women and children. Our mission is to help prepare them for the opportunities that will lead them to live secure and independent lives. I thank you from the bottom of my heart for your financial donations, in-kind gifts, and volunteer efforts that allow us to fulfill our important mission to them.

I hope my letters of hope and information will continue to inspire you to support Faith and Grace in 2022. Thank you again.

Gratefully yours,



**Kathleen DeClark**  
**President and Board Chairman**

P.S. Our Mothers are breaking the domestic violence cycle by living our motto "Be Open to Change", finding the courage to live free and productive lives for themselves and their beautiful children. *Your donation tells them you believe in them and want to support their futures.* And that, my friend, is the best gift of all. Thank you.

[www.FaithandGraceInc.com](http://www.FaithandGraceInc.com)  
[FaithandGrace858@gmail.com](mailto:FaithandGrace858@gmail.com)

(928) 302-1358  
24-Hour Hotline

P.O. Box 774  
Lake Havasu City, AZ 86405

***"As I reflect on 2021, I realize it's been the Year of the Children in our safe houses. They need their Mothers to be secure and independent so they can provide for them."***

**Kathleen DeClark | President and Board Chairman**  
**Faith and Grace, Inc.**

Please Donate to Our 501(c)(3) to Provide for Our Children's Needs.

Tax ID # 45-2963925

- **Check**

Make payable to "Faith and Grace, Inc." and mail to PO Box 774, Lake Havasu City, AZ 86405-0774

- **WEBSITE - [FaithandGraceInc.com](http://FaithandGraceInc.com)**

Debit or Credit Card donations can be one-time or recurring

- **Please indicate your interest when making your donation:**

- Legal Assistance
- Children's Activities and Mother's Needs

By checking this interest, you'll donate to a variety of issues including outside school activities, summer camps, childcare, dental care, miscellaneous medical care, vehicle repair and other expenses to build back the lives of children and their Mothers

- Area of Greatest Need for Children and Mothers

## DONATE A VEHICLE

Havasu's Only Domestic Violence Safe Houses

If you would like to donate a reliable, used vehicle to a Mother and receive a tax donation for the value of the vehicle, please call Kathleen at (928) 302-1358 or email us at [FaithandGrace858@gmail.com](mailto:FaithandGrace858@gmail.com)

