



March 2014 Edition

**Safe Passage Hits the Red Carpet this Oscar Season**  
*By Susan Sengezer*



While the world was home star struck watching the Oscars, Trish Steele and Susan Sengezer took in the glamor and glitz in person at the Globe Theater, which hosted the 4th annual Hollywood's biggest night Fundraiser for MEND one of LA's largest multi-services, non-profit agencies annual fund raiser. VIP seated as guests of Jonathan & Jennifer Lopez from Woodland Hills Kaiser Permanente Hospital.

Arriving like celebrities we walked the Red Carpet and were handed a real Oscar to have our photo taken. What's not to love about sipping on glass new Champagne from the Bel-Air Association with a signature glass to keep. We mingled while being served hor'derves and enjoyed the fashion-forward guests, topped off with a meal from gourmet Chef



**Quick Links**



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**Upcoming Events**

**Safe Passage's "Honoring Courageous Women and Mothers Who Make a Difference" Event**

Where: Montage Beverly Hills  
 When: Sunday, May 4th at 12:00 to 2:30 pm  
 Please click [here](#) to RSVP

**Client Spotlight: Jeniffer**



When I initially reached out to Safe Passage in September 2013, I was at my worst. I had dropped out of graduate school,

Wolf Gang Puck. During which we indulged delicious wines selected from Francis Ford Coppola Winery. We were seated front and center stage with a perfect view of the Oscars screen, with our table right next to MENDS event Host Channel 7 News Anchor: Danny Romero.

Among the supporters were Wells Fargo Bank, also a "supporter of Safe Passage" and Providence Health & Services of whom our board member Susan Sengezer-Ortiz also works as an Emergency RN. We are so honored to have Kaiser Permanente accept Safe Passage services as part of a community partnership. We recently have had the opportunity to apply for a grant with Kaiser and look forward to a lasting relationship in unity of restoring a community.



Kaiser Permanente's mission is to improve the health of the communities we serve. This is accomplished, in part by supporting organizations through grants, donations, and sponsorships for programs, projects and community events. Our Community Benefit Grants Program provides Kaiser Permanente with an opportunity to partner with eligible organizations whose work is in alignment with our funding priorities.

## "One Heart"

By Yvonne Bovee



On February 13th 2014, A Valentine's Day Celebration given with "One Heart," Trish Steele of Safe Passage, Denise Rossouw of Haircessory, Ester Haddad-Elkouby and Sabrina Ruelas of The Skin and Body Lounge joined forces to "Bind the wounds of the Brokenhearted" the hearts of women and children of domestic violence.

This team of Beauty Experts was inspired to be a healing force to the women of Safe Passage, healing the hearts and lives of these women who have been so violently abused and crushed. These women have never known the "True Meaning of Love." Love in all of its expressions helps these women to discover themselves, a new outlook on life and a rebirth of dreams. There is no limit to the "Power of Love."

lost my job, and was on the verge of homelessness. I barely functioned and my situation left me feeling hopelessly depressed, alone, and worthless.

It amazes me to admit that 6 months with Safe Passage was enough time for my mind, body, and soul to undergo the most powerful transformation I could ever imagine. For the first time in my life, I have established self-esteem as well as a positive outlook.

I do not suffer from chronic depression and insomnia anymore. I have a renewed trust in God and in the people he puts on my path. I even found a wonderful place to live and landed an incredible job at a social networking firm based in Hollywood, CA.

The limitless compassion and unwavering support from Trish and Linda were critical to my recovery, but the workshops and counseling services I received at Safe Passage are the reason why I am confident that my future is brighter than ever. I refuse to identify myself as a victim (or even a survivor) of domestic violence anymore-I am a victor. *Thank you, Safe Passage, for helping me become the woman I was meant to be.*

## Donor Appreciation

Victoria Pratt and Anna Rane



Two wonderful friends who work in the entertainment industry Victoria & Anna are giving their best!

Denise Rossouw assisted by Karen Lindstrom hosted the evening in her New Retail salon studio at 12436 Ventura Boulevard, Studio City 91604. Her new studio is elegant and artistically appointed. The Red Carpet was laid out for the



evening's guest; as they entered they were met with Valentine wines, champagne, a table of delicious finger foods and desserts to satisfy every heart's desire. Denise featured live music with singer Dani Nicole and instrumentalist Saint Tone. Brandin of Brandin photography was exciting to watch as she took glam shots of all the women of Safe Passage. CBS was there to capture the event for the evening news. Our own Tony Campo filmed the entire evening events.

The Ladies of Safe passage were lovingly given complete make-overs beginning with a fabulous Haircessory hairpiece custom styled by Denise Rossouw. Their make-up was professionally applied by Skin and Body Lounge. To top off their make-over each Safe Passage Valentine Sweetheart was fashionably appointed, dressed in trendy fashions found on the racks at Haircessory.



Denise Rossouw is known in Hollywood as "The Hair Makeover Diva." Denise's goal of empowering women to feel confident about their looks led her to the creation of "Top Secret Haircessory." Denise has been applying her

talents in the hair style Industry for over 20 years. After decades of listening to the concerns of clients who suffered from thinning hair or hereditary hair loss, a problem more than 30 million women experience, she realized there was nothing like Top Secret on the market; she made it available for everyone.

The Power of Love is what women discover at "Safe Passage." Love is what Trish Steele is all about. Trish Steele, Linda Dolson and the volunteer staff work together fighting for the women and children every step of the way making sure that they all "Make it;" they work together moving the women of Safe Passage forward into living lives of purpose and fulfillment.

Anna Rane found Safe Passage on line while searches for a women's charity to give of her time. When she came to visit our office we felt her compassion to help our women who have been suffering from domestic violence. She immediately asked, "What do the women need?" I replied back, "One mother needs a refrigerator." Anna replied, "I will get back to you soon, to let you know if there is a refrigerator available."

Within a few days she was able to find a gracious man to donate and deliver a refrigerator to our client's home. Anna was so excited to fulfill the need. She then went to shared with her friend Victoria Pratt an actress on many shows, to come and visit Safe Passage.

Mrs. Pratt fell in love with the mission of Safe Passage and wanted to help. Victoria an amazing lady keeps helping between her acting roles and traveling to fill the needs of some of our women. Anna & Victoria helped to get a photographer to do pro-Bono photo shoots for the broken hearted women and donated food for the Valentine Makeover event on February 13th. How heart warming is that! Read the warm hearten story in this newsletter.

Photos by Brandin website: [www.BrandinPhotography.com](http://www.BrandinPhotography.com) and information on Denise Rossouw at [www.TopSecretHair.com](http://www.TopSecretHair.com)



**Mission Statement:**

Safe Passage is compassionately transforming the lives of abused women and their children by providing hope, opportunity and empowerment.

**Our Vision:**

Our vision is to break the cycle of domestic violence by duplicating the Safe Passage program throughout the country. This will be accomplished by introducing the program to different cities and educating them on how they can utilize the community's resources to help transform the lives of their women and children. Safe Passage's goal is to fund its own Wellness Center for abused women and their children so that it can continue

to effectively transform these clients into independent and healthy citizens within our communities.

Founded: April 15, 2000

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