



March 2015 Edition

**Simply Wine Fest on March 21st Supports and Spreads Awareness of Safe Passage**  
*by Deanna, Owner of DLM Life-Style Design*



I was honored to attend the Simply Wine Fest on March 21st, produced by Martha & Nasi Peretz and Jeanette Carranza staff, a event dedicated to spreading awareness and support of domestic abuse survivors of Safe Passage. I arrived anticipating a turnout of 1,500 people, yet was pleasantly surprised that we had well in excess of that attend in support of Safe Passage and its admirable work. The evening's centerpiece was a passionate presentation on the power and importance of standing up and speaking out against domestic violence.

#### Quick Links



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#### Donor Spotlight: Jessica Simpson's Fashion Design

Every 2 years Safe Passage receives blessings of goods from Jessica Simpson's Fashion designs. We received hundreds of handbags and wallets along with clothing for young girls and teens. Jessica designs are so well received by our clients on the program and love her style. She truly has given of her best to help Safe Passage women and children feel and look their best!



Wine Fest hosted a wide variety of people from different backgrounds and lifestyles, but all were moved by Andie Naar's beautifully crafted video shown at the beginning of the presentation along with the testimony and support of CBS2 Sports Anchor Jim Hill.

Having been a part of Safe Passage for the last couple years, I felt this event was a wonderful display of the myriad lives that Safe Passage has helped. Wine Fest was undoubtedly a success in and of itself, but was a wonderful opportunity to showcase the support and dedication of Safe Passage and all those whom it has helped. We are so grateful to those who attended, and to those who donated their money, time and services in order to make the Simply Wine Fest a successful and compelling event.



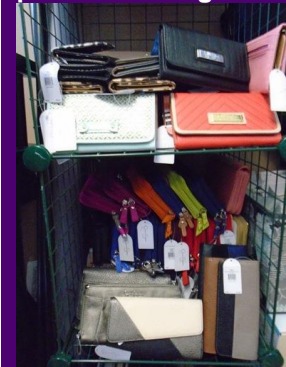
### Safe Passage Presents on Domestic Violence to Social Workers at the West Los Angeles Veteran Center by Florence Long

On Thursday, March 26, Ms. Trish Steele and Ms. Susan Sengezer (Ms. California for Domestic Violence) were welcomed as presenters at the West Los Angeles VA Medical Center, speaking on the subject of *"Compassionately Transforming the Lives of Abused Women and Their Children to a New and Better Life by Providing Hope, Opportunity, Pride and Empowerment"* to an audience composed of social workers. Their presentation began at 11:00 am and concluded at a little after 12:00 noon.

The presentation by Ms. Steele and Ms. Sengezer was exceptional as they focused on every aspect of abused of women and men, destruction of families and fear and shame. They were aware of resources that could be used by anyone experiencing the severe physical and psychological aggression in a domestic situation. They supported their presentation in the strongest way possible with statistical data, hotline information, new facts, legal information, information regarding people who can help the victim of domestic violence, and information on how to recognize abuse.



Jessica is not at home just raising children but the former reality star is keeping busy in the board room. Last week it was announced that her clothing brand had been bought by Sequential Brands Group Inc. And the new owners-and Simpson-plan on turning her line into a [\\$3 billion dollar company](#). No wonder Jessica has started power dressing!



We at Safe Passage want to thank Jessica and her staff for keeping us close to their heart as the charity to support and make a difference in many lives! See the wonderful items that were donated in the photos. You may find her designs at Macy's our favorite department store that also gives to Safe Passage.



They challenged the audience to continue to take a strong and deep look at the problem of domestic abuse and intimate partner violence. Their knowledge base was so complete; their skill in presenting the subject was in knowing what this audience wanted to know more and wanted to be more effective in responding to and addressing the strong feelings and challenges associated with the violence and aggression displayed in domestic relationships.



The two began by talking about how early experiences of inappropriate behaviors towards young women are not sufficiently addressed in some situations and that it leaves a negative impact and interferes with appropriate levels of functioning and interferes with development of a positive self- image. They were clear that everyone must know about this serious problem and become involved in finding ways of preventing it as well as finding ways to keep the victim safe. The duo proceeded to inform the crowd that this negative, hostile and violent behavior may exist close around us we may not recognize it.

Trish and Susan presented more information on how to recognize the signs of abuse that may not be obvious and provided a step by step review of issues (safety), challenges (not wanting to tell anyone of the abuse), crisis (physical suffering and pain, emergency hotlines), isolation ( lack of family or friends support) and referrals and advocacy (good resources for information) and information about safety.

The social workers were very fortunate to have these two women to present from their strong knowledge base, information that can transform or save lives. They have not stopped talking about the excellent information that was provided to them. These outstanding presenters closed by continuing to remind us that it is important to instill hope, opportunity, pride and compassion that would be equally important to women/men or anyone who has experienced abuse in a relationship.



More Photos from Simply Wine Fest





Founded: April 15, 2000

**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.