



Laura Recovery Center

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VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

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Happy New Year to all, and thank you for being a volunteer with the Laura Recovery Center for missing children. We hope you had a wonderful holiday season. We are working hard to prepare for the upcoming year, because our services, unfortunately, continue to be needed. We are tremendously grateful for your support.

UPDATE ON CASES

One of many cases we worked this holiday season illustrates the importance of posting flyers for missing children – that they truly do make a difference! The parents of a missing Friendswood girl contacted the Laura Recovery to report her disappearance. Though the mother was skeptical that posting flyers would help, she, along with several volunteers, posted them throughout the community. Soon after, a woman called to say her daughter knew the missing girl and had seen her at a local theater. This tip helped the parents locate their daughter.

So please remember when you see flyers posted on our website or throughout the community: all it takes is one flyer, seen by one person to make that one call that brings a child home. Please make a commitment this year to visit our website often, to post a flyer, and to really look at the faces of these children. Your effort may help bring a child home!

OTHER IMPORTANT EVENTS

Dawn Davis is now certified as a radKID instructor, after attending a child safety class in Provo, Utah. In 1989, RAD Systems began their mission opposing violence against women through a nationwide network of dedicated instructors. The RAD Basic Women's Self Defense Program has become the national standard in self defense education for women. A similar program for children was developed called radKIDS Awareness and Defense. Rad stands for resisting aggression defensively. The program is taught to children ages 5 to 7 (7 hours over 5 days) and 8 to 12 (9 hours over 5 days). The curriculum varies slightly by age.

RadKIDS teaches three life skills to children over the course of the training:

- * No one has a right to hurt you.
- * RadKIDS do not have the right to hurt anyone else (including yourself, unless someone is trying to hurt you and then you have every right to escape).
- * It is not your fault if you have been hurt, if someone is hurting you, if someone hurts you in the future, or if you have been tricked and hurt. It is not your fault, so you can tell someone.

While attending the class, a report was taken by Provo Police on the attempted abduction of a 9-year old girl named Candy. Candy was walking home from school when a 26-year old man grabbed her from behind. Candy told law enforcement and the media that she used moves she had learned from radKIDS to escape this predator. Candy ran home and told her mother. With her description, police arrested a man who had recently been charged in a similar, separate incident. In his vehicle, police found a hatchet, a video camera with new videotape, duct tape, latex gloves, condoms and other sexually oriented items, broken up pills in a contact lens case, and a mirror with white powder on it. The suspect is in jail awaiting hearings on his case.

For more information, please visit the radKIDS website at www.radKIDS.org

THANK YOU

The Laura Recovery Center is extending our deepest thanks to the city of Friendswood for hosting the Annual Holiday Hustle benefiting the LRC and to all the volunteers who worked the event. Thank you also to Don James for a donation of two free massages for the Holiday Hustle, to Jackie Ritter for a donation of Pappas Gift Cards, and to the Friendswood High School Cheerleaders for their assistance during the event.

Thank you to all our volunteers who worked the numerous Safety Fairs.

Thank you to all the organizations who helped put together Child ID kits, including:

- * Alvin High School Life Skills Class
- * Friendswood 2nd Ward, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
- * Clear Lake Ward, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

ONLINE CALENDAR

We would like to ask all of you to please continue to monitor our online calendar for opportunities to volunteer with us. You can find the calendar under News and Events on the LRC Home Page.

DONATIONS

As always, your donations are gratefully received by the Laura Recovery Center, which is supported solely by voluntary contributions. You can donate online at www.LRCF.org

Have a Safe and Happy New Year!