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Women Helping Women raises \$103,000

September 11, 2008

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Zacharias Sexual Abuse Center, formerly known as LaCASA, celebrated its 25th anniversary with its annual "Women Helping Women" luncheon June 20 at the center on Grand Avenue in Gurnee. The event raised a record \$103,000, which will be used to support the organization's sexual assault and abuse prevention programs, as well as to continue providing a wide range of unique and empowering programs free-of-charge to survivors of sexual violence.

About 700 guests attended the event, which included tours of the facility, a distinctive assortment of silent auction and raffle items, live music provided by the woman's drumming group Diamana Diya, a gourmet box lunch, and a program.

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Zacharias Sexual Abuse Center "Women Helping Women" luncheon: Lauren Tashma of Northbrook (from left), Stephanie Slatkin of Barrington, Char Lender of Lake Zurich and Elizabeth Lane of Winnetka.

PHOTO GALLERY



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"Our Women Helping Women luncheon keeps getting bigger and more impactful every year and, with Wolters Kluwer's help, we made this the most memorable one yet," exclaimed Torie Flink, executive director of Zacharias Sexual Abuse Center, who received a special honor during the event in recognition of her 20 years of service with the organization.

Underwritten by Wolters Kluwer US, this year's event was emceed by Anita Padilla, reporter for WFLD FOX-32 Chicago, and featured two speakers: Teresa Bartels, CEO of United Way International, and Robin Stone, author of the book *No Secrets, No Lies: How Black Families Can Heal from Sexual Abuse*.

The Zacharias Sexual Abuse Center (formerly LaCASA) provides survivors of sexual assault or abuse with comprehensive, confidential, services at no charge, including medical and legal advocacy, emergency room and police sensitivity training, 24-hour crisis hotline and crisis intervention services, and counseling for both individuals and groups. Zacharias Center's education department also provides prevention education to thousands of area school children each year.