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**THE RETREAT'S SOLD-OUT ANNUAL ALL AGAINST ABUSE BENEFIT
AT THE SOUTHAMPTON ARTS CENTER RAISES CRITICAL FUNDS
TO EMPOWER THOSE ESCAPING ABUSE**

SOUTHAMPTON, NY — June 8, 2025 — The Retreat, a leading not-for-profit organization dedicated to supporting, housing, and empowering individuals and families escaping abusive relationships, celebrated a remarkable milestone this weekend with its sold-out fundraiser *All Against Abuse* at the historic Southampton Arts Center. The event, attended by more than 200 supporters, community leaders, and advocates, raised vital funds to sustain and expand The Retreat's life-changing programs.

A Night of Hope and Generosity

Held at the historic Southampton Arts Center, the Gala was a night of inspiration and generosity. Guests enjoyed food and beverage selections curated by The Art of Eating and a special screening of a short film produced and directed by Toyshop, which brought poignant moments of The Retreat's work to life on screen. The evening was highlighted by a remarkable live auction, expertly conducted by renowned auctioneer Harry Santa Olalla. His engaging style and unique approach, including his creative idea to pose a gift as a match challenge, drove spirited bidding and helped exceed fundraising goals for the evening.

A Lifeline for Domestic Abuse and Human Trafficking Survivors

For nearly 40 years, The Retreat has been a lifeline for women and families in crisis, providing safe shelter, counseling, legal advocacy, and educational outreach. In 2024 alone, The Retreat provided more than 9,000 legal services and nearly 450 court accompaniments to those in need, all at no cost. In addition, The Retreat was there to answer over 3,000 calls to its multi-lingual 24-hour hotline. The organization also delivered prevention education to schools across the region.

Cate Carbonaro, The Retreat's new Executive Director, shared her thoughts on the organization's mission during the Gala: "...We meet survivors where they are. And we tell them: you are not alone."



Supported by Key Philanthropic Leaders

This year's event was made possible through the generosity of key sponsors and supporters, including John and Regina Scully, Norma Cirincione, Jackie Mitchell and Michael Goldstein, Alistair Cairns, Ellie Kurrus (who served as the evening's MC), Marty and Michele Cohen, and David and Simone Levinson. Also in attendance were The Honorable Judge Fernando Camacho, founder of the ERIN Court for Exploited Children, as well as the parents and stepparents of the late Gabby Petito. Their unwavering commitment to The Retreat's mission is ensuring that survivors of domestic violence and human trafficking continue to receive the vital support they need.

The Need Continues

While the Gala's success is cause for celebration, the need for The Retreat's services remains urgent. Domestic violence affects 1 in 4 women nationwide, and the demand for safe housing and support continues to grow. The Retreat relies on the generosity of the community to sustain its vital programs and expand its reach.

Join Us in Making a Difference

The Retreat invites all members of the community to join its mission—whether through volunteering, donating, or spreading awareness. Together, we can break the cycle of violence and build a future where everyone is safe, supported, and empowered.

For more information about The Retreat, upcoming events, or ways to get involved, please visit allagainstabuse.org or call 631-329-4398 x111.

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About the Retreat: The Retreat is a safe haven for families in crisis across Suffolk County. The not-for-profit agency provides comprehensive domestic violence support services for children and adults, as well as violence prevention programming. If you or someone you know needs help, call The Retreat's 24-hour hotline at (631) 329-2200. For more information, visit allagainstabuse.org or follow @allagainstabuse on Instagram and Facebook.