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**For Immediate Release**

**Domestic Violence Survivor, Police Officer, Detective and International Lecturer Mark Wynn is Featured Speaker at Annual Men For Change Breakfast**

**Charlotte** – Safe Alliance proudly announces that the 16th annual Men For Change Breakfast and Silent Auction will take place Wednesday May 8, 2013, at Bank of America Stadium. Doors open at 7 AM.

Men For Change is a group of individuals who come together as one to serve the victims of domestic violence in our community.  This group of business, faith and community leaders has worked to diligently raise public awareness about the realities of domestic abuse and violence against women with a goal of providing hope and healing for people in crisis.

Perhaps most important, these men take a stand against violence targeted at women, and they raise a great deal of money in the process to benefit Safe Alliance. More than 400 men have registered to attend this year’s event.

This year’s featured speaker is Mark Wynn, who has served as an advisor to state, national and international leaders to help guide and shape domestic violence laws and policies. Mark is a domestic violence survivor. As a police officer, detective and educator he worked to form the largest police domestic violence investigative unit in the United States.

Complete details about Mark Wynn’s impact on domestic and sexual violence issues can be found at

<http://www.markwynn.com/>

Carolina Panthers President Danny Morison will speak to Men For Change, as will Safe Alliance President & CEO Phil Kline.

“Men For Change has raised more than $900,000.00 for Safe Alliance since this group of volunteers organized in 1997,”said Tim Mahoney, Men For Change Committee Chair. “We have an exceptionally powerful program and speaker this year. Our desire is to raise a great deal of money now that Safe Alliance has opened the new 80-bed Clyde and Ethel Dickson Domestic Violence Shelter for Women and Children. With a larger shelter come higher operating costs and we want to make a difference. We also know that the shelter has been full – at capacity – essentially since it opened. Most of all, we want people to know that violence against women is never alright – it can and must be prevented.”

All media are invited to attend Men For Change as we hope to spread the word that hundreds of men in the Charlotte region are making it a priority to take a public stand against domestic violence.

Safe Alliance is proud of our Men For Change Sponsors:  **(Carol, would you please plug in the names of the sponsors here so we get it exactly right – just like we did with “One in Four.”)**

For media interested in attending Men For Change, please contact Bill Coy at Bill.Coy@safealliance.org or 704 367 2707.

Safe Alliance supports victims of domestic and sexual violence, and child abuse and helps people build safe, healthy relationships. We do this through a continuum of shelter, counseling, legal and advocacy services serving over 20,000 people a year in Mecklenburg, Cabarrus, Union and south Iredell counties while reaching 20,000 more through advocacy and education.

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