**Safe Alliance Victims’ Rights Awareness March**

**Monroe, NC** - Safe Alliance announces that the 5th Annual Victims’ Rights Awareness March takes place Saturday April 18, 2015 in Monroe.

April is National Child Abuse Prevention and Sexual Assault Awareness Month. This march, organized by Safe Alliance in Union County, encourages the community to participate because it sends a clear message that every family deserves to live in a safe place free from all types of violence and victimization.

“We want our community involved because Child Abuse and Sexual Assault impacts our entire community. Our hope is that more community awareness can bring about more prevention,” said Christina Neal, Safe Alliance Victim Services Coordinator in Union County. “Last year we had nearly 200 marchers and hope to have more this year.”

“We want the community to know that all of us at Safe Alliance – and our volunteers and supporters -- are here to help individuals and families impacted by Child Abuse and Sexual Assault through our Tree House Children’s Advocacy Center and Sexual Trauma Resource Center,” said Christina.

Participants will gather at the Safe Alliance office in Monroe (604 Lancaster Highway) at 8:30. We are honored that Union County Sheriff Eddie Cathy is our featured speaker and we will hear from him at 9 AM. Marchers will then proceed as a group to the Union County Courthouse.

Participants are encouraged to wear teal, the sexual assault awareness color, or royal blue, the color representing Child Abuse Awareness Month. To register for the Victims’ Rights Awareness March – or to make a donation to Safe Alliance – please visit this link: [http://www.safeallianceevents.org/](http://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.safeallianceevents.org%2F&h=vAQHnztXf&enc=AZNotwkbg1gq69DhJdVfnPzGnBiHR4TvRumr9mNiNrpLANb-kC0BnnTO7u2baeHsKNpcAiESp9GtosKxJpczkF99-qDe1cSi-_yXbfiQ-uKClXezbNECq51CmbfujVyWff8SFoiJ22LTChYnqzAwhSnv2-H8m9xgM4V8r1oGrAAFmQ&s=1)

In Union County, Safe Alliance operates The Tree House Children’s Advocacy Center and Sexual Trauma Resource Center providing forensic interviews, medical exams, trauma assessments, a 24-hour rape crisis hotline, , hospital accompaniment, safety planning, crisis intervention, case management, systems advocacy, support groups, court advocacy and court accompaniment. We also specialize in working with those struggling with emotional crisis and deliver trauma informed counseling services to individuals, couples and families.

For more information, contact Christina Neal at Christina.Neal@safealliance.org or 704 290 0163.