



**Family  
Violence  
Prevention  
Services, Inc.**

The Battered Women  
and Children's Shelter

Marta Prada Peláez, MA  
*President/CEO*

Wayne Terry  
*Chair*

Christy Prescott  
*Chair-Elect*

Cheryl Thomas  
*Treasurer*

Hon. Monica A. Gonzalez  
*Secretary*

Mark A. Jimenez  
*Parliamentarian*

Nancy Wagner  
*Past Board Chair*

*Board Members*

Leroy D. Alloway

Smita A. Bhakta, J.D.

Ingrid Etienne, J.D.

Cortney Gill

Chief William P. McManus

Jennifer Mitchell

Stuart I. Schlossberg, J.D.

Melissa S. Sparks

JR Trevino

Margaret M. Vera, J.D.

Christen Wommack

*Honorary Board*

Joyce H. Coleman

Diana M. Geis, J.D.

Patricia J. Smothers

*Advisory Board*

Dianna Burns-Banks, MD

Graciela Alarcon-Cigarroa, J.D.

Elizabeth Cox

Yolanda Delgado

Kevin C. Dinnin

Javier Ruiz Galindo

M. Antonieta González, MD

Peggy Anawaty Karam

Lori A. Krieger

Sylvia Romo, CPA

Thomas J. Smith, J.D.

AnaPaula Watson

Debra J. Williams, MD

March 15, 2021

Dear Friend,

It is difficult to think that it all took place a year ago: victims of domestic violence all over the world found themselves in a crisis within the COVID-19 crisis we all have been living. Trapped and isolated in their homes, in the constant company of the abuser they were not able to seek help for themselves and their children. The results were soon revealed, for once the orders to remain at home were lifted, there was an explosion in the number of victims coming to us, looking for the safety of our shelter and the promise of hope, dignity and self sufficiency found with our services and programs.

As first responders and essential providers of services in the community, we have given our life-saving assistance to the mothers and children in need as if nothing was occurring outside of our doors. No one who is appropriate for our help has been or will ever be turned away. That capability has its foundation on the members of our community. In other words, YOU.

***Honoring Mothers*** has been held for 20 years, raising the funds that allow us precisely to assist the many victims of abuse at their time of need, whenever that may be.

On Friday, May 7<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 p.m. we invite you to our Virtual Honoring Mothers, presenting journalist Rachel Snyder, acclaimed author of "*No Visible Bruises: What We Don't Know About Domestic Violence Can Kill Us*"

I take this opportunity to express my gratitude to those of you that sent in sponsorships in 2020. The assistance was used to increase pandemic preparedness and to purchase critically needed supplies.

Please visit [www.honoringmothers.com](http://www.honoringmothers.com) for information on sponsorship levels and individual tickets. I know I can count on your support!

With anticipated gratitude,

Marta Prada Peláez  
President/CEO

