

Ladies Guild Members Ambassadors for Laura's House

Since December 2010, a group of women from Ladera Ranch and surrounding areas have served as community ambassadors for Laura's House, hosting events and gatherings, and donating their time and resources to brighten the holidays for the women and children who reside in the Laura's House shelter.

Earlier this month the Ladies' Guild, which now has nearly a dozen members, provided Mother's Day gift baskets for the shelter.

Jena Schuster, a Coto de Caza resident, heads up the Laura's House Ladies' Guild.

Speaking about the organizations, Jena says, "The Guild members and I are proud to serve as community ambassadors for Laura's House. This organization is a vital resource for our community, as evidenced by the positive impact that its innovative programs services have on the lives of families who are rebuilding their lives free of violence."

The mission of Laura's House, headquartered in the Corporate Office in Ladera Ranch, is to change the social beliefs, attitudes and behaviors that perpetuate domestic violence while creating a safe place in which to empower individuals and families affected by abuse.

The first event hosted by the Ladies' Guild was the annual Alumni Holiday Party in December 2010. During this event, shelter



graduates and their children received gift cards and wrapped gifts, as well as a visit from Santa and his Christmas elves, food, music, entertainment, and arts and crafts.

This year, the event will again be hosted by the Ladies' Guild, Sunday, December 11.

The guild has also held several other events for the women and children living in the shelter, including collecting gift items for baskets that were given to the women on Mother's Day.

The Laura's House

Ladies' Guild is looking to expand its membership and will be hosting an informational event this summer in Ladera Ranch.

"I am looking forward to continuing to work with the wonderful women who have joined the Laura's House Ladies' Guild to support Laura's House and its clients, and I'm excited about expanding the group to include even more individuals who are dedicated to supporting the mission of Laura's House throughout the greater Orange County community," Jena said.

Ambassadors All – Ladies' Guild members are, l-r: Jena Schuster (guild president); Maddie Parsons, Valerie Ross, Shannon Champlon and Andrea McCallister. All of these women are local business women and moms who lend a hand to help build awareness for Laura's House.

For more info on how to become involved with the Laura's House Ladies' Guild, call (949) 361-3775. The Ladies' Guild will hold its first planning session in January 2011. In early 2011, a schedule of Ladies' Guild events will be posted on Laura's House Website: www.laurashouse.org/events.