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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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A Safe Place Receives \$60,000 in Donated Furniture For the Emergency Shelter

LAKE COUNTY, IL – On Monday, July 17, Lake County’s sole provider of services exclusively for domestic violence victims, A Safe Place, received some of the finishing touches to its emergency shelter renovation project – over 230 items of furniture.

Bob’s Discount Furniture, with the support of the Chicago Bears and the First Presbyterian Church of Libertyville, provided over 27 rooms full of furniture and mattresses worth \$60,000.00 for domestic violence families. Along with the memory foam mattresses, they brought couches, loveseats, chairs, dining room tables, desks, lamps, and an electric fireplace to furnish the living spaces and staff areas.

“The Chicago Bears approached us to help provide new furniture for the families at the shelter and we were more than happy to help,” said Gabe Castillo, Bob’s Discount Furniture Director of Operations. “After I toured the shelter and spoke to the staff, I realized there was an even bigger need and offered to provide mattresses for the 30 beds as well.”

In addition to the generosity of the Chicago Bears and Bob’s Discount Furniture, a \$15,000 grant was awarded to A Safe Place from the First Presbyterian Church of Libertyville to help renovate the shelter bedrooms and create inviting, comfortable spaces that will play an integral role in the healing process of the women and children who take shelter there. The grant funds were used to help pay for new furniture, but were also used to help remove the 25-year old carpet in the bedrooms, re-paint walls, and install laminate flooring.

“The Chicago Bears, Bob’s Discount Furniture, and the First Presbyterian Church of Libertyville have turned our dream into a reality and made this “safe place” an incredibly beautiful home for the families that live here. Everything is bright, comfortable, inviting, relaxing, and pleasant and will make them feel special,” said Pat Davenport, Executive Director for A Safe Place. “I can’t wait to see their faces when they see their new home.”

This is the second part of the three-part emergency shelter renovation. In June, Bears staff and alumni, led by Chairman George H. McCaskey, ripped out carpet, painted walls, dug fence holes in the backyard, and demolished the communal kitchen. Next month, Designs for Dignity, a nonprofit organization that transforms the spaces of other nonprofit environments through pro bono design services and in-kind donations, will add blinds, alarm clocks, and other finishing touches to the rooms.

The Chicago Bears have partnered with A Safe Place since 1998, generously volunteering volunteers, financial support, and moral support each year. Bob’s Discount Furniture, a 27-year old company that has 87 stores nationwide, has a full-time community outreach division focused on sponsoring charity events or providing donations of needed items. They partnered with the Chicago Bears over a year ago to transform the Ronald McDonald House.

Photo 1:

Five Bob’s Discount Furniture trucks full of new furniture for the A Safe Place emergency shelter were unloaded on Monday, July 17.



Photo 2:

New mattresses, desks, chairs, and lamps were set up in the bedrooms of the emergency shelter for the families of domestic violence. Desks will allow children to have a dedicated space for homework, rather than sitting on the floor.



Photo 3:

New comfortable chairs, tables, and a couch were set up in one of the counseling rooms of the emergency shelter.



Photo 4:
Bob's Discount Furniture and A Safe Place staff.



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Founded in 1978, A Safe Place is the leading advocate for eliminating domestic violence in northern Illinois, and is Lake County, Illinois' only provider of services exclusively for victims of domestic violence. A Safe Place provides emergency shelter, permanent housing, a 24-hour crisis line (847-249-4450), court and non-legal advocacy, individual, group, and children's counseling, art therapy, family visitation services, batterer intervention services; and community outreach, prevention education, and professional training. Our service area includes Lake, McHenry, and northern Cook counties in Illinois; however, our clients come to us from across the state, region, and country.

For more information about A Safe Place, visit www.asafeplaceforhelp.org, [Facebook](#), and [Twitter](#).