



SafePlace
CALL US 512-267-SAFE

Media Advisory

No. 20080904

TIAA Austin Chapter Sponsoring SafePlace Car Care Event

The Texas Independent Automotive Association Austin Chapter is sponsoring the 5th Annual SafePlace Car Care Event 9 a.m. Oct. 18 at the Austin Community College Riverside Campus. The event provides free preventive maintenance and car repairs to victims of domestic abuse residing at SafePlace, a battered women's shelter in Austin.

As a way to support the community in general, and SafePlace in particular, TIAA members and auto technicians, industry partners, Austin Community College and local high school auto tech students and instructors are volunteering their goods and services free of charge for the residents at SafePlace.

The TIAA Austin Chapter is a non-profit association of family-owned automotive and collision repair businesses and associate industry members that promote professional and quality automotive repair.

SafePlace was formed in 1998 by the merger of the Austin Rape Crisis Center and the Center for Battered Women. Currently, they offer a wide spectrum of services to survivors of violence, including a 24-hour hotline, a 100-bed family shelter for battered adults and children, accompaniment and support at area hospitals for recent rape survivors, and 46 apartment units of transitional housing for families leaving the shelter. The shelter includes on-site child care and K-8 education for shelter residents.

Media should not publicize this event prior to ensure the safety of SafePlace residents that may be dropping off cars for repairs or picking them up following the event. Media interested in covering this event should call TIAA Executive Director Lee Roberts at (800) 727-7140 or via cell at (210) 445-7625. He can also be contacted via e-mail at lee@tiao.net.

For more information about TIAA, go to www.tiao.net. For more information about SafePlace, go to www.safeplace.org.

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