



Guardians for New Futures
www.gfnf4kids.org

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Living Faith Church hosting a 'shower' to furnish *Sanctuary4kids*

Sunday, October 23rd from 2:00pm to 4:00pm
Tradition Town Hall
10799 SW Civic Lane, Port St. Lucie, FL 34987

It takes a community of loving, caring individuals to help protect children – especially children who are removed from their homes due to abuse and neglect.

Pastor Maryanne Kehlenbach of Living Faith Church is one of those loving, caring individuals who immediately reached out to help when she learned of *Sanctuary4kids*. Pastor Maryanne said, "At Living Faith we are focused on seeing God's presence in our community and in the building of this new home, we felt called to help in the safety, care and nurture for these vulnerable children." Pastor Maryanne and her friend Shelly Koppel came up with the idea of having a 'shower' to help furnish the house and the many items needed for the children who will be welcomed there.

Living Faith Church and Guardians For New Futures (GFNF) invite our entire community to help us by bringing a gift to furnish the house or a gift to help with the needs of the children arriving at the house. Geoffrey the Giraffe from Toys"R"Us will be there to greet you and your kids during the 'shower', plus, Living Faith Church is providing light snacks. Visit our website for a list of items needed and links to registries. *Sanctuary4kids* is registered with Babies"R"Us, and Target. Gift cards to these stores and Wal-Mart are sincerely appreciated. [Babies"R"Us Registry](#) [Target Registry](#)

Sanctuary4kids is an emergency shelter for children who are removed from their homes due to abuse and neglect, allowing them a temporary, loving distraction while professionals work to find them a safe place. Upon arrival the children will be welcomed by Trauma Informed Care Professionals who will provide for their physical and emotional needs while working to reduce the impact of the trauma already experienced. Regardless of the time the children arrive, they will be able to get a healthy meal, take a bath, change into clean clothes, and, if removed in the middle of the night, go to sleep in a fresh clean bed with a 'blankie' and a new stuffed, possibly furry, friend to hug.



Research indicates that prolonged and repeated trauma for children have long term impact leading to mental health and substance abuse issues as well as decreased life expectancy. Thus, the 'soft landing' provide by *Sanctuary4kids* can be a pivotal and defining point for the children coming into care by reducing the trauma and providing a sense of safety. With this early intervention the children have the opportunity for a much healthier outcome, both mentally and physically.

Sanctuary4kids is the latest initiative of Guardians For New Futures (GFNF) to fill the gap of an unfunded need for abused and neglected children. This house will take the place of a child having to wait in an office for hours or overnight while professionals work to find a safe placement for the child.

Approximately 45 children are removed from their homes each month due to maltreatment with the majority of the children being age 5 or younger.

Sanctuary4kids is scheduled for completion November 1, 2016.

To learn more about *Sanctuary4kids* www.Sanctuary4kidsTC.org or www.gfnf4kids.org