



Media Release
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Atlanta nonprofit raises nearly half a million dollars To benefit battered women and their children

ATLANTA, March 8, 2011 – Partnership Against Domestic Violence (PADV) teamed up with **Verizon Wireless** as well as **Avon, AirTran, GE, the Swan Center for Plastic Surgery, Northside Hospital** and 37 other sponsors and raised almost \$500,000 via the 2011 *Hearts with Hope*. In a celebration of hope, the monies raised at the 23rd annual gala will support the growing demand for PADV's life-saving services in metro Atlanta. *Hearts with Hope* held this past Saturday, March 5, at the Cobb Energy Centre, is PADV's signature fundraiser and stewardship event that raises approximately half of its annual general operating revenue.

Highlights of the gala included the recognition of General Electric executive **John G. Rice** and his wife, **Cammie Rice**, who were honored with the 2011 Hope Award for their dedication to improving the lives of domestic violence survivors and their longtime support of PADV. Cammie Rice in her acceptance speech, challenged the audience to donate two hours of their own "magic," to PADV whether it's serving on a committee, donating diapers or getting businesses involved. Rice ended her speech by saying, "John and I accept this Hope Award not because of what we've done for PADV, but what PADV has done for us...what a gift!"

Astou Dieng, domestic violence survivor, was also honored with the Purple Heart with Hope Award. Dieng was recognized for her courage and perseverance to live a violence-free life.

"Can you hear me now?" said **Verizon Wireless President of the Georgia/Alabama region, Jeff Mango**, on his phone calling the lucky Hearts with Hope Raffle winner, Lin Wood. The call rolled to Wood's voice mail and the audience of 400 plus guests shouted in unison, "You are a winner!" Wood won a cash gift of \$3,965 which was 25 percent of the raffle ticket proceeds.

"PADV is grateful to our presenting sponsor Verizon Wireless and our other community partners for recognizing the important work that PADV does in our community," said Cathy Willis Spratz, president and CEO for PADV. "Our community partners have helped us raise critical funds so that PADV is able to continue its important work to address domestic violence in metro Atlanta. Their dollars make a direct impact on each woman and child whose life is changed by PADV's support."

Hearts with Hope Background: The 2011 gala was led by co-chairs Lyn & Bob Turknett. The Turknetts have taught leadership skills to some of Atlanta's finest and most powerful leaders and executives over their 30-year career together as president and chief executive officer, respectively, of The Turknett Leadership. The Turknetts were joined by a host committee of executives including: Cathy Callaway Adams, Mark Adams, Susan H. Adams, Roz Alford,

Dawn Bading, Kelly Barrett, Helen Berg, Stacey Chavis, Marcus Delgado, Kathy Dowling, Jennifer Eggers, Ann Franks, Melissa Galt, Marcia Gibson, Kristi Halford, Kym Harris, Susan Hitchcock, Henna Ingram, Marianne Johnson, Terrie Jones, Margot King, Debbie Levine, Mylle Mangum, Elisabeth Marchant, Sharon McDaniel, James McGarrah, Nancy McGarrah, Jane Miller, Hala Modellmog, Nikki Nickerson, Ginny Perlis, Lois Rickard, Karen See, Sheryl Sellaway, Suzanne Sitherwood, Terrez M. Thompson, Susan Tillery, Nancy Vepraskas, Wilson White, Emelyne Williams and Todd Yates.

About PADV: PADV is the largest and one of the oldest nonprofit domestic violence agencies in Georgia. Serving metro Atlanta since 1975, PADV helps to transform the lives of approximately 18,000 women and children every year through emergency intervention, violence prevention and long-term advocacy. PADV's mission is to end the crime of intimate partner violence and empower its survivors. Visit padv.org or follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

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