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**Celebration for Patricia Porter's Retirement from Someplace Safe, Inc.**

The Board of Directors of Someplace Safe, Inc. based in Warren, Ohio, invites the public to celebrate longtime Executive Director Patricia Porter's twelve years of dedication to Someplace Safe, Inc. on Wednesday, July 28, 5:30 – 7:30 PM at the Warren Community Amphitheater (321 Mahoning Avenue). Light refreshments will be served. The Board previously announced the retirement of Ms. Porter. "It has been a distinct pleasure to work with Ms. Porter. As she retires this summer, she will be leaving Someplace Safe with the agency well poised to meet community needs in the months and years ahead. The Board is grateful for her years of dedicated service," says Board President Carol Caronite. For more information on Someplace Safe, please visit [www.someplacesafe.org](http://www.someplacesafe.org).

Patricia Porter joined the Someplace Safe staff in 1998 and oversaw great growth in the advancement of victims' rights through a legal advocacy program, successful collaborations through the Trumbull County Domestic Violence Task Force, and prevention programming regarding dangerous versus healthy relationships in Trumbull County Schools. Under Ms. Porter's direction, Someplace Safe was instrumental in establishing the second Special Docket Domestic Violence Court in the state of Ohio. A distinct honor that Ms. Porter and Someplace Safe share is being elected to the Board of Directors of the Ohio Domestic Violence Network. Looking back on her career with Someplace Safe, Ms. Porter remarks, "It has been an honor to have worked toward the end of domestic violence, an extremely important and personal cause affecting many of Trumbull County's residents. While I look forward to my own retirement this summer, I know the tireless work of Someplace Safe will continue, strengthening our community."

Someplace Safe, Trumbull County's domestic violence agency, seeks to reduce and prevent domestic violence as well as improve the quality of life for victims of domestic violence. The agency provides advocacy, education, supportive services, emergency 24-hour crisis intervention, and shelter in order to aid families. Additionally, Someplace Safe seeks to achieve public awareness and a unified community response to the issue of domestic violence.

The Board of Directors has already ensured that the strong leadership exemplified by Ms. Porter continues in the hiring of new Executive Director Cheryl Tarantino who started July 1, 2010. Upon beginning her position with Someplace Safe, Inc., Ms. Tarantino remarked, "I am thrilled to accept this challenging position and feel that my past experiences with Northeast Ohio Adoption Services have shaped the development of the gentle, supportive but firm mentoring those families in crisis need." **-END-**

