



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FORSYTH COUNTY EMERGENCY CHILDREN'S SHELTER TO HOST AFTERNOON TEA & FASHION SHOW FUNDRAISER *Jesse's House presents the First Annual Jesse's Tea for Mom & Me*

CUMMING, GA– Feb. 17, 2009 - Jesse's House board of directors are kicking off its fundraising efforts for 2009 with the first annual mother and daughter tea party called **Jesse's Tea for Mom & Me** on **Sunday, April 26, 2009**. The event will take place at the beautiful **Windermere Golf Club** in Cumming, Georgia from 2p.m.-4p.m.

Guests will enjoy afternoon tea, delicious delicacies, raffle prizes, silent auction items from local businesses and a special guest appearance. The highlight of the event will feature a fashion show sponsored by Belk in Cumming with mother and daughter models wearing the latest Mother's Day fashions you won't want to miss.

Jesse's House coordinators anticipate 150 mothers, daughters and grandmothers to be in attendance. Tickets for the event are \$25 for adults and \$15 for children under 18 years of age. Ad sponsorships start at \$75 and event sponsorships start at \$500. To secure tickets or a sponsorship for "Jesse's Tea for Mom & Me," please contact Ashley Sasher at (404) 717-3992 or asasher@jesseshouse.org.

"Daily costs for a resident at Jesse's House is approximately \$135.15 or \$4,054 per month which covers utilities, food, clothes, support programs, and staffing to ensure safety," says Lindsay Rust, Jesse's House Interim Executive Director. "Jesse's House incurs an annual cost of approximately \$12,000 per resident above the state reimbursement – based upon an average of 10 residents; that equates to \$120,000 which must be generated from other sources. With private donations decreasing and businesses charitable budgets being cut, Jesse's House needs community support more now than ever."

Jesse's House is a non-profit organization that provides emergency and long-term care to youth who have suffered abuse or delinquency that grew out of the recognized need for an emergency children's shelter in the North Georgia area. The shelter has three main goals they strive for on a daily basis: to serve high risk girls between the ages of seven and seventeen who are referred from the Department of Family and Children's Services or Department of Juvenile Justice; to reunify the residents with their families whenever possible; and to provide a safe house until permanent placement is found.

Since 2000, Jesse's House has taken in more than 430 young women from 21 counties including: Banks, Barrow, Catoosa, Cherokee, Clarke, Dawson, DeKalb, Douglas, Elbert, Fannin, Floyd, Forsyth, Gwinnett, Hall, Lumpkin, Meriwether, Stephens, Union, Walker, White, and Whitfield.

For more information on Jesse's House, volunteer opportunities, or how to make a donation please visit www.jesseshouse.org.

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