



~ FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE ~

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**DOVE's Harvesting Hope Gala  
Raises more than \$250,000  
towards  
Ending Domestic Violence**



Susan Wornick, auctioneer

**QUINCY, MA** – November, 2015 – On Friday, October 30th, DOVE (*DOMestic Violence Ended*), Inc. held its **10th Annual Harvesting Hope Gala & Fundraiser** in the Grand Ballroom of The Boston Marriott Quincy. It was a magical evening with more than 250 guests attending!

The event was a huge success. Through the generosity of our many sponsors and donors, **Harvesting Hope raised over \$250,000** – *exceeding goals and making a new record for this annual fundraiser.* “We are extremely grateful to all who support our mission to end domestic

violence. However, there is much work to do. The funds raised at this event will go a long way to accomplish that,” said Executive Director, Sue Chandler.

As Jazz and Blues music filled the air, the evening got off to a lively start with cocktails, delicious appetizers, and a silent auction. Once everyone entered the ballroom and the program started, you could hear a pin drop when Master of Ceremonies, **Boston City Councilor, Tito Jackson** (returning for a 2<sup>nd</sup> year) took the stage and gave a personal, heartfelt talk encouraging all the men in the room to take a stand against domestic and sexual violence. Moments later **Malcolm Astley**, father of **Lauren Dunne Astley**, a high school senior who was brutally murdered by her former boyfriend in 2011, shared his daughter’s story and spoke about the importance of dating violence prevention and healthy relationships for teens. A live auction followed, with local celebrity and retired news anchor **Susan Wornick** who flew in from Florida to act as auctioneer and support DOVE’s work. Ms. Wornick, a longtime supporter of DOVE, also spoke with great passion about her commitment to ending domestic violence. It was quite a moving evening.

All proceeds from the event will support DOVE’s vital domestic violence services and prevention efforts throughout its catchment area of 17 cities and towns in Norfolk County and on the South Shore. DOVE’s essential programs include:

- ◆ a 24-Hour anonymous Hotline,
- ◆ an Emergency Shelter providing a safe haven for victims and their children,
- ◆ Supportive Individual Counseling,
- ◆ Educational and Support groups,
- ◆ a Civilian-Police partnership with Quincy, Randolph, Milton, Holbrook, Dedham, and Norwood,
- ◆ Legal Services,
- ◆ Community Outreach, Education, and Training for service providers and community members, and
- ◆ *YouthSpeak* Teen Healthy Relationships and Dating Violence Prevention program.

For more information about DOVE, Inc. or Harvesting Hope, please contact Dawn Hayes, Director of Development and Communications, at 617-770-4065 ext. 109 or [dawn.hayes@dovema.org](mailto:dawn.hayes@dovema.org) or visit our website at [www.dovema.org](http://www.dovema.org).

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