



*Serving Victims of
Domestic Violence
& Sexual Assault Since 1977*

**Administrative Office &
Counseling Center**

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(352) 787-4125 Fax

Sumter Counseling Office

2748 N. CR 470
P.O. Box 57
Lake Panasoffkee, FL 33538
(352) 793-5365
(352) 569-5340 Fax

Legal Advocate:

(352) 787-7205

Sexual Assault Division:

(352) 787-1379

Domestic Violence Hotline:

(352) 753-5800 24/7 Coverage

Website:

www.havenlakesumter.org



July 20, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

The Sanctuary Mission, Inc. is a homeless program that represents a major percentage of available bed space for individuals in Citrus and its surrounding counties that is dedicated to improving the quality of life for many individuals in these communities. In addition, they accept many diverse populations ranging from the underserved to substance addicted...and all qualifying in the category of homeless; this program also serves victims of violent crimes.

The Haven of Lake and Sumter Counties, Inc. fully endorse the Sanctuary Mission's program. It is a huge resource in these communities where there are limited service options for many in dire need. My staff and I have had the opportunity to work collaboratively with The Sanctuary Mission, Inc., therefore, I must congratulate and applaud this program that is so devotedly managed by Vicki Genz and Bryon J. Goldstein. The Sanctuary Mission, Inc. has provided many hours of shelter and substance addiction recovery and support since its inception in 1997. This program has served the community continuously for ten years without closing for any period during those ten years. Thus, the hundreds of lives that have been touched and helped from this program is an untold number. The program has given those with no hope something to live for and has given its participants the support structure and skills needed to be successful, and most importantly, this program has given hope and the knowledge that someone does care to these participants. The Sanctuary Mission, Inc. has a successful and unique approach to homelessness that shows in the numbers of clients not returning to a life of substance addiction, crime, homelessness, etc. The recovery and re-socialization techniques of the Sanctuary have resulted in many successes. Haven of Lake and Sumter Counties, Inc. utilizes this program as a referral source to clients, to possibly assist these clients in substance addiction recovery and through their transitional housing program assisting with long term stability for these individual's lives. There is no greater recommendation than to refer clients to the program I am writing this endorsement for. And lastly, The Sanctuary Mission is truly helping the community and the members of that community in strengthening the very existence of those in need by taking these individuals off the streets and assisting them in leading productive healthy lives.

Sincerely,

Kelly Smallridge, MA

Kelly Smallridge, MA,
Executive Director,
Haven of Lake and Sumter Counties, Inc.