

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**PRESS RELEASE**

Victoria Berryhill  
[vberryhill@safeaustin.org](mailto:vberryhill@safeaustin.org)  
832.492.0305

**SAFE Named a '2017 Best Nonprofit To Work For'**  
SAFE ranked 21<sup>st</sup> in nation overall, 2<sup>nd</sup> in nation for large organizations  
By *The NonProfit Times*

**Austin, Texas**— SAFE, a merger of Austin Children's Shelter and SafePlace, has been named one of the nation's top 50 "Best Nonprofits To Work For" in 2017, ranking 21<sup>st</sup> overall and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the large organizations category (250+ employees).

The NonProfit Times and Pennsylvania-based Best Companies Group partnered this year to produce the seventh annual list and report, "[The NonProfit Times' 2017 Best Nonprofit to Work For.](#)" The report takes an internal, anonymous approach surveying participating employees and partner organizations. By responding honestly to different questions in eight distinct categories, the organizations are then ranked by the average percentage of positive responses. Those that made the *Best Nonprofits* list generally scored 90 percent amongst all eight categories.

The *Best Nonprofits* list is not about comparing nonprofits against one another, it's about comparing the nonprofit to itself. That is why SAFE takes so much pride in making the cut.

*"We worked really hard on organizational culture, recognizing that melding of organizational cultures when merging is as important as finances and HR policies. We decided that, rather than adopt one culture or another, our goal was to move forward with a new SAFE culture. And we spent a lot of time and thought in figuring out what it would be and how to move into it," Kelly White, SAFE CEO, said.*

The report identified the top 10 key drivers for employees, a list that sheds some light into what is important to employees at nonprofits. Among the list were *'I feel I am valued in this organization,'* and *'there is room for me to advance at this organization,'* which highlight two of SAFE's guiding principles: Celebration and Collaboration, respectively.

SAFE strives to celebrate our employees through initiatives like our Staff Matters monthly newsletter, monthly program reports where directors highlight positive actions taken by their staff, and carving out time bi-weekly for one-on-one staff/supervisor meetings. *"We want that time to connect... to help our staff through difficult situations and know they are supported," Daniel Cox-Malyszka, Chief Human Resource Officer for SAFE, said.*

SAFE collaborates in every aspect of our work. That collaboration extends to training our best asset—our people—to become great leaders. *“We are growing this [leadership training] curriculum at one to two trainings per year, and doing them in a rotation, one topic per month. Attendance has been excellent and trainings are collaborative with group work that gets participants involved and encourages them to apply real-life scenarios to the material they are learning,”* Cox-Malyszka said.

At SAFE, we know our greatest asset is our people. We are honored that our employees feel celebrated, supported, and know that there is room for personal and professional advancement in a career at SAFE.

[View the full Best Nonprofits to Work For list and report here.](#)

## About SAFE

SAFE is a merger of Austin Children’s Shelter and SafePlace, both long-standing and respected human service agencies in Austin serving the survivors of child abuse, sexual assault and exploitation, and domestic violence. SAFE’s goal is ambitious and simple: stop abuse for everyone. [Learn more about our merger here.](#) Learn more about our services and programs, campuses, and locations of services at [safeaustin.org](http://safeaustin.org)

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