**PRESS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

**Bingo Benefits Abused Children**

Bags, Boots & Bingo, a fun and unique fundraising event benefiting The Martin House Children’s Advocacy Center, is Saturday, November 19, from 1:00 to 3:30 p.m. at The Faith Center of First United Methodist Church, downtown Longview. Attendees will be treated to an afternoon of bingo, door prizes, refreshments, and special surprises all while raising money for The Martin House CAC to provide services for child abuse victims.

Bingo game prizes include fabulous designer handbags from Hermes, Louis Vuitton and others or beautiful boots from Cavender’s or Dillard’s. General admission tickets are $40 each in advance or $50 at the door. Reserved tables are available for $300. All bingo game cards, refreshments, and entry into door prize drawings are included in the prices. Seating is limited. Tickets can be purchased online at www.TheMartinHouseCAC.org or by calling 903-807-0189.

“Bags, Boots & Bingo is a fun way to raise money for a serious cause,” stated Roxanne Stevenson, Executive Director of The Martin House CAC. “Last year’s event raised over $15,000 which helped us provide services for more than 600 children who came through our doors because of abuse concerns.”

The mission of The Martin House Children’s Advocacy Center is to ensure that every child who is suffering from abuse has an opportunity to be heard, feel protected, and receive services that are vital to his or her continued safety and future wellbeing. These services are provided through a collaborative, multidisciplinary partnership with law enforcement, Child Protective Services, the district attorney’s office, and mental health and medical professionals during the child abuse investigation, treatment, and prosecution process. Services of The Martin House CAC include forensic interviews of children during the initial stages of physical or sexual abuse cases, mental health counseling, and ongoing advocacy support for children and non-offending family members. The center serves families in Gregg, Harrison, and Marion Counties.

For more information about The Martin House Children’s Advocacy Center or Bags, Boots & Bingo, please contact Roxanne Stevenson, Executive Director, at 903-807-0189 or email her at roxanne@TheMartinHouseCAC.org.