

## Sainsbury's Wolverhampton Store supports The Haven as Local Charity of the Year



In June 2009 staff and customers of Sainsbury's *St George's* Wolverhampton Store chose The Haven as their Charity of the Year. Customers were asked why they felt their chosen charity made such a difference and answers included: "Helping homeless women and children who have suffered domestic violence rebuild their lives", "Giving women and children a safe place to go when they are subject to violence and abuse" and "helping those in need at a difficult and scary time".

Throughout the year The Haven and Sainsbury's worked closely to organise fundraising and publicity events, starting with a Balloon launch/race which was attended by the Mayor. Numerous events followed including volunteer bag packing, Halloween fancy dress, White Ribbon Campaign, Valentines Raffle, Mobile / Toner Recycling Month, Christmas / Easter appeals and lots more bag packing. Unfortunately the Trolley Dash was not allowed to go ahead after health and safety concerns expressed by the Store.

On the very last day of the partnership, when we collected a cheque for £4500, all Sainsbury's staff /managers were proudly wearing The Haven's 'Say NO to Domestic Violence' tee shirts. The final total raised was £5,008.00 which included gifts in kind (food and clothes donations). Funds will support the core work of The Haven in supporting women and children affected by domestic violence and homelessness.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who supported the partnership including Haven Board, Publicity and Volunteer Service. Here's to the next one!



**Kaye Bartlett**

**Grants Officer / Fundraising Team**