

Charity

PHOTO BY EVELYN LESPINASSE

WPTV News Channel 5 Anchor Kelley Dunn shares a moment with Mary's Shelter founder Jan Lindsay and Executive Director Gina Thompson.

FUNDRAISER**Fashion show helps fund Mary's Shelter**

By Evelyn Lespinasse
YourNews contributor

STUART – On Tuesday, Jan. 22, nearly 300 attendees filled the clubhouse at Willoughby Golf Club to enjoy the fourth annual Mary's Shelter Fashion Show and double the amount of money raised at the previous year's event. More than \$40,000 was raised to assist the local nonprofit organization increase its outreach and services for homeless, pregnant women throughout the Treasure Coast.

A devoted group of women enjoyed the first part of the luncheon, which included a popular Chinese and silent auction as well as opportunities to

peruse and purchase jewelry, handbags and other accessories in the boutique set up with multiple vendors who are also committed to the cause.

WPTV News Channel 5 Anchor Kelley Dunn, who has been involved with Mary's Shelter of the Treasure Coast for many years, again served as the fashion show's Mistress of Ceremonies. She introduced models as they strolled around the main dining room showcasing fashions from shops located in Harbour Bay Plaza in Sewall's Point and a variety of boutiques in downtown Stuart.

"This event continues to grow each year, from our dedicated committee mem-

bers, to event attendees, and to the amount of money they are willing to donate to help the women that we serve" said fashion show event chair and Mary's Shelter volunteer Joan Miaritis.

All proceeds from the event benefit homeless, pregnant women throughout the Treasure Coast who seek help from Mary's Shelter. Since opening in 2010, Mary's Shelter has assisted more than 80 women, helping them get their lives back on track and prepare them for independent living with their newborns. For more information on Mary's Shelter of the Treasure Coast visit <http://www.maryssheltertc.org> or call 772-223-5000.