

SAHARA DANCE “SAVES A LIFE” FOR THE TAHIRIH JUSTICE CENTER

On September 12, Sahara Dance, DC’s premier center for middle eastern dance, hosted a benefit performance entitled, *In Celebration of Women*, for the Tahirih Justice Center. Proceeds were raised in order to fulfill a “Lifesaver”

pledge: a commitment

of \$4,000. Sahara Dance reached and surpassed this goal and, as a result, Tahirih will be able to save the life of another woman or girl struggling for freedom and safety.

As part of the benefit performance, Tahirih Board Member and Sahara Dance Managing Director, Rachael Galoob-Ortega, danced to music while, from behind a white silk screen, a Tahirih client recounted her horrific experience of being abused and violated in her home country before escaping to the

United States. The client spoke of how the Tahirih Justice Center is helping her rebuild her life in this country and how she is now able to move on thanks to the support and hard work of Tahirih staff. At the end of the performance Rachael and the client stood before the packed auditorium and received a standing ovation.

Thank you, Sahara Dance, for becoming a “Lifesaver!”



Dancers from Sahara Dance, including Rachael Galoob-Ortega (far right) perform during a benefit for the Tahirih Justice Center.