



# News from THE WOMEN'S CENTER

ISSUE 3

JUNE 2007

Business: 508.996.3343

405 County Street

New Bedford, MA 02740

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## MEN WHO COOK FUNDRAISER STIRS UP SUCCESS

A new venue, Keith Middle School, heralded a revamped and much improved *Men Who Cook* this year.

The event, held on March 24, 2007, was a resounding success with patrons embracing the changes made to the annual fund-raiser. Moving the event to one room – the spacious new cafeteria at Keith –

enabled organizers to create more of a party-like atmosphere.

In addition, a return was made to a one seating buffet, with the evening beginning at 5:00 PM and wrapping up around 8:30 PM.

A live and silent auction helped bring in more than \$17,000 to the nonprofit agency. All proceeds, after

expenses, support ongoing counseling, support, outreach, and educational programs.

City Lights and The Hep Cats provided entertainment throughout the evening.

Approximately 400 patrons attended, enjoying the cooking of 200 chefs, who dazzled them with seafood dishes, homemade soups,

appetizers, and a variety of desserts.

Major sponsors included The Foresters, The Robert F. Stoico/FIRSTFED Charitable Foundation, Eye Health Vision Centers, and Reynolds-DeWalt Cross-Media Specialists and Printing.

TWC would like to thank all our sponsors, patrons, and volunteers.



New Bedford Police Chief Ron Teachman joins his "chefs" at Men Who Cook on March 24, 2007.

## NEW DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR NAMED FOR TWC

Rebecca McCullough joined The Women's Center as the agency's new Development Director in mid-May. She most recently worked for YMCASouthcoast in New Bedford as Director of Development. She also serves as Chairman of the elected Board of Assessors for the town of Mattapoisett.

Rebecca brings more than 25 years of business experience to the position and holds an M.S. degree in Communications from Simmons College, Boston. She is excited about her new job and working to support the mission of TWC. Give Rebecca a call to welcome her at 508.996.3343, Ext. 25.

## ANCHORED IN CHRIST FOURSQUARE CHURCH HONORS WOMEN

Saturday, May 12<sup>th</sup> was a special day for our women residents, thanks to Anchored in Christ Foursquare Church in New Bedford. Church representatives wanted

to do something special for our clients and The Women's Center was glad to oblige. On this special "Women's Day," residents were pampered with hand,

foot, and back massages and manicures.

In addition, church members from "Hands On Ministry" provided a light luncheon and journals for residents to

write their thoughts in.

Everyone had a very fun, relaxing and memorable day.

## MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Hello again, friends of TWC:

This issue begins the second year for our agency newsletter. We have welcomed this opportunity to stay in touch; and, I hope that you have enjoyed being kept up to date on our activities.

The agency is continuing to grow. We have initiated many new and exciting programs, including our new shelter for domestic violence victims with substance abuse and/or mental health issues, new school violence prevention

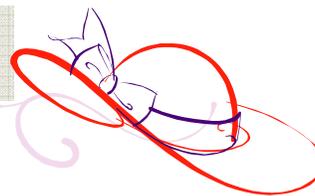
education programs, and a homelessness prevention program that helps our clients maintain their housing through support for rent, mortgage or utility arrears.

Our extensive group work is receiving statewide attention, as we likewise have expanded our individual and group services to male victims and men at risk.

Children's services continue to be an important focus for The Women's Center, and we now have an additional child

therapy specialist to meet the increased demand for services. Members of our staff have also been instrumental in assuring the establishment of an area Child Advocacy Center which will assure that the region has high quality, accessible services for young victims.

Of course, the Center continues to empower and support women as they seek safety and work to rebuild lives that have been shattered by violence and abuse.



All of TWC's critical services to victims depend on the support of our generous donors and friends.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you all again, on behalf of our clients, for your generous support. We could not do this work without your help.

*Pamela Mackeod-Lima*

## VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER

On Thursday, May 24<sup>th</sup> the volunteers from TWC gathered at Fay's 2 restaurant in New Bedford. It was the first time many of the volunteers had to meet their counterparts, and they found out that they had much in common.

In appreciation of their support for our mission and in honor of the difference they make every day at TWC, Sasha Mazza gave them stained glass angels with a special poem about volunteers. Jane Flynn gave them framed pictures of The Women's Center.



**Volunteers enjoy dinner at Fay's 2**

(L to R) Virginia Hochman, Rosemary Madeiros, Sasha Mazza Girouard, Cathy Greene, Christy Lazar, Diane Price, Merion Thompson and Marjorie Costa

## POET'S CORNER

### Turmoil Inside

There's a turmoil arising in me,  
and I can't seem to get a grip,  
Through my body, I can feel it rip.

I seem to lose control and can't hold onto me.  
That turmoil seems to rise up,  
and I'm not who I want to be.

I know I am not alone in these feelings of despair,  
this turmoil that I cannot share.

There's a turmoil arising somewhere deep inside,  
I can feel it taking over me,  
and I cannot seem to hide.

Sometimes it just takes a look, or even just a word,  
And I don't have to say a thing,  
my eyes, they can be heard.

It's only when I rest this turmoil will I once again see.  
The special kind of person that matters most to me.

It's then I will look in the mirror and the reflection I see,  
Will be the reflection of a person who is turmoil-free.

ME.

*J.L.M.*  
*SA Counselor*

## GNB TRACK CLUB RUNS 5K FOR TWC



The Greater New Bedford Track Club ran its 28th annual Hazelwood Women's 5K Run/Walk benefiting The Women's Center on Sunday, May 6.

The run/walk began at Hazelwood Park on Brock Avenue in New Bedford at 10:00AM.

Approximately 180 participants braved cold winds, according to Kate Collins.

Ms. Collins added, "... the wind was in our faces, but the mood of the group was positive, and everyone had fun. Most importantly, it was women coming together to support women."

TWC would like to extend our sincere thanks and deep appreciation for the GNBTC's continued support for a violence-free community.

Prizes were awarded in a number of different categories:

*First Place overall*  
Joann Matthews  
19:21

*Second Place overall*  
Christine Anderson  
19:40

*Third Place overall*  
Jennifer Emblidge  
19:41

*Mother/daughter runner team*  
Liz and Joyce Rosinha  
48:07

*Walker First*  
Lauren Gustafson 33:25

*Junior*  
Alexandra Charette 26:22

*High School*  
Genoa Warner 24:45

*Open*  
Ariel Aronson 21:21

*Submaster*  
Rebecca Breault 24:21

*Master*  
Michell Robert Britto 19:50

*Senior*  
Cheryl Healy 26:25

*Veteran*  
Flo Days 30:59

### DID YOU KNOW ... ABOUT OUR FALL RIVER SATELLITE?

The Women's Center has a satellite in Fall River dedicated to helping sexual assault victims and family members.

The Center, located at 209 Bedford Street, opened in 2003 and is handicapped-accessible with ample parking and conveniently situated on the main bus line.

In addition to offering free and confidential services, the center provides a 24-hour Hotline, bilingual crisis intervention, individual and group counseling, as well as legal and medical advocacy.



Katie Collins and Leo Rodeillat  
Race Director and Track Club President

## SOUL MATE DOLLS HELPFUL TOOL IN ART THERAPY



According to Truddi Santos-Clark, Director of Group Facilitation at TWC, doll-making is a

"healing art," one that many survivors of abuse find very therapeutic.

The objective behind it is to give each woman an opportunity to create her own soul mate doll. The doll becomes something of an extension of the woman herself... providing unconditional love and giving the woman someone to confide in and connect

with when things are difficult. Basically, the doll serves as a reminder for the woman to love herself.

Beginning with a blank slate, participants are given a "blank" doll and then go about "personalizing" it – creating hair, clothing, and whatever else they wish to add.

The women also create a purse for the

doll. Inside the purse, soul mate messages can be placed – basically supportive words that the woman can refer to when she needs a little reminder about why she is a special and unique person.

Leslie Cunha of Rochester volunteered her talent and energy to creating the soul mate dolls for Ms. Santos-Clark.



THE WOMEN'S CENTER  
405 COUNTY STREET  
NEW BEDFORD, MA 02740

Nonprofit Org.  
U.S. Postage Paid  
New Bedford, MA  
Permit No. 50

### **WISH LIST**

Curtains • Grill • Vacuum • Rugs • Umbrellas  
Radios • CD Players • Boom Boxes •  
Table and Chairs for Outside or Picnic Table  
Twin Size Sheet Sets • Towels • Face Clothes  
Rubbermaid Totes • Journals • Stationery  
Photo Albums • Picture Frames • Gift Cards •  
Disposable Cameras • New Clothing (All  
Adult Sizes), Socks, Underwear

*Please Note: TWC can accept only **NEW** items as donations.* While we appreciate donors thinking of the Center, Department of Public Health regulations prohibit our agency from accepting used toys, stuffed animals or clothing for health reasons.

For more information or to donate an item on the Wish List, please call  
**508.996.3343**

Visit us online at  
[www.thewomenscentersc.com](http://www.thewomenscentersc.com)

## ANNUAL GOLF OUTING SET FOR JULY 30<sup>TH</sup>



**13th Annual Golf Outing  
July 30, 2007  
Allendale Country Club  
1:00pm Shotgun Start**

The 13th Annual Golf Outing tees off at Allendale Country Club on Monday, July 30, 2007, beginning at 11:30 AM with registration. Boxed lunches will be served.

Tee-off is at 1:00PM, and the awards dinner begins at 6:30PM, thanks to our ongoing event sponsor, **Curtis Packaging**.

This year's boxed lunch sponsor is **Just Jane's** in Dartmouth.

Dinner is sponsored by **Hub Folding Box** once again this year.

Interested sponsors and golfers are encouraged to contact The Women's Center at 508-996-3343 for further details.

All net proceeds support the TWC's ongoing education and counseling programs.

For more information or to donate a raffle item, contact Rebecca McCullough, Director of

Development at TWC:  
508-996-3343, Ext. 25.

All golfers will be given complimentary carts, boxed lunches, and dinner following the outing.

Last year's event raised over \$46,000.

