



The Women's Center

# ON OUR WAY

Newsletter of the Women's Center  
46 Pleasant Street, Cambridge, MA 02139  
(617) 354-8807

Fall 2007

## Your Money and Your Life

Have you ever wondered why it can be so painful to manage your money? Do you wish you could set a budget and save towards a goal – like buying a house or going to school – without knowing where to start? Would you like to get rid of credit card debt and build a good credit report? Are you curious about investing money on a limited budget, or tracking your finances on a personal computer? Do you worry about identity theft and online fraud?

We all have to deal with money, whether we have a little or a lot. Thanks to two amazing women, Susan Guidrey and Valenia McDonald, the Women's Center is launching a Financial Literacy Program this fall to help women answer their money questions, no matter how basic, and take charge of their finances.

Valy McDonald established the Susan E. Guidrey Financial Planning and Education Fund in memory of her partner, Susan, who lost a battle with cancer in 2006. Valy and Susan met at the Women's Center, and Susan was passionate about helping others overcome obstacles to working with their money. Through the Guidrey Fund, Susan's life work will continue to inspire and assist women in the important challenge of building financial stability.

The Guidrey Fund has received donations from multiple contributors, including Susan's family members and former colleagues at the Boston District of the SEC, who said, "During her life, many of her friends and colleagues here looked to Susan for advice when making important financial decisions. The

creation of the Susan E. Guidrey Financial Planning and Education Fund will undoubtedly continue her legacy of empowering women in managing their financial lives and is also a wonderful tribute to our treasured friend."

The purpose of the Financial Literacy Program is to help women of all income levels understand basic financial tasks and strategies and to help define and achieve basic goals. Over the summer, the Center conducted a survey to get a sense of the most popular topics related to money management; topping the results list were investment strategies for limited budgets, formulating a budget/spending plan, and overcoming emotional obstacles to dealing with finances.

The Women's Center plans to begin a series of five evening workshops from mid-October to late November. The workshops will be led by financial professionals who are committed to women's financial education; each workshop will cover a single topic and can be attended on its own or in conjunction with the whole series. As with all Center programming, the workshops will be free, but please pre-register to save your spot.

As Valy McDonald says, of her hopes for the Financial Literacy Program: "What I really want to emphasize (which was Susan's advice) is that there is never too small an amount that people can save/invest. She showed me how to start saving when I still had huge student loan debt and no savings. She was very conscious of our culture's spend, spend, spend style and

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trying to educate me not to impulsively spend... The main point is that everyone can participate in their financial future if they are willing to try it."

Laura Cherry  
Board of Trustees



## **The Women's Center**

46 Pleasant Street  
Cambridge, MA 02139  
(617) 354-8807

### **Website:**

[www.cambridgewomenscenter.org](http://www.cambridgewomenscenter.org)

### **What's up at the Women's Center?**

**Check out our monthly calendar on the website.**

### **Email:**

[info@cambridgewomenscenter.org](mailto:info@cambridgewomenscenter.org)

### **Hours:**

**Monday-Friday: 10am-8pm**

**Saturday: 10am-3pm**

**We are closed on major holidays.**

**Helpline: (617) 354-8807**

**Business line: (617) 354-6394**

## **Volunteers**

The Women's Center gratefully acknowledges the ongoing efforts and contributions of our volunteers.

Thank you for giving so generously of your time and of yourselves.

The Women's Center relies on the generosity of the community to provide a wealth of free programming.

All donations are tax-deductible.

For further information about various volunteer opportunities or to offer in-kind donations, contact the Center Coordinator Ming at :

(617) 354-6394

[ming@cambridgewomenscenter.org](mailto:ming@cambridgewomenscenter.org)

## **Support for Survivors and the Women's Center**

Incest Resources, Inc. wishes to express its heartfelt gratitude to Mary Borrello for setting up The Sheila O'Malley Memorial Fund to benefit survivors of incest and child sexual abuse. Partner to Sheila for more than 39 years, Mary has given the many people dear to Sheila a way to keep her generosity alive.

When Incest Resources, the first survivor organization in the country, opened its doors at the Women's Center in 1980, there was Sheila, as always ahead of her time! She was ready to speak out as an incest survivor, to face the long road ahead to recovery, and to be there for other survivors from the very first support group we ran.

Sheila's memorial fund has donated a total of \$3,150 to the Women's Center! The following note was enclosed in a card from Mary with a smiling Sheila on its cover: "The Sheila O'Malley Memorial Fund was created so that other survivors can share that wonderful smile and positive outlook that are so attainable when you find life's path to wellness and growth."

Incest Resources, Inc. is very pleased that a memorial fund was created in Sheila's name, keeping her unique spirit alive and bringing hope and inspiration to other survivors.



## **Reiki at the Women's Center**

Hi Folks, my name is Bridget Dinsmore. I have been offering free 30 minute Reiki sessions Tuesday mornings at the Women's Center for quite a few months.

What is Reiki? Reiki is referred to as universal energy or the pulse of life. Like the seasons, our bodies are ever changing, inside and out. You do not have to understand or be aware of universal energy to benefit from Reiki. Reiki is a gentle 'hands-on' healing art that reconnects you with the ability to heal yourself. It is a vehicle of active learning that builds on the strengths you already have, and it helps you tap and focus into your own hidden energies. Reiki is simple, so much so that it is difficult to grasp what it is really about unless you become involved with it personally. Through Reiki I have learned that the body is constantly changing and renewing energy. This means that you have the opportunity in every moment to recreate yourself towards better health through mind, body and spirit.

I discovered Reiki during my healing journey over 6 years ago. I was looking for non-invasive alternative healing. I went on a search that enriched my path to healing. I meet many folks who assisted me to reach my goal and heal my cancer without traditional medicine. It was a lonely road that no Dr would venture to travel with me, as they reminded me that they could heal me with an operation followed by chemotherapy and radiation. I lost many friends and family to cancer and watched many other folks struggle to regain dignity as they began to live with missing body parts and try to go through Chemo/radiation only to lose their battle to live.

I am grateful to Ming for giving me the opportunity to come to the Women's Center and share this healing modality with you. If you open up to Reiki you can give your body, mind, and spirit permission to heal. Like other alternative healing modalities, only you can move the blocked energies as the Reiki practitioner assists you during a Reiki session. Reiki can also help healthy people stay healthy, balanced and harmonized with the rhythm of the pulse of life. You can check out my website [www.reiki-support.com](http://www.reiki-support.com)

If you would like a free 30 minute session call me at 617 864-1941.

## Battered Women's Support Group

As we regain our economic stability and growth, our gratitude goes out to all of you who are supporting us through this struggle. For those of you who are familiar with the Women's Center and long-time supporters of the work of the Battered Women's Support Group, we want to let you know that we still exist and are providing core services to women who have experienced male pattern violence\*. Our support group not only serves women from the surrounding communities, but women from various shelters as well. We have just renewed an agreement with Finex House shelter for disabled battered women in Boston to provide support group services for women in their Shelter Plus Care Program during the coming year.

Some of you may recall our successful efforts in the early nineties to purchase a "Panic Alarm" for women in our support group, as you were instrumental in that success. Hard to imagine now, but in those pre-cell phone days a Panic Alarm served women in our support group who were in danger of physical attack by an abuser (despite restraining orders) in circumstances where a phone wasn't available to them. Now, even though cell phones are ubiquitous, not everyone can afford them. To remedy this and serve battered women, we are recycling used cell phones that will be refurbished and reprogrammed with 30 minutes of free airtime a month for women in danger to call the police or other emergency personnel. Phones we don't use will be kept out of landfills to be given to people in similar need elsewhere. This is part of a program titled *Call To Protect ShelterHelp* established by the Wireless Foundation. We have set up collection points in Cambridge at: *Walgreen's Pharmacy* (Photo Dept.) in Central Square; *Trader Joe's* (Customer Service) on Memorial Drive; and *Whole Foods* (Check Out) on River Street, as well as at the *Women's Center*. If you'd like to recycle that old cell phone in your drawer or closet for a good cause, please drop it off at any of the above locations.

Looking back over the last thirty plus years of our group's existence, it's peculiar to recall that women's rights back then weren't considered part of "human rights." There was no issue of "battered women," as the problem was simply not acknowledged. No sooner was male violence against women recognized as a problem than it morphed into the euphemism "domestic violence." Then, rape as an instrument of war wasn't considered a war crime. It took feminists a long time to establish that "**women's rights are human rights.**" I believe that it wasn't until 1996 that the U.N. acknowledged that the particular crimes women endured were crimes against humanity. There has been both progress and regression. We must continue to defend and promote the rights of women, *as women*, because, the world over, women are still at the bottom of the heap. While the women's movement is inclusive of *all* women, other movements have never given the injustices done women the same acknowledgement. It is up to us to shoulder this task.

\*Thanks to Jennie Ruby of *Off Our Backs* for the term "male pattern violence" connoting the use of physical force in relations of dominance and subordination regardless of gender fostered within male supremacist social structures.

## My Experience with the Battered Women's Support Group

I have been attending the Battered Women's Support Group meetings at the Women's Center since November of 2001 and have found that the support, guidance and friendship offered there are priceless. At first, my reason for coming to the group was to gain insight on how to break off my addiction to toxic relationships with men. I always felt that I could never be happy unless I was being valued and approved of by a boyfriend. I was going thru a deep clinical depression during that time and felt that all the roads were closed. After I started attending the Support Group for Battered Women at the Center, I realized that there was a lot to learn to grow into a whole person. The facilitator, who created the first support group for battered women in the United States, and the group members were always there to offer suggestions, support and empowerment. I don't think I would of come out of my depression as effectively as I did without their on-going assistance. I will forever be thankful to them.

As time went by, I continued to realize that I was in denial of my history of domestic violence growing up, and in previous relationships. This realization has helped me change some behavior patterns that were conducive to self-destruction and depression. The task has not been easy at all, but it has been necessary to continue to live as a functional member of society and be able to offer support to others in need. I just only hope that other women out there reach out and have the same opportunity to learn about their situations, grow, feel supported, and feel encouraged to come out of the darkness. It is empowering to acknowledge that there is hope, and that we can live much happier lives once we begin a harmonious relationship with ourselves.

Thanks again to the feminist pioneers and all the members of the BWSG for their support and friendship!!

C.S.



Please help revitalize the Women's Center!



Clean It, Fix It, or Paint It Day



Sunday, October 14



10am-4pm



Lunch included



Come for all or any part of the day!

All women and supportive men

are welcome.

(A great opportunity for helpful fellas to pitch in!)



Questions?

Contact Judy at 617-354-6394

Judy@cambridgewomenscenter.org



## ***The Women's Center I Know***

Located close to the intersection of Pleasant and River Streets, is an impressive three story building housing the unique Women's Center. Since coming into existence in 1971 when women took over a Harvard University building, calling attention to the need for a place where women could meet for various purposes, the Center remains known largely to those who avail themselves of the services offered by this excellent resource facility. As far as I know, this is the only exclusively women's center in Cambridge.

My arrival here at the end of 2005 coincided with my staying at various shelters in the Boston and Cambridge area. While few of us who frequent the Center are without a physical residence, all would agree that regardless of our housing status, income, race, age, etc, we are all made to feel welcome by staff and volunteers alike.

Within the structure are three floors of meeting rooms, a children's room, a library, as well as a computer/resource room—the most frequently used. My personal favorite is the kitchen. Without a facility to store and prepare the largely organic, vegetarian food I eat, it is here I come and am made to feel welcome as I create dishes which nourish the body while my mind finds peace from the noise of the outside world.

Not to be overlooked is the lovely garden out back away from street noise, where one can eat or smoke at a picnic table or just take time to rest and reflect. The garden itself yields vegetables, largely tomatoes, cucumbers, and herbs, which all women who visit can partake of, a first for this summer. Often donations of food are made to the pantry with the most popular items being spices, tea, and coffee.

Some activities offered at the Women's Center are support groups on various issues and workshops on several topics. Women are encouraged to propose new programs. Whatever their interest or intent for coming, they are made to feel as though this is their home or place. However, it is up to each woman to make the most of her visit and of the services offered—all for free. For me, it is a blessing to have such a haven with accommodating individuals willing to listen and talk. As with life, the Center becomes what each person makes of it—interacting with others or keeping to oneself.

For me personally, I have learned much during my visits here. Food has played a central role contributing to my transformation on an inner and deeper spiritual level which is what I value and upon which I place great emphasis. Especially important to me have been the mostly philosophical and sometimes personal conversations enjoyed with Ming, who arrived shortly after I started coming here. We share our ideas with the result for me of heightened awareness even as we speak. On reflection these conversations have taken place usually around food and in the kitchen. I never realized how sharing of food can precipitate a sharing of ideas and an opening up of oneself—valuable in personal growth, which is what I seek. Additionally a sense of community pervades around food if several come together “to break bread.”

By speaking and observing other women in this environment coupled with my background and interest in

anthropology and psychology, I realize we are all on our own personal journey at various degrees of awareness with each person having personal issues to address. While I am an independent individual trying to make my way in this world, I know I can only grow so much in solitude. The Women's Center allows me to maintain my independence while also providing me with an opportunity to be interdependent.

Since learning and having an open mind are critical for me, I know my ability to accept others, listen to their stories, and try to be understanding and compassionate is enhanced and deepened.

Lastly, on a general note, I am amazed at how well women with such different personalities and backgrounds can interact without problems. The number of conflicts I have witnessed is minimal due largely to the professional handling of staff and volunteers. Women come here because they want to, not because they have to, which plays a key role in maintaining the peacefulness experienced here.

Jan



## ***Are You Living Your Most Passionate Life?***

Would you like to be part of an exciting new group that is now forming at the Women's Center? This 3-month group will be focusing on making healthy and positive changes in all areas of our lives. This will include making delicious & healthy food choices, helping you discover workouts that will leave you feeling jazzed & energized & offering lots of inspiration to make exciting & empowering lifestyle choices for a fabulous & amazing life. Please come with an open heart, ready to laugh, empower other women & make fantastic new friends!

The group starts on Tuesday, October 9th, 7-9pm You are encouraged to participate in the group from the very beginning in order to benefit the most from the group. Please contact Nancy (617) 840-4048 for more information.

## ***Women and Media***

Misogyny flourishes in our culture due mostly to the media's propagation of lies about women. This group's goal is to provide a social circle that promotes and supports resistance to these lies. We intend to help each other deconstruct and discredit misogynistic propaganda.

Films deconstructing media representation will be viewed on the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of each month. The 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of each month will be devoted to open discussions regarding the prior meeting's film as well as our own experiences and ideas about the media in general, how it affects us, and what we can do about it.

We meet twice a month on Thursday evenings, 7-8:30pm. Please see our monthly calendar for the most updated meeting dates at [www.cambridgewomenscenter.org](http://www.cambridgewomenscenter.org).



## Support Group for Single, Lesbian/Bisexual Parents

We believe that as single lesbian/or bisexual parents, we share many issues in common, from finding time for ourselves (including finding time for dating) to negotiating the various life stages our children enter and move through. It is our hope that this group may become a gathering where support, understanding, empowerment, and the sharing of ones journey/experience is embraced and encouraged. That this gathering/salon will allow all of us on the journey of being single parents to feel understood, so that we can support and learn from one another.

We will be meeting on the 3rd Friday of the month at 7p.m., so that if those in attendance wish to bring something to share with the group (fruit, juice, muffins etc.)... along with their compassion and knowledge, that would be great. Herb tea and coffee will be provided.

Lastly, this group is not an exclusionary group and as such is open to any woman who feels that she has something to share on the topic of 'being a queer single parent'. Please be aware that this is a childless salon, but childcare can be possibly arranged in advance. Please call 617-354-8807 for details.



## Drum with the Batucada Belles

Since 1982, the women drummers of The Batucada Belles have been playing at rallies and marches in the tradition of the Brazilian batucada, calling people into the streets in celebration and protest.

The Batucada Belles are looking rejuvenate the group, now in its 25th year, to include a more diverse group of women, and to also include dancers! We play for social justice groups and love to play for peace rallies and for protests at the statehouse. We also want to play at private events for pure entertainment and dancing fun! We provide FREE drumming playshops to celebrate the spirit of women drumming. You can learn to play some of our traditional Brazilian instruments, Caixa (snare drum), Surdo (large bass drum), Tamborim (small high pitched drum), Repenique (lead drum that calls breaks), Ganza (shakers) and Agogo Bells (light double cowbell) or bring your own drums and other percussion.

We will teach you drumming techniques to play in a drum circle or lead a group of other drummers. We teach all levels, and have great drum rhythms for both beginners and advanced drummers.

Help us to insure that no event goes without that contagious energy of WOMEN ON DRUMS. Women drumming can change the world. Please check out the website: <http://geocities.com/womendrumming/>.

## The Emotional Healing Group

### **Body-centered emotion, pleasure, and connection**

The Emotional Healing Group, former Depression Support Group, has a couple of loyal faces, and we're hoping to see more by letting everyone know what the group is about.

In the group, we practice witnessing and supporting each other in our feelings while learning how to let others see who we truly are: women who want to regain the full scope of our aliveness by working through what blocks us from fulfillment and joy in lives. We share ideas and let each other see that none of us are alone with our feelings, no matter how defeated or isolated we may feel. The simple knowledge that others also struggle with difficult feelings, and the forum that allows us to support each other in them, can be very comforting and nourishing to women dealing with any kind of emotional crisis, be it depression, grief, or unresolved anger, fear or disconnection stemming from earlier life experiences.

We use some bioenergetics (breath and body) exercises to learn how to get more feeling and energy into our bodies, and we explore what it might mean to stay present with each other rather than get caught up in the stories. Please stop by with your curiosity about connecting with other women who are on a healing journey and need other women who will take that journey seriously and believe it. While societal messages devalue emotions as a source of pleasure and aliveness, we use the group to explore other approaches to our inner states, and entertain the possibility that life might be more fun if we allowed ourselves to focus on pleasure rather than avoiding pain.

The meeting time of the group is 6-7:30pm on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month.

## Financial Literacy Workshop Series

**Tuesdays, 7-8:30pm**

Space is limited. Pre-registration is recommended to ensure a slot. Register for any or all of the 5 sessions. Walk-ins are also welcome if there is enough room.

- 10/16: "Formulating a budget plan/ spending plan and getting out of debt"
- 10/23: "Setting up a saving plan and meeting saving goals"
- 11/6: "Investment strategies for limited budgets"
- 11/13: "Using a computer to track finances"
- 11/27: "Conquering emotional and other barriers to dealing with money"

## Incest Survivors Speaking Truth to the Next Generation

A new quilting group, specifically for incest survivors who have been involved in helping other adult survivors and child victims of incest, will begin at the Women's Center in October. The group was organized by Michelle Harris, survivor-art therapist, and Elaine Westerlund, survivor-psychologist, with several other survivor-colleagues joining them. The topic for the group dialogue, which will be facilitated by Michelle and will be captured in the making of the quilt, is speaking truth to the next generation.

This group is one of the three quilt groups being planned by Michelle as part of an Incest Survivor Quilt Project on the topic. A second group, sponsored by Incest Resources and the Women's Center, and open to all incest survivors, is currently forming to begin after the first of the year. Anyone interested should contact Michelle at 617-669-1478 or mharrisatr@gmail.com. All quilts created as part of this project will later be shown at art exhibits that address speaking to the next generation about incest. Anonymity will be ensured for those who wish.

The stunning and powerful quilt created by the first survivor quilt group Michelle facilitated at the Women's Center has its permanent home in our large third floor room. If you missed the dedication and unveiling earlier this year, please come by and view the quilt.



## The Yard Sale Is A Success!

On September 8, the Women's Center held a yard sale at the home of Board co-chair Susan Noonan-Forster and raised over \$850! As well as being a successful fundraiser, the event was great for community building, as neighbors checking out the sale also learned about the Women's Center's history, mission, and activities. Thanks to all who contributed time and donations or stopped by to pick up good bargains for a good cause, and many thanks to Susan for her tireless hours of hard work. Special thanks must also go to the donor of hundreds of brand-new Beanie Babies to the yard sale -- possibly the biggest hit of the day.

## Thinking Outside the Cake



The Women's Center applauds Arlene Olivero for thinking outside the cake and requesting donations to the Women's Center in lieu of wedding shower presents! Arlene and friends have generously surprised us with gifts of more than \$200. We wish Arlene every happiness, and we thank her for this lovely and meaningful gesture.

## Lesbian Speed Dating Fundraiser Saturday, November 3, 7-9pm

All women are welcome. \$15 with pre-registration (non-refundable), \$20 at the door. 50 person limit — guests are encouraged to pre-register to secure a spot.

Email

mimi@outinboston.org to pre-register or for more information.



*Support the Women's Center,  
and find the woman of your dreams!*

## Support Groups/Meetings In October

- ♦ Al-Anon for Women (Every Monday, 6-7:30pm, except 10/8 Columbus Day)\*
- ♦ Are You Living Your Most Passionate Life? (Tuesdays, 10/9 & 10/23, 7-9pm)
- ♦ Battered Women's Support Group (Every Wednesday, 7-9pm, except 3rd Wednesday—10/17)\*
- ♦ Bisexual Women's Rap (Friday, 10/26, 7-8:30pm)\*
- ♦ Coming Out Discussion (Saturday, 10/6, 1-3pm)\*
- ♦ Drumming with the Batucada Belles (Saturday, 10/20, 4-6pm)\*
- ♦ Emotional Healing Group (Former Depression Support Group) (Tuesdays, 10/9 & 10/23, 6-7:30pm)
- ♦ Financial Literacy Workshop 1— "Formulating a budget/spending plan and getting out of debt" (Tuesday, 10/16, 7-8:30pm)\*
- ♦ Financial Literacy Workshop 2— "Setting up a saving plan and meeting saving goals" (Tuesday, 10/23, 7-8:30pm)\*
- ♦ Incest Resources' Drop-In Discussion Group for Female Survivors of Childhood Sexual Abuse (Friday, 10/19, 6-7:30pm) Topic: Coping Skills.
- ♦ Reiki Sessions (Tuesday, 10/19, 10:10am-12:15pm)
- ♦ Single Lesbian/Bisexual Parents Support Group (Friday, 10/19, 7-9pm)\*
- ♦ The Women's Center Board Meeting (Monday, 10/15, 6:30-8pm)
- ♦ Thursday Night Gathering of Survivors of Child Sexual Abuse (Every Thursday, 7:30-9:30pm)\*
- ♦ Women & Media (Thursdays, 10/11 & 10/25, 7-8:30pm)
- ♦ Women Empowering Recovering Together: An Eating Disorder Support Group (Wednesday, 10/17, 7-8:30pm)
- ♦ Women of Color Book Club (Friday, 10/12, 6-8pm)  
Book: *The Woman Warrior* by Maxine Kingston
- ♦ Women's Gentle Yoga (Saturdays, 10/6 & 10/20, 10:30-11:45am)
- ♦ Writer's Circle (Wednesday, 10/10, 7-8:30pm)

\*Wheelchair accessible groups

**Yes, I want to support the Women's Center!**

\_\_\_ \$2,000 \_\_\_ \$1,000 \_\_\_ \$500 \_\_\_ \$250 \_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_ \$50 \_\_\_ \$25 \_\_\_ other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make your tax-deductible check payable to The Women's Center.**

*For a donation of \$125 or more, you can receive a free poster from the Women Activist Series by Betsy Warrior.  
For more info or to choose one of the seven full-color, matted posters, check our website: [www.cambridgewomenscenter.org](http://www.cambridgewomenscenter.org)..*

\_\_\_ My gift will be matched by my employer \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ My donation is in honor of: (name) \_\_\_\_\_

(address) \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

.....  
*Thank You!*  
.....

Checks payable to **The Women's Center**. Mail to: Women's Center, 46 Pleasant Street, Cambridge MA 02139

If you'd prefer to be taken off of our mailing list, please check this box and return this slip, or email us at [info@cambridgewomenscenter.org](mailto:info@cambridgewomenscenter.org).

*Fall 2007*

**Yes, I want to support the Women's Center!**

By going to [www.cambridgewomenscenter.org](http://www.cambridgewomenscenter.org) and clicking on "support us" and then "Donate Now"

**Keeping On**

We're still here! Thanks to all (individuals, foundations, and corporations) who have believed in the value of the Women's Center and given their support. Thanks to the volunteers and group facilitators, who have so generously given of their time. Thanks to those who have given everything from toilet paper to tea to toner. Thanks to Ming, who has given so much of herself in so many ways. And thanks to the women who come to use the Center, cook for each other, help each other, and bring courage, resilience and inspiration.

A year has gone by since we had to discontinue all paid positions except Women's Center Coordinator in order to keep going. We wondered if donors would shy away, not wanting to put money into a lost cause. While some certainly decided to pull back, many more gave, and some even increased their support! People and places that never gave before have given! The result is that for the first time in 5 years, income has exceeded expenses! We can breathe (a little).

This is not to say we are out of the woods! We still have to repay our loan (plus interest) to Boston Community Capital, and of course we are still going to need every donation we can get to keep the Center going and continue working for women. Please support our Women's Center if you can, and you can be sure your gift will be well-utilized, as we are a totally no-frills organization.

Thank you!

Judy Norris

**Foundation and Corporate Support**

**We are most grateful to the following foundations and corporations for their generous support during the past year!!**

- ASD Foundation
- Bushrod H. Campbell & Adah F. Hall Charity Fund
- Cambridge Community Foundation
- Cambridge Savings Charitable Foundation
- Cambridge Trust Company
- Clipper Ship Foundation
- Cornyn Foundation
- Draper Laboratory
- First American Title Insurance Company
- Hartley Corporation
- John Donnelly Trust
- Morrison Fund
- SAP Matching Gift Program
- Sheila O'Malley Memorial Fund
- Susan Guidrey Memorial Fund
- TJX Foundation

**The Women's Center  
46 Pleasant Street  
Cambridge, MA 02139**

**Return Service Requested**

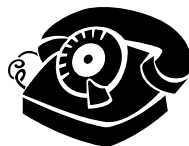
**Non-Profit Org  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Boston, MA  
Permit No. 59699**

## **Women's Center Board Expansion**

The Women's Center Board of Trustees is looking to expand. If you are interested in participating in an active fundraising Board to help the Women's Center grow and thrive, please send a letter of inquiry to:

Women's Center Board of Trustees:  
46 Pleasant Street, Cambridge, MA 02139  
or email it to

[board@cambridgewomenscenter.org](mailto:board@cambridgewomenscenter.org).



## **Day Time Helpline Volunteers Needed**

If you have an open mind, compassion, and a few hours during the day (12-2pm, 2-4pm, or 4-6pm) that you would like to make a difference in women's lives, you can become a helpline volunteer at the Women's Center. Orientation and training will be provided. Please contact the Center Coordinator Ming at [ming@cambridgewomenscenter.org](mailto:ming@cambridgewomenscenter.org) or 617-354-6394 for more information.

## **WISH LIST**

- Dehumidifier
- Portable CD Player/Radio
- Desktop Computers: Pentium IV or Faster processor, Hard Drive 10GB or larger; Flat Monitors
- Computer Mice for PCs
- Printer for Computer Lab with Toner Cartridges
- CD-ROM drives & CD burners
- Good Desk Chairs
- Computer Tables
- Gift Certificates for Home Depot, Staples, Target, and Tags
- Printer Paper
- #10 Envelopes
- Paper Towels and Toilet Paper
- Non-Perishable Food in Cans, Bags, or Boxes (Within Expiration Dates)
- Coffee, Tea, Honey, Cream
- Food Containers, Trash Bags and Sandwich Bags
- Eco-Friendly and Unscented Hand Soap and Dishwashing Liquid
- Recycled Cell Phones
- Mops, brooms, buckets

