



The Women's Center

# ON OUR WAY

Newsletter of the Women's Center

Spring 2008

46 Pleasant Street, Cambridge, MA 02139

(617) 354-8807 [www.cambridgewomenscenter.org](http://www.cambridgewomenscenter.org)

## International Women's Day and the Origin of the Women's Center

International Women's Day is an all-American holiday with connections to the Women's Center. Now celebrated annually on March 8, International Women's Day probably originated in the United States, commemorating a 1908 demonstration by Jewish women textile workers on the lower East Side of New York City. The following year, the U.S. Socialist Party initiated a National Women's Day. In 1910 the International Socialist Women's Congress, meeting in Copenhagen, approved the first socialist holiday for women, with its chief demand women's suffrage. Seven years after this proclamation, women marking International Women's Day sparked the uprising in Petrograd which toppled the Tsar, the ruler of the Russian Empire.

Fast forward to March 6, 1971, when Boston area women and their supporters gathered at the Boston Common for a demonstration and march with a 'surprise ending.' The high-spirited crowd crossed into Cambridge, marched into Central Square, took a left on Pearl Street, and soon arrived at their destination, 888 Memorial Drive, the former Hingham knitting factory, and at that time part of the Harvard Design School. Women occupied the building for ten days, demanding a community women's center and affordable housing for residents of the adjacent Riverside area. Their act resulted in an outpouring of support from women and men all over Boston,



legal actions by Harvard against Jane Does I-V, a judge demanding to "throw the bums out," and a final victory march out of the building into Harvard Square.

Money raised before and during the takeover, including a donation of \$5000 from Susan Storey Lyman, then Chair of the Radcliffe Board of Trustees, covered the down payment on the building at 46 Pleasant Street, which opened in January 1972. Our very own Women's Center is the longest continuously operating community women's center in the U.S., maybe the world.

This history is being captured in the documentary "Left on Pearl: Women Take Over 888 Memorial Drive, Cambridge," by the 888 Women's History Project. On March 8 of this year, the work in progress film was shown to an enthusiastic audience, which jammed the Cambridge Senior Center. The Women's Center and the Cambridge Women's, Peace, and Human Rights Commissions sponsored the showing. The members of the Project hope that by next International Women's Day they will be able to premier the finished film.

Rochelle G. Ruthchild  
The 888 Women's History Project, Inc.  
69 Spring St., Cambridge, MA 02141  
[www.888womenshistory.org](http://www.888womenshistory.org)  
[womentakeover888@yahoo.com](mailto:womentakeover888@yahoo.com)

(The 888 Women's History Project, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit educational organization, funded in part by the Massachusetts Foundation for the Humanities.)

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## Happy Spring!!



## 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)

## New Board Members~Nancy Horwitz

I am delighted to have joined the board of the Women's Center for so very many reasons. First, it is an organization that embodies many of my core values including that of empowering women. Second, the spirit of community and diversity that exists is something that has always been important to me. Last year, I had the opportunity to deliver several Career Workshops and knew right away by being at the Center that there was something more that I needed/wanted to do. In speaking with Ming, it became apparent to me that there might be a match between the needs at the Center and my desire to make a difference. Here's a bit about my background to give some context.

My interest in social justice, women's empowerment, and increased cross-cultural understanding has been a part of me for as long as I can remember. My mother was a social activist who showed me through her actions that one person can make a difference. I became aware, early, of the importance of being open to and embracing differences. My educational background included studies in Comparative Religion and Psychology which reflected my desire to deepen my understanding of people and cultures. After receiving my MS in Education, I moved into the corporate world where for the next 20 years, I focused in the areas of Employee Relations, Diversity, Management Development and Leadership Development in my Human Resources Roles. (Continued on Page 4)



## New Board Members~Sarah Doherty

I am extremely excited to be involved with the Women's Center! I have always been interested in promoting women's needs, empowering and advocating for women. Over the past few months I have been so impressed by the women who attend the Center as well as the current Board members. You are truly an inspiration and I feel very grateful to be a member of this organization.

I graduated from Smith College, a women's college, with dual degrees in clinical psychology and economics. While in school I received a certificate of training in domestic violence and violence against women. With this training I was able to donate my time answering the crisis line at a battered women's shelter. In addition, I worked as a councilor for two years at the Northampton ServiceNet Crisis Respite program that focused on hospitalization prevention and step-down into the community. Here I conducted client assessments and intervention for suicidal patients and answered the Pioneer Valley emergency service line.

Currently I work at Putnam Investments as an Investment Associate on the fixed income team where I examine municipal tax-exempt bonds for higher education, charter schools, states, tobacco, and nonprofit credits. I am a member of the Putnam Early Career Networking Group, Education Committee (of the Diversity Committee) and the Women's Leadership Forum. These groups work to promote diversity within the workforce and to empower women at the local level. (Continued on Page 4)



## **Thank You, Andrea!**

Andrea would come into the Women's Center smiling and offering to help. She said how much she appreciated the Women's Center many, many times a day, how much it meant to her, how glad she was she had found it. Every time she saw me she enthusiastically greeted me and gave thanks. She volunteered to clean the bathrooms. She brought food to the kitchen to cook and share. She helped prepare mailings. She was homeless, except when she was at the hospital and at the Barbara McInnis House, where homeless women can stay after hospitalization. We knew she was sick, but not how sick. She died of breast cancer in the fall of 2007. There was no chance to say goodbye. She lit up the Women's Center. We miss her bright, generous, beautiful presence, and are so thankful to have known her and to know that the Women's Center meant so much to her.

Judy 

## **Manage Money and More**

Following up its initial five-session workshop series last fall, the Women's Center is continuing its Financial Literacy program this spring through a series of classes in which participants are learning to manage their money and much more. Through mutual support and daily action, they are gaining tools and methods to help them value themselves in a whole new way.

Based on two books by financial whiz Ruth Hayden, "How To Turn Your Money Life Around: The Money Book for Women," and "Your Money Life: The Make-It-Work Workbook," the interactive classes are intended to empower women to successfully manage money, look at behaviors and beliefs they have absorbed from others, and learn and practice new money behaviors. Ruth Hayden has worked for over twenty years to help women gain control of their lives by recognizing the importance of responsible money management. The workshop instructor, Karen Bowen, is dedicated to bringing Ruth Hayden's techniques to local women. See Karen's accompanying article on page 6 for a description of the workshops in her own words.

This six-session series is being held on Monday evenings, ending April 14. The class is open to additional participants, and will continue to meet in the form of a monthly support group. We also hope to offer the workshop series again later this year. If you are interested in participating, email [board@cambridgewomenscenter.org](mailto:board@cambridgewomenscenter.org) or call Ming at 617-354-6394 to register or be put on the mailing list for future notifications.

This series, like all the Women's Center's financial literacy workshops, is made possible by the Susan Guidrey fund, established in Susan's memory by her partner, Valentia McDonald, for the purpose of educating women in financial matters. Stay tuned for other financial literacy offerings this spring and fall!

Laura Cherry

## **LBTQ Needs Assessment**

The Women's Center recently conducted a needs assessment to find out how we can better connect to and support LBTQ women in the Boston area. After posting an online survey and conducting a focus group, here is what we found out!

Among the types of services requested were lesbian, bisexual, and transgender social groups, speed dating, opportunities for activism, coming out support, relationship support, and outdoor activity groups. The most requested services were for social groups, specifically a LBTQ Book Club and a Women's Coffee Hour.

We also discovered that there are many LBTQ women in the Boston area who have never heard of the Women's Center. In fact, 38% of the women who completed the survey reported that they didn't know it existed, and 26% had heard of the Women's Center but didn't know what we did. Please tell your friends about us, and we'll do our best to get the word out there as well! Out of the women who have been to the Women's Center, most rated their overall experience as 'Good.'

If you missed the opportunity to participate in the needs assessment, it's not too late! Just send us an email at [info@cambridgewomenscenter.org](mailto:info@cambridgewomenscenter.org) and let us know what services you are looking for. If we can't provide them at the Women's Center, we'll do our best to provide you with a referral.

We'd like to thank all of you who participated and provided us with your helpful feedback!

## **Cambridge Police and Center Liaison**

In October we visited the Cambridge Police Department and made arrangements with them to come to the Women's Center to give staffers and volunteers an overview of how the police can provide us community services and how we may be able to provide services to those they may want to refer to us. In the past I've had opportunity to call on them for backup in several domestic violence cases and their help was invaluable. In the even more distant past, we provided training for the police in handling domestic violence cases and supplied them with the first informational cards they handed out to victims when they answered such calls. That was in the mid-seventies. A few years ago our relationship lapsed, so we were happy to reestablish ties.

Detective Joanne McEachern and Officer Susan Cale visited with us on December 11 and spoke to us about security for the Center and how they could provide help or backup in domestic violence and mental health crisis situations. We also spoke with them about our long-standing work with battered women and assured them that they could refer women to us who they come into contact with in the course of their work. We were happy with our exchange of information and ideas and felt the meeting was of mutual benefit to all.

Betsy Warrior

## **Survivors' Words: For Crying Out Loud**

*A chance to write, edit, publish, and preserve our history*

*For Crying Out Loud* (FCOL), a quarterly newsletter by and for childhood sexual abuse survivors, was launched by a collective of survivors at the Women's Center in 1983. We believe it to be the oldest survivors' newsletter in the country. In 1990, the members of the first collective handed the newsletter off to a new group of women, the second collective. FCOL continued to publish as a survivors' newsletter for many years, and at its peak had a subscriber base of over 2000, from all regions of the US and including numerous international subscriptions as well. In 2005, FCOL changed its format to that of a literary journal for survivors, printing mostly poetry and receiving a flood of submissions.

At a time when resources for abuse survivors were few and hard to come by, *For Crying Out Loud* provided many things to many women: crucial information, welcome support, a creative outlet, confirmation that we were not alone either in our pain or in our healing. Members of the editorial collective shared writing, editing, and publishing tasks: writing topical essays and articles, compiling news and resource lists, selecting written submissions to include, and working with the printer on layout and formatting. Although, thankfully, many more survivors' resources are available now than in 1983, the need for support and community has not diminished, and many survivors are isolated. There is still a place and a need for survivors to share their voices and hear those of others.

For me personally, being a part of the collective that produced FCOL was a great and even transformative experience, allowing me to explore what it means to heal from abuse, work with other survivors on a shared project, and give back to the Women's Center community that had helped me begin my healing. The collective has been a source of both pride and support for all its members.

FCOL has been on publishing hiatus since 2006, and the members of the second collective are now seeking women to form a third collective to re-envision, recreate, and distribute the newsletter as they choose. The collective has starter funds to cover printing and mailing expenses for a number of issues, a mailing list/subscriber base to build on, and an impressive set of archives for inspiration. If you are interested in talking about how you might participate in this new incarnation of FCOL, please send an email to [board@cambridgewomenscenter.org](mailto:board@cambridgewomenscenter.org) with "FCOL" in the subject line.

Laura Cherry

### **Therapists Needed or Need a Therapist?**

Are you a low-income woman in need of a therapist or are you a therapist looking for an opportunity to volunteer? Please call

**The Women's Counseling & Resource Center  
(617) 492-8568**

We may have what you need.

## **New Board Members~Nancy Horwitz Continued From Page 2**

After 20 years, I started my own business, NLH Development Associates, a Personal and Professional Coaching firm which focuses on helping people to bridge the gap between where they are and where they want to be. I also am the Boston Program Facilitator for Women Unlimited's Leadership Development Programs that are focused on cultivating leadership skills for Women. This work, coupled with my involvement with the Women's Center, gives me an opportunity to make a difference in the lives of many people--- to help them to move beyond what they might have thought possible. This is what motivates me.

I am proud to be a part of the Women's Center and look forward to contributing my skills, ideas and energy toward the mission of The Center. I am excited to be a part of this wonderful community and look forward to extending the reach of the Center and working to ensure that more people are made aware of this gem of a resource as well as the wonderful women who are a part of it. I look forward to meeting many of you in the months and years to come.

## **New Board Members~Sarah Doherty Continued From Page 2**

The Women's Leadership Forum has hosted a variety of professional speakers and workshops for employees while the Education Committee promotes cultural events across the greater Boston area and provides funding for employee participation in the diversity arena. My extra curricular activities include volunteering for Power Lunch of Boston Partner in Education and the Advisory Board for the Boston Collegiate Charter School in Dorchester, MA. Power Lunch promotes a one-on-one mentoring relationship with a focus on reading with children in the Boston public school system.

I have already learnt so much from the talented and wonderful women at the Center and look forward to many years of working together. I bring with me my joy and dedication for supporting the community. I hope to meet and speak to you over the coming years!

## **Thank You, Adams Communications**

The Women's Center is now using more economical phone service and saving money!! How? We are very grateful for the capable free advice and hands-on help from Adams' Business Communications Solutions, who work with businesses to help them increase their office efficiency and improve their bottom line. They do system consultation, business phone system solutions, voice mail, Internet service, carrier service, web-site development, and on-site staff training. They offer a 30 percent discount on both services and systems to 501C3 organizations. They can be reached at: (508) 866-4086 or <http://adamscomm.net>.



## **Lesbian Rap**

The Lesbian Rap group spans decades at the Women's Center. I had the pleasure of facilitating the social network five years ago, with group topics ranging from safer sex education for women who have sex with women, to newly forming laws regarding gay marriage. Several changes in the tide of attendance eroded the group's presence as of late, and we need YOU to help us get back to the flourishing drop-in discussion space so many women thrived on. We had a turnout of 8 people at the first re-vamp gathering this January, though a snowstorm whittled the next gathering to two. In March, 12 attended! Please help us remind people there is a queer female community in the Boston area. It's all in where you look.

The Lesbian Rap meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of every month from 6:30-8:00pm. For more info, please email Valerie [deinde23@hotmail.com](mailto:deinde23@hotmail.com). Folks are asked to bring food & non-alcoholic drink to share. Then we go dancing out on the town!! Remember Myspace is not the only place for friends. ;)

## **Coming Out Discussion**

The Coming Out group is a safe space where women can explore their sexuality freely. The group welcomes all women who are questioning, or coming out as lesbian or bisexual. Topics that are discussed range from understanding feelings of same-sex attraction, examining stereotypes about the LGB community, exploring identity (i.e., race/religion/age) as it pertains to the coming out process, coming out to friends, family, and co-workers and developing an LGB support/social network. For more information, please contact [mimi@outinboston.org](mailto:mimi@outinboston.org).

## **Let's Keep the "Human Touch" Alive!**

The purpose of starting this support group is to give women a chance to relax, to turn to one another, speak and feel heard.

Women of today are so stretched out with their daily schedules of family commitments and jobs that there is not enough time left for themselves. Technology is robbing the valuable time people spend with each other.

We meet once a month at the Women's Center to:

Turn to one another, Share our dreams, Share an inspiring story, Share a recipe, Plan a trip to discover nature, or Discuss an issue concerning the common good.

Please make a note that we do not share our personal problems and get or provide any kind of counseling. The whole purpose of meeting is to relax, respect and enjoy each other's company and consider it a vacation time. Thank you.

This group meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month from 6-7:30pm. Everyone is welcome. There will be a theme for every meeting. On April 8 it is "sharing an inspiring story." Please check the Women's Center monthly calendars for future topics. We hope you will tell us what kind of topics you are interested in and email [biftekh@yahoo.com](mailto:biftekh@yahoo.com).

## **On-Going Groups**

- ♦ Battered Women's Support Group (Every Wednesday, 7-9pm, except 3rd Wednesday of the month)\*
- ♦ Bisexual Women's Rap (4th Friday of the month, 7-8:30pm)\*
- ♦ Coming Out Discussion (1st Saturday of the month, 1-3pm)\*
- ♦ Drumming with the Batucada Belles (4/12, 4-6pm)\* No drumming experience necessary. Please call Janis at 781-925-3465 before attending and for more upcoming meeting dates and other locations.
- ♦ Emotional Healing Group (2nd and 4th Mondays of the month, 6:30-8pm)
- ♦ Incest Resources' Drop-In Discussion Group for Female Survivors of Childhood Sexual Abuse (3rd Friday of the month, 6-7:30pm) Topic: Intimacy (April), Sexuality (May), The Healing Process (June)
- ♦ Lesbian Chat 30+ (all ages welcome) (1st and 2nd Fridays of the month, 6:30-8pm)\*
- ♦ Lesbian Rap (3rd Friday of the month, 6:30-8pm)\*
- ♦ Let's Keep the "Human Touch" Alive! (2nd Tuesday of the month, 6-7:30pm)\* Topic on 4/8: Share an inspiring story.
- ♦ Straight Marriage, Still Questioning. Peer led support group for the woman in a straight relationship struggling with her sexual orientation. For details please email [kate.e.flynn@gmail.com](mailto:kate.e.flynn@gmail.com)
- ♦ Survivors of Incest Anonymous, Nothing Too Heavy to Share. A support group for survivors of severe sexual abuse and exploitation. Info/Screening: Ming at 617-354-6394
- ♦ The Women's Center Board Meeting (Monday, 4/28, 6:30-8pm)
- ♦ Thursday Night Gathering of Survivors of Child Sexual Abuse (2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month, 7:30-9pm)\*
- ♦ Women & Media (2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month, 7-8:30pm) Film title on 4/10: "War Zone"
- ♦ Women Empowering Recovering Together: An Eating Disorder Support Group (Wednesdays, 4/9 and 4/23, 7-8:30pm)
- ♦ Women's Healing Circle (1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month, 7:30-8:30pm)
- ♦ Writer's Circle (2nd Wednesday of the month, 7-8:30pm)

## **Workshops/Events in April**

- ♦ Clean It, Fix It, or Paint It Day (Sunday, 4/27, 10am-4pm). Help revitalize the Women's Center!
- ♦ Does Anger Make You Cringe? (Tuesday, 4/15, 5:30-7:30pm)\* An introductory workshop learning how to handle anger in a better way.
- ♦ The Art Room. (4/12, 1:30-2:30—"Post Secret" It's an ongoing community art project where people mail in secrets anonymously on one side of a homemade postcard, as seen on [www.postsecret.com](http://www.postsecret.com)) (4/22, 6:30-7:30pm—"Join us in the sandbox")
- ♦ Introduction to NonViolent Peaceforce (Tuesday, 4/29, 6-8pm)\*

\*Wheelchair accessible groups

## Take Control of Your Finances

Did you ever feel like there was no way out of your financial situation? You may have made changes for a few days and then found yourself repeating familiar self-defeating habits. The Women's Center has a solution for any woman experiencing stress around managing money. We have just opened our first Ruth Hayden money classes for women. This training process is so simple that any woman can follow it. The class is called "Managing Money with Competence." Currently, ten women are participating and loving every minute of it! Each woman is redefining her self-respect and financial future. Then she starts the process of reprogramming her money brain. She learns that managing money is not a matter of intelligence but a matter of developing useful, practical, effective daily money management habits.

The exercises give women the steps necessary to reach their goal. Each participant identifies her individual unconscious habits that interfere with good financial management. Then, she gives up self-destructive habits by facing the long term consequences of these habits on her health as well as her money life. Every woman consciously establishes intentional, well-thought-out new daily money practices and starts predicting the consequences of her financial choices. All participants pick one money life project they will transform. The project includes goals, milestones, action plans, daily habits, and money behavior changes. The women practice, practice, and practice these new behaviors so that the practices become second nature. As women unite to train themselves, they overcome their old habits, gain confidence, establish financial success, and see they can control their financial future. They see their visions are becoming a foreseeable reality with lots of hard work and repetition of daily conscious money practices. They realize they can overcome their obstacles!

If you would like to take control of your finances once and for all with realistic practices, please contact Karen Bowen at (857) 294-1432 to learn more about the Monday-night classes or support group.

Karen Bowen

### Clean It, Fix It, or Paint It Day



**Sunday, April 27**  
**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

## My New Future

I want a new future

Not a one day  
someday  
far away future



But a today  
right here and now  
reach out and touch with my hand future

A future that arrives  
like the next in-taken breath

Like the seed that  
stayed under ground for the necessary time  
sprouted  
and set the bud  
which now has only to unfold

Death has done  
and will do  
what death does

But my future  
does not argue with death

My future opens its arms  
and invites me  
to dance

© Carol Beasley  
March 2008

### Managing Money with Competence

**6 Mondays, 6:30-8:30pm**

*A workgroup based on Ruth Hayden's  
money management book series*

- **Class 1: Write my money life vision statement**
- **Class 2: What does my money life look like?**
- **Class 3: What are my money habits?**
- **Class 4: Develop effective money habits**
- **Class 5: Create my money management system**
- **Class 6: Tracking my money life progress**

Please email [board@cambridgewomenscenter.org](mailto:board@cambridgewomenscenter.org)  
or call Ming at 617-354-6394 for our next series in  
the fall 2008.

## 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).

*Spring 2008*

## 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"

### Treats from Community Cooks

Every month, there are treats appearing in the Women's Center kitchen: from healthy salad and hot pasta to yummy deserts. These are the delightful contributions from Community Cooks.

Community Cooks has been delivering nutritious meals to the Women's Center once a month since September 2007. They are a group of over 90 Somerville/Cambridge area residents who, once a month, contribute to a meal or provide food items to several agencies and shelters in the community. For over 17 years they have carried on this work. Each volunteer chooses to do one thing once a month – from cooking a main meat dish or dropping off fruits to contributing food items, or even donating cash to help those who take on larger quantity cooking. To learn more about Community Cooks visit their website at [www.communitycooks.org](http://www.communitycooks.org), or contact Vicky I at [communitycooks@gmail.com](mailto:communitycooks@gmail.com) if you would like to become a volunteer.

The Women's Center sincerely thanks Community Cooks for their thoughtful food selection and warm generosity to everyone in our community!!

**Correction:** The article in the last newsletter (Fall 2007) on the Battered Women's Support Group, the phone-recycling program and community outreach for battered women was by Betsy Warrior.

### My Experience with the Women's Center

My friend, who is homeless, showed me the Women's Center; she brought me here and showed me around. I was very shy at first, but I like to share.

The Women's Center has helped me very much. I didn't know about computers when I came here. Ming showed me. She is very helpful and so nice; especially Ming is nice among the people who work here. She showed me the library and the computers. Imagine, I was homeless, sleeping in my car and very stressed. Ming showed me a place where I could lie down. Ming is like the mother of this place, is always ready to help and is very calming. She knows how to handle this place; she's open, doesn't hide anything.

I like very much that you can stay all day at the Center and no-one asks questions. Now, I like to be with homeless people. I love them very much and would like to help in my own way. I want to move myself forward and make my life better, and help other people too.



We need this place. There are so many patient people here and they are very helpful. This is a very nice place, a good place for people to come. I am trying to find other people to help, to give money and to volunteer.

Roma

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

**Return Service Requested**

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

## **Helpline Volunteers Needed**

If you have an open mind, compassion, and 2-4 hours a week (between 10am-8pm) 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.



## **Computer Maintenance Volunteer Needed**

If you can help with computer set up, maintenance, repairs, or network security, we would love to have your expertise for our computer lab! 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
- Laptop, Hard Drive 2GB or larger
- Desktop Computers: Pentium IV or Faster processor, Hard Drive 10GB or larger; Flat Monitors
- USB sticks
- Toner Cartridges HP 45 (51645A) or Lexmark #70 Black
- CD-ROM drives & CD burners
- Good Desk Chairs
- Computer Tables
- Gift Certificates for Home Depot, Staples, Target, and Tags
- 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
- Printer Paper
- No. 6 3/4 Envelops

