

♀ ON OUR WAY

Newsletter of the Women's Center
46 Pleasant Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Telephone: (617) 354-8807
TTY & VOICE

winter '89

TO WASHINGTON WE GO

March for Women's Equality & Women's Lives
APRIL 9TH, WASHINGTON, D.C.

This historic national March will bring together people who believe that all individuals are entitled to civil rights and to the conditions that make these rights accessible, people who believe that women must have the right to choose safe, legal and funded birth control and abortion, and people who believe that women must be included in the Constitution through the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment.

Roe v. Wade, the decision which recognized a woman's right to abortion, is in danger of repeal. The Supreme Court announced that--this spring--it will consider the Missouri law which seeks to restrict access to abortion severely. Judge Blackmun, author of the majority opinion which legalized abortion, stated that Roe v. Wade could easily be overturned--this year. He told people, "just count the votes".

Right wing justices and legislators, buoyed by extremist groups like "Operation Rescue", are already announcing victory. We need to tell the courts, the Congress and all those who do not represent us that we intend to frame our futures, that we will demand our rights and see to it that women's lives are not endangered. We hope that the March will show the nation just how many organizations and individuals support women's rights and are willing to come together to fight for all people's civil liberties. MARCH FOR WOMEN'S EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S LIVES ! !
-Excerpts, letter from Boston NOW

100 buses will be going to Washington from Boston on April 8 (evening), leaving from the Boston Common! (Buses return Sunday and Monday nights). The fare is \$40, and if you want to go but can't afford \$40, you can send in the registration form and a note right away. How many people they will be able to send or help send depends on how much money is raised at a fundraiser for the march in early March. CALL 782-4859 or 782-1056 for registration forms, details)

Plane tickets - United Airlines (5% discount on restricted, 40% on unrestricted tickets) - GET Meeting Planners for plane, hotel reservations: 1-800-228-0861

GETTING WHAT YOU WANT

Women's Center staff are constantly asked to locate resources on a wide range of topics. You can call and ask us about a specific support group, a job training program, a therapist, a woman electrician, a shelter . . . We are continually updating, expanding and organizing referral information. Currently, Lisa Jerge, an intern from Tufts, is diligently calling places and checking information on employment agencies and training programs, shelters, rape crisis centers, hotlines, resources for youth, AIDS resources, birth control, reproductive clinics, and entering the changes on the computer.

We always need help with updating referrals. That includes receiving feedback on resources you've used that you felt were very good, unique, hard to find, (or very bad). Call Judy at 354-8807 if you'd like to help or have some info.

**MARCH HOTLINE
782-4059**

INCEST SURVIVORS NETWORK NEWS

Incest Survivors Network (ISN) is a group of women survivors of child sexual abuse, who have gathered together to provide services to survivors as well as education to the greater Boston community. ISN can be contacted by mail c/o the Women's Center, or by calling the Center and leaving a message.

DROP-IN DISCUSSION GROUPS: On the third Thursday of each month from 7:30-9:10pm ISN members facilitate open discussion groups at the Center. Since around 70 women attend each month, 2 rooms are used. Some women are new to groups, while others have attended for years. Any woman with a history of child sexual abuse is welcome. There is diversity in our ages, lifestyles and backgrounds, but we start from our common base of healing from child sexual abuse. Women vary in what abuse they experienced and how much they remember, and are at different places in their healing processes.

A typical discussion group begins promptly at 7:30pm. The facilitators present general guidelines for the safety of participants & the topic for discussion. Then the topic is opened up to the group. Women take turns sharing their thoughts, feelings and experiences. Women do not have to speak, but facilitators try to ensure that everyone who wants to talk has the opportunity to do so. We bring the discussion to a close at 9:10pm to allow time for announcements & networking. Upcoming topics: March 16: Anger
April 20: Sexuality
May 18: Abandonment
June 15: Boundaries

GENERAL MEETINGS: ISN holds general business meetings each month before the drop-in groups from 6:15-7:15pm. We welcome all who are interested in learning more about ISN and joining us in our work.

DEMONSTRATION: Preparations are under way for a demonstration later this year for survivors and our friends.

SPEAKERS: If you are looking for survivors to speak on the topic of child sexual abuse, ISN has a speaker's bureau.

RESOURCE BOOK: A resource book is available at the Women's Center. It contains information on therapists, support groups (both facilitated and self-help), body work, and much more.

SURVIVORS THEATRE

CALL FOR LETTERS from women interested in co-facilitating or participating in a performance art/theater group for survivors of childhood sexual abuse. Please specify your ideas and needs and how we can get in touch with you. Send letters to: Survivors Theater Group, c/o The Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge, MA 02139

POLITICS OF FAT

Politics of Fat is an on-going group that meets every other Wednesday from 7:30-9:30 pm in the Women's Center. Our goal is to create a supportive and trusting space where women can feel comfortable about their size (no matter what their size) and discuss their common experiences as women being oppressed by unattainable standards of beauty. Politics of Fat needs women who are interested in coming to this kind of group and in making a commitment to help with re-organizing the group. For more info and/or to help with re-organizing, call Cheryl, 266-9466.

CONGRATS TO D.O.B.

Daughters of Bilitis, Boston, the oldest social/support organization for lesbians in the country is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year! We echo the appreciation so many lesbians feel for this organization which has been here, breaking down isolation, providing support, and being a reliable resource for all these years. THANKS ! !

NEW ADDRESS

For the: Alliance of Massachusetts Asian Lesbians and Gay Men 499-9535
AMALGM
P.O. Box 543, Prudential Station
Boston, MA 02199



INCEST RESOURCES -- AN UPDATE

During the past year Incest Resources has gradually made many changes in the services it provides to the community. We continue to offer the following services which utilize the acquired experience, education and expertise of our members, all of whom are survivors who have become psychologists or social workers. Educational literature, pamphlets and audio tapes addressing the recovery needs of survivors and the training needs of professionals are available nationally and internationally. Training and consultation also remain available to professionals in mental health, medicine, education, law, the judiciary and the church. Through these continued services the hard-earned credibility that we have established over the past 9 years will be utilized to benefit survivors in the coming years.

Fortunately, a large number of survivors, many of whom have utilized I.R. programs over the years, have rallied to form Incest Survivors Network, which now provides some of the services that we were unable to continue. We hope that all newly involved survivors will be empowered by their direct participation as we have been by ours.

We continue to maintain our mailing address at the Women's Center (write for the new I.R. flier series!) and are grateful for the many years we have otherwise occupied space at the Women's Center. The members of Incest Resources, past and present, remain immensely appreciative of the supportive feminist community the Women's Center had created by 1980 that enabled Incest Resources to be among the pioneers of what has turned out to be a survivor movement. We thank the Women's Center for their acceptance of Incest Resources at a time when others were throwing our correspondence in the wastebasket (assuming a practical joke!), and we thank them for persevering all these years with a commitment we have aspired to match.



18 YEARS OF SCHOOL

If the Women's School were a person, she'd be old enough to vote. This spring marks the 18th anniversary of the Women's School.

The current collective consists of four hardworking, ice-cream loving women: Dawn, Diana, Mary and Mary. We meet once a week to schmooze and organize two semesters of workshops and classes every year; usually one month in the spring and one in the fall.

We are presently organizing our Spring 1989 school offerings for the month of April. We have some classes already scheduled. In addition, we are interested in offering workshops on the topics of racism, political activism, international feminism, and other politically-oriented subjects. If you are interested in offering a workshop on one of these topics, please contact one of us.

This year, we are especially interested in welcoming women on the collective. If you like ice cream and good times, call or visit the Center and leave a message for the Women's School.

OUTREACH

The Women's Center exists for all women, yet participation by minority women is relatively small. We want to do what we can to make the Center more inclusive. In January, Ann Royce, Alexandra Laird and Sarah Buel gave two workshops for Center staff and group members on multicultural awareness and outreach strategies. Our next step will be to have a meeting of facilitators and other group members to discuss how to incorporate multicultural sensitivity into their groups. This meeting will be on a weekend afternoon in late March, and is open to anyone who wants to attend (354-8807 for date, time). We will have other special meetings to discuss making other changes, such as additional groups and/or services, more personal contact with community organizations, cosponsoring events, a different decision-making structure... We need to decide where to begin and how to enact those changes that are compatible with the Center's purpose and with our limited resources. We welcome your ideas and input in written form (addressed to the All-Center Meeting) and your participation in upcoming meetings.

NEW GROUPS



LESBIAN SURVIVORS

This group has evolved from the Thursday evening Incest Survivors Discussion Group. A group of women felt a need to establish a discussion group specifically for lesbian survivors of childhood sexual abuse. The group sees many issues which are unique to lesbian survivors, including the impact of childhood sexual abuse on lesbian sexuality and intimacy, the dynamics of being a lesbian survivor in a relationship with another lesbian survivor, and the many ways homophobia reinforces and intensifies problems stemming from sexual abuse. These are issues which may not be dealt with easily in groups of women with mixed sexual orientations. The group hopes that an all lesbian space will feel safer to lesbian survivors and will allow for deeper healing. New members are encouraged to attend an open discussion group on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month at 7pm. Women interested in a closed group may want to attend a parallel group on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month. The Friday group may become a closed group at some time in the future, but the Wednesday group will remain open. The upcoming meeting dates are February 24, March 1, 10, 15 and 24.

COMING OUT

OPEN DISCUSSION FOR WOMEN OF ALL AGES

Saturday, March 11 - 11am to 1pm

In the two previous 'Coming Out' discussions, small groups of 4 to 6 women have explored the process of claiming our lesbian identities. We've spoken about; how & when & why we define ourselves as lesbians; the various courses this discovery takes and the barriers, confusions and freedoms we encounter; the desire to come out and the consequences in our differing families, work, school, social settings; the stereotypes we carry of lesbians and how they affect our perception and presentation of self and of other lesbians. Here, as in other discussions with women, I am struck by both the uniqueness of each woman's specific situation and the many similarities of experience that we share. Any interested woman is welcome.

30+ LESBIAN RAP

This group is 2 months young and going strong. Around 20 women, in our 30's, 40's and 50's (so far), gather each week. Some are 'regulars', some newcomers. Each meeting is facilitated by someone who is willing and interested in the topic the group has selected. Tuesdays, 7-8:30pm

DISABLED SURVIVORS GROUP

Disability and child sexual abuse can be an excruciating combination: feelings of defectiveness and shame; isolation; denial of what's really happening; loss of bodily control; loss of family; physical and emotional violation; no protection; wondering when the horrors will end.

If you are a women, define yourself as disabled and are a survivor of child sexual abuse, we invite you to attend an open discussion group held every Monday night (except holiday Mondays) at the Women's Center from 6-7:30pm. We have been meeting for 12 weeks and will continue for an indefinite period of time, depending on the needs of the participants. Each discussion focuses on a topic, usually chosen 1 or 2 weeks in advance by participants. Some topics we've discussed are: 'sexuality', 'body image', 'menstruation', 'family issues', 'workplace issues', 'the child within'. Of course there is an infinite number of possible topics, and you are welcome to come and suggest some and join the discussions. Call the Women's Center at 354-8807 and leave a message for a contact person from the group if you have any questions.

WE APOLOGIZE

In our Fall newsletter, we inadvertently left Incest Resources out of our list of Women's Center resources for incest survivors. We did not mean to slight this group, for which we have great respect. Our lack of clarity about I.R.'s current services (see p. 3 for update) led to the error.

CENTER HOURS

Monday - Thursday 10am - 10pm
 Friday 10am - 8pm
 Coffeehouse 8pm - midnight
 Saturday 11am - 2pm

LESBIAN RAP

Mondays, 8-10pm

- February 27 Lesbian Parenting
- March 6 Erotic Writing
- 13 Bisexuality
- 20 Coming Out Stories
- 27 Sharon Kowalski

FEMINIST DISCUSSION GROUP

Wednesdays, 8-10pm

- March 1 Food in Our Lives
- 8 Women and Health
- 15 Music and Song
- 22 Mothers and Daughters
- 29 When Bad Things Happen

BISEXUAL WOMEN'S RAP

Tuesdays, 7:30-10pm

- February 28 Breaking Up
- March 7 Same vs. Opposite Sex Relationships
- 14 Psychologies of Sex & Self
- 21 Bi-phobia: How the gay & heterosexual communities perceive us
- 28 Safe Sex

30+ LESBIAN RAP

Tuesdays, 7-8:30pm

- February 28 Shyness
- March 7 Odd Couples/Mismatches
- 14 Open Relationships
- 21 Issues of Class
- 28 Spirituality

WOMEN'S COFFEEHOUSE

Fridays, 8pm-12 midnight

- March 3 Music & comedy with Layla Stone & Eva Schlesinger
- 10 Coffeehouse's 3rd Birthday Party: Entertainment, music, cake & more
- 17 Original Irish music with Bridget Fitzgerald, Lindsay O'Donovan & Roxanne O'Connell
- 24 Feminist Film Night: Women in Film & Video show films
- 31 Early Women's Music & Culture with Deb Lempeke, Bluegrass Banjo Player, Berkeley's Women's Music Collective

MONDAY

- Support for Battered Women.....7:30-9pm
- Disabled Women Survivors of Child Sexual Abuse.....6-7:30pm
- Lesbian Rap.....8-10pm
- Boston Bisexual Women's Network-Intro (1st Mon, even #d months)..7:30-9:45pm
- All Center Meeting(biweekly).....6-8pm
- *Women's School.....7:30-10pm

TUESDAY

- Discussion Group for Deaf Incest Survivors (2nd,4th Tues)....7:30-9:30pm
- Women for Sobriety.....8-9:30pm
- For Crying Out Loud.....7pm
- Bisexual Rap.....7:30-10pm
- 30+ Lesbian Rap.....7-8:30pm

WEDNESDAY

- Feminist Discussion Group.....8-10pm
- Lesbian Al-Anon (childcare)....6:30-8pm
- Writer's Support.....7:30-9:30pm
- Politics of Fat (biweekly)...7:30-9:30pm
- Lesbian Survivors of Childhood Sexual Abuse (1st, 3rd Weds.).....7pm
- Lesbian Partners of Incest Survivors (2nd, 4th Weds.).....8-9:30pm
- Healing Through Art for Incest Survivors (1st Wed., monthly).....7-10pm

THURSDAY

- Birthmothers (1st,3rd Thur)..7:30-9:30pm
- Open Discussion for Incest Survivors (facilitated 3rd Thursday)..7:30-9:30pm
- Lesbians Choosing Children Network (2nd Thursday, monthly).....7:30-10pm

FRIDAY

- Lesbian Survivors of Childhood Sexual Abuse (2nd, 4th Fridays).....7pm
- Coffeehouse.....8pm-midnight

SATURDAY

- Writer's Support Group.....noon-2pm

* means group is not currently open



THE WOMEN'S EDUCATIONAL CENTER, INC.
46 Pleasant Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Phone: (617) 354-8807

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IWD EVENT

The Boston Women's Committee for International Women's Day will be sponsoring an event in celebration of working class women everywhere. They hope this year to focus on the exploitation of women's labor internationally, and how this enables the continuation of Imperialism. The program will feature U.S. and international women on the cutting edge of the struggles of working people. The event will be held on Saturday, March 11, 7:30pm-11:30pm in the cafeteria at Roxbury Community College, 1234 Columbus Ave., (near the Roxbury Crossing 'T' station). Wheelchair accessible and ASL interpreted.
\$5 suggested donation .

NEOWOMAN POTLUCK

Are you new to the Boston area or the Women's Center? Come to the NEOWOMAN POTLUCK and learn more about the Center, eat, meet other women & watch a movie. Sunday, March 5th, 6pm Potluck dinner (bring whatever you can), 8pm Movie - "Personal Best". All women welcome!

WOMEN'S RADIO DAY

The 11th annual International Women's Radio Celebration will be on WMBR 88.1 FM on Sunday, March 12. Music, drama, news, documentary and call-in shows, plus a number of programs on AIDS. Sponsored by Boston Women's Community Radio. For more info, call 524-0857.

Your contribution helps the Women's Center to accomplish a great deal for women.
EVERY DOLLAR COUNTS!! MANY THANKS

Yes - I want to help the Center. Here is my tax-deductible contribution.

\$5 \$10 \$25 \$50 \$100 other

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

We sometimes gives our mailing list to other groups for special mailings of interest to women. Please check below if you do not want to receive these mailings.

_____ Please do not give out my name to other organizations.

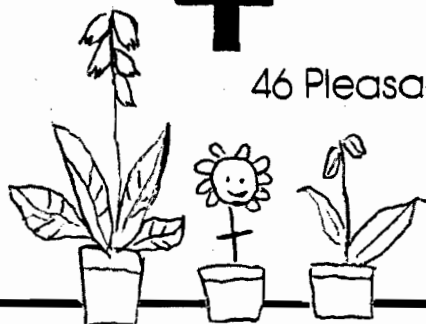
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spring '89



MEETING OF THE MINDS

The Meeting of the Minds on April 22nd was an exploration of how groups at the Women's Center are alienating to women of different cultures, and what we can do to rectify that. Women from different cultural backgrounds came to the meeting.

Sometimes a woman will come to a group and no one talks to her or responds to things she says to the group as a whole. While such experiences are alienating to everybody, women of color and women with disabilities may well attribute group members' collective failure to interact with them to prejudice. Comments conveying understanding or asking for clarification let the speaker know she's been heard and that her perspective is valued, and provide an opportunity to have discussions that lead to a more meaningful and inclusive understanding. We believe taking steps to insure that all the groups are welcoming to all women will result in a much more receptive environment for women from diverse backgrounds as well as an overall improvement in the Women's Center.

We talked about groups we have attended and felt the following were key questions: Does the group begin with a greeting of newcomers? Does the group have a facilitator and if so, does she make sure everyone has opportunities to express her own perspective? If there is no facilitator, do group members play that role? Do old group members pay special attention to newer members, or do they mainly talk among themselves? Does the group structure invite equal participation? Are women asked to say hello to the women next to them? At the

end of a meeting, do people ask if everyone has a way home, or someone to walk with to the subway?

Women who attended the meeting are putting together a questionnaire to get feedback on how women attending meetings here feel about them. We are also writing up suggestions for good ways to facilitate or conduct meetings, which will be distributed to all Women's Center groups for their feedback, and then general guidelines will be drawn up. Our goal is to make our groups more comfortable for newcomers, and thus more accountable to all women who want to participate.



FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE

Sunday June 4th

JOIN THE ANNUAL 10-KILOMETER PLEDGE WALK
TO RAISE \$\$ FOR AIDS CARE AND RESEARCH

-- or --

SPONSOR A WALKER - PLEDGE WHATEVER AMOUNT
OF MONEY YOU WANT PER KILOMETER
(Call 354-8807 if you need a walker to
sponsor).

Come walk by the Women Center's banner!
Registration: 8:30-10am on Boston Common
Walk: 10am to 1 pm; Free Picnic Lunch for
registered walkers: 1 to 3:30pm.
Info: Liz or Richard, 437-6200 x214 or 251

SPROUTING GROUPS

Perhaps you've got an idea for a group that you'd like to be in. You can't find such a group anywhere. You wish someone else would get it going, but they don't. How about doing it yourself?. Every group that is here at the Women's Center began because some woman or women wanted it to happen and took responsibility for getting it started! Nothing happens unless someone comes forth.

To start a group at the Women's Center, you fill out a space request form which will be discussed at the next All Center Meeting (every other Monday). Space is available for support groups and for women's projects. There is no charge. We'd be glad to talk with you about how to go about it, or any other concerns you have. Call Judy or Alice at 354-8807



BIRTHMOTHERS

The birthmother support group, now meeting on the 1st and 3rd Thurs. of each month, is celebrating its first year at the Women's Center.

As a group, we are made up of lesbian, straight and bisexual women. We have, from the beginning, been supportive of each others differences, encouraged growth and change in each other's lives, and we continue to offer this fellowship to all birthmothers.

The first meeting in May was held at my home with dinner, dessert, and an extended evening of support and laughter. This longer version of our group was quite successful and I see that we may continue this additional format during the summer.

The group has been talking about putting together a pamphlet about the group, and perhaps doing some outreach lectures. If anyone is interested in having a speaker regarding the issue of surrendering a child, please call dian at 662-0417.

Additionally, I am writing a book on the birthmother experience using oral histories of other birthmothers. If you find that you do not want to come to the group but would like to share your experience as part of a collective voice please let me know.

For more info about the group call dian or the Center at 354-8807.

EVERYWOMAN'S GROUP

Wednesday evenings, 7-9pm

As women, we are constantly confronted with the reality that we live in a world that places a far greater value on men than on women. Whenever we talk about anything regarding money and/or power, we are talking about a male monopoly and a minority of women, be that Wall Street, the Judiciary, Congress, the Executive Office of the government, salaries, job opportunities, family units, etc. It is often difficult to cope and to maintain any level of sanity, given such an insane set of circumstances.

Talking is still recognized as the best therapy; women talking to women about issues that impact our lives is one good method for dealing with the insanity that surrounds us. Such a forum is essential and available at the Center on Weds nights, 7-9pm. The group is open to all women, and presents a great opportunity to introduce your own topic and to facilitate its discussion. Or if you prefer, you may just sit and listen and/or participate.

Women need women. We need to do for each other what we have always done for men and children, by way of support and nurturance. Come and share your thoughts and feelings. Bring your issues with you. Let us hear what you have to say. We can agree, disagree, and respectfully agree to disagree, while we share and validate ourselves and our common experience. See you there!

-- Terri

BATTERED WOMEN'S SUPPORT GROUPS

Offering help to women free of charge in an informal setting. Battered women can find new directions for their lives by sharing their concerns with others in the same situation and by exploring new ways of dealing with this all too common problem. The groups meet every Monday, 7:30-9pm and 2nd and 4th Wednesdays from 7 to 8pm at the Women's Center.

WRITER'S GROUP

Tired of writing in isolation? The Writers' Support Group meets every Wednesday from 7:30 to 9:30pm at the Women's Center. Women may bring poems, stories, essays or other writing for encouragement and criticism.

Newcomers welcome !!

MOVIE MAKING

On Thursday, May 18th, the Women's Center metamorphosed into a chaotic mixture of males, machinery & a few women. This shocking turn of events occurred because a homey place was needed for a film about the life of a battered woman who now volunteers at Transition House. The shelter's address had to remain secret (did you know the Women's Center is their 'public' address?), so we were asked to let the Center masquerade as a shelter for one day.

The woman who was featured in the film endured frequent and brutal attacks by her husband, a prominent and respected member of the community. The most extreme incidents were: the batterer locked his wife in a bathroom for three days; pushed her out of his speeding car and then returned to run over her; locked her in the garage with the car running and the doors locked; and tied her to a chair while he cut her with a razor blade. She went to court to get restraining orders against him and was told to go back and make their marriage work. Her family also told her to stay with him.

The film is about her successful flight from violence. She was 61 when she managed to escape, buy a bus ticket from New York to Boston with money she had hidden in the lining of her purse, call information and ask for a battered women's hotline. She now has built a new life here and spends a lot of time doing public speaking on battering. Filming which occurred from 7:30am-7:30pm included a volunteer answering the crisis hotline the first time the woman called the shelter, and a battered women's support group, with children in the background.

The film is being made by United Way, and will be distributed across the country. Workplaces will agree to show it, and require their employees to attend. Thus, both battered women and batterers will be exposed to it.

AMNESTY WEEK

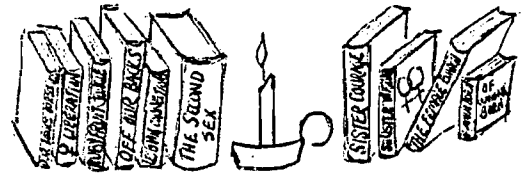
Return those books!!

Anyone who has overdue library books from the Women's Center library can return them the week of June 12 - 17 without fear of repercussions!! Please place in specially marked library box in front hall or in return box on library desk. ALL WILL BE FORGIVEN!

DON'T DELAY - RETURN THEM NOW!

SPECTACULAR BOOK SALE TREMENDOUS INVENTORY EVERYTHING MUST GO!

On Saturday, June 17th, from 11am - 2pm the Women's Center Library is having a gigantic book sale. Hundreds of feminist books and periodicals will be on sale for 25 cents to a dollar. Come, browse & buy! Donations for the sale may be made no later than Tuesday, June 13th -- leave books on the front porch of the Center and mark them for the Library. Proceeds will go to the Library/Archives Fund and to the GCN Prison Book Program.



LIBRARY/ARCHIVES UPDATE

Over the past few months, the library has undergone major reorganization -- obsolete materials have been weeded out of the collection and several small sections have been combined and/or reorganized. We hope the result will make using the library a little easier. We have also been discussing in what directions the library should move and have been setting some priorities for the collection. Our first priority once we have finished the basic weeding and reorganization is to concentrate on acquiring more books and other materials that document the lives and struggles of women of color in the U.S. and internationally. We also want to develop and build collections of materials for and about differently-abled women. We welcome your suggestions of materials for the library (please include info on where the materials can be obtained).

The Library/Archives Collective is very much in need of more women to join us in our work. We need committed women who can work on their own, are willing to do repetitive tasks and who above all enjoy working with books, periodicals and paper! We have many projects that need doing to make the library and Archives collections more accessible. The Archives is particularly looking for assistance in documenting the history of the Women's Liberation Movement in the Boston Area.

If you are able to make a minimum three month commitment to this work, please leave us a note at the Center.

--Libby & Elizabeth, Library/Archives
Collective

**ONGOING GROUPS
AT THE WOMEN'S CENTER**

MONDAY

- Support for Battered Women.....7:30-9pm
- Disabled Women Survivors
of Child Sexual Abuse.....6-7:30pm
- Women's NA 12 step.....7:30-9pm
- Lesbian Rap.....8-10pm
- Boston Bisexual Women's Network-Intro
(1st Mon, even #'d months)..7:30-9:45pm
- All Center Meeting(biweekly).....6-8pm

TUESDAY

- Facilitated Discussion Group for Deaf
and Hard of Hearing Incest Survivors
(4th Tues, Sept.-June).....7:30-9:30pm
- Women for Sobriety.....8-9:30pm
- Bisexual Rap.....7:30-10pm
- 30+ Lesbian Rap.....7-8:30pm

WEDNESDAY

- Everywoman's Discussion Group.....7-9pm
- Lesbian Al-Anon (childcare).....6:30-8pm
- Writer's Support.....7:30-9:30pm
- Lesbian Survivors of Childhood
Sexual Abuse (1st, 3rd Weds.).....7pm
- Lesbian Partners of Incest
Survivors (2nd, 4th Weds.).....8-9:30pm
- Healing Through Art for Incest Survivors
(1st Wed., monthly).....7-10pm
- Battered Women's Support
(2nd, 4th Wednesdays).....7-8pm

THURSDAY

- Birthmothers (1st,3rd Thur)..7:30-9:30pm
- Open Discussion for Incest
Survivors (weekly).....7:30-9:30pm
(facilitated 3rd Thursday, Sept.-June)
- Lesbians Choosing Children Network
(2nd Thursday, monthly).....7:30-10pm

FRIDAY

- Women's Coffeehouse.....8pm-midnight

SATURDAY

- Writer's Support Group
(biweekly).....noon-2pm

**INCEST SURVIVORS
NETWORK**

FACILITATED DISCUSSION GROUP
3rd Thursday of month, 7:30-9:30pm
June 15 'Boundaries'

There are no facilitated discussions in July or August, but they will start again in Sept. Unfacilitated drop-in group will meet every Thursday in July and August.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

LESBIAN RAP

- Mondays, 8-10pm
- June 5 Lesbian Pride/Herstories
 - 12 Families
 - 19 Lesbian Sex
 - 26 Discussing the Rap

**EVERYWOMANS
DISCUSSION GROUP**

- Wednesdays, 7-9pm
- June 7 Feminism and Men
 - 14 Arguing
 - 21 Shyness
 - 28 Dependency

BISEXUAL WOMEN'S RAP

- Tuesdays, 7:30-10pm
- June 6 The Workplace
 - 13 S/M
 - 20 Age Difference
 - 27 Lovers/Pets/Solitude

30+ LESBIAN RAP

- Tuesdays, 7-8:30pm
- June 6 Partnering
 - 13 Anger
 - 20 Body Image
 - 27 Social Night

COMING OUT

Open discussion on COMING OUT for women of all ages -- Saturday, June 3rd, 11am-1pm at the Women's Center.



WOMEN'S COFFEEHOUSE

- Fridays, 8pm-12 midnight
- June 2 Deb Schwartz, a young Jewish lesbian reads her poetry & prose
 - June 9 Catie Curtis, new to town songwriter, plays original and popular women's music
 - June 16 Mary Knapp, often heard on WERS/WUMB radio, sings original folk ballads about the big ways little people affect each other
 - June 23 Eve Goldman, often heard on alternative radio, performs her own unique feminist music
 - June 30 Robin Field, daughter of country & western musicians, sings blues, country & eclectic mix

EXPOSING THE FATHERS

There will be a unique Father's Day demonstration to protest patriarchal violence against women and children. Boston Common (State House side) June 18th, noon.

LESBIAN/GAY PRIDE Saturday June 10

LEAVES FROM BOSTON CITY HALL

Gather from 8-11am

Festivities begin 10:50am

Parade begins at noon

FESTIVAL/RALLY - BOSTON COMMON - 2PM

Hope

to see you there!!!

SANCHIN

WOMEN'S SCHOOL OF KARATE AND SELF-DEFENSE
Presents

KARATE DEMONSTRATION AND BENEFIT DANCE

Saturday, June 3rd

8:30pm - demonstration

9:30pm-midnight - dance

Old Cambridge Baptist Church

1151 Mass. Ave (Harvard Sq. T)

\$5 admission to dance (more/less)

Karate demonstration free

!! SUPPORT SANCHIN !!

DISABLED SURVIVORS GROUP

If you are a women, define yourself as disabled, and are a survivor of child sexual abuse, we invite you to attend an open discussion group held every Monday night (except holiday Mondays) at the Women's Center from 6-7:30pm. Each discussion focuses on a topic, usually chosen 1 or 2 weeks in advance by participants. Some topics we've discussed are: 'body image', 'family issues', 'workplace issues', 'sexuality', 'the child within'. You are welcome to come and join the discussions and suggest topics that you'd like to discuss. Call the Women's Center at 354-8807 and leave a message for a contact person from the group if you have any questions.

SINGLE MOTHERS BY CHOICE

Single Mothers by Choice is an informal, loosely structured group of about 50 women. We are a diverse group with respect to lifestyles and sexual orientations, all deeply committed to meeting the varying needs of single women in every stage of the decision-making process until they become a parent or they decide that single parenting is not right for them. Women in our group have adopted children internationally, become pregnant "by accident", used known and unknown donors, etc.

We meet the 2nd Sunday of the month (Sept. - June) from 4:30-7:30pm at the Unitarian Church, 1326 Washington Street, West Newton to talk and enjoy a pot luck dinner. New members can try the group out for a few months before becoming dues paying members (\$20/year). Children are welcome at all meetings. We have an annual picnic in June and then take the summer off. We will be back to our regular schedule in September. For info: Carol, 641-3095

WOMEN'S SCHOOL

Next October, The Women's School will be offering courses and workshops stressing the theme of political change in our lives and changes in the women's community. We especially welcome women who wish to offer classes or workshops and are not "professionals" in their fields. We welcome women of all ages, races and backgrounds. Call 354-8807 and leave a message for the Women's School. Let's start planning now!

WCRC

The Women's Counseling and Resource Center is recruiting volunteer therapists for our feminist mental health collective. Members must have a Master's Degree, experience and a commitment to a feminist perspective. Please call us at 492-8568 for more info.

BOSTON BISEXUAL WOMEN'S NETWORK

Introductory Meeting - Mon., June 5th, 7:30 pm at the Women's Center. Come learn about activities, support groups, etc. Free. Call 247-6683 (BIS-MOVE) for more info. All women welcome.

THE WOMEN'S EDUCATIONAL CENTER, INC.
46 Pleasant Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Phone: (617) 354-8807

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Boston, MA
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FOOD PANTRY SITE

The Food Pantry on the Common is seeking a new site. The current pantry is in a small basement at the Red Cross Chapter House, 9 Waterhouse St., Cambridge. A 200% increase in demand for the pantry services has made this space inadequate.

The Pantry needs approx. 800 to 1000 square feet of space including storage, access to running water, handicapped access, and ability to meet state and local sanitary and fire codes. Other desirable features are: private counselling/intake space, private entrance, N. Cambridge location, and proximity to public transportation. Anyone with info on possible sites should contact Therese Wright at 354-7800.

CENTER HOURS

Monday - Thursday	10am - 10pm
Friday	10am - 8pm
Coffeehouse	8pm - midnight
Saturday	11am - 2pm

SUMMERTIME PROJECTS

- Making the back yard usable
 - Washing windows
 - Finding & hiring exterior house painters
 - Revamping the Children's Room
 - Getting organized
 - Interior painting
 - Having enough volunteer staff to talk with callers & visitors
- If you'd like to help with any of the above, or another project you think is needed, please call Judy at 354-8807.

.....
.....
Your contribution helps the Women's Center to accomplish a great deal for women.
EVERY DOLLAR COUNTS!! MANY THANKS

Yes - I want to help the Center. Here is my tax-deductible contribution.
\$5 \$10 \$25 \$50 \$100 other

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

We sometimes give our mailing list to other groups for special mailings of interest to women. Please check below if you do not want to receive these mailings.

_____ Please do not give out my name to other organizations.

♀ ON OUR WAY

Newsletter of the Women's Center
46 Pleasant Street Cambridge Massachusetts 02139

(617) 354-8807

TTY and VOICE

Sept. '89



REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

Women have had, and will have abortions, regardless of their legality. Our struggle to make safe abortions accessible to all women is the most basic women's issue: will we be in charge of our own bodies, our own lives? We urge you to take a stand & make your voice heard. Some upcoming demos. and events:

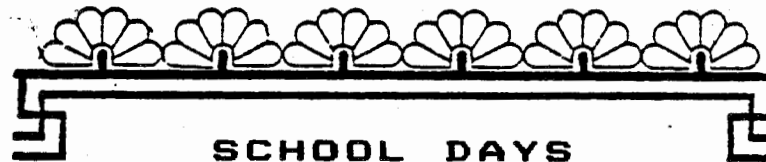
***A MAJOR PRO-CHOICE DEMONSTRATION ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 2.** This event commemorates the death of Rosie Jimenez, the first woman known to die of an illegal abortion after federal Medicaid funds for abortion were cut off in 1977.

Join us in protesting cuts in health services and attacks on abortion rights. Vigil: 5:30-6:30pm at Boston City Hosp. then march to Copley Square at 6:30pm. Bring candles. Sponsored by Boston R2N2, Boston NOW, Alliance Against Women's Oppression, Puerto Rican Women's Committee (partial list). For more info, call 782-1056.

***PROCHOICE DEMONSTRATIONS AT ABORTION CLINICS TO COUNTER OPERATION RESCUE**
Every Saturday, 7am-12noon, Preterm, 1842 Beacon St., Brookline (near Cleveland Circle) or Planned Parenthood, 1031 Beacon St., Brookline. Both can be reached by taking the "C" train, on the Green line. For more info. call NOW at 782-1056.

***TEACH-IN/SPEAK-OUT ON REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS**
All day Sunday, October 22 at Brandeis University. There will be speak-outs, discussions and workshops. ASL interpreted; childcare available. Call 736-3740 for more information.

***MARCH ON WASHINGTON, NOVEMBER 12: NATIONAL MOBILIZATION FOR WOMEN'S LIVES**
Contact Boston NOW at 782-1056 to help build the Mobilization. Organizing meetings are held each Thursday. Call NOW Pro-Choice Hotline for details/locations (782-4059).



SCHOOL DAYS

The Women's School is back this October with a great selection of courses and workshops for Fall '89. This time around we're getting back to our feminist political roots, so if you've been looking for some useful information on gearing up for the 90's, show up for these:

- Anarcha-Feminism (Sat., Oct. 21, 1-4pm)
- Women and Political Theatre (Mondays, starting October 15, 6-8pm, 7 classes)
- Contemporary Women's Political Fiction (Thursdays, starting Oct. 12, 7-9pm)
- Writing Skills for Social Activists (Thursdays starting Oct. 12, 5 classes, 7:30-9:30pm)
- Women's Writing Group (Saturdays, October 7, 14, 21, noon-2pm)
- Consciousness Raising Group (Thursdays, starting Oct. 12, 7-9pm; 6 sessions)
- Menopause: A Self-Help Approach (Wednesday, Oct. 18, 7-8:30pm)
- Women and Disability (Thursday, October 26, 6-9pm)
- Building Links With Palestinian Women (Wednesday, Oct. 25, 7-9:30pm)
- Writer's Support Group (Wednesdays, 7:30-9:30pm, ongoing)

Call 354-8807 for more information.

**ONGOING GROUPS
AT THE WOMEN'S CENTER**

MONDAY

- Support for Battered Women.....7:30-9pm
- Women's NA 12 step.....7:30-9pm
- Lesbian Rap.....8-10pm
- Boston Bisexual Women's Network-Intro
(1st Mon, even #'d months)..7:30-9:45pm
- All Center Meeting(biweekly).....6-8pm

TUESDAY

- Women for Sobriety.....8-9:30pm
- Bisexual Women's Rap.....7:30-10pm
- 30+ Lesbian Rap.....7-8:30pm
- Lesbian Partners of Incest
Survivors7-8:30pm

WEDNESDAY

- Lesbian Al-Anon (childcare).....6:30-8pm
- Writer's Support.....7:30-9:30pm
- Lesbian Survivors of Childhood
Sexual Abuse (1st, 3rd Weds.).....7pm
- Healing Through Art for Incest Survivors
(1st Wed., monthly).....7-10pm
- Battered Women's Support
(2nd, 4th Wednesdays).....7-8pm

THURSDAY

- Everywoman's Discussion Group.....7-9pm
- Incest Survivors Discussion
Group (weekly).....7:30-9:30pm
(facilitated 3rd Thursday, Sept.-June)
- Lesbians Choosing Children Network
(2nd Thursday, monthly).....7:30-10pm

FRIDAY

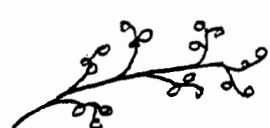
- Birthmothers (1st,3rd Fri)...7:00-9:30pm

SATURDAY

- Writer's Support Group
(biweekly).....noon-2pm
- Open discussion on Coming Out for Women
of All Ages (irregular, call for info)

WHO WILL ANSWER?

When the phone rings, a volunteer answers. What happens when several volunteer staff leave because of school, work or other reasons? We look to you, knowing some of you will want to spend time talking to women who want someone to hear them or are looking for therapists, support groups, abortions, a place to stay... If you're interested in staffing 2-4 hours/week, call Judy at 354-8807.



TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

LESBIAN RAP

Mondays, 8-10pm

- Oct 2 Lesbian Rights & the Legal System
- 9 HOLIDAY, NO RAP
- 16 Lesbian Video Night
- 23 Alcoholism
- 30 Witchcraft

EVERYWOMAN'S DISCUSSION GROUP

Wednesdays, 7-9pm

- Oct 5 Temporarily Able-bodied Views on Disability
- 12 Raising Our Children for a Better Society
- 19 Who we are/who the patriarchy says we are
- 26 Families

BISEXUAL WOMEN'S RAP

Tuesdays, 7:30-10pm

- Oct 3 Dealing with Lovers and Friends
- 10 Are you "sitting on the fence?"
- 17 Sexuality
- 24 Women and Mental Health
- 31 Halloween Party

30+ LESBIAN RAP

Tuesdays, 7-8:30pm

- Oct 3 Gay Portrayal In Film
- 10 Guilt
- 17 Lesbian Social Etiquette
- 24 Sexual Attraction in Friendships
- 31 Self-Esteem

CENTER HOURS

- Monday - Thursday 10am - 10pm
- Friday 10am - 8pm
- Saturday 11am - 2pm



COFFEEHOUSE NEWS

Unfortunately, the Coffeehouse has been discontinued until further notice due to a shortage of women-energy. Thanks for all the good times and the chance for women to share their performing talents in a friendly, supportive space.

INCEST SURVIVORS NETWORK: UPDATE

Incest Survivors Network (ISN) is proud to be entering our second year of existence as an organization. We are pleased to announce that the monthly, facilitated drop-in discussion groups for women survivors of child sexual abuse will begin again (after a summer hiatus) on the third Thursday of every month (7:30-9:15pm). These groups meet in two rooms due to the large number of women who attend. They are facilitated by women who are themselves survivors of child sexual abuse and who have received training in group facilitation. We welcome all women survivors to join us. Women without clear memories are welcome.

September 21: Little Girl Within

October 19: Self-Esteem

November 16: Anger

One room is ASL interpreted, wheelchair accessible, and cat-free.

Groups run from 7:30-9:15.

IMPORTANT: Please arrive on time; it is fine to arrive early. There is ample space to wait comfortably for the group to start; many women are here by 7:10. A woman's late entry not only interrupts someone who is talking, but also forces many women to relocate to make room for her. Unless it is someone's first or second time coming to the Women's Center, women cannot enter groups after 7:45.

ISN will continue to maintain the resource book which contains listings of therapists, groups and events; the book is kept in the sitting room of the Women's Center. ISN members also provide public speaking about child sexual abuse to schools and clinics.

BIRTHMOTHERS SUPPORT

The birthmothers support group has changed its meeting night to the first and third Fridays of each month. The new time is 7-9:30pm. The group has extended its time in order to be able to address each woman and give her space to talk. Some of our recent discussions have been about: feelings and behaviors when a birthmother has a reunion with her child; how to acknowledge your child's birthday; physical manifestations of emotions common to birthmothers.

If you would like more info about the group, or to talk to another birthmother, please call dian at 662-0417.

ISN POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE: UPDATE

The ISN Political Action Committee has been meeting for many months to plan a major demonstration against child sexual abuse. We have decided to postpone the demonstration which had been publicized for October 28 to a later date. Our reason is a most important one: we are dismantling our committee in order to create a new, multi-racial, multi-cultural planning committee. This suggestion was made by Charlene Allen, a consultant we hired to talk with us about how to make the demonstration multi-racial and multi-cultural. Together we can create an event for all survivors and their supporters. We will keep you posted about plans for the demonstration.

The Political Action Committee wishes to thank the following donors:

Resist

Haymarket People's Fund

Boston Women's Fund

Community Works



LCCN NEEDS NEW ENERGY

In the past few years, Lesbians Choosing Children Network (LCCN) has touched the lives of hundreds of women. They have come for information, advice, and support. We have received calls and letters from all parts of the U.S. Now, LCCN is on the verge of extinction. At this time, one woman is running the meetings, answering phone calls and mail, updating the mailing list, and doing the bookkeeping. This is just too much for one person to handle. Unless more women step forward to help, LCCN will fold.

There is a definite need for LCCN to continue, if the mail and attendance at meetings is any indication. Please consider helping LCCN continue its valuable work in our community. Come to the next LCCN meeting Thursday, October 12 7:30-9:30pm or call Michelle at (508) 458-0740 (evenings). You may also write to LCCN at P.O. Box 393, Arlington, MA 02174, or contact the Women's Center.

FUNDRAISING REVIEW

We want to give you an update of our fundraising progress during the last fiscal year which ran from July 1, 1988 to June 30, 1989. During this time, the Women's Center received \$41,535 from foundations, corporations and small businesses: \$36,035 was for general operating expenses and \$5,500 was for community outreach. Additionally, we received \$7,483 from individual donations.

The Women's Center relies exclusively on private donations; we receive no government funding. The generosity of donors makes it possible for every woman to use of the Women's Center, regardless of her financial situation. This is crucial because many of the women who call or come to the Women's Center can not afford to pay for services.

The Women's Center is able to offer so much on such a low budget because over 100 women volunteer in various capacities, answering the phone, updating referrals, facilitating groups, working on projects, putting the newsletter together . . . We want to acknowledge their donation of time and energy. Without volunteers, there would be no Women's Center.



EXCITING RENOVATIONS

If you were to come to the Women's Center now you would see two women standing on tall ladders with scrapers in hand. The Women's Center is getting a fresh coat of paint! We are pleased to have Helena Ragone and Gail Hanlon on the job. (They want you all to know they give free estimates.)

And have you seen the new patio? The scrubby weeds in the back yard have been replaced with flagstones, carefully laid out on some of the hottest summer days by Judy and Diana. The patio is complete with chairs and flowerpots, a great place to meet and chat and enjoy the breeze.

Both the house painting and the flagstones were paid for with money contributed specifically for capital improvements.

Below is a list of corporations and foundations who gave grants to the Women's Center in the past fiscal year. Their generosity and thoughtfulness, and yours, keeps the doors of this Women's Center open for all women.

Bank of Boston Corporation
Bank of New England
Bioran Medical Lab
Boston Globe Foundation
Cambridge Community Foundation
Cambridge Trust Company
Camp Dresser & McKee
Central Surplus
Joyce Chen Restaurant
Lillian & Harry Cowan Foundation Corp
Digital Equipment Corporation
Dole Publishing Company
Alice Willard Dorr Foundation
East Cambridge Savings Bank
Evans Medical, Inc.
Fabreeka Products
First American Title Insurance Company
Gillette Company
Goldberg Charitable Trust
GTE Government Systems
GTE Laboratories
Hartford Insurance Group
Harvard Cooperative Society
Harvard University
Houghton Chemical Company
IBM Corporation
John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Co.
Kirkland Construction Company
Arthur D. Little, Inc.
Loomis Sayles & Company
New Words Bookstore
New World Bank
Amelia Peabody Charitable Fund
Rabb Charitable Trust
Raytheon Company
Savitz & Wainger Medical Association
Standard Thomson
C.B. Stein Builders & Associates, Inc.
Superior Brands, Inc.
Tapestry, Inc.
University Bank and Trust Company
US Trust Middlesex
Watertown Eye Associates
Frederick E. Weber Charities Corporation
Women's Mental Health Collective

CHORUS PERFORMANCE

The New Women's Chorus is putting together its fall performance schedule. Anyone interested in having the chorus perform at a benefit or other event should contact Jennifer at 524-6295.

NEW & HUNGRY?

New to the Women's Center or the Boston Area? Or just want to get to know some new women? We have potluck dinner-and-movie night every six weeks or so, to introduce women to the Center and to each other. The next one is Nov. 5th. Dinner at 6pm and movie ("Therese and Isabelle") at 8pm.

Also, the Newoman committee is looking for women to help run and publicize these potlucks. Its a great way to get involved with the Center. If you're interested, come to the next potluck or leave a message for Beth at the Center.

FAT-POSITIVE SUPPORT

The Fat-Positive Support Group is a 12-step oriented group for women to give each other support in dealing with our issues about food in a fat positive environment. The first meeting will be Mon., Oct 16th, 6:30-8pm (and the 3rd Mon. of each month from then on).

SINGLE MOMS

The Women's Center would like to have a single mother's group with childcare that would meet monthly, on a Saturday morning, 11am-12:30pm. We often get calls from single mothers looking for a place they can get support and ease their isolation. The problem is that we need someone to help get the group started, agree to show up for each meeting and get women talking to one another. If you are interested, contact Judy, 354-8807.

GOODBYE SASHA

Sasha Curran has been the Women's Center's bookkeeper for nearly two years. We have appreciated her work keeping our books in order and completing necessary government forms. Sasha left the Women's Center for Provincetown. Thanks and best of luck!

MORE BOOKKEEPING

We are grateful to Nancy Kackley, who has been so steadfast and contributed so much time in so many different capacities. She has generously volunteered to keep the books on an interim basis until we hire a new bookkeeper. She's doing a great job! Thank you Nancy!

ALICE WOLF TRIBUTE

The women of Cambridge are planning a tribute to City Councillor Alice Wolf for her years of leadership on issues such as abortion rights, gay & lesbian rights, affirmative action, pay equity, affordable housing and support of non-traditional families. For more information, call 868-WOLF.

RAPE CRISIS VOLUNTEER

Boston Area Rape Crisis Center needs volunteer counselors!! BARCC is a group of women who have come together out of our commitment to assist rape survivors in finding help and support, and to change the attitudes in society which contribute to violence against women. We operate a 24-hour crisis hotline, run discussion and support groups, do speaking engagements and support legislative reform. Since 1972, women at BARCC have handled thousands of calls from survivors aged 6 to 84, ranging from victims of recent violence to those who were raped over 20 years ago. We are, above all, women helping each other - with information, sensitivity and strength. You can help!! No experience necessary. Complete hotline training program beginning September 22. Call 492-RAPE for more information.

RAPE SURVIVOR SUPPORT

A 14-week support group for sexual assault survivors will be starting soon. It is designed to serve the needs of women who have come through the initial crisis of being sexually assaulted and would like to work through the long-term effects. The group provides a space for sharing feelings, experiences, information and support with other women who have been raped. There is no fee.

Monthly drop-in discussion group for survivors of sexual assault meets at BARCC, 99 Bishop Allen Drive, Camb. (Central Sq. T stop), 7-8:30pm
Dates: Oct. 19 -- Body Image
Nov. 16 -- Anger
Dec. 14 -- Taking Care of Self
For more info. on either group, call BARCC at 492-7273.



THE WOMEN'S EDUCATIONAL CENTER, INC.
46 Pleasant Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Phone: (617) 354-8807

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Address Correction Requested

COME WRITE WITH US

On Oct. 7, 14 and 21 from 12-2pm, the Women's School offers a writer's support group facilitated by members of an on-going writing group. If you love to write and need encouraging feedback and fresh ideas, join us in a supportive and energy-filled environment. Sessions generally follow a loose structure of two 20-minute exercises, each followed by (optional) reading aloud and discussion. Starting points for past exercises have been: random sentences from a favorite book, objects from a grab bag, or single, charged words ("haircut"). If you need a break from writing alone, let your garret gather dust for awhile and join us as we write from our experience and imagination.

REFERRAL UPDATING

Thanks to Nancy, Rachelle and Melanie for volunteering to update our referrals this summer. They have made countless phonecalls, sent out letters, and entered information on our computer to help us keep our referral information up to date.

THERAPISTS WANTED

The Women's Counseling and Resource Center is seeking volunteer therapists with Master's degrees and 2 years experience, to give 2-4 hours a week doing therapy with low & no-income women. For more information, call WCRC at 492-8568.

Add me to your mailing list Change my address on your mailing list

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

I want to help the Center. Here is my tax-deductible contribution
\$5 \$10 \$25 \$50 \$100 \$500 other _____

I could help out other ways. Call me at _____

<input type="checkbox"/> Staffing at the Center	<input type="checkbox"/> Cleaning
<input type="checkbox"/> Typing	<input type="checkbox"/> Painting, maintenance
<input type="checkbox"/> Helping with Mailings	<input type="checkbox"/> Giving furniture, etc.
<input type="checkbox"/> Updating Referrals	<input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising
<input type="checkbox"/> Organizing	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____

♀ ON OUR WAY

Newsletter of the Women's Center
46 Pleasant Street Cambridge Massachusetts 02139

(617) 354-8807

TTY and VOICE

dec. '89



CHARTING A NEW COURSE

We know how easy it is to get so caught up in daily activities and details that we lose track of what we're trying to accomplish and whether we're succeeding. This is such a way of life at the Women's Center, that women attending the All Center Meetings decided to add on special 'philosophy' meetings to clarify our goals, priorities and strategies.

An emerging theme in the philosophy meetings is the role of the All Center Meeting. Presently, the All Center Meeting makes decisions about space use, spending, fund-raising, building maintenance, policies, problems that arise, personnel issues. The All Center Meeting has operated 'behind the scenes', trying to run things smoothly but keeping a low profile.

Participants of the philosophy meetings are committed to retaining many aspects of the Center. We want to continue to be a place where women who "fall through the cracks" of other organizations can find support and information. We want to continue putting considerable effort into helping women in crisis. And we want to continue to provide space and assistance to groups started by other women.

And, we want to change, too. We want to formulate and implement some programs which are based on strategy and vision rather than passively waiting for women to start groups which are personally important to them. We want the All Center Meeting to assume more of a leadership role, articulating our beliefs, clarifying our goals and our mission, opening up dialogs with groups, taking stands and expecting the groups to listen and respond to us. We want to more effectively communicate what the Center stands for.

Without this leadership, women have very different and individual concepts of the Women's Center.

Our thoughts have led to action. We created a group contract form which clearly delineates the responsibilities of groups and the All Center Meeting, and a Welcome Sheet which describes the Center's history, mission, structure and includes a list of the groups and projects which meet here now.

We want to develop a clearly defined, well-known identity. We want to head into the 90's with a greater sense of community and a common purpose which inspire, strengthen and unite us all.



NEW ARRIVALS

We enthusiastically welcome the following new groups to the Women's Center:

- * Women's Community Cancer Project and Cancer Support Group
- * Incest Survivors Anonymous
- * Other Mothers
- * 'Soulcial' Therapy

Please see page 3 for descriptions of each of these new groups.

ONGOING GROUPS AT THE WOMEN'S CENTER

MONDAY

- Support for Battered Women.....7:30-9pm
- Women's NA 12 step.....7:30-9pm
- Lesbian Rap.....8-10pm
- Boston Bisexual Women's Network-Intro
(1st Mon, even #'d months)...7:30-9:45pm
- All Center Meeting (biweekly).....6-8pm

TUESDAY

- Women for Sobriety.....8-9:30pm
- Bisexual Women's Rap.....7:30-10pm
- 30+ Lesbian Rap.....7-8:30pm
- Lesbian Partners & Ex-Partners of Incest
Survivors (1st & 3rd Tues.).....7-8:30pm
- Other Mothers (2nd Tues., monthly)...7-9pm
(lesbian non-biological mothers)

WEDNESDAY

- Lesbian Al-Anon (childcare).....6:30-8pm
- Writer's Support.....7:30-9:30pm
- Lesbian Survivors of Childhood
Sexual Abuse (1st, 3rd Weds.).....7pm
- Healing Through Art for Incest Survivors
(1st Wed., monthly, non-abusers)..7-10pm
- Battered Women's Support Group
(2nd, 4th Wednesdays).....7-8pm

THURSDAY

- Incest Survivors Discussion
Group (weekly).....7:30-9:30pm
(facilitated 3rd Thursday, Sept.-June)
- 'Soulcial' Therapy - Open Support
Group for Lesbians of Color....7-8:30pm
- Women's Community Cancer Project
(1st Thurs., monthly).....7-9pm
- Cancer Support Group
(2nd Thurs, monthly).....7-9pm
- Lesbians Choosing Children Network
(2nd Thurs, monthly).....7:30-10pm

FRIDAY

- Birthmothers (1st, 3rd Fri)....7:00-9:30pm
- Incest Survivors Anonymous.....6:30-8pm

SATURDAY

- Writer's Support Group
(biweekly).....noon-2pm
- Open discussion on Coming Out for Women
of All Ages(monthly, 1st Sat)...11am-1pm
- Single Mothers Support Group (childcare
provided) monthly, 1st Sat..11am-12:30pm

CENTER HOURS

Monday - Thursday	10am - 10pm
Friday	10am - 8pm
Saturday	11am - 2pm

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

LESBIAN RAP

Mondays, 8-10pm

- Jan 1 HOLIDAY - NO RAP
- 8 Women's Self Defense
- 15 Games Night
- 22 Coming Out in the Workplace
- 29 Mothers & Daughters (All mothers
of lesbians welcome)

BISEXUAL WOMEN'S RAP

Tuesdays, 7:30-10pm

- Jan 2 Crushes
- 9 Coming Out Again
- 16 Considering Therapy
- 23 Places of Interest to women in
New England
- 30 Starting Your Own Business

30+ LESBIAN RAP

Tuesdays, 7-8:30pm

- Jan 2 Lesbian Literature
- 9 How Lesbian Are You?
- 16 Traveling As Lesbians
- 23 Sex, Part II
- 30 No Longer Lovers, Now What?



FAT-POSITIVE SUPPORT

The Fat-Positive Support Group is no longer meeting at this time, because attendance has been so low. If you are interested in the group call 354-8807.

WELCOME RENAE

The Women's Counseling and Resource Center welcomes Renae Grant to our staff of counselors. We continue to seek volunteer therapists (master's degree and 2 years post-master's experience required) to work with low and no-income women. We currently have a waiting list of clients seeking our services. Call us: 492-8568.

WOMEN'S COMMUNITY CANCER PROJECT

We do not accept the 'fact' that thousands of us must die quietly of cancer each year. We are concerned about the insufficient funding for: research, prevention measures, and education. Significant discrimination exists in many mainstream and alternative cancer establishments - sexism, racism, classism, homophobia, and ageism. These biases are reflected in the kind of research done and its interpretation, the attitudes of health care personnel, the accessibility of medical treatments, and the quality of emotional support services.

Our goals include providing a forum for relevant political activism, creating a volunteer system of physical and emotional support for women with cancer, producing a directory or referral network of local healers and professionals interested in helping women with cancer, and compiling cancer-related education resources.

Organizational meetings are from 7-9pm on the 1st Thursday of each month. All interested women are welcome. An open support group for women with cancer meets from 7-9pm on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays. The meetings are at the Women's Center, and are wheelchair accessible. For more information call the Women's Center.

OTHER MOTHERS

Our group meets in response to the need for the non-biological 'mother' in a lesbian parenting relationship to air the particular concerns associated with this often invisible and/or unlegitimized role. We are mothers without proper billing, and this may be the case in the home with lovers (the biological mothers), or our children, as well as in the larger society, set up to tolerate only families containing a mother and a father or a single parent. The issues of invisibility and alienation are primary: thus the name 'other'.

Our goals are to bring together lesbian mothers who have concerns about their non-biological roles, to support each other in giving voice to our concerns, and to become a force for change by educating others about non-traditional parenting.

At present we are open-ended and exploratory, rather than task-oriented. We wish to continue to meet in response to interest and see ourselves in a beginning phase. Meetings are at the Women's Center on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, 7-9pm. We welcome any 'other mother' to join us.

INCEST SURVIVORS ANONYMOUS

This ISA group ('Miracles') just moved to the Women's Center from the Cambridge YWCA. Our goals are to help each other to heal from incest. We do this by telling our stories, identifying with each other, providing a safe space to explore our issues without fear of being judged or disbelieved. By breaking thru the secrecy around sexual abuse (incest isn't taboo - talking about it is) we can begin to bring an end to the myth that women are powerless and subservient and are the possessions of men (or of power-hungry people in general). We grow as we realize our lives were determined by incest, and begin to place a focus on ourselves instead of our abusers. We meet from 6:30-8pm every Friday. The group is open to all women who are incest survivors, who have not become offenders, and their supporters. There is a weekly chairperson, but as with all 12-step recovery groups, there is no facilitator.

'SOULCIAL' THERAPY

This group, called 'Soulcial' Therapy, is for lesbians of color. It is a drop-in group that will meet on a weekly basis. The discussions will be relevant to being black and living in a homophobic society. The name of the group may be changed at a later date. There will be no dues or fees.

The intent of the group is to provide an environment for lesbians of color to share our experiences. The goal of the group is to be a positive influence on its members. This can be achieved by an ongoing dialog about the many issues that lesbians have to deal with as long as we are committed to this lifestyle.

The group will be facilitated by Dorothea Keeling, a certified social therapist of color. There will also be guest speakers and co-leaders of the group from time to time.

Social Therapy is based on the concept that people in certain groups (poor people, people of color, disabled people, gay men and lesbians) experience crisis as part of their everyday lives because they have been socialized to adapt to a society that does not want or need them. Its goal is to help people develop new ways to effectively deal with crisis without becoming its victim, to free themselves from crisis and crisis paralysis.

We are just starting to meet. Meetings are on Thursdays from 7-8:30pm. Call the Women's Center for more information.

INTERNATIONAL VISITORS

In the past year, several women from different countries have visited the Women's Center. Some of these women dropped in unannounced. They gaped at the large selection of resource information available in the sitting room, eagerly read our newsletter and calendar, asked questions, and walked around in a kind of blissful daze muttering, "How did you do it?" and "This is incredible." Some women even photographed our sitting room so they could show friends back home.

At times, our interactions with international visitors were scheduled and more formal. Ms. Yesuko Vtaugi, the director of the Women's Bureau for the Japanese Socialist Party, Amanda Centeno Espinoza, from the Nicaraguan ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform, and Rina Sen Gupta from the Rural Employment Sector Programme in Bangladesh met with Women's Center staff during the last year.

Violence against women, poverty, blaming the victim, and men treating women as possessions are common in all of our countries. Within each country, women's struggle against patriarchal abuses occurs within a social, economic and political context. The form of women's struggle for freedom arises out of this context and is partially determined by it. What is common to us all is that women are rallying for justice in every part of the world. In Bangladesh, a woman participates in creating theatrical performances designed to change sexism. In Nicaragua, women confront their Sandinista brothers with their machismo attitudes.

Behind each international visitor, there are thousands of women in her country who are fighting against sexism with courage, wit and endurance. The Women's Liberation Movement consists of these all too often unsung heroes. Our international visitors gave us a glimpse of the magnitude of the struggle. We are left with a powerful sense of connection with women in different countries, and the knowledge that each of us has a part to play in the unfolding of a world where justice, equality and respect prevail.



PROTEST AT DOMINO'S

Saturday, January 20
1:30-3pm

Corner of Broadway & Prospect Street
Cambridge

The owner of Domino's Pizza is a major funder of Operation Rescue, the anti-choice terrorists who blockade abortion clinics. Join R2N2 (Reproductive Rights National Network) in a protest at the new Cambridge Domino's Pizza. And, in any case, boycott Domino's pizza.

DON'T LET DOMINO'S TELL YOU TO DELIVER!

Cambridge Women in Cable Presents:
WOMEN & SELF DEFENSE
Every Wednesday in December at 9pm on
Channel 19-Cambridge Community TV

This show highlights several women who have learned skills to defend themselves in their homes and on the streets. You will see excerpts from Model Mugging (a technique of self defense), Sanchin (a local women's school for self defense and karate) and Capoiara Camara (a Brazilian martial arts form). Women will speak to the real issues of violence around us.

RAPE SURVIVOR SUPPORT

Drop-In Discussion Group for Women Who
Have Been Raped

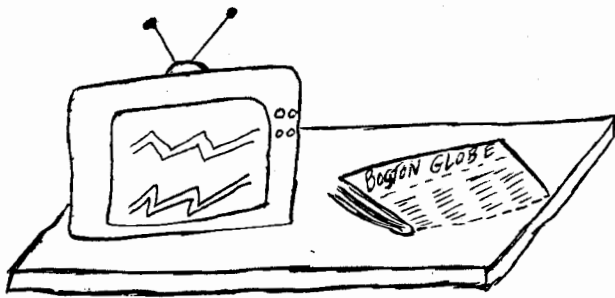
At: Boston Area Rape Crisis Center
99 Bishop Allen Drive, Cambridge
(One block from Central Square)

Thursday, Jan. 11	Sexuality
Monday, Jan. 22	Self Image
Thursday, Feb. 8	Fear & Safety
Monday, Feb. 26	Getting Support
Thursday, Mar. 8	Self-Blame
Monday, Mar. 19	Body Image

All meetings are from 7 to 8:30pm.
Due to the sensitive nature of this group,
no one will be admitted after 7:10pm.
Call 492-RAPE for more info.

AFRICAN-AMERICAN WOMEN

Drop-In Discussion Group
-- Rape and Other Forms
of Violence Against Women --
Saturday, January 20
Call Boston Area Rape Crisis Center
for more info -- 492-8306



MAKING THE NEWS

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The Women's Center makes the news in other, more hidden ways, too. For example, Women Center staff were instrumental in linking up survivors and Globe reporters for the magazine article on healing from sexual abuse. With increasing frequency, reporters who are writing articles on a wide variety of topics -- sexual abuse by physicians to lesbian parenting -- call the Women's Center asking who they can interview for a story. Center staff make many phone calls until we locate appropriate women who are willing to contribute to the news story or television program. And then we wait to see the news we helped to make.

NETWORK SEEKING WOMEN

The recently formed Network for Battered Lesbians is seeking women of color and women with disabilities to work against battering in lesbian communities. Formerly battered lesbians encouraged to join. Batterers are not welcome. Call (617) 424-8611. TTY users: Please use the Mass Relay Service to leave a message and we will call you back on our TTY.

GROUP EVALUATION RESULTS

We received 115 evaluation forms from 9 groups which meet regularly at the Women's Center. The forms were distributed to groups during the summer.

The results were overwhelmingly positive. For example, 84 women said they received what they wanted from their group; only 3 said they did not. Ninety-nine women said they felt welcomed by the group; only 4 did not.

When asked what they wanted from the group, most women (79) said a supportive network, followed closely by making friends (74) and emotional support (73). While responses were varied to the question, "What do you like about the group?" the item most commonly checked off was "content of discussion" (81) followed by "gain insight" (75) and "feeling less isolated" (73).

The most common complaints about the groups were: there was an insufficient opportunity to express oneself (9); some group members were intolerant of others (8); and few women participate in the discussion (8).

There was some marked differences between groups. For example, incest survivors were much more likely to want "emotional healing" than were women who attend more general discussion groups who were more apt to be seeking friendships and a "supportive network." And survivors most valued "feeling safe" and "less isolated," while women who attend rap groups valued the "content of the discussion" and an opportunity to "gain insight."

Here are some things that women had to say about the groups:

"It seems like one of the incredible oases on this earth -- it magically 'works.'"

"The group seems so accepting and inclusive of all individual group members"

"This forum is sacred and precious to me."

"I feel that others are listening, accepting me."

"The facilitator . . . is excellent. (She) helped me to stop feeling like a victim and learn a tremendous amount about myself."

. . . "welcoming, confidential, safe, participatory atmosphere."

"Since I'm here, I am not isolated."

"Can't imagine where I'd be without this place."

NAME THAT THERAPIST

Do you see a therapist that you like? Rumor has it that people like to hoard their therapists, but we're hoping your desire to contribute to our resource information will over-ride any resistance. Daily we get requests for referrals to therapists: therapists who specialize in substance abuse, relationship addictions, children of alcoholics, incest survivors, ritual abuse, multiple personalities, self-esteem, couple or family therapy, etc.; therapists accessible to people with very low incomes; therapists who are lesbians; therapists who are wheelchair accessible, or know ASL or other languages; therapists from Southern Maine to Worcester to Cape Cod.

We have designed questionnaires to get information that will be of use to women seeking therapy. Currently, therapists

have filled out and returned about 90 questionnaires, chock full of information on specialties, background, fees, beliefs, and other particulars. Women seeking therapists can look at the forms at the Women's Center or get more limited information over the phone.

We would like to have a much greater number of forms. Would you help? If you send us the name and address of a therapist that you respect, we will send out a questionnaire and a letter explaining our system of referrals. If you send us the therapist's name and phone number we will call and ask about sending out the questionnaire before sending it.

Please help if you can!

P.S. - We also get many requests for all kinds of health care providers, and would greatly appreciate any suggestions.

THERAPIST TO CONTACT

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____
PHONE: _____

HEALTH CARE PROVIDER TO CONTACT

Field: GYN Internal Medicine Midwife Nurse Practitioner Chiropractor
Dentist Acupuncture Dermatology Surgery Optometry Other _____

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____
PHONE: _____

.....
ADD ME TO THE WOMEN'S CENTER'S MAILING LIST

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____
.....

♀ ON OUR WAY

Newsletter of the Women's Center
46 Pleasant Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

(617) 354-8807
TTY and VOICE

excerpts
89



CHARTING A NEW COURSE

We know how easy it is to get so caught up in daily activities and details that we lose track of what we're trying to accomplish and whether we're succeeding. This is such a way of life at the Women's Center, that women attending the All Center Meetings decided to add on special 'philosophy' meetings to clarify our goals, priorities and strategies.

An emerging theme in the philosophy meetings is the role of the All Center Meeting. Presently, the All Center Meeting makes decisions about space use, spending, fund-raising, building maintenance, policies, problems that arise, personnel issues. The All Center Meeting has operated 'behind the scenes', trying to run things smoothly but keeping a low profile.

Participants of the philosophy meetings are committed to retaining many aspects of the Center. We want to continue to be a place where women who "fall through the cracks" of other organizations can find support and information. We want to continue putting considerable effort into helping women in crisis. And we want to continue to provide space and assistance to groups started by other women.

And, we want to change, too. We want to formulate and implement some programs which are based on strategy and vision rather than passively waiting for women to start groups which are personally important to them. We want the All Center Meeting to assume more of a leadership role, articulating our beliefs, clarifying our goals and our mission, opening up dialogs with groups, taking stands and expecting the groups to listen and respond to us. We want to more effectively communicate what the Center stands for. Without this leadership, women have very different and individual concepts of the Women's Center.

Our thoughts have led to action. We created a group contract form which clearly delineates the responsibilities of groups and the All Center Meeting, and a Welcome Sheet which describes the Center's history, mission, structure and includes a list of the groups and projects which meet here now.

We want to develop a clearly defined, well-known identity. We want to head into the 90's with a greater sense of community and a common purpose which inspire, strengthen and unite us all.

EXCITING RENOVATIONS

If you were to come to the Women's Center now you would see two women standing on tall ladders with scrapers in hand. The Women's Center is getting a fresh coat of paint! We are pleased to have Helena Ragone and Gail Hanlon on the job. (They want you all to know they give free estimates.)

And have you seen the new patio? The scrubby grass in the back yard has been replaced with flagstones, carefully laid out on some of the hottest summer days by Judy and Diana. The patio is complete with chairs and flowerpots, a great place to meet and chat and enjoy the breeze. Both the house painting and the flagstones were paid for with money raised from our Capital Improvement Grant.

Additionally, many other projects were completed with money from this same grant. Major electrical work including the installation of new outlets, light fixtures, outside spotlights and a bell for the wheelchair lift was completed. New couches, file cabinets and desks were purchased. A new wheelchair lift was installed after our old one stopped working and could not be repaired. And the kitchen now has a new stove for heating up dinner or preparing snacks.

MULTICULTURAL TRAINING

The Women's Center exists for all women, yet participation by minority women is relatively small. We want to do what we can to make the Center more inclusive. In January, Ann Royce, Alexandra Laird and Sarah Buel gave two workshops for Center staff and group members on multicultural awareness and outreach strategies. Our next step will be to have a meeting of facilitators and other group members to discuss how to incorporate multicultural sensitivity into their groups.

We need to decide where to begin and how to enact those changes that are compatible with the Center's purpose and with our limited resources. We welcome your ideas and input in written form (addressed to the All-Center Meeting) and your participation in upcoming meetings.

MEETING OF THE MINDS

The Meeting of the Minds on April 22nd was an exploration of how groups at the Women's Center are alienating to women of different cultures, and what we can do to rectify that. Women from different cultural backgrounds came to the meeting.

Sometimes a woman will come to a group and no one talks to her or responds to things she says to the group as a whole. While such experiences are alienating to everybody, women of color and women with disabilities may well attribute group members' collective failure to interact with them to prejudice. Comments conveying understanding or asking for clarification let the speaker know she's been heard and that her perspective is valued, and provide an opportunity to have discussions that lead to a more meaningful and inclusive understanding. We believe taking steps to insure that all the groups are welcoming to all women will result in a much more receptive environment for women from diverse backgrounds as well as an overall improvement in the Women's Center.

Women who attended the meeting are putting together a questionnaire to get feedback on how women attending meetings here feel about them. We are also writing up suggestions for good ways to facilitate or conduct meetings, which will be distributed to all Women's Center groups for their feedback, and then general guidelines will be drawn up. Our goal is to make our groups more comfortable for newcomers, and thus more accountable to all women who want to participate.

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FUNDRAISING REVIEW

We want to give you an update of our fundraising progress during the last fiscal year which ran from July 1, 1988 to June 30, 1989. During that period, the Women's Center received \$41,535 from foundations, corporations and small businesses: \$36,035 was for general operating expenses and \$5,500 was for community outreach. Additionally, we received \$7,483 from individual donations.

The Women's Center relies exclusively on private donations; we receive no government funding. The generosity of donors makes it possible for any woman to make use of the Women's Center. This is crucial because many of the women who call or come to the Women's Center can not afford to pay for services.

The Women's Center is able to offer so much on such a low budget because over 100 women volunteer in various capacities, answering the phone, updating referrals, facilitating groups, working on projects, putting the newsletter together . . . These donations of time and energy are essential. Without volunteers, there would be no Women's Center.

Below is a list of foundations and corporations which gave grants to the Women's Center in the past fiscal year. Their generosity keeps the doors of this Women's Center open.

Bank of Boston Corporation
Bank of New England
Bioran Medical Lab
Boston Globe Foundation
Cambridge Community Foundation
Cambridge Trust Company
Camp Dresser & McKee
Central Surplus
Joyce Chen Restaurant
Lillian & Harry Cowan Foundation Corp
Digital Equipment Corporation
Dole Publishing Company
Alice Willard Dorr Foundation
East Cambridge Savings Bank
Evans Medical, Inc.
Fabreeka Products
First American Title Insurance Company
Gillette Company
Goldberg Charitable Trust
GTE Government Systems
GTE Laboratories
Hartford Insurance Group
Harvard Cooperative Society
Harvard University
Houghton Chemical Company

IBM Corporation
John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Co.
Kirkland Construction Company
Arthur D. Little, Inc.
Loomis Sayles & Company
New Words Bookstore
New World Bank
Amelia Peabody Charitable Fund
Rabb Charitable Trust
Raytheon Company
Savitz & Wainger Medical Association
Standard Thomson
C.B. Stein Builders & Associates, Inc.
Superior Brands, Inc.
Tapestry, Inc.
University Bank and Trust Company
US Trust Middlesex
Watertown Eye Associates
Frederick E. Weber Charities Corporation
Women's Mental Health Collective

MOVIE MAKING

On Thursday, May 18th, the Women's Center metamorphosed into a chaotic mixture of males, machinery & a few women. This shocking turn of events occurred because a homey place was needed for a film about the life of a battered woman who now volunteers at Transition House. The shelter's address had to remain secret (the Women's Center is their 'public' address), so we were asked to let the Center masquerade as a shelter for one day.

The woman who was featured in the film endured frequent and brutal attacks by her husband, a prominent and respected member of the community.

The film is about her successful flight from violence. She was 61 when she managed to escape, buy a bus ticket from New York to Boston with money she had hidden in the lining of her purse, call information and ask for a battered women's hotline. She now has built a new life here and spends a lot of time doing public speaking on battering. Filming which occurred from 7:30am-7:30pm included a volunteer answering the crisis hotline the first time the woman called the shelter, and a battered women's support group, with children in the background.

The film is being made by United Way, and will be distributed across the country. Workplaces will agree to show it, and require their employees to attend. Thus, both battered women and batterers will be exposed to it.

In the past year, several women from different countries have visited the Women's Center. Some of these women dropped in unannounced. They gaped at the large selection of resource information available in the sitting room, eagerly read our newsletter and calendar, asked questions, and walked around in a kind of blissful daze muttering, "How did you do it?" and "This is incredible." Some women even photographed our sitting room so they could show friends back home.

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GETTING WHAT YOU WANT

Women's Center staff are constantly asked to locate resources on a wide range of topics. You can call and ask us about a specific support group, a job training program, a therapist, a woman electrician, a shelter . . . We are continually updating, expanding and organizing referral information. Several volunteers have worked tirelessly on updating our referrals. They have made countless phone calls, sent out letters, and entered information on our computer to help us keep our referral information up to date. This is an ongoing task since we have referrals on what seems like every conceivable subjects, from AIDS resources to shelters for runaway youth. If you have a who, where, when or what question, call us!

