

FALL 2022

CAMBRIDGE WOMEN'S CENTER NEWSLETTER

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Dear CWC
Community and
Partners,

2022 has been an eventful year for the Cambridge Women's Center! Throughout this year, we have faced many challenges but also revealed many strengths. We each took on full-time positions this year, and are learning together how to best serve our mission. We are ever grateful to lend our contributions to the notable legacy of the Cambridge Women's Center.



We are all in agreement that the best aspect of working at the Women's Center is the connection we have fostered with our community members. Our community is what makes our center unique and ensures there is never a dull moment in this work! We hold dearly all of the moments we have been able to share with our members and are deeply honored by the connections we have formed here.

During our time together, we have maintained our two central programs. We are continuing to operate as a drop-in center three days a week and still host a large number of support & activity groups.



As we move into 2023, we are excited to continue with our current programming and optimistic about potential growth.

Sincerely,
Marta Lee-Perriard, Ali Sorrels, and
Dosa Chidandali



GIRLS
SUPPORT
GIRLS

By Ali Sorrels

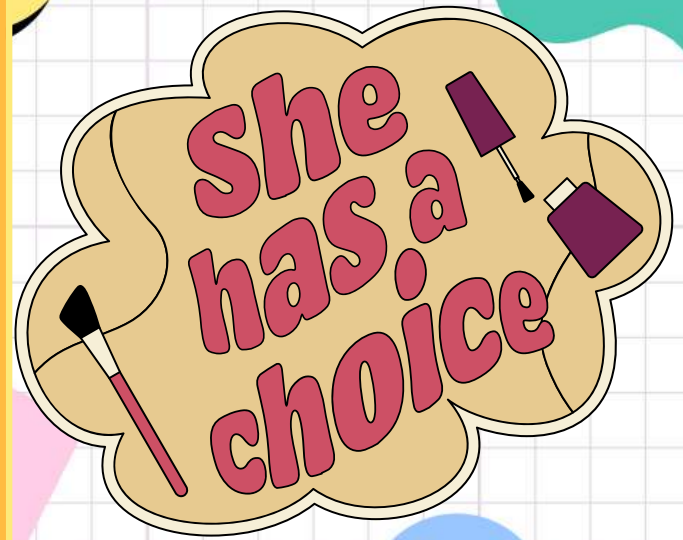
In July of 2022, the Cambridge Women's Center began hosting our Direct Action Organizing Group. Our mission is to educate, organize, and mobilize toward positive social and political change on issues facing women. We are a network of roughly 10 women who are committed to engaging at community events, demonstrations, and protests.

Direct Action Group 2022

This group emerged in the wake of the leaked Dobbs v. Jackson decision. As you may imagine, discussions of abortion and reproductive autonomy erupted within the center. Many felt willing to share their own experiences while we looked to one another for strength. Grappling with this brutal reality required many of us to grieve, confront past traumas, and quell ineffable anger.

In the following months, the Direct Action Organizing Group facilitated conversations to identify causes that we care about and find ways to contribute to ongoing social movements. We are currently operating as a mobilizing support group. We turn out for demonstrations or events that speak to our mission and represent the Women's Center in the public sphere.

As we approach 2023, our goal is to build our coalition, create partnerships, and begin planning our own actions and campaigns. If this speaks to you, we are currently meeting on-site every other Saturday from 10am-11am. More details can be found on our monthly calendar.



**FEARLESS, FIERCE
& FABULOUS**

A message from Rachelle Quimby to the Cambridge Women's Center

I joined the Board of Trustees this past August and am thrilled to be a part of the Cambridge Women's Center community. I have an MBA in Finance plus several years working in the for-profit business world.

I left my last business corporate position and my apartment in San Francisco to travel the world, which included living in Mexico, Argentina, Costa Rica, Hawaii, and Canada. My most memorable experience was a 4,002-mile bicycle trip along the east coast of Australia and all of New Zealand. I taught ESOL in Argentina, lived in a marina in Victoria, British Columbia on a 550-square-foot vintage houseboat restored by my partner, and bought and later sold an organic fruit farm on the Big Island of Hawaii. My travel was exciting and, more than any other life experience gave me an understanding and acceptance for those from different cultures with different ideas.

I am currently on the board of two Maine-based nonprofits whose missions like the CWC are to promote social justice.

I live in Cambridge and am on the CWC board as a way to support her community.

I was attracted to the CWC for the way it supports women through its broad scope of offerings and also for being a safe place for women to gather.

I am hopeful my finance experience will allow me to support the continued sustainability of the CWC.

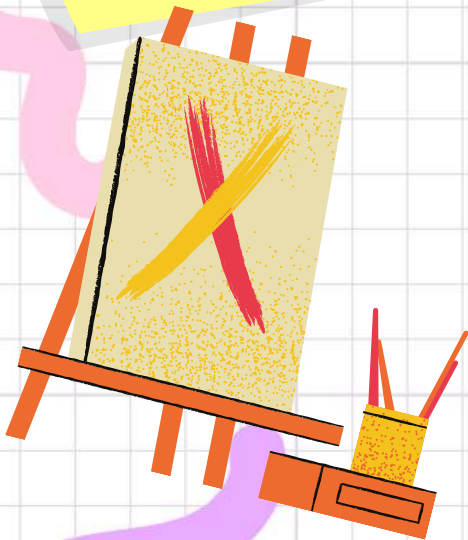
Current CWC groups,
workshops, and other
activities

October-November
2022

*On-site



NOTE THAT:
All activities are **FREE**.
All for whom woman is a
meaningful identifier or lived
experience are welcome.
Please check the current
calendar at
cambridgewomenscenter.org
for dates and times.



- *Art Group!
- Body Positive Book Club
- Body Size Freedom
- *Community Art Group
- Coping Group
- *Direct Action Organizing Group
- Journaling Group
- Healing Through Creative Arts
Workshops
- Holistic Living
- *In Your Body: Poetry for Healing
- *Let's Journal
- Journaling and Self Expression
- Journaling Group
- *Knitting
- Lesbian and Bi Discussion Group
- Let's Write!
- Meditation Group
- Money Counseling
- Nonviolent Communication for
Compassionate Conflict Resolution
- *Reiki sessions with Jessica
- Self-Love Group
- *Sex Worker Support Group
- *Sewing Group
- *65+ Discussion Group (on-site and
Zoom)
- Spanish-English Conversation
Exchange
- Straight Marriage, Still Questioning
- Trauma Support and Discussion
- Women's Film Club



THE ART GROUP BY PALAK SHAH

Art group is a relaxed space for members to find community and develop new skills through creative expression. Our group brings together women from all walks of life on Saturday afternoons to create pieces meaningful to them. Many of our group's pieces decorate the walls of the Center! We welcome members of all skill levels, as rarely or frequently as they like to join.



THE COMMUNITY ART GROUP BY AIMEE RIVES

Aimee has submitted some work she did from the art class which happens every Thursday. Some of the art shown is from the lessons she has done with some of the members. A still life, mixed media, and portrait drawing.

These art forms also tell a story about what's going on at the Center and one of them is of a member who gave her permission to be sketched while she was working on her own art one day!



SEX WORKER SUPPORT GROUP

A WORD FROM: TRISH YOUENS

I've been working in the sex industry on and off about 20 yrs. Doing every type of job that I could imagine in different countries in different venues.

But three years ago I started working independently. Not working for somebody it was like a revelation to own and control your own labor I didn't even know this was possible. It was a revelation and the freedom keeping where you are controlling every aspect of what happens to you. What the drawback for me is I lost a sense of community and so my dream for the group is to create a sense of community a safe space to vent talk tell stories relax and be ourselves. I also have fears and anxieties about the future. And I wish to have community around that as well. I fear the capitalist takeover of sex work by the oligarch. It's clear they have their eye on it by how much they spend their money movies TV shows grooming the public. I fear wage theft unhealthy social hierarchies. I have concerns about data poaching. In a time when Roe vs Wade has been reversed. The battle line has been drawn who owns and controls our bodies? I am also a big fan of Shoshana Zuboff she has some really amazing things to say about surveillance capitalism and what she calls behavioral future markets. I can imagine a lot of exploitation of clients and workers in this new age of surveillance capitalism. Remember when big tech took over the cab industry. This is so much different than driving a cab. This effects all of us men women .. all.



WITH GRATITUDE TO OUR FUNDERS:

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Bushrod H. Campbell And Adah
F. Hall Charity Fund
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Cambridge Community
Foundation
Cambridge Savings Bank
Cambridge Trust
City of Cambridge
College for Social Innovation
Cummings Foundation
Dignity Matters
Eastern Bank
Estelle Disch
Foley Hoag Foundation
Food for Free
Foundation M
Frederick E Weber Charities
Corp
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Harvard Memorial Church

John Donnelly Foundation
Lovin' Spoonfuls
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MIT Vagina Monologues
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The 888 Women's History
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The Morrison & Foerster
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The Rosemann Family Trust
Town Fair Tire Foundation
Wagner Foundation
Flour Bakery

YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS!

If you'd like to support our members...

Here's how YOU can help

You can make a donation through our website:

<https://www.cambridgewomenscenter.org/makeadonation>

OR

Contact Marta Lee-Perriard, our Co-Director of Development & Outreach

at

marta@cambridgewomenscenter.org

for more information regarding legacy gifts, etc.



Scan the QR code for faster access to our donation site