

Spring — 2010



ON YOUR MARK: TIME FOR TIARA CLASSIC

Page 3

The Women's Fund Salutes the S-T Women of the Year

Desa Van Laarhoven – South-Coast Woman of the Year

Liliana Costa – Acushnet
Geraldine Winterhalter – Dartmouth

Dr. Bonny Gifford – Fairhaven
Melanie Dodenhoff – Freetown

Lorraine Carboni – Lakeville
Trudy Kingery – Marion

Jen Rusinoski – Mattapoisett
Paula Briden – New Bedford
Sharon Hartley – Rochester
Members of Prom Committee of WomenAde – Wareham
Geraldine Millham – Westport

This Issue:

From Our Director	2
Lace up your running shoes	3
Cyberbullying program	3
Volunteer Interview	4
Calendar	4

Women's Fund

A FUND OF THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS

Women's Fund Networking is Back!

With comments like, "Great energy, good crowd ... a first class affair", we knew we had a winner at the Jan. 28 "Art of Social Justice" networking event at the Whaling Museum. Area women were delighted to have the opportunity to get together and enjoy the evening festivities. It is the first Women's Fund networking gathering that is dedicating all of the \$5,000 profit to a cause, under discussion, that addresses social justice issues in the region.

artists Alison Wells, Judith Klein, Jane Tuckerman and Anne T. Converse.

The Women's Fund is grateful to the lead sponsor, **Keches Law Group**, as well as area lawyers Margaret Xifaras, Christine Anderson, Wendy Andre, Ann Maguire, Wendy Pacheco, Sharon Sullivan-Puccini, Cynthia Vincent Thomas and Lynn Whitney. The "Art of Social



The networking event brought many women together.

Attorney Christine Anderson, an event sponsor and Women's Fund volunteer, conceived the theme and chaired the event committee. The evening featured an inspiring performance by Khepe-Ra Maat Heru, a local performance artist and activist. There was artwork on display and for sale from

Justice" committee created a superb event, in conjunction with the generosity of Cardoza's Food Emporium and the Whaling Museum.



Khepe-Ra Maat Heru

The Committee included Christine Anderson, Louise Anthony, Paula Benedetti, Kate Fentress, Colleen Millet, Christel Phipps, Marie Rivera, and new member recruits Jennifer Cromwell, Carol Murchie, and Kathy Thomas.

A special thanks to all who attended.



Have a Heart for Mother's Day

The Have a Heart pendant, a limited edition sterling silver piece, makes a great gift any day of the year. Designed by Sarah Morse for the Women's Fund, it is available for \$49.99 at the Women's Fund office or through Sarah's website, www.sarahmorse.com. Go to her "Collections" tab and then click "Custom". Help make this a signature piece for women in our community!

Mission Statement

To fund programs that promote the educational and economic advancement of women and girls in Southeastern Massachusetts

Adopted May 2008

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Page 2



From Our Director

Kate Fentress

Executive Director

Women's Philanthropy Initiative

Money, Power, Leverage — Let's Go!

This year, the Women's Fund has played an integral part in establishing two internship programs for city girls at the Coalition for Buzzards Bay. Thanks to the combined generosity of several Women's Fund donors, an endowment has been created to provide training for city girls at the Coalition, where they will learn about the new trend in "green" building and experience various positions within the Coalition and the career paths they represent. Some of the girls will have the opportunity to work in the field learning about water quality testing. Our gift totaled \$100,000 over three years.

Philanthropy is not for men only! One of the Women's Fund main goals is to encourage philanthropy among women. The Women's Philanthropy Initiative (WPI), which made the Coalition Internship programs possible, is doing just that. It is an exciting story of money equaling power; I hope it will inspire you.

By creating WPI, we are teaching donors about the power of leveraging their gifts of \$1,000 or more through the Women's Fund. In 2009, \$99,000 of our \$137,780 in grants came through the WPI. This directed giving tool is enabling us to expand the support we give to the educational and economic advancement of women and girls in our region.

In other specific cases - Our Sisters' School and Keith Middle School, in addition to the Coalition for Buzzards Bay

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL KATE FENTRESS AT 508-717-0283

program - we made significant aggregate gifts, enabling the individual donor to be a part of a larger donation than she could have made alone.

Sponsorship of the Ocean Explorium Women in Science series for a second year is another example of a WPI gift. This series is creating an ongoing opportunity for girls to understand that science is a field for women, too. We are seeking additional donor involvement so we can expand this excellent program to include mentoring and science-based after school programs. Interested anyone?

We are a Women's Fund for all women. For women with significant financial resources the WPI can be a tool for social change. We are definitely not a one-size-fits-all fund, however, and offer multiple giving choices so all women can join us in our efforts.

Our Giving Circles project enables an existing book or bridge group to make "pass the hat" a vehicle for funding a favorite project, with the Women's Fund matching up to \$500 per year. We also have appeals twice per year, as well as a range of planned giving opportunities.

We encourage you to learn about the Women's Fund. Consider the options for giving of your time, money, connections and wisdom. When we work together, we succeed.



By creating WPI, we are teaching donors about the power of leveraging their gifts of \$1,000 or more through the Women's Fund.



Lace up your Running Shoes

The 4th Annual Tiara Classic Mother's Day 5K Road Race is coming!

If you want to do something fun with your friends or family, join us on May 9 at the Oxford Creamery, 98 State Road, Mattapoisett. Come run or walk with us or cheer us on. Start and finish is at Oxford Creamery.

- Register Now! www.cfsema.org/womensfund
- On site registration opens at 7am on the day of the race
- Kids Run starts at 9 am - \$5 registration fee

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- 5K Run begins at 9:30 am
- Adult registration fee: \$20 before May 1, \$30 after May 1.

New for 2010, the Tiara Race Committee is focused on increasing profits in order to help seed a low-income women's work/life program. This will provide support for women who want to pursue post high school education or training in order to enhance their professional skills. We would love your support as a sponsor, runner or volunteer. Together we can reach our ambitious goal.



Cyberbullying Pilot for Girls Off to a Good Start

The Girls & Cyberbullying Pilot Program from the Massachusetts Aggression Reduction Center (MARC) is presently being funded by a grant from the Women's Fund. Specific for this program, MARC has developed a new Student Assembly for girls, focusing on "healthy use" of electronic communications and the issues in girls' friendships that often accompany cyberbullying and other cyber-misbehaviors. In addition, MARC has developed an educational module for parents, which focuses on how they can discuss issues with their daughters such as achievement, cy-

berbullying, and friendships. We are pleased to report that these programs have been piloted in five schools, and MARC has received extremely enthusiastic feedback.

MARC also has an ongoing research project on girls and cyberbullying. To date, 200 college freshman have been studied, and although data analysis has not yet taken place, clear gender differences are emerging which will help us all learn how to educate and support girls about cyberbullying and cyber-behaviors.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Kate Fentress
Executive Director

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Governance Committee Chair

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Development Committee Chair

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Grantmaking Committee Chair

Christel Phipps
Events Committee Chair

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Member At Large

Susan Oldrid
Member At Large

WOMEN CREATING CHANGE TOGETHER

SPECIAL THANKS FOR PRINTING THIS NEWSLETTER: Peter M. DeWalt, President, Reynolds DeWalt Cross Media Specialists & Printing

Volunteer Interview: Christine Anderson

Type into your computer's search engine - curious, dependable, loyal, resourceful, grateful - and you might well come up with Christine McNamara Anderson, founder of Anderson Law Offices located at 355 Union Street. This quiet, determined and resourceful woman has an inspirational story to tell at www.cfsema.org/womensfund.

Christine joined The Women's Fund in 2008, and has been an active member on the Executive and Governance Committees ever since. Orchestrating the "Art of Social Justice" networking event was yet another example of Christine's thorough planning and execution. Christine hopes to encourage many more of her peers to join her in furthering the mission of the Women's Fund, supporting educational advancement programs which serve underprivileged girls and women in Southeastern Massachusetts. Hats off to Christine!



Attorneys Wendy Andre and Billy Crawford, middle, with Christine Anderson.

● TO READ MORE ABOUT CHRISTINE, PLEASE VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.CFSEMA.ORG/WOMENSFUND.

Donate work clothes to Attired 2B Hired

Hetty's Thrift Shoppe is now accepting spring and summer clothing. Drop off at Hetty's Thrift Shoppe, 1061 Pleasant St., New Bedford. 508-996-8572
Hours: Monday - Thursday 10-3

DO YOU HAVE A STORY TO TELL?

We are collecting stories of empowerment from women who have overcome obstacles in their lives in order to become well-educated and financially self-sufficient. We want to put a face on the strengths and successes of women in our region. Your story might inspire

another woman, your challenges may enable someone else to believe she, too, can succeed.

Email kfentress@cfsema.org with a few lines or as many as 500 words that tell your story. Let us know if you wish to remain anonymous if we use a part or all of it in our newsletter, Web site, or any other publication.

April

15 3rd Annual UMass Women's Studies and Women's Resource Center Fundraiser at Woodland Commons with Carol Moseley Braun, Tickets and details at www.umassd.edu/cas/wms/braun.cfm

23 Take Your Daughters and Sons to Work Day

30 - May 1 The New England Women's Studies Association Annual Conference is sponsored by UMass Women's Studies Program. The theme is teaching activism and community engagement. Keynote speaker is Rory Kennedy, documentary filmmaker. Full details at: <http://newsa.nwsa.org/> Free and open to the public.

May

8 Harbor House Family Center "Hats Off To Moms" Fundraiser at Allendale Country Club, 6 - 10 pm. Call 508-992-6027 for more information.

9 4th Annual Tiara Classic Mother's Day 5K Road Race. Register online at www.active.com/running/mattapoissett-ma/tiara-classic-5k-mothers-day-road-race-2010

13 YWCA Tribute to Women Luncheon, New Bedford Country Club, 585 Slocum Road, North Dartmouth, noon. Full details at: www.ywcasema.org. \$50 per person.