



Women Creating Change Together

The mission of the Women's Fund is to support programs that develop, promote and protect the mind, body, spirit and choices of women and girls in southeastern Massachusetts.



On a snowy, cold January night, the Women's Fund of Southeastern Massachusetts held its first of many networking events and it was a roaring success. Special thanks go to Kathy Gillet, manager of OceAnna in downtown New Bedford, who was happy to host this event in honor of her mother. Over 225 local women packed OceAnna to hear Gertrude Burr and Katharine Bullard speak about their experiences as long-time community volunteers and inspire us to get involved in bettering the lives of local women and girls.

The energy and enthusiasm was palpable – women like getting together!

We need your ideas, talent and financial support to capitalize on the great start we made at OceAnna. Each of us can contribute something to help move our community forward. Perhaps you can help a single mother build a career, guide a young girl through the college application process or be part of a "giving club" that helps a low-income woman move forward in her life. These are just a few ideas and we'd really like to hear some of yours.

Our first goal is to raise money for a \$1M endowment fund at the Community Foundation as a permanent resource for women and girls. This will allow us to grow seed money for future awards and projects plus ensure a healthy foundation for long-term financial stability.

Here are some other things we'd like to do with your help:

- Implement an "Action Award" program, to help women take the next step forward in their lives. In the next 6 months we will give out 4 - 6 such awards.
- Create a skill bank of women who have time, talent and/or treasure to contribute.
- Work collaboratively with existing organizations to address mutual areas of interest in new and dynamic ways.
- Educate women about their power as volunteers, donors and change agents through women's philanthropy.

If you would like to get involved, please fill out the form on the back of this page.

Save the dates for the next two networking events!

Women's "Converge and Converse"

OceAnna Restaurant

(we will ensure that you are comfortable and have time to meet and talk to other women)



International Women's Day

Tuesday, March 8, 2005 – 5– 7PM

\$15 – Hors d'oeuvres, wine, beverages

AHA! night

Thursday, April 14, 2005 – 5–7PM

Free admission / Cash bar

TIME, TALENT AND TREASURE INVENTORY

Please make a contribution in any amount to help us build our endowment. Checks should be made out to the Women's Fund and sent to the address below.

I would be available for:

- Committee Work - one meeting per month, plus independent work
- Occasional Help - mailing, administrative or computer based work
- Project Manager - gather a team and run with a project
(with the Fund Coordinator's support, of course!)

Please describe the skills and experience you have that would be useful to the Women's Fund.

Name: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____ E-Mail: _____

Additional Comments:

If you have any questions, please call Kate Fentress at 508.996.8253 or email her at kfentress@cfsema.org
Please mail or fax this form to the address or fax number listed below.

Thanks for your consideration and support!

Kate Fentress, Coordinator

Advisory Council

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Louise Anthony
Christina Bascom
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