



Women's Center & Shelter of Greater Pittsburgh

Accomplishments

The highlights of our work are as follows ~

- ◆ In 2006, Lorraine M. Bittner, Esq., Legal Director at WC&S, was presented with the first ever Public Interest Attorney Award by the Allegheny County Bar Association. This award recognizes public interest attorneys who work to meet the legal needs of the poor and/or disadvantaged. The award was established this year by the Bar Association and was named the Lorraine Bittner Public Interest Attorney award, in Lorraine's honor.
- ◆ In March of 2006, WC&S Executive Director Shirl Regan was featured in a *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* pull-out section on "Top 50 in Business: Women at the Helm" for her leadership role at Women's Center & Shelter.
- ◆ In early 2006, WC&S volunteer and Pitt Medical Student Susan Wong was honored with a 2006 Community Champion/Jefferson Award for her commitment to the women in shelter and for her founding of a program to provide the women with educational information on their health, medical and nutritional needs.
- ◆ Earlier this year, WC&S highlighted in the Forbes Fund's bi-annual publication, *Community Threads*, for its cross-sector collaboration focusing on infrastructure improvement through the use of Alcoa Business System (ABS) principles with the Alcoa Foundation, True North Institute and The Alcoa Management Group.
- ◆ In 2005, the Women's Center & Shelter was a finalist for the Forbes Fund's Alfred W. Wishart Jr. Award for Excellence in Non-profit Management. The award is given to non-profit human service organizations that demonstrate excellence in management and governance.
- ◆ In 2005, WC&S Education Director Rhonda Fleming was honored with a 2005 Governor's Pathfinder Award for Individual Prevention Education & Outreach. The award recognized Rhonda for her work in the development and provision of educational programs and information about victim services and victim rights within the community.

- ◆ In 2004, WC&S was selected by the Alcoa Foundation and Alcoa Operations Management Consulting (AOMC) for a pilot partnership to bring the Alcoa Business Systems model (ABS) into the non-profit community through the implementation of ABS principles into the management strategy of WC&S.
- ◆ During Domestic Violence Awareness Month on October of 2004, WC&S held a campaign for our Hands Are Not For Hurting® program. The campaign included a 15 second commercial that aired on WTAE-TV with an original song and video.
- ◆ WC&S' staff and management have made local media appearances to bring community awareness to the issue intimate partner violence. These have included spots on the WAMO radio station, the Y-108 Morning Show and a television appearance on PCNC's *Night Talk with Ann Devlin*.
- ◆ Early in 2004, Pat Violi, long-time volunteer and WC&S Board Member, was honored with a 2004 Community Champion/ Jefferson Award because of her commitment and long-standing dedication to direct-service work and fundraising efforts at Women's Center.
- ◆ In December 2003, Women's Center & Shelter received international media attention for a partnership with pop-music star Christina Aguilera to help end violence in the lives of women and children in Pittsburgh. WC&S and a young survivor of intimate partner abuse were features in a six-minute interview by Ms. Aguilera for MTV's election year "Choose or Lose" program. The program aired repeatedly nationwide in October and November 2004.
- ◆ In 2003, Shirl Regan, Executive Director, was appointed to serve on the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency's (PCCD) committee on evaluation and research. Janet Scott, Associate Director, was appointed to serve on PCCD's committee on Education, Conferences, and Training.
- ◆ The March 29, 2003 issue of the New Pittsburgh Courier honored Shelter Manager Betty Lane as one of the Top 50 Women of Influence. This honor, which celebrates Women's History Month, recognizes women who broke traditional roles and molds.
- ◆ The Robert Wood Johnson Community Health Leadership Award was given to WC&S in 2003 for our efforts in providing health care and social services to victims of intimate partner violence.
- ◆ On December 13, 2002, WC&S was honored with the first-ever Diamonds Award, given by the Allegheny County Health Department, for cleanliness and excellence in our cold-holding and handling facilities, for maintaining product temperature, and for maintaining daily charts. Congratulations to Ronettea Williams, our Resident Coordinator, who is responsible for maintaining this area.
- ◆ On December 5, 2002, two staff members were honored with the Pennsylvania Governor's Victim Services Pathfinder Awards for their outstanding service. Retired Executive Director Martha Friday received the award in the category of Individual Organizational Capacity Building, and long-time volunteer turned substitute staff member, Filomena Varvaro, received the Allied Professional award.

- ◆ Women's Center & Shelter ~ and specifically our Children's Program ~ was honored on November 22, 2002 with the Pittsburgh Cares' Shining Lights 2002 award as the year's Outstanding Community Based Organization.
- ◆ On November 12, 2002, Shelter Manager Betty Lane was honored with the YWCA's Racial Justice Award for her selfless efforts during many years of dedicating herself to this cause.

