

The Rising Star

A New Director

We're pleased to announce the appointment of Blanca Santana to the position of Director, Youth and Family Services. Blanca has been with WomenRising (and the YWCA) since 1992. She has held various positions, including Counselor, Team Leader, Senior Team Leader, and most recently since September, 2006, has served as Assistant Director of Youth and Family Services.

Blanca is bi-lingual and brings a great deal of experience in working with youth and families in Hudson County. She is knowledgeable of the other programs WomenRising offers as well as other community resources. Blanca holds a B.A. degree and is a NJ Certified Social Worker. She is currently pursuing a MSW.

Blanca is excited about the position, she is looking forward to the new challenges that will be coming her way. In turn, we're excited to have her on our team!

2006: Quite a Year

Looking back at the last year, we were able to accomplish a lot! In 2006 we're proud to have provided:*

- ✓ 320 women and children with a place to live
- ✓ 141 walk-ins with immediate assistance, advocacy, assessments, services, and referrals
- ✓ 453 women with financial, occupational skills, and job training
- ✓ 1,215 women and families with face to face counseling
- ✓ 1,395 women and children with group counseling
 - ✓ 543 women with legal options counseling
- ✓ 157 education sessions about family violence in the community
 - ✓ 4,436 family visits to families in crisis
 - ✓ 509 women with job placement
- ✓ 383 former clients with case management to help continue to build their lives
- ✓ 121 police station calls to trained volunteer domestic violence response team

*WomenRising 2006 Annual Report

Vol 3, Issue 9 3/20/07

March is Women's History Month. The 2007 Theme, "Generations of Women Moving History Forward" recognizes the wisdom and tenacity of the generations of women who have come before us and those who will follow. Women's history provides a more expansive vision of what a woman can do, it encourages girls and women to think larger and bolder. That's why our organization, whose mission is to empower women, is proud to celebrate something that we strive for all year round— assisting women to achieve self-sufficiency and live safe, fulfilling, productive lives.



In This Issue

- ★ A New Director!
- ★ 2006: Quite a Year
- ★ She's One of Ours
- ★ Stand With Us Against DV
- ★ A Giving Circle Success
- ★ Giving Circle Idea of the Month
- ★ Our Wishlist
- ★ Mark Your Calendars



She's One of Ours!

We were thrilled to hear that Stephanie Cummings, our Strong Foundations Program Coordinator, was recommended by Councilman Mariano Vega, Jr. for recognition as a "Woman of Action" during Women's History Month. During the month of March the city of Jersey City is proud to honor women in Jersey City who tirelessly give time and energy to their neighborhoods and community at large. The selected 2007 "Women of Action" will be presented with awards by the city for their selfless contributions, service, dedication, and commitment at a special reception. We at WomenRising are not surprised that a staff member has been recognized, our staff continually go above and beyond the call of duty. We're very honored and want to congratulate Stephanie on the well-deserved recognition. Stephanie does what she does for the community, and says, "if everybody took one part, our community would be a better place." We couldn't agree more!

Stand With Us Against DV

74% of Americans personally know a victim of domestic violence. Do you?

What can you do to support domestic violence survivors in your community?

Raising awareness is the first step. Recently, the NJ Coalition for Battered Women launched The Allstate Foundation Domestic Violence Program e-mail campaign to encourage people to Stand With Us Against Domestic Violence. Please click on [this link](#) to find out more. Then don't forget to forward this important message to your friends and family.

It's one step in ending the abuse! Together we can Stand Against Domestic Violence!

Prevent Child Abuse
GIVE AT TAX TIME



Children's Trust Fund
NJ Tax Form

NJ Department of Children and Families Jon S. Corzine Governor NJ Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect

A Giving Circle Success

A member of WomenRising's Board recently held our very first "Giving Circle" event and it went very well. Over \$600 was raised plus some people who could not attend will be sending in contributions. Her invite was simple. She explained how and why she was involved with WomenRising. Then she continued with:

"We've all been to Tupperware, cooking, pocketbook or jewelry parties and spent our money on things we need or want for ourselves. This time, I'd ask that you take that \$25, \$50 or \$100 you would have spent, and make a donation to WomenRising.

We have all been so fortunate, and this is a chance to help other women find the resources and

We have all been so fortunate, and this is a chance to help other women find the resources and opportunities to provide for themselves and their families. You can donate by cash, check or credit card. If you are unable to attend, but would still like to make a donation, please make your check payable to WomenRising, Inc and mail it to me..."

WomenRising would like to provide you the opportunity to help women and families in an immediate & efficient way without a major time commitment. By hosting your own Giving Circle party or get-together, you and your friends, neighbors, and colleagues can imagine one afternoon or evening of generosity strengthening a family! All it takes is a little energy to have an impact, and your event is that energy. Have fun while making a difference!

If you are interested in doing a Giving Circle you will be provided with "Event-In-A-Box" materials. In it we include ideas for events, as well as important information about WomenRising for your guests.

All you need to get started is:

- A willing group of people (who will bring their checkbooks)
- A computer for online donations (optional) or a basket /bowl to collect checks or cash
- Digital camera to document and share your event with WomenRising
- Food and drink of your choice
- Event-in-a-box materials (provided by WomenRising)

If you're interested in WomenRising Giving circle, please contact Andrea at 201/333-5700 ext 537 or write akoenig@womenrising.org. Thanks!

Giving Circle Idea of the Month



Need a reason to get together? Why not have a Giving Circle event to help WomenRising's Domestic Violence Shelter. The shelter is desperately in need of bed linens. If you have a get-together with just 15 people giving \$50 each, our shelter's

dreams of having bed linens and comforters for 25 beds will be answered! Need more ideas? Call Andrea at 201/333-5700 ext 537 or write to akoenig@womenrising.org



iGive.com[®]

Change online shopping for good.

Register for free at igive.com/womenrising

Our Wishlist

WomenRising has a regular need for items to be donated. Please consider making a donation from the following list. In addition, we've registered an **official wishlist with Target.com**. Next time you're shopping online, pop on over and look at [our list](#) (don't forget that by going through igive.com you can help us twice with your purchase!

Here's our regular list:

- Car Seats (booster size for toddlers)
- Bakeware (lightly used or new)
- Bath towel sets (new)
- Cell phones & batteries (used)
- Comforters (new- twin size for women, children, and teens)
- Crib sheet sets (new)
- Ink Jet Cartridges (used)
- Laundry detergent (sealed)
- Maternity clothing (lightly used)
- Pots & pans (gently used or new)
- Sheet sets (new- twin size for women and children)
- Strollers (gently used or new)
- Shower curtains with liners (new)
- Women's Toiletries (new-sealed)

Please consider making a donation and please make sure to call 201/333-5700 ext 537 to schedule an appointment before dropping items off.

Unfortunately, we cannot pick up items. We also need a volunteer with a truck to donate their time and service to help us get larger items that our clients need from time to time. All donations are tax-deductible. We will be able to provide you with a receipt for this purpose. For more information or to volunteer, call 201/333-5700 ext 537.

Mark Your Calendars

Here's what's coming up at WomenRising Inc:

Women of Action Awards Presentation

Tuesday, March 27th at 6pm
City Hall, Jersey City
For info call 201/547-6921



A Winetasting for WomenRising

Saturday, May 19th
Portside Liquor, Washington St., Jersey City
More details to follow.
For info call 201/333-5700 ext 537

Visit our website at www.womenrising.org.

**WomenRising Inc. ★ 270 Fairmount Ave. ★ Jersey City, NJ 07306-4712
201/333-5700**

In order to receive your WomenRising e-newsletter promptly and correctly, please make sure you add akoenig@womenrising.org to your regular address book or "non-bulk" address list.

To unsubscribe to "The Rising Star" WomenRising Inc's E-Newsletter, send a blank e-mail from the address you wish to delete to akoenig@womenrising.org and put "unsubscribe" in your subject line.

To unsubscribe from Women Rising Star, please email akoenig@womenrising.org or call 212-691-1100. If you wish to delete an address you wish to delete to akoenig@womenrising.org and put "unsubscribe" in your subject line.