

Women In Distress

Statistics for FY08-09:

- WID sheltered 339 people, of which 158 were children (almost 50%)
- WID provided over 24,000 hours of counseling
- WID answered 3,735 calls to the 24-hour crisis line
- WID reached over 75,000 people through community education/domestic violence awareness presentations
- Over \$50,000 worth of donated merchandise was provided to participants free of charge at WID's BloomingSales Thrift Store.

WHAT IS THE MORAN CHALLENGE

- Jan Moran, philanthropist and advocate for issues affecting children and families, has announced a special Moran Challenge Grant of \$500,000 to assist with the expansion campaign of Women In Distress of Broward County, Inc. (WID) for the new Jim and Jan Moran Family Center campus that will be located in Deerfield Beach.
- Jan Moran will match all new contributions to the capital expansion campaign, pledging a dollar for every three dollars in new contributions, up to \$500,000, from now until the end of 2010.

WHY IS WOMEN IN DISTRESS EXPANDING?

- Women In Distress (WID) has not significantly increased shelter capacity over their 35 years of service – in recent years, there has been a shortage of emergency shelter beds.
- Broward County's population has grown from 670,000 in 1974, the year WID was founded, to more than 1,700,000 today; the demand for all services WID provides has dramatically increased.
- On average, each month Women In Distress is unable to shelter 60+ women and/or children in need. While WID can offer counseling and other outreach services - the community deserves better.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO WID'S CURRENT FACILITIES?

- WID's current three properties will be sold to help fund the acquisition and renovation of the new campus.

HOW WILL WID FUND THIS EXPANSION?

- WID's current three properties, which are debt free, are for sale.
- WID received a \$939,000 grant from the Department of Children and Families ("DCF") to help with renovation costs. This is the largest grant WID has ever received from DCF for capital improvements.
- WID will seek other public grants (i.e. storm preparation and environmentally friendly landscaping).
- A capital campaign: "Project SAFE Place" is underway. In order to fully fund renovations, increased operational needs, and to secure sustainability through increasing endowment, significant support is needed from the community. Several naming and legacy opportunities will be available at the new campus. The total project cost is \$5 Million.

HOW WILL THIS EXPANSION IMPROVE WID'S SERVICES?

- The new campus will enable WID to increase the number of shelter beds by at least 60% -- to 100 beds initially-- with the capacity to grow to 132 beds as funding becomes available.
- For the first time in WID's history, housing will be available to teenage boys, male clients and special needs clients.
- WID may also be able to shelter pets, which has been a hindrance for families who have sought shelter in the past.

WILL WID'S OPERATING EXPENSES INCREASE WITH THE NEW CAMPUS?

- As the facility itself is larger, operating expenses are projected to increase proportionately. The current estimate is that operating expenses will increase up to 20-30% within the next five years, with an initial increase of 5% in the 2009-2010 fiscal year.

WHAT WILL PARTICIPANTS WHO HAVE BEEN COMING TO THE JIM AND JAN MORAN FAMILY CENTER IN FORT LAUDERDALE, WHICH IS WID'S COMMUNITY OUTREACH CENTER, DO AFTER THE MOVE?

- Services offered at the Jim and Jan Moran Family Center will now be offered at the new campus. WID will also maintain its satellite offices in Hallandale Beach, Coconut Creek, Plantation, and several other locations dispersed throughout the county including the city of Fort Lauderdale.

HOW CAN THE COMMUNITY GET MORE INVOLVED IN THIS IMPORTANT EXPANSION PROJECT?

- Visit www.womenindistress.org frequently for updates and announcements.
- Tours are offered of the new site under renovation. Come see the vision - schedule a visit to the new Jim and Jan Moran Family Center. Visit www.womenindistress.org for tour dates and information.
- Join the campaign committee. WID is seeking community and corporate leaders to help in the efforts to raise funds for this project. Contact Lauren Frank, Assistant Director of Development, for more information: lfrank@womenindistress.org or 954-332-4753.
- Pledge your support: VOLUNTEER and/or MAKE A DONATION – see contact information above or visit the website for legacy gift opportunities.