



Women's Resource Center of Winona

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WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTER OF WINONA

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I would like to support the Women's Resource Center
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Give online at: <http://wrcofwinona.org/donate/>



Women's Resource Center

Creating a safer community
by eliminating sexual and domestic violence

The Advocate

WRC holds Fiscal Year 2011 Annual Meeting

The Annual Members Meeting was held at the Women's Resource Center on Tuesday, October 25th. After the meeting was called to order, the Board Co-Chairs led those attending in welcoming Diana Miller as the Interim Executive Director.

The Director's report announced that during the 2011 year volunteer hours increased to over 12,000! The Board of Directors report consisted of multiple changes in the past year involving staff, board and the Executive Director, all of which have gone smoothly.

Board members unanimously approved to serve an additional three-year term were: Stephanie Nuttall, Taff Roberts, Kelly Kirby and Judy Yess. Two new nominees were also unanimously voted to serve on the Board of Directors: Laurel Mohan and Brooke Lenz.

The Creating A Safer Community Award was presented to WILL—the Women's Initiative for Leading and Learning club at Winona State University (pictured right) for their help with planning Take Back The Night, an event that happens each



April. Winona Police Department Investigator Anne Scharmach (left) was also awarded the Creating A Safer Community Award for her investigative work on behalf of victims and her contributions to the Winona County Sexual Assault Interagency Council.



Fall Edition

November 2011

Interim Executive Director
Diana Miller

Staff
Bethany Ablan
Princess Cramer-Drazkowski
Brianna Mielke
Eryn Redig
Adria Sherwood
Jaime Spilman

Board of Directors
Kelly Kirby
Brooke Lenz
Laurel Mohan
Jennifer Monsos
Stephanie Nuttall
Jay Palmer
Taff Roberts
Jamie Sanders
Judy Yess



LAST QUARTER STATS:

Total Clients: 475
New Clients: 193
Client Contacts: 763

77 E 5th St
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887.972.7353



Farewell

As I write this newsletter article, it comes with mixed

emotions. I have been the Director for the WRC for 5 ½ years and

have had a fabulous experience. By the time you read this, I will

no longer be employed by the agency as my last day is October 7, 2011. I have decided to move to the twin

cities to be closer to my children, parents, and extended family. During my time at the WRC, I have had the

opportunity to work with many dedicated and talented staff, board members, and volunteers. The

experience has been unforgettable and I will cherish the years I spent working with so many passionate

people. I do my work each day knowing that many people experience sexual violence and know their needs

and hurts are very deep and very real. For that reason, I am thankful for the time I worked for the WRC.

Thank you to all who have been part of my work and the work of the agency. You are an amazing

group of supporters. As I relocate to the cities, I will still be working in this important field with you. As we

collectively work with issues of abuse and violence, it is important to remember that all great

accomplishments happen one step at a time. I will miss you all but know that you will still be connected to

the WRC!

Thank you for your

Lori Woodward

Former WRC Executive Director

dedication to the WRC



The 10th performance of *The Vagina Monologues* is presented by The Women's and Gender Studies Department at WSU. The production will be held Friday and Saturday **February 24th and 25th**. Performances start at **7:30pm**. For more information contact the directors at wsuvaginamonologues@gmail.com.

March is Women's History Month so be sure to look for upcoming events!

Lets Do the Twist this year at the 25th Annual Gala and Silent Auction. The event will be held at the Elk Lodge Saturday, **April 14th** from 7pm-12am. Start preparing by listening to those old 45s— some Elvis Presley, Fats Domino, or Patsy Cline!



The **Take Back The Night** rally and march will happen on **April 19th, 2012**. The speak out will start at Winona State University, followed by the march. Stay tuned, more information to come!

The 15th Annual Women's Resource Center Tour of Gardens will be held on Saturday, **June 25th**. This year's tour will feature a variety of unique gardens in and around the Winona area. Look for more information on the featured gardens and where you can buy tickets in the May edition of *The Advocate*.



Welcome!

The WRC Staff at the 2011 Annual Meeting (front to back): Jaime Spilman, Diana Miller, Eryn Redig, Adria Sherwood, Princess Cramer-Drazkowski and Bethany Ablan.



The WRC welcomes Diana Miller as Interim Executive Director. Diana previously served the Center as Executive Director from 2001-2004. "I am proud to once again have the great good fortune to work with the Board, staff and volunteers at the WRC. The Center is a shining star among organizations in Winona and I am honored to have the opportunity to once again represent it in the community," says Diana about her interim post. She will fill the position until the appointment of a new WRC director early in 2012.

From the Director

As we enter this season of celebration, when we remember to give thanks and share gifts with one another, I am grateful for you, the members, volunteers and supporters of the WRC. It is your generous contributions of time, talent and treasure that promote the Center as a cornerstone in service to the Winona community. I am especially grateful to our 35 Leadership Circle donors, the individuals and couples who have contributed \$500 or more to the WRC this year. What wonderful gifts!

While the holidays bring many joys, they can also be stressful with travel, family gatherings, and shopping in addition to the everyday tasks. Imagine coping with the tremendous stress of having experienced the trauma of victimization, possibly at the hands of someone you love and trust. It is exactly this trauma that the WRC helps victims overcome year round. It is your kind and caring hearts that allow us to provide essential services that are life changing and often life saving.

I know you join me in being thankful for the outstanding WRC staff and advocates, who work tirelessly to provide safety and support for victims of domestic and sexual violence. Their selfless efforts in the fight to end violence against women and children often go unnoticed and unacknowledged. Every gift that you give the WRC recognizes and bolsters the work that they do each and every day. In this season of giving, as always, I genuinely appreciate your support. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Diana Miller

Interim Executive Director