



Financial Resources for Women & Children, Inc

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Study Claims
Young Women
are More Likely
than Young
Men to Initiate
Violence

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FRWC Project Grants First Loan

A woman will pay off what she owes to a former landlord, making her and her children eligible for housing, thanks to the Sojourner House FRWC project. Roxbury Highland Cooperative Bank in Jamaica Plain, MA has made the first loan in an exciting collaborative venture linking a bank, a non-profit program, and FRWC to address the financial needs of women and children. Sojourner House is backing the loan but has full confidence that this mother will pay the loan on time. FRWC is backing Sojourner House to reduce the program's risk. The loan makes it possible for the family to stabilize financially and move into its own space

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Your Own Budget

FRWC, Inc. is pleased to announce the on-line availability of our new brochure, "Your Own Budget." created by FRWC Board member Georgia Mattison, her daughter, Rachel Glickel, and Jamaica Plain Gazette Editor, Sandra Story. "Your Own Budget" assumes that you know nothing about budgeting. Like "Your Own Money," "Your

Own Budget" explains the concepts of money management using very basic language. It then provides a form to will find "Your Own Budget" in PDF format in the "Women!" or "Brochures" page on our web site, www.frwc.org. We encourage you to print as many copies as you need. Currently, the

brochure is available only in English. We would like to hear from programs who want to translate it for their participants.

During the month of September, 2003, the www.frow.org web site had visitors from Thailand, Mexico, Singapore, Saudi Arabia, United Kingdom, Australia, Germany, Canada and Belgium. Have you been there?

Kid Surfer™

We have found a software program that we believe will provide a safer Internet environment for children. When children use a browser that requires them to type in addresses, there is an increased safety risk because predators maintain programs that redirect misspelled words to pornography sites. Kid Surfer™ is a browser, (like Internet Explorer, Netscape & AOL) designed for children from ages 3-12 to view hand-selected, "Kid Surfer Approved" sites. Even so, we still recommend that you only let your children be online if you or another responsible adult is in the room with them. You will find a link to the Kid Surfer™ on our web site www.frow.org/children1.htm For the sake of full disclosure, you should know that if you access Kid Surfer™ using the FROW link, FROW, Inc. will receive an affiliate's fee.

Study Claims Women Initiate Violence

"It is simply wrong to suggest that victims are ever responsible for provoking or encouraging . . . violence."

Our mission is to develop resources and services that improve the financial stability and long-term safety of women and children who have experienced family violence.

Experts and advocates for victims of domestic violence are challenging a new study conducted by the Oregon Social Learning Center which finds that young women are more likely than young men to initiate physical aggression with their partners. Although the study has not yet been released, according to preliminary reports, the study claims that women are likely to initiate or engage in mutual aggression with their partners, that women are at higher risk for violence when they are physically

aggressive towards their partners and that young men reduce their aggressive behavior with aggressive women.

"This study sends the dangerous and incorrect message that women are responsible for the abuse they suffer because their behavior somehow encourages violence," said Family Violence Prevention Fund President Esta Soler. "Those of us who work to stop abuse and help victims know that this is not the

conversation really goes to the definition of domestic violence. Certainly, all violence is wrong regardless of who is the perpetrator. But domestic violence is not one person pushing another person one time. Domestic violence occurs when there is an ongoing pattern of fear, intimidation and violent assault. It is simply wrong to suggest that victims are ever responsible for provoking or encouraging that kind of violence."

DV Awareness Month Events

A summary of some of the creative, inspirational fund-raising events that took place this month:

Liz Claiborne, Inc.'s fundraising t-shirts bore the message "love is not abuse" and benefited National Domestic Violence Hotline and the Family Violence Prevention Fund.

The Body Shop and the NCADV collected

deactivated cell phones to support NCADV's programs serving battered women and their children.

The No More Tour, organized by Liz Claiborne, Inc. and Marie Claire Magazine, featured events at local universities, including a film festival showcasing the winning films from the

Stop the Violence short film contest.

The YWCA sponsored Week Without Violence, encouraging domestic violence awareness and violence prevention activities including tree plantings, candlelight vigils and community forums.

You can help to end violence against family members.

Raising Awareness of Stalking

Erin Brockovich, host of Lifetime Television's "Final Justice," joined advocates for victims of violence against women, members of Congress and others on July 8th for a congressional briefing on stalking. Sponsored by the National Center for Victims of Crime and Lifetime Television, the briefing was designed to raise awareness about the issue and the need to strengthen anti-stalking laws.

Currently, most states will not bring a charge of stalking unless the perpetrator has made a direct threat, yet studies show that stalking behaviors are strongly correlated with higher levels of violence against women.

More information about stalking is available on the Stalking Resource Center's web site, www.ncvc.org/src. Information about "Final Justice" and Lifetime's Stop Violence Against Women Campaign is available at

Donor List

Charlie Allen

Frances Haas

Earline Kendall for Wilma Carter

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### Monthly Donors

Becky Porter and Dana DeMoulin

Margory Sweetser

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**" Send your contributions to FRWC, c/o PPUF, 645 Boylston St., Boston, MA 02116**

**FINANCIAL  
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FOR WOMEN  
&  
CHILDREN,**

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PHONE- 508 627-5685

**SEE "SURVIVING A  
MONEY CRISIS:  
ELEVEN STEPS"  
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**"Never doubt that a  
small group of  
committed citizens  
can change the  
world. Indeed, it is  
the only thing that  
ever has."  
Margaret Mead**

## New Look

We hope you like our new look. The FRWC logo and newsletter have undergone a makeover thanks to graphic artist Kris Jones of [www.krisjdesign.com](http://www.krisjdesign.com). She maintained the recognizability of the old logo, but better symbolized our mission by adding the mother and child image. We appreciate her talent!

## Guest Editors

For the last four years, the FRWC Newsletter has been edited by FRWC Board member, Dr. Earline Kendall. She has undertaken this volunteer task with her usual competence and enthusiasm, but she was more than happy to let someone else take a turn.

This Fall03 Newsletter is being guest-edited by Becky Porter and Dana DeMoulin. For twenty-five years, Becky taught literature and creative writing in the Denver school system. She is now enrolled in an ordination program at Iliff School of Theology

Dana, a former pupil of Becky's, is a social worker who has extensive experience working with women who have experienced violence. FRWC, Inc. thanks them for the time and energy they have put into this issue.



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