
The Alcoholism Center for Women, Inc.

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E-Newsletter Fall 2007



Founder Brenda Weathers, circa 1975

Brenda passed away in 2005, a few months after ACW's 30th anniversary event. She will always be remembered for her extraordinary vision and compassion.

We believe that we are building on Brenda's vision. ACW has grown to a multi-faceted non-profit organization that provides Residential, Out-Participant and Prevention Services to over 100 women and girls a month.

We are so excited to present you with The Alcoholism Center for Women's (ACW) First E-Newsletter.

Before we tell you about all the "happenings" at ACW, we have to pay respect to our founder Brenda Weathers.

Brenda's desire to provide a safe place for all women to receive substance abuse services is just as important and vital today as it was in 1974. Brenda's sister Carolyn recently visited our facilities and said, "Oh...Brenda would be very proud of what is happening now at ACW".



Founder Brenda Weathers (center) at ACW 30th Anniversary Event in 2004. Left to Right: Sharon Lilly, Carolyn Weathers, Brenda and Travis Foote

Residential Treatment

Our Residential Program is a 6 to 9 month program that provides services to a diverse group of women. Some of our clients come to our program via a court mandate for inpatient treatment. Some come to us after suffering the indignity living on the streets and the dual challenges of being homeless and addicted. Still others come to us from working class homes, or well-to-do backgrounds, or wherever they might be in their lives when the addiction becomes so unmanageable that they come

to realize that residential treatment is their only option for survival. No matter their background, ethnicity, sexuality, age, drug use, or what brought them to us, all clients go through our structured, disciplined program that includes groups, individual counseling, house responsibilities, and sober social events. In addition, we strive to create unique, tailor-made treatment plans so that each and every woman has the best chance to become and remain free from her addictions.



Out-participant Program

Out-Participant services include 2-3 groups a day, 4 days a week, plus individual counseling and case management sessions. The Out-Participant Program recently added Bilingual/Bicultural Spanish speaking staff. We now provide services to a dozen Spanish Speaking Latinas. These women have stated that they are grateful for this service, for they didn't know where else to turn,

nor where they would be able to speak about their addiction in their native tongue.

In addition, we also offer a certified parenting group that is approved for our court mandated clients. The course is a 20 week intensive training group that provides a woman with the skills and knowledge to become a better nurturer for herself, and in turn, for her children.

Prevention Program

Our Prevention Program continues to be extremely innovative in its services for adolescent girls and women.

- L'BOC (Love Being a Woman of Consciousness) provides drug-free alternative social activities and interactive prevention educational workshops to women aged 18 and over who are seeking substance abuse prevention support activities.
- New Choices, a 10-week, four-day-a-week alcohol/drug prevention program, provides services to adolescent women ages 12-19.
- RADAR (Reducing Alcohol Distribution to Adolescents by Retailers) trains youth to educate retailers about the laws prohibiting the sale of alcohol to minors, mobilizes communities to prevent the licensing of liquor stores in low-income areas, and conducts sting operations with law enforcement and ACW prevention staff.

We provide the above services to approximately 15 sites in and around the Los Angeles area.

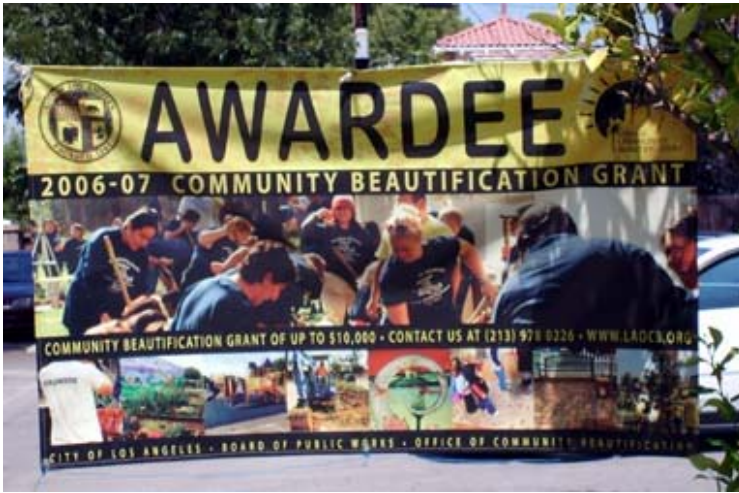
Other News

- After an inspection this spring, the Department of Public Health advised us that some improvements were needed, including an interior paint job for the Miracle House (our residential house). Stepping up to the task, twelve of our residents volunteered and poured their hearts and muscles into the task. The women picked the colors, and those with painting skills taught each other (and ACW staff who also volunteered) how to prepare the walls, the finer techniques of applying the paint, and how to clean up the mess afterwards.



*The facility now looks beautiful, warm and “homey.”
If you have a chance, come by and see it for yourself!*

- In 2006, ACW received a grant from the City Community Beautification Fund allowing us to create outdoor family visiting areas.



We have been busy completing many improvement projects, including:

- seeding the lawn,
- removing dead stumps,
- planting vines to give us more privacy, and
- setting up picnic tables, benches, and a swing-set for visiting children.

- ACW received a big lift and a big gift on June 23rd when twenty five volunteers from Agape International Spiritual Center joined us to work on our beatification project.

The Agape volunteers toiled all day in the hot L.A. sun, and there was no way we could have completed the project without their assistance and support.



- On July 14th, ACW held a “yummy” fundraiser: A Chocolate Tasting! Trader Joes, San Francisco Chocolate Company, and Hershey’s donated the chocolate and a chocolate expert, Stephanie Ewing, taught our supporters all about how chocolate is made and how to best appreciate it. Fun was had by all involved!

Keep watching your email for our upcoming fundraisers!

Thank you for taking the time to read ACW’s first e-newsletter!
For more information about ACW, our activities, volunteer opportunities,
and ways you can donate to ACW, check out our website at
www.alcoholismcenterforwomen.org.

If you would like to be removed from our email list, just reply to this email with “remove” in the subject header.