



South End  
Neighborhood  
Revitalization  
Zone Initiative

# South End Rising

A PUBLICATION OF THE SOUTH END NRZ, STAMFORD, CT

SPRING 2006

## Domestic Violence

### DVCC Awarded Grant for Bilingual Spanish Community Educator

The Fairfield County Community Foundation, based in Wilton, CT recently awarded a \$13,800 grant to the Domestic Violence Crisis Center (DVCC) that will be used to partially fund a full-time bilingual (Spanish) community educator position. Taking education programs to typically underserved community organizations, religious groups, and medical clinics, in addition to more local schools and other community and civic groups, has translated into a wider understanding of the root causes of domestic violence. Currently, 43% of DVCC counseling and shelter clients are Hispanic, as compared to 33% last year, in part due to the outreach that has been provided by the bilingual community educator.



5 Eversley Avenue, Norwalk, CT 06851  
(203) 853-0418 Fax: (203) 852-6729

141 Franklin Street, Stamford, CT 06901  
(203) 965-0049 Fax: (203) 323-0214

**TOLL-FREE HOTLINE: 1-888-774-2900**

Barbara Heffernan, Executive Director of DVCC stated "DVCC's bilingual community educator provides education in the schools and raises awareness in the community about domestic violence and where to get help.

The grant from Fairfield County Community Foundation will allow DVCC to continue this important work in the Spanish speaking communities that we serve."

In 2005, The Fairfield County Community Foundation Community Foundation awarded more than \$7 million in grants to nonprofits dedicated to community and economic development, children and youth, women and girls, health and human services, the environment, the arts, and non-profit organizational effectiveness. ([www.fccfoundation.org](http://www.fccfoundation.org)) 834-9393.

DVCC, with offices and shelters in Norwalk and Stamford, also services Darien, New Canaan, Weston, Westport and Wilton and provides the following services: a 24-hour crisis hotline 1-(888)-774-2900; temporary shelter; individual and family counseling; group support; court advocacy; information and referral; child advocacy; bi-lingual services; and community education programs. DVCC's mission is to create an environment in which all people in the community are safe from the threat of violence in their personal relationships, and the goal of their work is to prevent and break the cycle of domestic violence.

Last year, DVCC sheltered 79 women and 99 children, provided 10,923 counseling sessions responded to 3,885 hotline calls, received 2,426 new family violence cases through the Superior Courts, reached 16,690 schoolchildren through classroom presentations, and was supported by 69 certified volunteers who donated over 4,907 hours to the agency. Nationwide last year an estimated 2 to 4 million women were battered by their husbands or boyfriends and approximately 3.3 million children experienced or witnessed domestic violence. ■

## Hispanic Advisory Council of Greater Stamford (HACGS)

### Making a Difference

H.A.C.G.S. is a group of dedicated members of social service organizations, civic organizations, companies, businesses, religious groups and other professionals that work with the Hispanic community in the areas of education, employment, immigration, finances, physical health, mental health and other crucial areas. Our meetings are held the second Thursday of every month at CTE, 137 Henry Street, Second floor (Family Services Conference Room), Stamford, CT.

If you would like to reach the growing Hispanic population in the Greater Stamford area, please email information and updates about the services that you provide, preferably in English and Spanish, to: [Carito\\_Osorio\\_Dvcc@yahoo.com](mailto:Carito_Osorio_Dvcc@yahoo.com).

To be placed in our mailing list, please e-mail the following information to [Carito\\_Osorio\\_Dvcc@yahoo.com](mailto:Carito_Osorio_Dvcc@yahoo.com).

- Name • Title • Organization/Business • Address
- Phone/Fax • E-mail • Type of Services Provided

Together we can make a difference in our beloved Hispanic community! ■

## South End Scholarship Recipient



### Janelle Wills First Recipient of South End Scholarship

Janelle Wills, an aspiring youth and resident of the South End Community for 16 years, is the recipient of the South End Scholarship for \$1,200. Janelle has been active in many community activities including: South End Book Fair;

South End Clean-ups; South End Flower Plantings; South End Community Garden; South End Neighborhood Block Watches; South End CTE After School Program (tutoring); South End Ferguson Library Volunteer.

Janelle attended trailblazer Academy and graduated from the Academy of Information technology. Her career goal is to obtain a Bachelors Degree in Nursing, which she is pursuing at Texas Woman's University. Janelle has been a great asset to the South End Community and we wish her every success! ■

## COMING EVENTS

**May 13** **Painting of the Fire Hydrants**  
Rain Date: May 20

**June 10** **Health Fair**  
10AM-2PM, CTE, 34 Woodland Ave.

**June-July** **NRZ Raffle**

**Dec. 7** **Christmas Tree Lighting**  
St. Luke's

**Dec. 12** **NRZ Holiday Party**





# Hats Off!

Our great appreciation to the following individuals and businesses for helping the community in various ways:

- Community Development Block Grant .....\$10,000
- CTAC .....\$6,000
- Mayor's Empowerment Grant....\$2,500
- The New England Grassroots Environment Fund .....\$2,000
- W&M Properties .....\$1,000
- Heyman Properties .....\$1,200

Heyman Properties, LLC, the first contributor to the South End Scholarship Fund, has enjoyed an outstanding reputation as a premier developer and owner of commercial real estate in the Northeast for three generations. Today, its portfolio consists of over 4,000,000 square feet of office, retail, mixed-use and hotel properties. Heyman Properties actively supports the communities it serves through participation in local civic and not-for-profit organizations. Some of the programs that Heyman Properties is honored to be affiliated with include the United Way (Stamford, Bridgeport, New Britain); Earthplace (Westport); the South End Neighborhood Revitalization Zone, Inc., the Downtown Special Services District and St. Luke's Lifeworks (Stamford); and the Connecticut Food Bank.

## Sexual Assault Crisis and Education Center



### THE SEXUAL ASSAULT CRISIS AND EDUCATION CENTER

One Dock Street, Suite 320 Stamford, CT 06902

203-348-9346 Office • 203-324-2321 Fax

24-HOUR HOTLINES

ENGLISH 203-329-2929 SPANISH 888-568-8332

STATEWIDE 888-999-5545

The Latino population in Connecticut is growing, and is now the largest ethnic group in the United States. Throughout the nation, numerous occurrences of sexual violence affect people of all race, age, gender, class and cultural lines.

The Sexual Assault Crisis and Education Center is committed to working towards the elimination of sexual violence, supporting the Latino community, and encourages the community to join us in our mission. SACEC provides free and confidential services for men and women who are survivors or sexual assault as well as friends and families whose loved one has been abused. Services include 24-hour hotlines in English and Spanish, individual counseling, support group, court advocacy and accompaniment to local hospitals and police departments. Educational programs and volunteer programs are also available free of cost. ■

Zero Tolerance and the Center for Women's Studies presents..

# The Vagina Monologues

Friday, April 7, 2006 @ 7 pm

Saturday, April 8, 2006 @ 2 pm & 8 pm

In the General Re Auditorium (UCONN Stamford).

Broad Street & Washington Blvd  
Stamford

Free visitor parking on 2nd floor of parking garage  
Entrance on Washington Blvd- cars parked in reserved areas on  
The 1st floor may be ticketed!

Tickets: \$10 UCONN Students with ID; Faculty  
\$15 Public (can be purchased the days of the shows)

Proceeds from the event are being donated to the  
Domestic Violence Crisis Center in Stamford, CT

## Mobile Mammography

### Stamford Hospital's Mobile Mammography

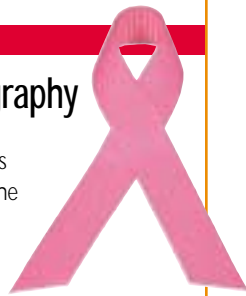
Stamford Hospital's Mobile Mammography Program was established to bring quality medical testing directly into the work environment at half the cost. ACR accredited and FDA approved, we have passed the same government requirements that any stationary mammography program needs to pass. We are now able to reach into the community and screen the uninsured and under insured women to make it a complete service to all women.

In 1996, the first grant was received from the Clairol Corporation to establish the Mobile Mammography program. The program has succeeded beyond our expectations, servicing hard to reach women in the Latino, African American, and Haitian neighborhoods. Bringing the x-ray service into the community we have been able to reach an average of 1000 uninsured and underinsured women yearly. We stress the importance of mammography and self-breast exams. In the medical field we all know that **"Early detection is the best protection"** that we have against the disease.

We now receive grants from The Breast Cancer Alliance of Greenwich, Clairol division of P&G, Susan Komen Foundation and the State of Connecticut. Through these generous contributions we are able to screen the uninsured and under insured women. Our grant program also helps in patient follow-up care by providing financial assistance for additional views and ultra sounds.

To be eligible for a mammography screening a woman must be 35 – 40 for her baseline, 40 and over for her annual screening. In addition, she must be an established patient with any of the community health centers or a private doctor. To be considered an established patient she would need to be seen within a two-year period.

For more information please call 203 276-5990. ■



Cheryl T. Embles  
Community Service Award

William B. Carlson, Jr.  
Community Service Award



Pamela A. Kozzovelli  
Honorary Chair

Joshua Smith  
SACG Awards

Arlene Fort  
Honorary Chair



**Tickets**  
\$75 in advance  
\$100 day of event

**Tables**  
Platinum - \$10,000  
Gold - \$5,000  
Silver - \$2,500  
Bronze - \$1,000

**Events**  
Open Bar Reception  
Dinner  
Live Band  
Silent Auction

Call 203/327-2790  
or visit  
[www.yerwoodcenter.org](http://www.yerwoodcenter.org)  
for more information  
and tickets.

All proceeds will  
benefit programs at  
Yerwood Center

## Yerwood Center 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner

Wednesday, April 5, 2006  
6pm to 10pm  
The Italian Center  
1620 Newfield Avenue  
Stamford, CT

Yerwood Center is a 501 (c) 3 Non-profit Organization.

## Diesel Pollution

Did You Know? Each year, diesel pollution in Connecticut is associated with more than:

- 200 premature deaths
- 300 non-fatal heart attacks
- 4,000 asthma attacks
- 6,000 respiratory symptoms in children
- 24,000 work loss days

Source: Clean Air Task Force



## Key Facts: Diesel and Health

- Diesel pollution makes people sick. It contains lung irritants, more than 40 "air toxics" including carcinogens and fine particulate matter (PM). Tiny particles in diesel exhaust are inhaled deep in the lungs, where they can trigger asthma and heart attacks.
- Nationally, diesel PM cuts short the lives of approximately 21,000 people per year - more premature deaths than caused by homicide or drunk driving.
- Fairfield, Hartford, & New Haven Counties rank within the hardest-hit 7 percent of counties in the U.S. for health impacts from diesel exhaust. The lifetime diesel soot cancer risk for a resident of Fairfield County is 494 times EPA's acceptable risk level.
- School buses, trucks, construction and industrial equipment, locomotives and marine vessels are sources of diesel pollution. Since sources are concentrated in urban areas, people who live and work in cities are exposed to higher levels of risk.
- Diesel soot is a global warming pollutant. Black carbon from diesel exhaust, pound for pound, is thought to have a warming effect at least 220 times more powerful than carbon dioxide.

## Solutions for Connecticut

- Beginning in 2007, federal standards will require new diesel engines to be 90% cleaner than they are today. But since these new standards only apply to new engines, diesels built to yesterday's emission standards will be on Connecticut's roads and at Connecticut's job-sites for years to come. Unless we act now.
- Solutions are available today. The same fuels and technologies that make 90% PM reductions possible from new engines are available for in-use engines as well.
- In 2005, the Connecticut legislature passed a bill which prompted the Department of Environmental Protection to develop a diesel emission reduction strategy. Connecticut policymakers must now implement aggressive anti-pollution measures that will deliver real health benefits and continue to look for new opportunities.
- We support policies that will minimize health risks from diesel pollution, reducing diesel particulate emissions by 75% over ten years. This target is consistent with goals outlined in the Connecticut Climate Change Action Plan, and will put the state on the path to reach lowest feasible diesel pollution levels by 2020.
- We support immediate emissions reductions to the lowest level achievable in school buses, transit buses, and state-funded construction equipment. These priority fleets endanger our most sensitive populations: children, seniors, and urban residents. There is no reason to delay.
- With your help, Connecticut can largely eliminate health risks from diesel vehicles by retrofitting emission controls; switching to cleaner fuels; rebuilding or replacing older engines; eliminating unnecessary idling; improving the efficiency of freight and transportation systems; and building institutional support for diesel pollution prevention.

## Concerned Citizens Needed

To make diesel pollution a priority and to secure funding this year, we need to demonstrate strong citizen support for addressing these issues to the CT Legislature. (Find your legislators at [www.vote-smart.org](http://www.vote-smart.org)) For information about how you can help support this effort, contact Roger Smith, Clean Water Action, 860-232-6232, [rsmith@cleanwater.org](mailto:rsmith@cleanwater.org). *continued on back page*

## Violencia Domestica

### Subvencion de \$13,800 al Centro de Crisis de la Violencia domestica para Mantener la Posicion de la Educadora Comunitaria Bilingüe

La Fundación Comunitaria del Condado Fairfield, ubicada en Wilton, CT, otorgó recientemente al Centro de Crisis de la Violencia Domestica (DVCC) una subvención por la cantidad de \$13,800. Estos fondos serán utilizados en parte para cubrir la posición de tiempo completo de la Educadora Comunitaria Bilingüe (Español/Ingles). La Educadora Comunitaria Bilingüe se encarga de llevar los programas de educación y prevención a organizaciones, grupos religiosos, clínicas médicas, programas escolares, y otras entidades y grupos en la comunidad Hispana. Actualmente, el 43% de los clientes de DVCC que utilizan los servicios de apoyo psicológico y los albergues de emergencia son de origen latino americano, comparado con el 33% del año pasado, el cual se debe en parte a los esfuerzos de la Educadora Comunitaria para alcanzar a la comunidad Hispana.

Barbara Heffernan, Directora Ejecutiva del Centro de Crisis de la Violencia Domestica, dijo "La Educadora Comunitaria Bilingüe de DVCC ofrece educación en los colegios y provee talleres de información y prevención a los miembros de la comunidad con respecto a la violencia domestica y los servicios de nuestra agencia. La subvención de la Fundación Comunitaria del Condado de Fairfield permitirá la continuación de este trabajo tan importante en la comunidad Hispana en las áreas que servimos."

En el 2005, la Fundación Comunitaria otorgo mas de \$7 millones en subvenciones a organizaciones sin fines de lucro dedicadas al desarrollo comunitario y económico, los niños y la juventud, las mujeres y las niñas, servicios humanitarios y servicios de salud, el ambiente, las artes, y la efectividad de las organizaciones sin fines de lucro. Para más información, por favor visite la pagina en la red de la fundación [www.fccfoundation.org](http://www.fccfoundation.org).

DVCC tiene oficinas y albergues en Norwalk y en Stamford y también provee sus servicios a las comunidades de Darien, New Canaan, Weston, Wilton y Westport. DVCC provee los servicios siguientes: la línea de ayuda que funciona las 24 horas del día, los 365 días del año 1-888-774-2900; albergue temporal; apoyo psicológico individual y familiar; grupos de apoyo; abogacia legal; información y remisiones; abogacia infantil; servicios bilingües y programas de educación comunitaria.

El año pasado, DVCC albergó a 79 mujeres y 99 niños, proveyó 10,923 sesiones de apoyo psicológico, respondió a 3,885 llamadas en la línea de ayuda, recibió 2,426 casos nuevos de violencia familiar por medio de las cortes superiores, 4,446 casos nuevos y reanudados, alcanzó 16,690 menores por medio de presentaciones escolares, y recibió el apoyo de 69 voluntarios certificados, quienes donaron mas de 4,907 horas a la agencia. A nivel nacional, entre 2 y 4 millones de mujeres fueron golpeadas por sus esposos o novios y aproximadamente 3.3 millones de niños presenciaron o pasaron por violencia domestica. ■



**Stella's Café & Bakery**  
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Stamford, CT 06902  
Tel: 357-0300

**We are proud to offer fresh authentic artisan breads and pastries daily.**  
**"A Hidden Jewel of the South End"**  
**(Ofrecemos pan autentico y pastelitos hechos diario)**  
**"Una joya del South End"**

## Diesel Pollution (continued)

### The Connecticut Alliance Against Diesel Pollution's Coalition Platform

In the United States, more than 13 million vehicles use diesel fuel to build our nation's buildings and roads and to transport goods and people. However, the fine particle pollution from diesel emissions shortens the lives of an estimated 21,000 people nationwide every year and the cancer risk from diesel exhaust is 8 times higher than the cancer risk from all other air toxins combined. The Connecticut Alliance Against Diesel Pollution (CAADP), a collaboration led by Environment Northeast, Clean Water Action, the Connecticut Coalition for Environmental Justice and Connecticut Fund for the Environment, is committed to reducing the health risks from diesel pollution. In 2005, the CT Legislature demonstrated nationwide leadership by passing SA 05-7, which called upon state government to create a plan for reducing emissions from diesel vehicles 75% by 2015. The Alliance supports the full implementation of a plan to achieve this goal as it would save thousands of lives, improve the health and well-being of Connecticut residents, and help mitigate global warming. The Connecticut Alliance Against Diesel Pollution advocates that Connecticut should implement measures to significantly reduce diesel pollution consistent with the following principles:

1. The Connecticut Diesel Pollution Plan should achieve a reduction in diesel particulate matter pollution of 75% by 2015, consistent with Special Act 05-07 and the Connecticut Climate Change Action Plan 2005, to protect public health and reduce the economic, health, and environmental threats posed by global warming.
2. High exposure public fleets should lead by example and should be targeted first for clean-up. Connecticut should maximize pollution reduction from transit buses, school buses, and equipment used in large state construction projects, and clean up dates in Special Act 05-07 should be considered hard targets. This strategy should include strong recommendations for developing an in-state funding stream to support diesel mitigation. The National Partnership to Reduce Diesel Pollution, a nationwide initiative with whom CAADP is allied, advocates the following:
3. Plans should be designed to minimize risk to public health. Acknowledging that there is no known safe level for exposure to diesel pollution, diesel emissions reductions should go beyond attainment of state and federal ambient health standards for air quality, and deeper diesel pollution reductions should be pursued as technology improves.
4. Plans should consider options to reduce diesel pollution from all sources.
5. Plans should utilize the best pollution controls and management practices to guarantee the greatest possible reduction in diesel emissions. Strategies could include: retrofits, rebuilds, replacements, cleaner fuel, implementing and enforcing no-idling policies, encouraging stricter inspection and maintenance practices, and implementing commercial and industrial environmental management systems.
6. Plans to reduce diesel pollution should target particulate matter, as its components have serious health and global warming impacts. Particulate matter has been identified by public health and medical experts as the most dangerous component of diesel pollution. Targeting particulate matter will also reduce black carbon soot, a global warming pollutant, helping to reduce the serious economic, health, and environmental threats posed by global warming.
7. Plans to reduce diesel particulate matter should not significantly increase other air pollutants. Policies that create other pollution, including net increases in nitrogen oxides (NOx) or other air toxics, should be avoided.
8. Plans should require that, to the maximum extent feasible, each sector contributing to diesel pollution share in the expense and effort of reducing this pollution. A diversity of funding sources, public and private, should be utilized to achieve maximum pollution reductions. Innovative funding and incentive strategies (for example: loans, tax credits, and small-scale grants) should be pursued to encourage private fleet participation.
9. Plans should target reducing exposure to sensitive subpopulations, especially the elderly, children, and environmental justice communities, where pollutant levels are highest and where the potential for human health benefits are greatest.
10. Plans should ensure that adequate pollution monitors exist to create an accurate inventory and to provide on-going tracking of emissions. Comprehensive diesel emission inventories of all sectors (on-road, off-road and stationary) are an essential tool for identifying opportunities and assessing progress.
11. Plans should support engagement of all levels of government to pursue maximum diesel pollution reductions.

### South End Neighborhood Revitalization Zone Inc. College Scholarship Fund

The South End NRZ College Scholarship fund is for a South End youth who meets the following requirements:

- Volunteer 500 hours of service to South End events, centers and services
- GPA of 3.0 or Better
- Proof of acceptance to an accredited two or four year college or other institution of higher learning

The award is given in the form of a check made out to the institution. Candidates can apply for the award in March of each year with the South End NRZ. The scholarship is a one-time award of \$1200.00 and proof of financial eligibility is required.

\*Note: The 3.0 GPA replaced the previous 2.0 or better GPA to encourage higher achievement

South End Neighborhood Revitalization Zone, Inc. (NRZ)  
465 Canal Street, Stamford, CT 06902  
Phone 203-977-1610 • Fax 203-977-1611 [www.southendnrz.org](http://www.southendnrz.org)

## Distinctive Dental Service

Efren Cortes, D.D.S., P.C.

28 First Street Stamford, CT 06905 203-252-2000



Allow us to introduce ourselves...

Distinctive Dental Service has been a part of the Stamford Community for over five years. We have a knowledgeable and friendly staff that truly cares for our patients. We always take the time to listen to you and address your needs. Dr. Cortes, a skilled and highly trained dentist, is committed to creating beautiful and healthy smiles for all of his patients. Our office specializes in a full range of cosmetic and restorative dentistry, including periodontal surgery and implants, as well as general and preventive procedures. So whether your concern is a major mouth restoration, or a subtle adjustment, he is capable of taking care of you.

At Distinctive Dental, we believe that the key to an incredible smile is a Lifetime of Healthy Teeth and Gums! We always go out of our way to make sure that your experience is a pleasant one. Dr. Cortes loves the dental profession and the ability to help others. You will feel the difference from the moment you walk into our office. Our gentle dental care is the reason why our patients recommend their family and friends to us.

We have a state-of-the-art facility that uses the most up-to-date technological and clinical advances in the field of dentistry. Our quality staff keeps their skills honed and learns cutting edge techniques through ongoing education. In this way, our practice is able to provide you with the excellent care you deserve during your entire experience here.

We appreciate the opportunity to serve our community. We certainly look forward to meeting you, as well as welcoming you to our dental family!

Efren Cortes, D.D.S.,P.C. & Staff

## HEALTH & LIFE

To improve and maintain your health, we offer our services in:

- Physical therapy and exercise
- Health and nutrition
- Massage and relaxation
- Sports training
- Seminars and conferences



## SALUD Y VIDA

Para mejorar y mantener su salud prestamos servicios en:

- Terapia fisica y ejercicio
- Asesoría en nutrición y salud
- Masajes y relajación
- Entrenamiento deportivo
- Charlas y conferencias

GABRIEL TORO

Physical Educator • Fitness Therapist

914-843-3292

[gabochocho@yahoo.com](mailto:gabochocho@yahoo.com)