



New York Asian Women's Center E-Newsletter – June 2010

**New York Asian Women's Center, 39 Bowery, PMB 375, New York, NY 10002
Admin: 212-732-0054 Toll-Free Hotline: 1-888-888-7702 Website: www.nyawc.org**

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1. NYPD Recognizes NYAWC at Women's History Month Breakfast



Fatima Shama, Sergeant Lizbeth Villafane, Haemy Lee, Fronthy Nguyen, Mona Mazhar, and Deputy Chief Kathy Ryan at the breakfast.

On Monday, March 29, 2010, NYAWC was honored at the Women's History Month Breakfast hosted by the New Immigrant Outreach Unit of the NYPD Community Affairs Bureau. Honorees were awarded a certificate acknowledging their work with the immigrant community. Haemy Lee, Project Free Manager, and Fronthy Nguyen, Outreach Coordinator, accepted the award on behalf of NYAWC. Other honorees were The Arab-American Family Support Center, Turning Point for Women and Families, and Salam A. Lutheran Church.

The event was introduced by Sergeant Lizbeth Villafane, followed by words from Police Officer Mona Mazhar and opening remarks by Deputy Chief Kathy Ryan. The keynote speaker was Commissioner Fatima Shama from the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs. In addition to recognizing the honorees, the breakfast provided an opportunity for community-based organizations to network.

2. Knitting Project Helps Women Heal

For the last three months, NYAWC has held knitting projects for the women staying at its shelters. Every Friday night, at two shelters—Rose House and Peace House—women come together for a late-night knitting session. The women enjoy the activity so much that very often the knitting session, planned to meet for one hour, lasts for up to three hours. The knitting sessions provide opportunities for women to de-stress and socialize with their housemates. Sometimes they bring their kids. At other times, they bring food to share with each other. NYAWC staff members Hifsa Rajput and Uzma Naz organize the knitting sessions, as well as provide assistance. Yarn and knitting supplies are generously donated by Knitty City.

3. Shelter Clients Celebrate Mother's Day

In celebration of Mother's Day in May, volunteer Ellen Chin led necklace and bracelet beading activities for all the women at NYAWC's two emergency residences. Under the creative guidance of Ellen other volunteers, clients made many beautiful bracelets and necklaces for themselves and their children. The clients were very happy to show off their artwork to each other while they chatted. Volunteers watched over the children so that their mothers had an opportunity to relax and enjoy the celebration. Volunteers also brought a cake for the mothers and kids to share. Women who participated in the celebration received scarves as gifts from NYAWC Board Member Shelly Wang and Tai Wang of WAC Lighting. Overall, both the moms and their children wore big smiles, pleased at the beauty of their creations.



4. RedLotus Raises Awareness and Funds for Children's Program

NYAWC gives our heartfelt thanks to RedLotus, Asian-Pacific Professional Network of Ogilvy and Mather, an international advertising, marketing and public relations agency. In celebration of Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month, RedLotus teamed up with NYAWC to raise awareness among Ogilvy and Mather employees about domestic violence and human trafficking in the Asian American community. In addition, RedLotus hosted a happy hour and raffle and encouraged co-workers to donate. The network raised over \$3,500, which will help NYAWC's Children's Program provide counseling, advocacy assistance, mentoring programs, and support groups to child survivors of family violence.

5. Hotline Volunteers Needed

Do you speak Mandarin, Cantonese or any other Asian languages? NYAWC is looking for volunteers to answer hotline calls for 3 hours or more between 9 AM and 7 PM on weekdays at its Manhattan office. Hotline volunteers will receive training and will be under the guidance of the hotline manager.

To volunteer, please contact Xue Yi Zhen, Volunteer Coordinator, at 212-732-0054, ext. 127, or xzhen@nyawc.org.

How can you help?

Volunteer! NYAWC's volunteers find fulfillment and enjoyment by enriching the lives of women and children.

Donate! Your tax-deductible donation will help to provide emergency shelter, counseling, advocacy, and other crucial services to battered women and their children.

For more information on how you can get involved, visit <http://www.nyawc.org>, or contact xzhen@nyawc.org to volunteer your services or fmui@nyawc.org to make a donation.