



Phoenix

New York Asian Women's Center

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June 2011

OUT OF THE DARKNESS, INTO OUR COMMUNITY



Sergeant Stephen Kurz discusses NYPD's response to domestic violence in the community.

woman's deadly experience with domestic violence, while *Workplace*, a multimedia installation created by local artists and NYAWC, captured NYAWC clients' accounts of abuse.

"We believe it takes a village to prevent or reduce domestic violence," said Executive Director Larry Lee. "This forum begins the process of engaging all parts of the community in standing up and speaking out against violence and abuse."

NYAWC thanks panelists Kala Ganesh (CONNECT), Jerin Arifa (NYAWC), Susan Jacob (NYC Family Justice Center—Queens), Sergeant Stephen Kurz (NYPD), and Binta Vann-Joseph (Verizon) for their engaging discussion. NYAWC also extends thanks to Flushing's YWCA for providing space for the forum and to New York City Council Member Peter Koo for his opening remarks.

To commemorate Crime Victims' Rights Week, NYAWC hosted a community forum, called Out of the Darkness: Domestic Violence in our Community, on April 14, 2011. A panel of five experts engrossed the nearly 100 audience members in a discussion of coordinated responses that the community—as individuals, employers, law enforcement agencies, and service provider organizations—can take to prevent abuse and effectively assist survivors.

NYAWC presented clips of two art pieces on domestic violence's pervasive effect on victims' lives, including while at work. The film, *Telling Amy's Story*, told the true story of one

WHAT IS YOUR EXPERIENCE WITH DOMESTIC VIOLENCE?

What is your experience with and thoughts on domestic violence? Please fill out our quick, anonymous survey (just three short questions) at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/DVExperience>.

View peoples' responses in the next issue of NYAWC's newsletter.

“WE ARE NEW YORK” INTRODUCES NEW ENGLISH CONVERSATION GROUP

Through the New York City-sponsored We Are New York Community Project, NYAWC conducted weekly English conversation groups for women to practice their language skills, and to learn and build confidence. Every Thursday from 4 to 6 pm in NYAWC's Elmhurst community office, women of

varied English levels met with facilitators Andrea Yee and Jason Wu. Together, they watched videos, looked at pictures and studied vocabulary words provided by We Are New York and held discussions to practice English. The group ran from April through June 2011.

SPOTLIGHT: NYAWC'S MULTILINGUAL HOTLINE

NYAWC's 24/7 Multilingual Hotline is more than a phone number. It is a lifeline for mothers and children, and is often the only way for women who are in domestic violence situations to reach out for help. What was once a single phone line is now a complex phone system that will connect callers to NYAWC's five community offices. Every year, the Hotline receives over 6,000 calls from New York City and throughout the country. It provides support to abused women and validates their experiences. When abused women seek help, NYAWC's 1-888-888-7702 number gives them the resources they need to live safely and independently.



Phoenix Newsletter

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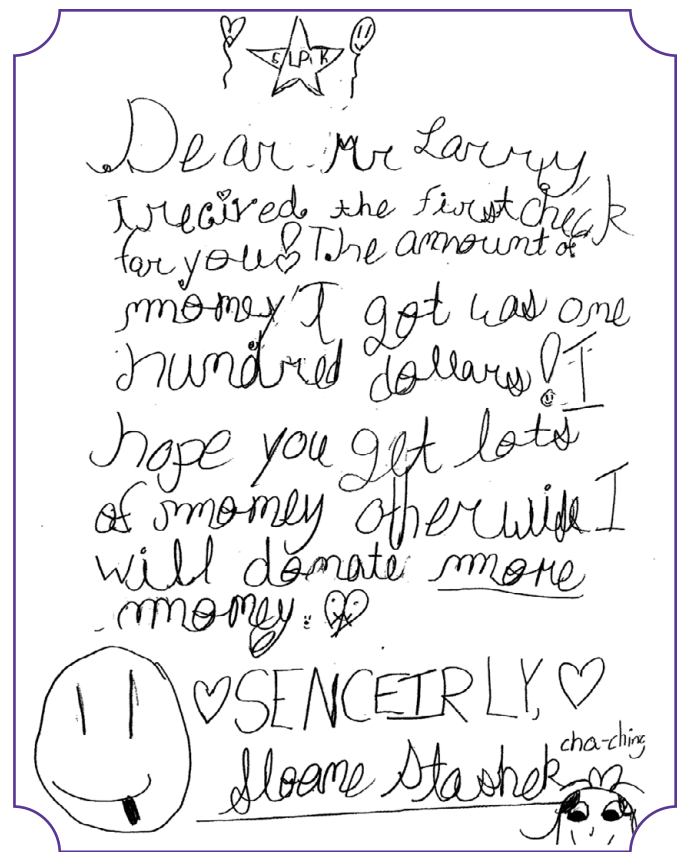
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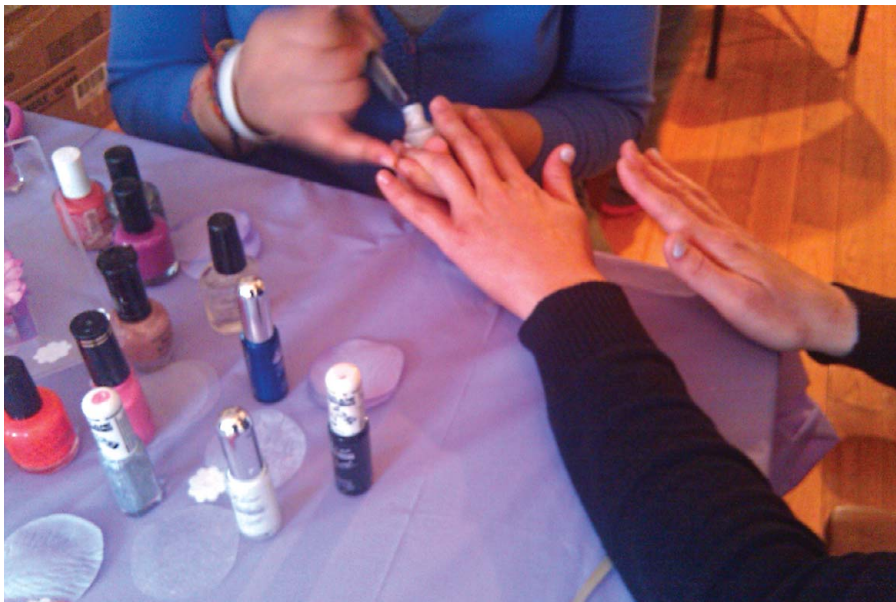
SPRING WELCOMES BOUNTIFUL SUPPORT

NYAWC thanks the Asian Women's Shelter, CJ Huang Foundation, Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, New York State Senator Thomas Duane, Rocking Moon Foundation, Tiger Baron Foundation, the West Hempstead Rotary Club and many other donors for their recent generous support in spring 2011. NYAWC also thanks one of our board members' daughters, Sloane Ptashek. Sloane asked that in lieu of presents for her 8th birthday, her friends and family donate to NYAWC. Thus far, she has raised over \$500!

Sloane's letter appears to the right.



SHELTER MOMS TREATED TO SPA DAY



A volunteer helps an NYAWC client relax with freshly manicured nails.

This year for Mother's Day, NYAWC shelter residents were given an invaluable gift: some much-needed pampering. Alena Victor, Shelter Operations Manager, organized a spa event for both Peace House and Rose House to treat NYAWC clients to some attention and TLC.

At Peace House, volunteer hairstylists provided haircuts and styling tips to residents. At Rose House, ladies enjoyed indulging manicures. While our moms mingled and were beautified, their children had fun making art collages for their moms.

It was a truly exceptional day for two of our residents who had never received a manicure before. "I feel very special today," said one of NYAWC's clients.

Generous donors contributed food and drinks, as well as gift sets of nail polish, jewelry and face and bath supplies. Big thanks are due to Baby Buggy, Jewish Women International, and Nussbaum and Wu Bagel, Bakery and Café.

Special thanks to shelter staff members who helped set up the event: Mae Mehra, Abida Rajput and Jason Wu.



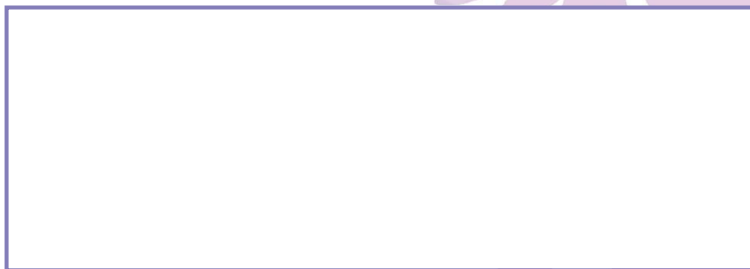
NYAWC

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What is the significance of the phoenix?

The phoenix is a mythological bird reborn from fire and ashes. The New York Asian Women's Center chose the phoenix as its logo to symbolize the strength of the women who have overcome domestic violence.

☐ **Yes!** I want to help women and children live a life free of abuse.
Please add me to the **NYAWC** mailing list.



Name: _____

Address: _____

Tel: _____ E-mail: _____

☐ I am enclosing a check in the amount of \$ _____

☐ I am including my credit card information to make a tax-deductible donation.

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Support NYAWC!

Volunteer!

Join our dedicated group of volunteers to enrich the lives of women and children.

For more info visit
www.nyawc.org

Donate!

Checks payable to NYAWC
can be mailed to:

NYAWC
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*Your contributions will help
provide emergency shelter,
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services to abused women
and their children.*