

April 2002

Happy Spring!

We had our 7th annual Advocate Awards Ceremony on Thursday, March 21st and it was a great success. There were a number of interesting speakers, including Dr. Richard Daines, President and CEO of St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital Center, Dr. Patricia Carey, Director of the Roosevelt ED, and Harriet Lessel from the NYC Alliance Against Sexual Assault. Outstanding Service Awards were given to Dr. Sigurd Ackerman and Karen Coleman, RN for their consistent commitment and support to our Program. The "Above And Beyond" Award was presented to Lois Orlin, who was the Director of the Social Work Department at St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital Center for many years and was an integral part of the creation of the Program way back when. The NiteStar Program/STAR Theatre group did a moving dramatic presentation, which, after some further revisions, will actually be part of our training for new advocates next fall.

The highlight of the evening, however, was the presentation of Certificates to Advocates and SAFE examiners. Outstanding Service Awards were presented to Domestic Violence Advocates Avis Robinson for seven years of service and to Nilda Lopez (also our Legal Advocate) for 6 years of service. After that, all the Advocates who were eligible for certification were presented with their certificates. The evening concluded with a "The Advocate Poem", written and presented by Jane. The only thing missing was MORE OF YOU! Everyone who came was glad they did- we hope to see more of you at future CVTC events. Come on, y'all- this is the FUN PART! The next event on the agenda is....

Volunteer Recognition Ceremony: This is a wonderful annual event, during which all SLRHC volunteers, including Advocates, are honored. This year's ceremony will be held on **Tuesday, April 23rd from 2-4 PM at Tavern On The Green**. ALL Advocates are invited to attend and special awards will be given to:

Jose Berroa-Saro for 1,000 hours of volunteer service;

Alva Kaalund and **Diane Nord-Vega** for 5 years of service; and

Ariela Heilman, Anna Hindell, Sarah Hopkins, Tiphany Jolly, Kia Pederson, Shirley Smith, Delina Sosa, Natalie Stanislaus, Denise Taylor, Jazmin Valentin and **Susan Volchok** for 150 hours of service.

We hope you will all come and cheer for your colleagues. It should be a wonderful event and a time to get to know each other as well as those who volunteer for other programs or departments in the Hospital Center.

Sexual Assault Awareness Month: April is National Sexual Assault Awareness Month (along with National Volunteer Recognition Week and National Child Abuse Prevention Month...). We will have information tables in Roosevelt and St. Luke's lobby along with a mural display created by our clients. So...we may be calling you to help us this month. Thanks in advance...(smile).

Supervision!!!: The second supervision session in our series of four this year will be held this month- **Tuesday, April 30th** at the St. Luke's Site. We will send you a reminder announcing the exact location. Please remember that there will only two more opportunities to meet the requirement of 2 supervision meetings per year. This supervision session will be an interactive workshop presented by The Center for

Anti-Violence Education (CAE), Community Violence-Prevention Project. The CAE is a Brooklyn-based non-profit organization that develops and implements violence prevention programs for children, teen women, adult women and many other communities at risk of violence. CAE's holistic programs help individuals build skills, heal from past abuse and counter the destructiveness of violence. It should be a very interesting presentation so we hope you'll all plan to join us.

Staff News: Paul Feiler, CVTC Social Worker will be leaving the program in mid-April to a full-time private practice. Paul has been with CVTC since 1999. He is a committed social worker, therapist and crime victim advocate. We are sad that he is leaving but happy for him at this crossroad in his life. We wish him well.

Advocate News: Farewell to DVA **Melissa Erlbaum**, who is moving to California. She will be greatly missed and we all wish her the best of luck. **Tim Marmo**, who was trained in 2001 as a DVA and Rape Crisis Advocate has been accepted into Columbia University's Ph.D. program for Molecular Biology. Congratulations to Tim...and this just makes us think again--What an amazing group you are!

National Victims' Rights Week: In remembrance of loved ones killed or injured, a special ceremony and candlelight vigil will be held at the West End Collegiate Church on 77th Street and West End Avenue on Sunday, April 21st at 2:30 PM. A special tribute will be made to September 11th and New York's Native Americans from the Iroquois Nation will perform and conduct a healing ritual for all present. This service sponsored by New York State Attorney General Eliot Spitzer and the Downstate Coalition for Crime Victims. All are welcome.

Career Opportunities: The North Bronx Crime Victims Assistance Center is seeking a bi-lingual (Spanish/English) Domestic Violence Advocate. This is a full-time position with medical and pension benefits. For further information or to apply, please contact Joanne Cicero at (718) 823-4925.

Thought For the Month

Like a Mountain

Nobody can push back an ocean.

It's gonna rise back up in waves.

And nobody can stop the wind from blowin'

Stop a mind from growin'.

Somebody may stop my voice from singing

But the song will live on and on.

Nobody can stop a woman from feelin'

That she has to rise up like the sun.

Somebody may change the words we're sayin'

But the truth will live on and on.

You can't kill the spirit.

It's like a mountain,

Old and strong; it lives on and on.

Naomi Littlebear