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www.wingsprogram.com

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The mission of WINGS is to provide a continuum of integrated services in an effort to end domestic violence and homelessness one family at a time.

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United Way

wings

Giving Flight to Hopes and Dreams

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SUBURBAN LATINA OUTREACH

“echando a volar nuestra esperanza”

Domestic violence knows no bounds and has no borders. It occurs in families of every race, religion, economic class, community and culture, but some populations face additional challenges when reporting or seeking services for domestic violence.

Recent studies have shown that battered immigrant women are more vulnerable and face greater barriers to self-sufficiency than women from other communities. For Latinas, language barriers, immigration status, isolation from family, the difficulties of acculturating and their own cultural expectations intersect to create multi-dimensional challenges. The obstacles specific to Latinas also present challenges to the organizations working to deliver effective, meaningful services.



The need for a coordinated initiative to assist the Latina population is significant. According to the 2000 census, demographics show nearly 30% of the residents in the north and northwest suburbs of Cook County are foreign-born. A large portion (47%) come from Mexico.

WINGS, in collaboration with other social service providers, community organizations, and other local agencies, is launching a new initiative called Suburban Latina Outreach. The goal of this initiative is to address the unique needs of this group through utilizing bilingual, bicultural volunteers under the direction of a bilingual, bicultural Latina Outreach Coordinator to facilitate access to services and to engage the Latino community in dialogue and community building in an effort to end domestic violence one family at a time. With the successful implementation of this initiative, a higher percentage of services will be provided to Latinas with those services being delivered in a culturally relevant way.

The initiative has already garnered \$25,000 from the Chicago Community Trust. With that, WINGS is set to move forward. We are seeking bilingual community members and leaders that embrace the Latino culture to help us.

For more information please contact Silvia Perez Manetti at smanetti@wingsprogram.com.

Local Events

Victor Pacini Supports WINGS with Night for Renee and Dream Show

Victor Pacini hosted "Night for Renee" to remember his sister who was brutally murdered by her husband in 2001. The event, held at Manzo's Banquets on March 24, 2007 was attended by nearly 300 people. In addition to Victor, other artists took the stage including Daniela, Frankie Miglio, the Platinum Brothers Band and Billy Corgan Sr. In an emotional opening act, Renee's oldest daughter Andrea stepped up and sang her mom's favorite song, The Rose.

An avid supporter of WINGS, Victor said, "This is a place that my sister potentially could have gone had she been given the chance. A place, where she could have gotten a strong support system and help getting back on her feet. Most importantly, my sister Renee' could have gotten away from the negativity in her life and could have been here today to raise her young children. My goal is to help the organization further their already successful mission and to raise awareness to the public of the plight of victims of domestic violence. In addition, there must be awareness that organizations like WINGS exist and are there to help and how seriously they need donations to support their efforts in our communities."

A week later, on March 30, 2007, Victor invited families throughout the community to Harper College's Theater to participate in a live taping of his Dream Show production. The Dream Show is a collection of songs created by Victor to help children raise their self-esteem and to believe in their dreams. The taping will be used for promotional purposes. Members of the audience included women and children of WINGS.

For more information about Victor, visit <http://www.victorpacini.com>.



*Schaumburg Friends of WINGS members
Kate McNamee, Sergeant Carl Baumert,
Phyllis Molenda, Pat Lamantia and
Marilyn Morel prepare for the event*

Wings for WINGS event

February 18, 2007 was a brisk winter day. But that didn't stop the 100+ people who flocked to the tasty Wings for WINGS event at Buffalo Wild Wings in Hoffman Estates. In all, the event raised nearly \$4,000.

The people responsible? The Schaumburg Friends of WINGS - a group dedicated to helping the women and children at WINGS by raising money to pay for upkeep of the WINGS Schaumburg house.

In addition to two different kinds of wings, the restaurant donated salad and drinks. A collection of raffle prizes graced the tables while a Nintendo Wii System (donated by Best Buy in East Dundee) had guests salivating. April Graves of Barrington was the grand prize winner.

Among the guests were Illinois State Representative, Fred Crespo and Mayor McLeod and his wife Joanne of Hoffman Estates. The Hoffman Estates Fire Department even brought a life-size fire truck for the children to tour. For more information on how to help the Schaumburg Friends of WINGS plan this event next year, please contact Phyllis Molenda at friendsnfamily4evr@sbcglobal.net.



WINGS Safe House Hotline

847-348-3001

If you or someone you know is looking for safe, emergency shelter, please call today!

Plan your Legacy

Planned Giving is a great way to continue your commitment to WINGS women and children through:

- Charitable Gift Annuities
- Charitable Remainder Trusts
- Gifts of stock
- Gifts of life insurance
- Gifts of property
- Gifts of investments/listed securities

Begin planning your legacy today - contact Executive Director, Rebecca Darr at 847-908-0910 x12 or e-mail her at rdarr@wingsprogram.com.

Will Walk for Food

WINGS and the Greater Chicago Food Depository

Prior to the opening of the shelter in 2005, WINGS representatives made an important connection with the Greater Chicago Food Depository (GCFD). This relationship has helped WINGS Safe House families continue to thrive.

"Shopping" at GCFD is done every other week with primary items being meat, poultry, fish, eggs, beverages, baby food and formula, cereals, rice and pasta. These purchases help augment other donations such as paper products, cleaning supplies, and canned and boxed food items.

The cost of food through the GCFD is minimal, usually .07 cents per pound. Still, with the financial challenges that the Safe House has faced since opening, coming up with funds to support this endeavor has been a challenge.



Just recently a new opportunity has arisen for volunteers to become involved. **The Greater Chicago Food Depository is hosting a 2.5 Hunger Walk on Saturday June 16th which begins at Montrose Harbor.** WINGS needs people to walk or pledge funds to the WINGS GCFD account.

In addition, WINGS can earn points that can be turned into money for the account by the amount raised times the number of WINGS walkers. Another plus? The GCFD will match up to \$175 that is put into the WINGS account during the month of June.



For more information contact Beth Gardham, WINGS Director of Community Resources, at

bgardham@wingsprogram.com or at 847-577-4668 x 1. You may also get a registration form online at www.chicagosfoodbank.org. The WINGS account number is: A01039-SH00123 WINGS Program, Inc.



Mary Comerford - A Palatine Resale Volunteer

Mary Comerford of Palatine has been coming to the Palatine Resale Store every Thursday since it opened 7 years ago.

The reason? To volunteer.

"The people and the store are so wonderful," says Mary. "It's just a kind place to be."

WINGS Palatine store opened in the summer of 2000 and has been going strong ever since. Donations of clothing, housewares, furniture, toys, books, games, and accessories flow through the doors on a daily basis. Due to the success of the Palatine store WINGS opened up another one in Niles in 2005. Since then both stores have done a tremendous job in generating extra revenue to support the housing and services that WINGS provides.

A typical day at the store for Mary is helping to hang up clothes to be displayed and to go through the items on the floor to make sure they're in the right place.

Mary has noticed a difference in the store since it opened and says, "They have done a better job of advertising and have expanded the displays to include more furniture. The changes have been excellent."

In addition to selling merchandise to the public, the stores also function as a place where WINGS residents can pick up needed items such as interview clothing or clothes for their children.

Although Mary's been held up by a shoulder and ankle injury she can't wait to get back to the stores. Her dedication is evident. "It's all going for a very good cause," she says. "The personnel, everything, it's just so rewarding."



**For more information about WINGS Resale Stores visit www.wingsprogram.com.
You can also call Palatine at 847-963-0861 or Niles at 847-410-0194.**

Words from a Resident

Beautiful Things with Wings Calendar

WINGS representatives and April Graves of Light Drawn Studios have a goal in mind - to produce a 2008 calendar that will rival all others.

The name? Beautiful Things with Wings.

Several months ago April approached WINGS about doing the calendar.

As a professional photographer she offered to provide her expertise, costumes and time to producing high-quality angel, fairy and little aviator portraits of local children.

The sitting fee of \$150 for each session as well as the calendar proceeds are being donated to WINGS.

Light Drawn Studios is a portrait photography business created by April Graves whose goal is to create soulful, artistic images of children and their families. By working closely with her clients, April captures and creates images that suit each client's style and captures their imagination. Working in multiple mediums including film, digital, oil, pastels and pencil, April creates one-of-a kind images as individual and unique as her subjects.

The next photo shoots will occur on June 5th, 6th and 7th for the fairy portraits. The calendar is schedule to be released in October. All photos will be included in the calendar and some will be selected by a committee to be featured on a month. **In addition to being a part of this unique calendar, parents also have the chance to bid on the front and back covers of the project. An on-line auction has been set up and can be accessed by going to www.wingsprogram.com.**

To schedule a session call Light Drawn Studios at 224-622-2800. For more information visit www.wingsprogram.com.

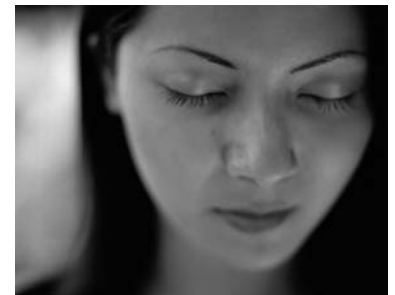


Resident Testimonial

I'm not going to elaborate and make this long, there is a lot I can say about the WINGS program but I will make it brief. I would like to share how much of a "Blessing" it was for me and my children to discover and enter the WINGS program. August 2005 I was on the verge of becoming homeless (uncertain about were my children and I would be living) having to move and with no new place to move to.

I was financially unable to afford a place on my own (single mother of 3) within the vicinity I lived. Being accepted in the WINGS program and receiving better insight on the programs aspiration for helping women and their children in need augmented my faith. It's not an easy program, I feel you need to have ambition for yourself, want/need the help and understand it in order to follow through and achieve progress.

The program has been of great help to me and my children, from the resources they provided to the wonderful supporting staff members, I thank God for this program and pray that he continues to provided them with the resources to keep them helping women in need grow stronger.



A WINGS Resident

WINGS Signature Events

WINGS 2nd Annual Charity Golf Outing

Teed off? We've got the remedy for you. WINGS 2nd Annual Charity Golf Outing will be returning to the beautiful Wynstone Country Club for a second year on **September 17, 2007!**

In the same format as last year, the event will begin with lunch and a shotgun start. A dinner and auction (filled with sports memorabilia!) will follow. You'll even have a chance to win one of two Titleist Drivers with (Pro-Titanium 905R). With only 120 spots available you won't want to wait long to secure your spot. Individuals registrations are \$475 and foursomes are \$1,600. Sponsorship opportunities abound. For more information visit www.wingsprogram.com or call 847-908-0910 x21.



WINGS Golf Outing Participants 2006

Baird and Warner's 3rd Annual Day At The Races

On July 21, 2007 in the International Room at Arlington Park, join other racing fans for an afternoon of fabulous food, beverages and racing! A wonderful raffle will also be part of the festivities.

Sponsored by the Arlington Heights office of Baird & Warner, Day at the Races has become a signature event that expects to raise \$20,000 for WINGS families. An all filly race named in honor of WINGS is the highlight of the afternoon with proceeds of the event going directly to WINGS. For tickets or information about sponsorship opportunities please visit www.wingsprogram.com.



WINGS 2007 Gala Transformed

WINGS "Come Fly with Me" Gala has been a signature event for the agency for the past 15 years. In 2007 the function will receive a makeover.

Enter - WINGS Purple Tie Ball. (a black tie affair with a purple flair!)

The premise behind the revamped event is to bring awareness to domestic violence issues in an upscale way. Held at the **Schaumburg Renaissance in Schaumburg on September 8, 2007**, guests will be encouraged to wear purple in recognition of the cause.

Sponsors and their guests will also get a chance to take part in a VIP reception and take photographs with guest speaker Denise Brown, sister of the late Nicole Brown Simpson who was murdered in 1994. Music will be performed by the well-known Ralph Wilder Orchestra and WINGS long-time auctioneer, Jim Miller will conduct the live auction.

Tickets for the event are \$200 per person. Sponsorships levels are \$5,000, \$10,000 and \$25,000. For more information please contact Jennifer Djordjevic at 847-908-0910 x10.



Special Events 2007

*We need volunteers to help us plan and execute our special events!
If you're interested in helping, please call 847-908-0910 x10 or e-mail wings@wingsprogram.com.*

WINGS 7th Annual Benefit Ride -
June 3, 2007

Car Wash -
July 7, 2007

Baird & Warner Day at the Races -
July 21, 2007

Purple Tie Ball -
September 8, 2007

WINGS 2nd Annual Golf Outing -
September 17, 2007

WINGS 5K Home Run -
September 30, 2007

An Affair with Flair -
October 21, 2007

Annual Meeting -
October 23, 2007

Home for the Holidays -
December 9, 2007

Sweet Home Chicago -
December 9, 2007



Benefit Ride Riders 2006

7th Annual Benefit Ride - Don't Miss It!

On Sunday, June 3, 2007 head in the direction of Bootleggers in Antioch and join other WINGS supporters for a day of poker, raffles, music and food.

Tickets for the event are \$20 per person. The ride begins at Bootleggers and stops at Horizontal's, Lily Lake Resort, Esposito's, and JQ Foxes.

Back at home base participants will enjoy pulling their poker hand for a chance at a cash prize, eating sloppy joes and listening to Kickin Kountry.

Register at www.wingsbenefitride.com by May 25th to get the best deal! (t-shirt, commemorative pin, lunch and poker hand)

**Win a Harley Davidson or \$10,000 Cash!
Tickets - \$20 each**

Wish list

Laundry detergent

Paper towels

Toilet paper

33 gallon garbage bags

Diapers (sizes 4,5,6 & pull-ups)

Do you want to coordinate a donation drive?

Contact Beth Gardham at 847-577-4668 x1.

Thank you!