



ACW's June 2018 E-Newsletter

We are proud!

Little ACW was recognized in a BIG way. ACW was nominated for the 2018 Los Angeles Business Journal Healthcare Leadership Awards. Only 9 healthcare organizations in all of Los Angeles were nominated. We were recognized along with: Cedar Sinai Medical Center, Eisner Health, First Serenity Hospice, Henry Mayo Newhall Hospice, Oscar Health, Saban Community Clinic, Shriners For Children Medical Center, Twin Town Treatment Centers. What a prestigious group! All of these organizations have fantastic reputations and a budget of at least \$20 million more than ACW. We are small but we were selected for our outstanding work on



all levels: client care, incredible efficiency - 88 cents out of every dollar goes to service and our life changing impact to the individuals and families we serve, as well as for our positive impact to the surrounding Pico Union community. Over 400 people attended the Leadership Awards at Los Angeles' City Club on the 55th floor at 555 Flower Street in downtown Los Angeles, including ACW Executive Director Lorette Herman and Board Treasurer Andrea Jones pictured above. It was a beautiful venue and really incredible that we were honored and included in this prestigious event.

We are grateful!



Celebrity Hair Stylist Shayla, (pictured 3rd from the right) daughter of one of our deceased alumni, organized a pre-mother's day of beauty for our residents. Shayla was so grateful that ACW helped her mom gain her sobriety that she has been looking forward to giving back and helping ACW residents ever since. Carrie Mays, ACW Counselor, coordinated with Shayla to make the day special for our women right on-site at ACW. Ms. Carrie invited Shayla and her wonderful team of make-up artists, hair stylists and manicurists (Briana, Asanti, Shayla, Porsche, and Deandre pictured

above) to spend the day and give back. ACW's conference room was transformed into an elegant

beauty salon. Carrie captured before and after photos of our clients. Beautiful gift bags were displayed and given to the women. They were filled with spectacular products such as: manicure sets, body lotions, and Kim Kimble hair and shampoo products just to name a few. We took tons of photos which are displayed on the 2nd floor of the McMillen Family Foundation Synder House. To protect our client's confidentiality we cannot reveal these photos here on our E-Newsletter, but we cordially invite you to come and see all of these fantastic dramatic beauty changes. A resident stated: *"You will never know how much this means to me that people would give their time and talent to help us look and feel good. I'm speechless ...It's incredible"*. Another client stated, *"The team made me feel beautiful and confident, I feel like A Woman....when you look good, you feel good and when you feel good, you become. What A Happy Mother's Day!"*



As a day to remember, Ms. Carrie (3rd photo above) will be paying it forward to Shayla for the love, compassion and commitment by purchasing a commemorative brick (at www.bricksrus.com/order/acw) in honor of the late *Rhonda Gilbert* "A day to Remember". To Shayla and the Stylist team: Briana, Asanti, Shayla, Porsche, Deandre and Jennifer, we salute you for a job well done and a long lasting "beautiful" good memories!!

We are Thankful!

Thanks to a generous grant from **Queenscare** we are able to continue our eye-opening, life-changing Women's HIV Program. Many women at risk for HIV and AIDS still feel stigmatized and afraid to reach out for help. ACW's Women's HIV Program led by Nicaea Berry brings HIV medical testing, linkage, and referrals, as well as weekly HIV information and prevention classes to both our residential and outpatient clients. Queenscare was impressed by the comprehensive education and support we provide program participants.

Why does ACW offer a Woman's HIV Program? Nicaea said it best. *"Many who suffer from the disease of addiction lack the ability to care for their wellbeing potentially due to co-occurring disorders. Some are cognitively unable to make decisions due to their lack of knowledge or barriers to obtaining medical care. ACW addresses these barriers by educating women about Drugs and*

Alcohol and also helping them know and understand their bodies, preventing them from being infected with HIV, STDs, or other communicable diseases. Through education and complete medical services women receive an opportunity to address their unique individual needs and secure long term resources that result in living a healthy sober lifestyle”.



What’s that box towards the back of our parking lot?! Thanks to a generous grant from the **McMillen Family Foundation**, we rented a modular building to add additional private confidential group space and a case management office to our programs. The space is beautiful and the clients like it. Come check it out. Pictured on the steps outside the modular building are ACW staff: Geneva, Audrey, Sarah, Sandra, Nicaea, Charlene and Espanola. Pictured inside the modular building are ACW staff Carrie, Wendy and Dottie.

We are very appreciative of the **Orange County Community Foundation’s** grant to support our life changing residential and outpatient alcohol and drug treatment services to women. Their funds supported our core programs and our nutritionist and family therapist. We are grateful for their ongoing support.

Thank you to the **Richard and Taylor Beale Family Fund of the Liberty Hill Foundation** for their continuous yearly donations that help us implement our mission and vision.

Thank you to the **Anthony and Jeanne Pritzker Family Foundation** for their contribution in honor of one of our current clients.

Thank you to **Cina Troope's** for her continuous service to ACW. Cina comes every Sunday to lead Big Book Study for our residents.

Brick Supporters: thank you for supporting ACW by purchasing a commemorative brick. If you have not yet purchased a brick go to: www.bricksrus.com/order/acw before June 20, a month before our installation event on Saturday July 21 at 10am.

Here's what Board Member Kelley Carroll said about purchasing a brick. *"Supporting ACW's Commemorative Brick Event, was much more than just donating money. As I sat and thought about the brick inscription for my stepfather, it was a very reflective moment for me. It helped me remember the man he truly was rather than the disease that afflicted him. This is a powerful way for us to honor all the people who fight this terrible disease. My stepfather helped me understand addiction, and consequently, I am happy to support others in their journey to recovery".*

Upcoming Fundraisers and Events

Brick Fundraiser

Purchase a commemorative brick to be installed in front of the McMillen Family Foundation Miracle House. For more information go to: www.bricksrus.com/order/acw or stop by ACW for a brochure.

Do you Shop at Ralphs?

If you do please sign up to have a percentage of your purchases go to ACW. Just go online at www.ralphs.com, click on Sign In, enter your email address and password, click on Your Name, click on Edit Community Contributions then complete the information with your new organization number.

Financial Contributions

Please consider becoming an ongoing ACW donor. Donating is simple: Go to our website: www.alcoholismcenterforwomen.org/donate to make an online donation or mail your donation to ACW Donations, 1147 South Alvarado Street, Los Angeles, CA 90006.

ACW Needs

1. Are you an ACW Alumni? If so, and you want to sponsor any of our women, or come with your ACW sisters and give a panel talk to our residents, call 213.381.8500 or e-mail info@acwla.org and speak with any of the counselors.
2. Positive inspiring DVD or Blu-ray movies.
3. Workout/Exercise DVDs or Blu-ray discs
4. Personal Care Items

Client Corner

Ms. Lopez enrolled in ACW's Outpatient Treatment Program facing not only substance abuse issues, but also legal custody issues regarding her child as a result of her chronic homelessness. She continued to faithfully come to group and her individual sessions despite living on the street and her legal battles. ACW Counselor xxx referred Ms. Lopez to New Way of Life, a transitional housing program that would allow her to continue substance abuse treatment while she lived and participated in their housing program with her child. She successfully completed ACW's Outpatient program and is now an Alumni. The consistency of Ms. Lopez's adherence to all of the court mandates resulted in obtaining custody of her child. She did not stop there! She went on to complete the requirements for her High School Diploma and will be graduating this month. In addition, she has maintained her sobriety, and is now a paid staff, Motivational Advocate, at New Way of Life. She mentors young women who were previously incarcerated and are challenged with substance use/abuse. She also travels with New Way of Life's Founder Susan Burton to advance their cause in helping previously incarcerated individuals. She stays in continual contact with ACW Staff and appreciate our program, how it changed her life, and how we are a continual support for her in maintaining her sobriety.

About ACW

ACW provides women trying to end their substance addiction with a highly individualized and life changing program within a safe, homelike environment. Aimed at moving patients from addiction to wellness, ACW's program structure, tools and pathway provide a holistic approach to mental and physical wellbeing. ACW's mission statement is: to empower women to make new choices for positive futures.

Questions?

For questions and enrollment please contact info@acwla.org
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