

WSCWSAI

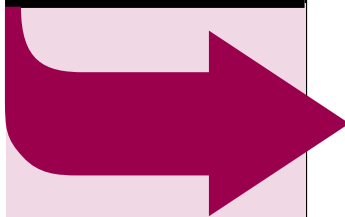
Washington State Coalition on Women's Substance Abuse Issues

Advocates for women whose lives are affected by chemical dependency

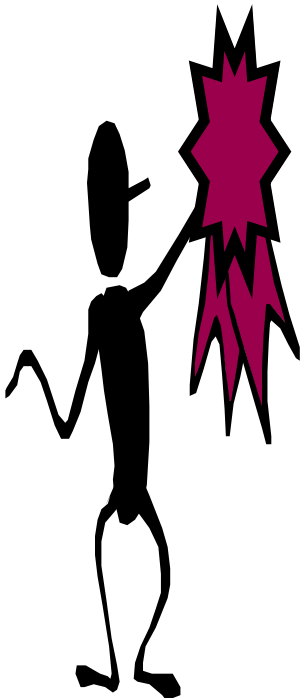
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AWARDS TO WOMEN

The Washington State Coalition on Women's Substance Abuse Issues has established an annual award to acknowledge women who have been major contributors in furthering women's services in our state. This award recognizes the visionary and goal oriented women of the past who were pioneers in our field—women who continually worked for programming to be accessible and gender specific before it was politically correct or fashionable.

We would like to share with you the award winners for the past two years. The 1996 honorees were Margie Clemente & Pat Stromberg. Margie was the driving force behind the search for a discrete facility to provide inpatient treatment for women only. Her dream came true when the program was implemented in 1980. She called it Residence XII. This project involved many hours of community networking, fund-raising, remodeling and painting, and finally obtaining funding and state approval for a much needed service. Today it serves as a national model being used by others. It is one of a very few of its kind in the United States.

Pat Stromberg is truly a pioneer in our field, having served for 26 years in many capacities. She was a Board member of early programs as well as Director of the Community Recovery Center in Kent for many years. In conjunction with the University of Washington School of Social Work she helped put together a two-day seminar entitled, "Embottled Woman" in both 1975 and 1976 which drew many women attendees from throughout the state. She taught the "Alcohol and Law" class at Seattle University for 10 years and in 1985 she decided to retire. Since then she has served on DASA's Citizens Advisory committee in many roles and has been key to relaying information to legislative committees. She may be retired but she remains involved in our field.

In 1997, we decided to honor three women who also were early pioneers and who had spent time and energy in furthering specific treatment needs of the female client. The three recipients were Enid Burke, Marilyn McKell, and Betty Rogers.

Enid was active on the Board and became the Executive Director of a program called "Studio Club" which was the first place for women alcoholics in the Seattle area. It gave them a safe place to get their lives back together. They were able to stay in residence long enough to get stabilized and were helped to find housing and employment. This program was started with a lot of love and hope and caring for the female client and no funding. Enid proved her ability to ask for donations when they had a residence donated to start this project. This innovative approach was taken in the early 1970's when very few women if any were being referred to treatment.

Marilyn McKell worked for the Spokane Addictions Recovery Center and was instrumental in putting together the women's program that encompassed the first nursery and

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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Join Us!

Membership in the Coalition will add your voice to those of many others in this state who are advocating on behalf of women whose lives are affected by chemical dependency.

Coalition membership can open new networking and educational opportunities with others concerned about chemical dependency treatment for women.

The Coalition sponsors an annual conference and regional meetings to share local state and national information.

Our monthly Steering committee meetings are open to all members and are held on the first Friday of the month. They are held at TASC 811 First Ave. #600 Seattle.

Please fill out and return the membership form along with your membership fee... *Please join us today!*

Individual Name _____
or

Agency Name _____

Agency Representative _____

Address _____

Phone _____

I/we support the philosophy and mission of the Coalition and wish to become regular members.

Type of Membership:

Agency (\$50.00/yr.)

Individual (\$20.00/yr.)

Please make checks payable to: Washington State Coalition on Women's Substance Abuse Issues (WSCWSAI) P.O. Box 1775, Seattle, WA 98111.

Be a Part of a Positive Statewide Support System

Strength Comes in Numbers!

Committee Members

Co-Chairs

Marilyn Bordner ❖ *New Horizon Care Centers*

Sharon Toquinto ❖ *King County DASAS*

Treasurer

Margaret Jones ❖ *Residence XII*

Secretary

Sue Winskill ❖ *TPCHD's MOMS/DV*

Steering Committee

Beth Dannhardt ❖ *Triumph Treatment Services*

D. Ann Forbes ❖ *Alcohol/Drug Help Line*

Jane Kennedy ❖ *TASC of King County*

Dana Lea-Kraft ❖ *Peninsula Treatment Center*

Linda Olsen ❖ *Eastside Domestic Violence Program*

Barbara Myers ❖ *Sundown M. Ranch*

Carol Hoeft ❖ *Eastside Recovery Center*

Patti Bland ❖ *Providence Health System Family Violence Program*

Joe Lucey ❖ *Swedish Medical Center/Ballard*

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1998 Legislative Session Update

The 1998 legislative session began on January 11, 1998, and concluded on March 12, 1998. During that time, the legislature proposed numerous bills directly relating to the problem of chemical dependency. The Washington State Coalition on Women's Substance Abuse Issues (WSCWSAI) is committed to reviewing proposed legislation and looking at the impact that the laws have on the services provided to women, their families, and their children in our treatment system.

During this short legislative session, many bills were proposed from both the House of Representatives and the Senate that focused on reducing the incidence of drug-affected babies and managing the care and treatment of both the substance abusing mother and the infant affected by drugs or alcohol. While the following bills did not pass this session, it is likely that they may show up again in the 1999 session, scheduled to begin on January 11, 1999.

House Bill 1676 proposed the expansion of the First Steps program that offers assistance to mothers and their babies up to six weeks after birth, and limited case management. This bill would have expanded services to mothers and their children up to the child's third birthday. This bill would have assisted women with a high risk of substance abuse and ultimately resulted in a reduction in referrals to Child Protective services, fewer out-of-home placements for children, and enhanced parenting skills.

House Bill 3009 proposed the development and promotion of statewide secondary prevention strategies to increase utilization of chemical dependency treatment services by women of childbearing age, before, during, and after pregnancy. It also included the addition of family planning efforts to include women in correctional facilities.

House Bill 3008 and **Senate Bill 9278** similarly proposed that medical personnel follow specific procedures when there is cause to believe a baby was exposed to controlled substances or alcohol, and established dependency procedures for children born addicted. Progressive methods for facilitating the mother of an addicted infant into treatment were outlined. Mothers would be required to utilize medically appropriate pharmaceutical pregnancy prevention to defer a dependency order, as well as participate and cooperate with chemical dependency treatment. The Department of Social and Health Services would have been directed to establish pilot projects that would have provided case management services and necessary referrals for these women.

House Bill 3010 proposed that, in addition to necessary medical care, all female jail inmates of childbearing age would receive birth control and family planning services.

Senate Bill 6290 and **Senate Bill 6338** both proposed the creation of a "Parental Notification of Abortion Act," which

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1998 Legislative Session Update

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would require that parents or guardians of unemancipated minor children and incompetent persons be notified before they could obtain an abortion. Physicians would be required to provide 48 hours notification to the parent or guardian of the intent to perform the abortion. (SB 6290 would have gone into effect immediately if it had passed, and SB 6338 would have gone to a vote of the people if it had passed.)

House Bill 2585 proposed that mistreatment of unborn children would include a mother who recklessly caused great bodily harm to her unborn child by the use of any alcohol or drug. This would be defined as criminal mistreatment in the first degree.

Substitute House Bill, entitled "*An Act Relating to Amendments Concerning the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act and the Adoption and Safe Families Act*" was passed unanimously by the House of Representatives and the Senate. This bill contained language that had previously been proposed in both **House Bill 3008** and **Substitute Senate Bill 5278**, but was vetoed out by Governor Gary Locke. This vetoed language included instructions for medical professionals to conduct tests on infants when there is cause to believe they were exposed to non-prescription use of controlled substance and to notify the Department of Health (DOH) of the name and address of the parent or parents of the infant for tracking purposes. DOH would investigate, and if appropriate, file a dependency petition. The mother would be referred to treatment and the dependency petition would be deferred if she complied with treatment and pharmaceutical pregnancy prevention.

Governor Locke vetoed twelve sections of **Substitute House Bill 2556**, including the section describing the requirements for testing and infant when a physician or nurse caring for the child believes that the infant was born affected by drugs or alcohol, and for retaining the infant in a birthing facility or in a pediatric center during withdrawal. Several sections

Coming Up! The Eighth Annual Coalition Conference

Save the dates for our 1998 conference to be held on Friday and Saturday, October 16th and 17th The conference will be held at Silverdale Hotel On The Bay. Our theme will be "Substance Abusing Women and Evolving Challenges" with a great selection of topics and speakers on the complex needs of chemically dependent women at different developmental stages of their lives. From infancy through senior citizens, we want to talk about it! Last year's conference got rave reviews and this one will be even better. Look for conference brochures to arrive in August. See you there! Rooms will be available for:

\$82 + Tax-Single
\$92 + Tax-Double

OUR MISSION

The mission of the Washington State Coalition on Women's Substance Abuse Issues is to advocate for women whose lives are affected by chemical dependency.

OUR PHILOSOPHY

Addiction is a primary, progressive, and, if left untreated, fatal disease. The origins of addiction in women and their treatment needs are unique. These needs arise in large part from women's cultural and class experiences, and from their diversity of age, ethnicity, and sexual orientation.

Research, prevention, treatment, funding, and state policies must begin to honor and reflect the effects of these unique experiences.

of the bill are premised upon the foundation that giving birth to a drug-affected infant is sufficient to establish dependency. Governor Locke recommends that these sections of the bill be better crafted. Additionally, he urges the sponsors of this bill to work with the appropriate medical professional organizations and state agencies to perfect this legislation.

House Bill 3103 passed the House and Senate, and was signed by Governor Locke. This bill supports the policy of the State of Washington to make every effort to detect and prevent disorders resulting from parental use of alcohol and drugs. The bill assigns DOH the responsibility for developing screening criteria for use in identifying pregnant or lactating women addicted to drugs or alcohol who are risk of producing a drug-affected baby. Training protocols for medical professionals and medical protocols for laboratory testing or screening of newborn infants with possible alcohol or drug exposure will be developed. DOH is scheduled to report all findings to the legislative committees by December 1, 1998.

The Coalition on Women's Substance Abuse Issues will be actively involved in following the 1999 legislative session. This will be a long session (120 days) and many of the previously proposed bills may be rewritten and will surface again. The Coalition on Women's Substance Abuse Issues encourages anyone interested in the care and treatment of substance abusing women to become involved in the legislative process.

If you are interested in finding out more about the legislative process or if you want information about becoming involved with the WSCWSAI Legislative Committee, contact Beth Dannhardt at (509)248-1800. Electronic access to legislative information may be obtained on the Internet at <http://www.leg.wa.gov>.

Questions or comments about this article can be sent to Jill Cowan, Women's Services Program Manager at the Division of Alcohol and Substance Abuse, Post Office Box 45330, Olympia, Washington 98504-5330.

AWARDSTOWOMEN

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day care for her clients who had been unable to access treatment due to child care needs. She and her agency provided a very needed service by opening their doors to women who were without resources or family support to help them gain sobriety. This program was initiated in the late 1970's and early 1980's.

The third recipient we chose was Betty Rogers of Central Seattle Recovery Center. Betty has been working in our field since 1975 and has spent much of her time behind the scenes, orchestrating the programs of the largest outpatient treatment center in the state. In 1980, she and her counselors started a special women's track which eventually developed into a full-scale program for women. She also was a driving force in getting day care implemented for her agency. Betty has toiled many hours in many roles of management, and for a brief time stepped in as Acting Executive Director, a position she said she was glad to step out of to get back into her more familiar role of managing all the divisions very efficiently, always with an eye on the needs of her women clients.

Recognition of these outstanding women is much deserved and has been too long in coming, but the Women's Coalition and its Steering Committee are proud to have started this annual award. We would welcome the names of Washington State women who have made a difference in our gender specific programming to add to our reservoir of future nominees. It is never too late to say thanks to those who have gone before us, to those who had the vision and the ability to follow through for all women who need treatment for chemical dependency. These leaders of the past have truly opened the doors for all of us.

WHO WE ARE

The Coalition is a feminist, non-profit association of individuals and organizations concerned about women's chemical dependency issues. Members include local and state government agencies who work with disabled people, health care providers, domestic violence providers, chemical dependency treatment providers, therapists, researchers, attorneys, and others concerned with public policy issues affecting chemical dependency treatment for women.

WHAT WE DO

The purpose of the Coalition is to advocate for improved, expanded, more accessible and relevant chemical dependency treatment services for women. To achieve its mission, the Coalition:

- ☉ Educates legislators and other policy-makers about the needs of chemically dependent women.
- ☉ Monitors legislation and proposes policy changes to improve treatment services for women.
- ☉ Provides education and training through conferences.
- ☉ Provides networking opportunities for professionals working in the chemical dependency field and other fields affected by the issues of substance abuse.



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*Washington State Coalition on
Women's Substance Abuse Issues*

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