



...e-Newsletter — January, 2012

Thank you!

On behalf of The Women's Table and the many women and children who benefited from your generosity during the Christmas season, we thank you! We received 100 gift cards, toiletries and \$1,100. in checks and cash in response to our "High-5 a Dear Neighbor" project to benefit guests at Hastings House, a homeless shelter for young moms in Brighton. We assembled 58 gift bags for these mothers, and their response was heartwarming. "Thank you so much" was heard again and again. The Women's Table also gave each mom in the Parenting Circle a soft blanket and small gift for her child.

Special thanks to Women's Table Advisory Committee members Sharon Gouveia and Sr. Zita Fleming, as well as Olivia Amato for their help assembling these gift bags.

We also received donations from the Sisters of St. Joseph Associate program and other donors. Gifts included hats, scarves and gloves, as well as sweaters, sweatshirts, a bathrobe, toiletries and towels. Special thanks go out to Sisters Alice Kirby, Jo Perico & Pauline Curley for their gift wrapping talents. These gifts lifted the spirits of many women served by The Women's Table, as well as women in need at The Joseph Smith Community Health Center. ☺

Solomon Carter Fuller Outreach

The Women's Table, in collaboration with Sr. Kathleen Hagerty, Chaplain at Solomon Carter Fuller Mental Health Center, completed the first of a 5-week Self-Care Circle for staff in late December, 2011. Participant feedback was very positive, underscoring the importance of the need for stress reduction and opportunities for sharing and support for mental health workers and others involved in intense, compassionate work with individuals with complex social and emotional needs. ☺

Linking Arms

A vital component of The Women's Table includes outreach support to women in need. Recently, I accompanied an immigrant mother to the Zone 5 Family Resource Center in Roxbury, MA to register her two youngest children for public school. Although familiar to me, this experience was quite an eye-opener. From locating the Center, to finding a place to park, receiving a number and waiting to be called, then the application process itself—it was *complex!* Two and one-half hours later, we departed—relieved that only *one* document was still required to complete the process. And *this* is just the first step in the lottery process! Stay tuned for future developments! ☺

For more information contact: maryrita.weschler@csjboston.org— 617.746.2056 — or visit: www.csjboston.org

Heart to Hearth