



**Community Organization**

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**Community Issue**

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**Community Change**

**Annual Report**  
**2009**



## **Vision**

A Woman's Place envisions a society in which all individuals are safe in their intimate and familial relationships and have the space to thrive and develop to their full potential.

## **Mission**

A Woman's Place is a feminist, community-based social change organization committed to ending intimate and familial violence for all.

We do this by:

- 1) Enhancing safety for victims, families, and communities;
- 2) Securing justice for victims;
- 3) Engaging the community and building its capacity to respond to and prevent domestic abuse and violence; and,
- 4) Working to change institutions, systems, and individual practices that condone and perpetuate violence and abuse.

**AWP provides a full range of assistance and support services for victims of domestic violence and their children and the community, including a free 24-hour confidential hotline, a full-service residential shelter, individual and group counseling, legal and medical advocacy, and a children's project.**

**As domestic violence affects everyone in a community, AWP also provides comprehensive community-based awareness and prevention training, education, outreach, and advocacy.**



## A Message from the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

It is hard to talk about 2009 without referring to the economic crisis that effected the entire world. With a national unemployment rate of 7.2 percent, a 15-year high according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, finances were a topic of concern for everyone.

The state of the economy created additional barriers for victims of domestic abuse and violence. A failing job market, loss of income, and additional stressors in the household made it extremely difficult for those individuals wanting to leave an abusive situation to do so.

In 2009, A Woman's Place (AWP) saw an 11.1 percent increase in the demand for services provided. The elevated need for programs and services along with cuts in funding created an equation that seemed unlikely to balance out.

Due to funding cuts, the donations from community corporations as well as individuals became that much more essential. **It is due to the generosity of you, the donor, that AWP has persevered through the tough economic times and continued to offer free, private, confidential, and comprehensive programs and services to victims of domestic violence, their children, and the community.** It is because of you that victims and survivors in Bucks County have someplace they can go for help.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our supporters. It is apparent when looking at the extensive list of donors at the end of this report, that the work of AWP has truly become a community effort.

The social change we strive for begins with the community. The change begins with you.

With deepest appreciation,

Donna J. Byrne  
Executive Director



## Fast Facts

- 1 in 4 women will experience domestic violence in their lifetime.
- 1 in 4 teens, both boys and girls, will experience dating violence before they graduate high school.
- 85 percent of domestic violence victims are women battered by men.
  - Domestic abuse and violence are about power and control.
- Teen dating abuse and violence can be as serious, and as lethal as domestic abuse and violence.
- In 2008, there were 147 lives lost as a result of domestic abuse and violence in Pennsylvania.
  - Pennsylvania saw a 21.7 percent rise in domestic violence related homicides in 2008.
- During the summer of 2008, 31 women, men, and children died as a result of domestic abuse and violence in the short span of 31 days in Pennsylvania.
- 10 children (ages 0-17) died as a result of domestic abuse and violence in Pennsylvania in 2008.
  - This year, A Woman's Place saw an 11.1 percent increase in the number of victims seeking services.

# Projects & Services



**Counseling Project** AWP's Counseling Project is where direct service to clients bridges traditional advocacy to empowerment counseling on an individual basis, creating change one life at a time. In addition to addressing the various individual needs of victims, AWP identifies and addresses barriers within systems so as to create lasting social change. In 2009, AWP answered 6,171 calls on the hotline (800.220.8116) and provided a safe place to live to 77 adults and 101 children. More than 17,098 hours of counseling were provided to victims of domestic abuse and violence and their children in 2009.

**Medical Project** The nationally recognized Medical Project provides both counseling and training to serve victims of domestic abuse and violence and galvanize the county's healthcare community in the movement to end domestic violence and ensure they are able to provide the best possible response to a victim of domestic abuse and violence. During 2009, the project trained 2,500 Bucks County healthcare professionals on the dynamics of domestic abuse and violence and how to best screen patients and respond to victims in need.

**Legal Project** AWP's Legal Project combines advocacy, assistance, and First Response services, helping victims of domestic abuse and violence navigate the criminal and civil justice systems while providing ongoing advocacy and training to individuals, agencies, and institutions within the justice system. In 2009 the Legal and First Response Advocates assisted 2,062 clients and the Legal Assistance program handled 264 cases. A total of \$235,427 in support and \$323,293 in divorce assets were awarded to individuals who otherwise would not have had any representation.

**Education and Training Project** Through training and education programs, AWP is committed to building the community's capacity to respond to and prevent domestic abuse and violence. Programs presented at elementary, middle, and high schools throughout Bucks County address awareness and prevention in an effort to stop the abuse and violence before it starts. During the 2009 school year, 651 programs were delivered to over 10,000 students in school districts across Bucks County. Community-based initiatives are another key element of AWP's prevention work. In 2009, 1,964 individuals participated in 150 hours of education and training delivered through 59 programs.

**Volunteer Project** As a community organization, AWP relies on the Bucks County community to successfully achieve its vision and mission. AWP was fortunate to benefit from 20,138 volunteer hours during 2009. Based on the 2008 estimated dollar value for volunteer time as determined by Independent Sector, this gift of time is valued at \$407,795.

**Full Circle** As part of WP's community organization, Full Circle is a working example of a true community partnership, making it much more than a thrift store. All proceeds from sales at the store fund the programs and services of AWP. The store's inventory is the result of ongoing support and donations from the community, including those from individuals, organizations, and businesses. With two full-time and three part-time staff members, the store also relies heavily on the community effort of a dedicated group of volunteers. Additionally, victims of domestic abuse and violence accessing any of AWP's services shop for free for themselves and their children at the store, last year receiving more than \$35,000 in free merchandise.

# Thank You For Your Generous Support!



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 Lloyd & Marjorie Vansant  
 Katherine Varalli  
 Verizon Foundation  
 Alice Vernon  
 Village Improvement Association  
 Diane Vincenti  
 Vision Service Plan  
 Wachovia Foundation  
 Wachovia Securities, LLC  
 Albert Wagman  
 Ronald & Kathryn Wagner  
 Sue Walker  
 Patricia Walsh  
 Janet Ward  
 Agnes Ware  
 Stephen & Patricia Wargo  
 Warminster Presbyterian Church  
 Warminster Rotary Club  
 Warrington Community Business Alliance  
 Warrington Township Lions Club Inc.  
 Waste Management  
 Virginia Watkins  
 Martin & Patricia Wax  
 Timothy & Erin Webster  
 Debra Weiner  
 Jennifer Weinstein  
 Phyllis Weir  
 Jonathan Weitzman  
 Susan Welch  
 Wells Fargo Community Support Campaign  
 Katharine Welsch  
 Samuel Wennberg  
 Katherine Wenstrup  
 B. L. Werner  
 Alyce Wert  
 Wynne & Jack Wert  
 David & Andrena Whalen  
 Gail White  
 Randy & Sharon White  
 Thomas & Marcia Whiteside  
 Kathleen Whitman  
 Susan M. Whittaker  
 Linda Wiesner  
 Dawn & Scott Wills  
 John P. Wilson  
 Lydia & Gary Winderman  
 Winpak Portion Packaging, Inc.  
 O. Cooper & Susan Winston  
 Theresa Wojciechowski  
 Robert Wolfarth  
 Woman's Club of Perkasio  
 Women of the E.L.C.A.

Woodbridge Holdings Inc.  
 Woodside Presbyterian Church  
 Ruth Worthington  
 Janis Wozar  
 D. Constance & Robert Wrzesniewski  
 Thomas Wuerstle  
 Loretta Wysocki  
 Yardley Singles Club, Inc.  
 John Yetter  
 Jennifer Yothers  
 Bruce & Karen Young  
 Pat Young  
 Terri Young  
 Melanie Yudell  
 Betsy Zhao



**A Woman's Place is proud to participate in the ongoing, community-based work of these organizations and committees.**

American Bar Association - Family Law Section  
 American Immigration Lawyers Association - Philadelphia Chapter  
 Asian-American Bar Association Delaware Valley  
 Batterers' Intervention Services - Oversight Committee  
 Bucks County Bar Association - Family Law Division  
 Bucks County Bar Association - Public Interest Law Division  
 Bucks County Bar Association - Woman Lawyers Division  
 Bucks County Health Improvement Partnership  
 Bucks County Network Against Domestic Abuse  
 Bucks County Partnership for Healthy Teens  
 Bucks County Victim Assistance Policy Board  
 Bucks County Women's Advocacy Coalition  
 Bucks County Women's History Month Award Committee  
 Bucks Promise for Youth and Communities  
 Central Bucks Chamber of Commerce  
 Children and Youth's Children and Family Roundtable  
 Crimes Against Older Adults Task Force  
 Doylestown Hospital DV Task Force  
 Grand View Hospital DV Task Force  
 Human Services Housing Coalition  
 Lower Bucks Chamber of Commerce  
 Lower Bucks Hospital DV Task Force  
 Minority Bar Committee  
 National Federation of Paralegal Associations, Inc.  
 National Notary Association  
 Network of Victim Assistance  
 Pennsylvania Bar Association - Family Law Division  
 Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence  
 Safe and Drug Free Schools Committee  
 St. Mary Medical Center DV Task Force  
 The Center for Independent Living  
 The Legal Intelligencer Young Lawyer Supplement Editorial Board  
 Upper Bucks Chamber of Commerce  
 Violence Against Women Task Force

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Pat Garrett  
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Anita Selser  
*Full Circle Sales Associate*





# A WOMAN'S PLACE



## Statement of Financial Position

June 30, 2009

### ASSETS

	<u>2009</u>
Current Assets	
Cash	\$ 237,823
Investments	
Certificates of Deposit	242,241
Mutual Funds	253,085
Grants and accounts receivable	196,803
Prepaid expenses	46,065
Inventory	<u>13,348</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>989,365</u>
Fixed assets, net of accumulated depreciation (Note 1)	<u>88,683</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b><u><u>\$1,078,048</u></u></b>

### LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Current Liabilities	
Accounts payable	\$ 12,480
Accrued payroll	79,070
Accrued expense	10,579
Unearned revenue	<u>-</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>102,309</u>
Net assets	
Unrestricted	
Board designated (Note 11)	100,000
Undesignated	<u>861,547</u>
Total Unrestricted	961,547
Temporarily restricted (Note 5)	<u>14,192</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>975,739</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>	<b><u><u>\$1,078,048</u></u></b>



**A Woman's Place is the only domestic violence organization in  
Bucks County, Pa.**

**24-Hour Hotline**

**1.800.220.8116**

**[www.awomansplace.org](http://www.awomansplace.org)**