

WOMANSPACE NEWS

IT STARTS HERE

A Heartfelt Thank You!

To the hundreds of Womanspace friends and supporters who attended the 27th Annual Barbara Boggs Sigmund Award Dinner on May 4th, we want to say we were glad finally to see you again.

The honoree of the evening was Trenton native Troy Vincent Sr, a former Philadelphia Eagles cornerback and EVP of Football Operations with the NFL. Troy captivated the crowd as he shared his story of a childhood in an abusive family and the impact that has made on his life. He and his wife Tommi, also a survivor, and the current Board Chair for the National Domestic Violence Hotline, work tirelessly to interrupt the cycle of intimate partner violence. "Turning pain into purpose is an example of how one voice can grow to be amplified on behalf of millions," said Troy, "and it's a reminder that violence against women and young girls is all of our issue."

Troy then surprised us all by donating four top tier tickets to the 2024 Super Bowl, along with passes to the pregame tailgate party! We will raffle off this package once the NFL season starts this fall!

The Awards Dinner is our biggest event of the year, and our committee put together more than 20 fabulous silent auction items and raffle prizes. There was an actual bike at the auction table!

In addition to reconnecting with old friends and supporters, the Award Dinner provided an opportunity to showcase the important role Womanspace plays in our community.

The wide array of services we offer provide support, resources, and advocacy to victim-survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault.

We also said goodbye one of our

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Susan Victor, Erin Hartshorn, Troy Vincent Sr, Tommi Vincent, Nathalie Nelson, and Reyna Carothers

If you are in immediate danger, call 911.
If you are being hurt, it is NOT your fault. You deserve to be safe and healthy. For help and information anytime, contact:

Womanspace

24-Hour Hotline www.womanspace.org
1.609.394.9000

Text Message Hotline for Deaf and Hard of Hearing
1.609.619.1888

NJ Statewide Domestic Violence Hotline
1.800.572.SAFE (7233)

NJ Statewide Sexual Assault Hotline
1.800.601.7200

Stand Against Racism

On Friday, April 28th, the Womanspace staff participated in “Stand Against Racism”, a workshop designed to help us understand how racism, domestic violence, and sexual

violence are interconnected.

Born out of the efforts of our agency-wide Anti-Oppression Work Group, Womanspace staff members Krystal Aguayo, Grace Flagler, and

Jada Lawrence-Galloway, supported by Sandy Ewell from the Common Ground Institute, created an interactive and moving afternoon. The workshop provided a safe space for a frank exploration of the subtle and not-so-subtle ways that racism can affect our coworkers and our clients. All who participated shared openly about their own experiences and appreciated hearing diverse perspectives of others.

That workshop was just one step in our journey as Womanspace affirms our commitment to anti-racism. We recognize and value different identities in our communities, and encourage mutual respect and understanding among all people. True excellence in our organization and communities results in the joined effort to stand against systems of power and oppression that are rooted in racism. Womanspace will continue the work that is required to be a truly anti-racist organization inside and out. ■



A Heartfelt Thank You!

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longest serving board members Ed Schmierer, and presented him with first annual Ed Schmierer Award. It was bittersweet.

The evening was the perfect occasion to reconnect with old friends, welcome new ones, and look to the future with renewed energy. Womanspace is grateful to have the NFL as the presenting sponsor of this year’s Award Dinner.

We still have much to do. ■



SAVE THE DATE! *The 22nd Annual Communities of Light, when we illuminate the night to raise awareness of domestic violence and sexual assault, will take place on December 3rd and December 4th. This year, we will expand to two nights, to ensure individual households, local businesses, and government agencies will be part of this powerful campaign.*

Volunteers in Action



In June, a team of 8 volunteers from Genmab Princeton generously donated their time and effort at our Safe House. They cleaned and painted the front steps, porch furniture, added some rugs, pillows, decorative elements, and potted plants. This is where our clients sit outside to relax with each other and get some fresh air.

These local Genmab colleagues were participating in their Global Volunteer Day. Their unstoppable teams supported 36 charities in the communities where they live and work.

On behalf of the victim-survivors and their children at our Safe House, we offer a heartfelt thank you. ■



Womanspace was saddened to learn about the passing of the legendary Tina Turner.

In addition to being a rock icon in a male dominated industry, she was instrumental in bringing domestic violence from the shadows into the public discourse.

We honor the bravery and fortitude of this shining star.

Tina Turner
1939 – 2023

Womanspace Core Values

In the Fall of 2022, Womanspace leadership began a process, led by nonprofit consultant Iona Harding, to reflect on what our values are as an agency. Who do we want to be in the community, to our clients, and as colleagues to each other? What do we want to be held accountable to?

This process is essential to Womanspace, as our Core Values provide us with purpose and direction, help us manage our interactions with clients, team members, and partners, and give us the how — how we live our mission, how we make decisions, how others see us every day.

In May of 2023, our entire staff gathered to explore these core values. It was an emotional and productive day, at the end of which we coalesced around the following statement:

At Womanspace, we are inspired by our mission every day, and our core values drive and inform everything we do. Our ethos is one of pro-active client focus. We hold each other accountable for advancing the mission and embodying our core values. We act in the best interests of our clients and meet their needs with excellence. We listen deeply and care about our clients and colleagues. We work collaboratively

with our colleagues and partners to find innovative solutions for our clients and to address challenges together. We trust our colleagues and value and respect their backgrounds, expertise, and contributions. We support and help each other to learn and grow and to balance the demands of the job. We feel like we belong here. In all things, we act with the utmost integrity and transparency, upholding highest ethical standards.

We welcome your feedback. Please let us know your thoughts at info@womanspace.org. ■



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WOMANSPACE is the only agency in Trenton and Mercer County, New Jersey specifically focused on providing essential, life-saving services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, stalking, and human trafficking. The overarching philosophy guiding all of our programs at Womanspace is one of empowerment: for women, men, and their children to become self-sufficient; live safer lives; make informed decisions; to undergo personal growth. We assist victims-survivors, both at the moment of crisis and throughout their journey of emotional healing and the achievement of economic independence. ■

Womanspace Services

- A Safe House, open 24/7, provides safety and support after a traumatic experience.
- Three 24/7 crisis hotlines, including the local Mercer County Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Crisis Hotlines, as well as the New Jersey Statewide Domestic Violence Hotline.
- The Response Teams of Mercer County provide support and resources to victim-survivors of domestic violence and/or sexual assault at the moment of crisis. The Response Teams are comprised of highly trained and dedicated volunteers.
- Counseling and support services offer individual, family, and group counseling to victims, as well as to their families.
- A Court Advocacy program provides services at Family Court to assist victims navigating a complex court system to obtain restraining orders. We also provide advocacy at the Municipal Courts in Trenton and Hamilton Township in criminal cases.
- Transitional Housing addresses the emotional needs, financial stability, legal concerns, and childcare options for women who need more time to build their support network. Barbara's House is a six-month to two-year residential program.
- Education and prevention outreach engages local stakeholders in the effort to creating safer communities and reduce domestic and sexual violence. We partner with area nonprofit organizations, schools, colleges, and corporations with interactive and age appropriate workshops.

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