



**Newton  
Wellesley  
Weston**

**Committee for  
Community Living, Inc.**

## NEWS

On March 29, **Mary Margaret Pappas**, NWW's Director of Community Relations, received the City of Newton's Human Rights Award for her decades of commitment to the human rights of individuals with disabilities--through her roles as director of Understanding Our Differences and Newton Community Education in the Newton Public Schools, as NWW board member and as NWW staff member. NWW salutes Mary Margaret for this wonderful



*Mary Margaret Pappas, left, with her family.*

achievement! Past recipients of the award include **Carol Beard** (NWW parent, past board member and President, and one of the founders of Understanding Our Differences).

Steep cuts of up to 66% in the **Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)** program threaten three of NWW's programs: Community Access, Wednesday Night Drop-In and Social Work. Since 1974, CDBG funds have helped cities and towns support social programs and affordable

housing for low- and moderate-income residents. Newton receives about \$2.4 million annually and allocates \$15,000 to NWW to cover 25% of its programs' costs. Concerned citizens gathered on March 14 at the Newton Community Service Center for a panel discussion and rally. Panel members included Newton Mayor **Setti Warren**, Congressman **Barney Frank**, and representatives of several agencies that receive CDBG funding, including NWW Executive Director **Nancy Slamin** and **Sevrin Nelson**, a former participant in the First Time Home Buyer



*Nancy Slamin, left, and Sevrin Nelson, right, at the rally.*

Program and currently in NWW's Independent Living Program. Mayor Warren is leading the fight as chairman of the U.S. Conference of Mayors' Committee on Community Development and Housing. Please contact your Congressman and Senators to protest these cuts.

On May 15, NWW volunteers will participate in the annual **NewtonSERVES Day** by beautifying a traffic island in Newton Centre. The NWW team will join Alderman **Vicki Danberg** and other volunteers in this effort.

## NWW's Annual Appeal Needs your Help

Each year NWW relies on generous donors to make up the difference between what it receives from public funding and what it actually costs NWW to provide high-quality services to adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Contracts with the Massachusetts Department of Developmental Services, NWW's major source of public funding, cover only a portion of the costs of services to each individual served by NWW. The rest must be made up through CDBG grants, foundation grants, grants from communities of faith and donations to NWW's two annual fundraisers--the Autumn Auction and the Annual Appeal. Annual Appeal 2011 is underway and needs your help to support:

- 36 individuals living in NWW's six group homes in Newton and Wellesley
- 7 individuals living in their own apartments
- 75 individuals who attend Wednesday Night Drop-In

With support from grants and private donors, NWW has been able to provide:

- counseling and emotional support to clients and families from a licensed independent clinical social worker
- one-to-one volunteers from the community and Best Buddies International
- training in the field for graduate students in social work and undergraduate interns
- individualized services for aging clients
- two wheelchair-accessible vans for clients who are aging or have physical disabilities
- the services of a registered nurse
- 20 yearly sessions of Wednesday Night Drop-In

NWW accomplishes this with a professional staff known for its experience, longevity and dedication; an active board of directors comprised of community leaders, clients, family members and foundation directors; and many connections with local government, communities of faith, human services organizations and cultural groups.

**If you haven't done so already, please support NWW's Annual Appeal 2011 by filling out the form on the back and mailing it with your contribution to the NWW Committee, 1301 Centre Street, Newton Centre, MA 02459.**

## In Memoriam

This year NWW lost two outstanding individuals who had been with the agency for many years. **Dot Taddeo** of Juniper House passed away in October after a long illness and left behind six longtime housemates, including her sister Rose. Those who knew Dot will always remember her vivacious personality and inquisitiveness. Dot's funeral was held at Our Lady Help of Christians Church in Newton Corner and was followed by a wonderful gathering of the Taddeo family and friends to celebrate Dot's life. **Len Rosen** of Webster Street passed away in November after a brief illness. No one at NWW will forget Len's wry humor and zest for life. In addition, Len was a huge fan of Boston College and enjoyed working in the campus bookstore for many years. Len's brother, Bob Copeland, traveled from Africa for a memorial service at the NWW office. Before his death, Len had been working on a video slideshow of his life, and it was shown at the service. The NWW community will miss these two great people.

## NWW Notes

NWW is grateful to its student interns for their excellent work throughout the 2010-2011 academic year! **Jennifer Mooney** of Simmons College School of Social Work and **Jackie Woods** of Boston College Graduate School of Social Work were supervised by NWW's licensed independent clinical social worker, **Jan Plager**, as they did individual and group work. **Katelyn Gormley** of Lasell College completed her one-semester human services internship at Orchard Avenue. Two-semester interns included **Marissa Reimer**, a senior psychology major from Brandeis University, who worked at Bontempo Road, and three Boston College PULSE interns, **Christine Braun** and **Morgan Forrester**, who both worked at Juniper House, and **Dani Tran**, who worked at Coyne Road.

One of the hallmarks of NWW is the longevity of its staff. At its annual meeting on May 10, NWW will honor staff members who have reached important milestones: **Leah Andrews**, **Mike Atkinson**, **Melissa Boulos**, **Nate Doyen-Charon**, **John Kiyingi**, **Suzanne Kroll**, **Fredrick Mulindwa** and **Ben Pemberton** for five years of service; **Jackie Damsky**, **Nancy DeRoma**, **Mokrane Ichir**, **Elmane Louijeune**, **Mary Margaret Pappas**, **Frantz Paul**, **Josee Marie Pierre**, and **Katrina Pope** for ten years; **Lisa Oberton Baragwanath** and **Shawn Fay** for fifteen years; **Janet**

**Neuhauser** and **Sally Roach** for twenty years; and **Tina Jameson** for twenty-five years.

The NWW Board of Directors held its March 8 meeting in conjunction with an open house at Bontempo Road. Executive Director **Nancy Slamin** spoke of the generosity of **Carol** and **Richard Beard**, who donated their family home to NWW so that it could become a group home for their two sons and three other residents. Over the years Carol and Richard have maintained a wonderful rapport with all the Bontempo staff and supported activities at the house in a myriad of ways.

On March 27 a reception was held for NWW supporters. Newton Alderman **Vicki Danberg** and her husband, **Dr. John Ficarelli**, graciously offered their beautiful home for the occasion. Following an enjoyable hour of delicious hors d'oeuvres and socializing, NWW Vice-President **Margie Birnbaum** welcomed the guests and introduced NWW Executive Director **Nancy Slamin**, who spoke about



*NWW Vice-President Margie Birnbaum, Alderman Vicki Danberg and Dr. John Ficarelli*

NWW's houses and services. She was followed by **Barbara Pemberton** and **Linda Rinearson**, who, as board members who are also parents, focused on what makes NWW such an outstanding organization.

### OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE

NWW has some available office space at 1301 Centre Street, Newton Centre. It is handicapped-accessible, comes with parking and is very close to the T. Please call Nancy Slamin at (617) 964-6860, extension 12, for additional information.

### NEWSLINE

Newton Wellesley Weston Committee for  
Community Living, Inc.  
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Trix Oakley, President  
Nancy C. Slamin, M.S.W.,  
Executive Director

Christina Jameson &  
Mary Margaret Pappas,  
Editors & Photographers

### SAVE THE DATE!

#### NWW'S Annual Autumn Auction

October 22, 2011  
First Parish Church in  
Weston

Great items! Great food!  
Great company!  
A great cause!

### ANNUAL MEETING

The NWW Committee's  
Annual Meeting will be  
held on Tuesday, May  
10 at 7:30 pm at the  
NWW office, 1301  
Centre Street, Newton  
Centre, MA 02459.

### ANNUAL APPEAL 2011

This year's Annual Appeal is underway and will continue through June 30, 2011. If you have not yet made your contribution, will you help us with a generous gift? To contribute to the Annual Appeal, please send your contribution to the NWW Committee, 1301 Centre Street, Newton Centre, MA 02459 and enclose this form.

Enclosed is a gift of:

\_\_\_ \$5,000    \_\_\_ \$2,500    \_\_\_ \$1,000    \_\_\_ \$500    \_\_\_ \$250    \_\_\_ \$100    \_\_\_ Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to NWW. NWW is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization. All contributions are tax-deductible. Thank you very much for your generosity!