



MARIN SERVICES for Women

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**Marin Services for Women Announces 2005 Open House**

***-- Program Honors MSW "Shining Stars" --***

GREENBRAE, CA., DECEMBER 1, 2005 – Marin Services for Women (MSW), a non-profit which provides unique substance abuse treatment programs for women, will open its doors to visitors at their annual Holiday Open House on Tuesday, December 13, 2005, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Located along the shores of Corte Madera Creek at 1251 South Eliseo Drive, Marin Services for Women invites the community to see their beautifully remodeled facility and hear about their life-changing recovery services. The Open House will include tours of MSW's new facility, live music and refreshments.

The move into MSW's new building in December 2003 provided the additional space needed to double the number of women MSW serves. The new building also provides clients with an environment supportive of the healing process of recovery from chemical dependency which is often triggered by personal trauma. With the help of their community supporters, MSW has created a clean, bright professional space that is more effective for the delivery of their innovative trauma-specific recovery services that take into account the underlying causes of substance abuse in women. By eliminating, to the degree possible, the institutional elements that are typically found in a treatment center, MSW has created a homelike, welcoming environment

in a place where residents can feel safe in sharing their trauma and/or post-traumatic stress disorder experiences with trained counselors.

With expansion also came increased expenses, for which MSW is grateful to receive public and private support. “This open house is our way of recognizing the generous Marin community who made this expansion possible,” said Executive Director Ann Harrison.

As part of the program, Ann Harrison and Board President Nancy Rubin will present Shining Star Awards to members of the community who have shown extraordinary support and dedication to improving the lives of the women in MSW’s treatment programs. This year’s Shining Star recipients include Child Therapist Elizabeth Black, Marsha Bonner from Marin Community Foundation, Lea Del Pomo from Marin Employment Connection, Anita Horton from CalWORKs, Dr. Pamela Foley, Reverend Karuna Gerstein, Reverend Elizabeth Rivers, Cassandra Burr, Antonique Johnson, Crystal Moore, Mere Ours, Lynn Sanders and the Women of the Congregation Rodef Sholom.

For over 27 years, Marin Services for Women has advanced community health by providing a full continuum of superior quality chemical dependency recovery services for women and families in the Bay Area. MSW’s philosophy links recovery from addiction with relational, social and economic empowerment. MSW is dedicated to meeting the community’s need to understand the nature, treatment and prevention of alcohol and other drug abuse.

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