



MARIN SERVICES for Women

For Further Information Contact:

Kari Millar
Marin Services for Women
(415) 924-5995, ext. 25
kmillar@mswinc.org

**Marin Services for Women Offers Trauma-Specific
Recovery Services to Hurricane Survivors**

GREENBRAE, CA, SEPTEMBER 7, 2005 – Marin Services for Women, a licensed non-profit substance abuse recovery program in Marin County, announced today that they are offering their trauma-specific recovery services as part of the Hurricane Katrina relief effort. With hurricane evacuees scheduled to arrive in the Bay Area any day, many with nothing more than the clothes on their backs and possibly searching for missing family members, Marin Services for Women (MSW) wants hurricane evacuees to know that the agency's doors are open to help women with substance use or abuse problems. With over 25 years of experience specializing in trauma-specific substance abuse, MSW recognizes that substance use and abuse can increase after experience of traumatic event such as a natural disaster.

“Often during a crisis like this people turn to alcohol or other substances as a way to handle the trauma they've experienced. Clearly, this doesn't really help, especially for those who may have had substance abuse problems in the past,” says Executive Director Ann Harrison. “Marin Services for Women wants hurricane survivors to know that we're here to help women and their families deal with any substance abuse issues they may be experiencing.”

MSW has been in contact with Mayor Gavin Newsom's office in San Francisco, offering aid to women with substance abuse issues who are soon to arrive at St. Mary's Cathedral. Mayor

- - MORE - -

MSW Offers Recovery Services to Hurricane Survivors

Page 2 of 2

Newsom's staff has added MSW to the list of voluntary service providers, as has the Bay Area Red Cross.

Hurricane Katrina women evacuees who need help with recovery from drug and alcohol abuse are encouraged to call 415-924-5995 to speak to an MSW admissions counselor.

For over 25 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 Marin County. Its 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.

###