

Generous Friends Raise Money to Help Women Blossom

Did you attend ***A Cause To Dine For***, our fundraising breakfast June 5th at the Westin? Nearly 300 people joined us for quiche, coffee, and a look at how Sojourner Place gives women in transition a fresh start. Then our guests took out their checkbooks. As a result, Sojourner Place has a fresh start of its own: more than \$83,000 was raised to serve the women. Perennial pledges help us toward our long term goal of financial stability.

Nearly all the women who come to Sojourner Place have suffered abuse. Researcher Heather Stark talked about the post traumatic stress created by abuse, and the need for a safe place such as Sojourner, where women can re-discover their strength.

Former resident Juli Woods talked about being clean of addiction for seven years, and STILL having trouble finding housing or a good job. Sojourner helps such women make the transition.

Marianne Lyle's extraordinary video captured the obstacles of women still living on the street, and compared them to the healing stories of women at Sojourner Place. As one resident said, "We're not transitional people; we're people in transition."

Thanks to our generous friends of Sojourner Place, these women will continue to grow and blossom.

Previous to this Breakfast, we held dinner-auctions on a Friday or Saturday evening. We felt a Thursday morning breakfast would be more considerate of your time, and a better use of our resources. If you joined us for breakfast, we would really appreciate your feedback:

- Was the information pertinent?
- What did you find most thought-provoking?
- Was the location convenient?
- How was the food?
- Should we offer a breakfast again next year?
- If so, is there something we could do differently?
- Or, would you prefer a dinner/auction?

Please email us and let us know! You can contact Advisory Board Chair, Gemalee Morrison at Gemalee.morrison@marsh.com or you can contact us through our website at www.sojournerplace.org.