

## WOMENADE

If you have lemons, make lemonade. If you have caring compassionate women concerned about other women who are facing insurmountable challenges in life, whip up a batch of Womenade.

The first Womenade event was created by Susan Cohen, a longtime volunteer at Sojourner Truth House. It was Susan's dream that a pool of money would be available to underwrite unusual emergency expenses when other funding sources had been depleted.

The recipe for success is a simple one. A group of Sojourner Truth House supporters organize a fun, informal potluck event and invite all their friends. The co-hosts provide the venue and the main dish, the guests donate food and beverages and bring a financial gift for the Womenade Fund established at the Legacy Foundation.

There have been seven Womenade events since 2003 with 178 guests in attendance. Susan Cohen coordinates each of the events. Hosts have included: Helen

Thoesen, Betsy Schleyer, Tracey Foreman, Pat Schuler, Linda Pera, Linda Eisenhauer, and Sarah Hensel and the women of St. Barnabas Church. Total funds raised to date are \$15,340.

The money is distributed by the Legacy Foundation as the need arises. Sister Peg Spindler, CSA, Director of Sojourner Truth House, will request a distribution of funds for such items as housing deposits, NIPSCO bills, storage rental, book fees and traffic tickets. These are expenses that can make the difference between having a home, abandoning all your possessions or losing your job because you can't drive your car. According to Nancy Johnson, President of the Legacy Foundation and a personal supporter of Womenade, "the Womenade Fund has been a significant resource for Sojourner Truth House to meet emergency needs when no other financial resources are immediately available. Donors to the Womenade Fund



### Save the Date!

Join us for our 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration  
Sunday November 4, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.

Sojourner Truth House,  
410 W. 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Gary

Birthdays cake will be served!

For more information call 219-885-2282,  
or visit our website at

<http://www.sojournertruthhouse.com>

participate in a network designed to support other women in a time of crisis."

Womenade is a refreshing and stimulating evening of food, making new friends and sharing the stories of trial and success that make Sojourner Truth House such an incredible resource for women. Create a memorable evening or afternoon for a group of your friends by organizing a 2007 Womenade event. For details on how to plan an event, contact Renae Brantley, Director of Regional Development Services at Ancilla Systems, at 219-947-8559 or Sr. Peg Spindler at 219-885-2282.

## Share Your Spare Change for a Mini Van

STH has a critical need to purchase two new mini vans. The seven year old van we currently use is literally on its last tire and brake shoe. We desperately need to replace it with two mini vans to transport our clients from the night shelter and to appointments with health care providers and the township trustee.

A comprehensive transportation evaluation was conducted to determine the most cost effective and safe methods of transporting the women at the shelter. We compared fourteen vehicles that meet our criteria. A local dealership will work with us on the purchase. Now we need all of you to share your spare change and help us raise \$50,000.

### SHARE YOUR SPARE CHANGE CAMPAIGN

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

All contributions to Sojourner Truth House are tax deductible. If you are over 70, call us about a charitable distribution from your IRA.

# Family Fun Night

A fantastic fun-filled family event took place on Saturday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> at the IUN Savannah Gym. Organizer Damion Smith provided a fabulous night of food, music and games for community supporters of Sojourner Truth House. Over \$400 was raised at the Family Fun Night. Special thanks to Damion, HYPE, Indiana University Northwest, BillCo's, PJ's, the Showstoppers and Baylor's Ballers.

## 2007 WALK-A-THON

Saturday, June 2, 2007, marked the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Walk-A-Thon to benefit Sojourner Truth House. A dedicated group of volunteers, program staff, and clients were joined by an outstanding crowd of more than 160 walkers at Gleason Park Golf Course. Individuals and teams alike enthusiastically participated in the annual fundraising festivities. The proceeds help to provide counseling services, daily meals, a food pantry and clothes closet, housing placements, and medical and dental services to almost 11,000 clients annually. To all walkers and their individual sponsors, we offer sincere thanks for your wonderful support.



A special heartfelt debt-of-gratitude goes to Senator Earline Rogers, who assumed the role of Chairperson. Senator Rogers has been devoted to Sojourner Truth House for many years. We also extend our thanks to Mayor Rudolph Clay, LaTanya Williams and the City of Gary Department of Public Parks, as well as John Lowe, manager of Gleason Park; the Gary Fire Department EMS and EMS Chief Reese; the Gary Police Department; and Sheriff Roy Dominquez and the Lake County Sheriff's Department, for all the help provided in making the logistics of the Walk-A-Thon possible. We also thank Gwen Williams at the Genesis Center and Larry Alt for their advertising/marketing assistance.

Finally, we heartily applaud the businesses in the community that support us throughout the year, and particularly for the Walk-A-Thon. Corporate supporters were lead by GOLD Sponsors: Greater Northwest Indiana Association of Realtors, Horseshoe Casino of Hammond and Majestic Star Casino. They were joined by Advantage Health Solutions, Roosevelt Allen, Lake County Commissioner, Ancilla Systems Incorporated, Anthem Blue Cross, BP AMOCO, Centier Bank, Mayor Rudolph Clay, Community Health Care System, First United Methodist Church, Councilwoman Elsie Franklin, Gary South Shore Railcats, Hall, Render, Killian, Heath & Lyman, HealthVisions Midwest, Inc., John Cicco Menswear, Methodist Hospital, McDonald's Corporation, McShane's, Meyer and Wyatt PC, NIPSCO, Peoples Bank, Pepsi, the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ, Sisters of St. Agnes, Powers & Sons Construction, City Clerk Suzette Raggs, Senator Earline Rogers, St. Catherine Hospital, St. Mary Medical Center, St. Joseph

### Personal Products

- Pads & Tampons
- Deodorant
- Toothpaste & Toothbrushes
- Toilet Paper
- Body & Hand Lotion
- Diapers (all sizes)
- Shampoo & Conditioner; Hair Brushes
- Bath Soap & Body Wash
- Tums, Cough Syrup & Vitamins
- Women's Socks, Panties & Bras
- 70 Page Spiral Notebooks
- Two-Pocket Folders & Pens

### Household Goods

- Beds (Twin & Double)
- Chairs & Small Sofas
- Gas Stoves & Refrigerators
- Toasters & Crock Pots
- Silverware, Pots & Pans
- Kitchen Utensils & Hand Can Openers
- Dishwashing Liquid
- Shower Curtains, Hooks & Rods
- Working Desk Phones
- Bath Towels & Wash Cloths
- Sheets, Spreads, & Pillows
- Blankets (non-electric)
- Irons & Ironing Boards
- Vacuum Cleaners & Carpet Sweepers

*Call 219-885-2282 to arrange pick-up of furniture & appliances. Donations must be clean and in good working order.*

Regional Medical Center, St. Timothy Community Church, United Water, and WiseWay/Paylow.

Congratulations to Horseshoe Casino of Hammond who fielded the largest team, with twenty members. They were followed closely by *Too Hot to Stop* from Edgewater Systems for Balanced Living, *Women on the Move*, and the *Phenomenal Women of Steel*. Special thanks to outstanding volunteers Pat Kelly and Rosie Thomas, whose efforts to raise support and awareness on behalf of Sojourner Truth House are beyond description!



*Walk-A-Thon Chairperson Senator Earline Rogers, center, is joined by City Clerk Suzette Raggs (left), and GOLD Sponsors (right) Pat Pullera, Executive Director Greater Northwest Indiana Association of Realtors, and Shelby Curry, Community Relations Manager for Horseshoe Casino of Hammond, and other volunteers at the kickoff for the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Walk-A-Thon.*