



WOMEN'S SUPPORT SERVICES

*Domestic Violence
Intervention
& Prevention*

Dear Friends of Women's Support Services,

Lori Rivenburgh, our dedicated Executive Director since May 2008, has accepted a position as Executive Director with the Boys & Girls Club of the Town of Wallkill, NY and will be stepping down as the WSS Executive Director in early October.

Lori's achievements during her tenure as Executive Director, both for Women's Support Services in particular and for the agency's mission to create a community free of domestic violence and abuse throughout our region, are almost too numerous to describe. A widely respected leader in the field, she has advanced the cause by serving on various supervisory boards throughout the state and providing testimony before legislative committees. Under her leadership, WSS has consistently been recognized as a model in the provision of services, and has met and exceeded the state standards on every occasion they have been measured. Staffing at the agency has increased from five full and part-time staff in 2008, to ten staff members today: seven full time staff members and three per-diem hotline counselors.

All of this was possible because of successful fundraising efforts that exceeded every goal during this period, which included hiring our first Fund Development Coordinator. Proceeds from *Trade Secrets*, the agency's main fundraising event in May each year, have increased by 75% over this period, enabling the creation of a permanent endowment and giving the agency the stability to ensure the provision of services to our clients for many years to come. During a time of substantially increased reporting requirements from state and federal agencies, and overall economic uncertainty for many social service agencies in our region, WSS has thrived because of the passion and discipline of its staff, led by Lori Rivenburgh.

The search for Lori's successor has already begun. The need for free, confidential client-centered services for victims of domestic violence remains tragically keen both in our region and throughout the world, and the Board of Directors is committed to identifying an exceptional leader who will help WSS achieve its mission throughout the next chapter in its history.

We will miss Lori sorely at WSS, but are profoundly grateful for what she has brought to the agency during her tenure, and the strong position in which she leaves it. We wish her luck in her new position, and look forward to keeping in touch.

Sincerely,

Maria P. Horn
Board Chair

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*Women's Support Services
is a nonprofit, tax exempt
organization serving
victims of domestic
violence & abuse in the
towns of Canaan,
Cornwall, Kent, North
Canaan, Salisbury, Sharon
and surrounding areas.*