



**Proud leader of the 1 in 4 Movement in Orange County! #1in4OC**

**UPCOMING PROGRAMS**



**Commemorative Tile Program is HAS TAKEN OFF!**

Leave your mark at WISEPlace as we celebrate our past and move into an exciting future. **Tile orders will be accepted through May 31, 2017.**

**Tiles for 30th Anniversary Commemorative Wall: \$200, one tile**

Your name/sentiment will be engraved in gold lettering on a white ceramic tile (6x6) that will be placed on the 30th Anniversary Commemorative Wall inside our historic Santa Ana

facility.

**Naming Tiles for resident's rooms (only 15 available): \$1,000, two tiles**

Your name/sentiment will be engraved in gold lettering on a white ceramic tile (6x6) that will be affixed to the door of a resident's room. The room tile will feature a hand-painted design by Linda Clair, a longtime friend and former Board member of WISEPlace. An additional tile will be engraved and added to the Commemorative Wall. A special viewing and photo opportunity with your designated room will be arranged after the tile is placed.

**Naming Tiles for downstairs Family Room (only 1 available):**

**\$2,000, two tiles**

Your name/sentiment will be engraved in gold lettering on a white ceramic tile (large and rectangular in shape) will be affixed above the door of the downstairs Family Room. The tile will feature a hand-painted design by Linda Clair, a longtime friend and former Board member of WISEPlace. An additional tile will be engraved and added to the Commemorative Wall. A special viewing and photo opportunity with your designated room will be arranged after the tile is placed..

Click [here](#) for a printable form. Email [cjacobs@wiseplace.org](mailto:cjacobs@wiseplace.org) with questions.



Each tile will feature an original, hand-painted design by longtime WISEPlace supporter Linda Clair. Pictured: Resident Room tile, left; Wall tile, right.

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**"I Heart WISEPlace Giving" rolls out in April**

Get ready for our annual community giving campaign, "I Heart Giving." This year, we're rolling out some serious love for WISEPlace with a matching gift generously sponsored by longtime supporters of WISEPlace. While they wish to remain nameless, their love for WISEPlace spans the seasons, spans the years and is ever-present!

I Heart WISEPlace Giving will begin at **6 a.m., Tuesday, April 18** and end at **Noon on Thursday, April 20**. Mark your calendars and stay tuned for reminders to make your contribution during this window of opportunity!



**I ♥ WISEPlace**  
**Days of Giving**

There's a lot to love about WISEPlace.  
Give where your heart lives! And spread  
the word. That's the best gift of all!  
#iheartwiseplace

Geo (Georgeth) Sanchez,  
Office Manager

30 YEARS OF SHELTER  
FOR WOMEN  
WISEPlace

## BOARD SPOTLIGHT

*Each month we will feature a Q&A with a member of our Board of Directors. This month ...*



### DEWANE WILLIS

#### Board member

**Full Name:** Dewane Renee Parham-Willis  
**Occupation/Employer:** Homemaker for 22 years

**Number of years of involvement with WISEPlace:** First year Board member but have attended *A Home for the Holidays* in prior years.

**Nickname(s):** No nicknames, however my name is always mispronounced as "Dewayne" and it should be pronounced "Dwon."

**Favorite meal(s):** Seafood. I've been told that I have an aquarium in my stomach!

**First car:** I didn't drive until I was 23 and it was a Chevy Cavalier

**Pet:** None

**Someone who inspires you:** Anyone who is comfortable with themselves.

**Favorite sport to watch:** Basketball

**Little known fact:** I am certified in interior decorating, event planning, dental assisting and a hypnotist.

## AROUND THE ORGANIZATION

# A fantastic send-off for our Facility Manager



After 21 years of service, Gloria Ruiz has hung up her ladle and danced off into retirement! WISEPlace planned a special community celebration for our beloved Facility Manager -- one that was supposed to be a surprise. But how can you keep a huge party off the radar of the eagle eyes of the Facility Manager? YOU CAN'T! It was a wonderful afternoon of family, friends, food and fun!

Thank you so much to all of the community partners who donated and supported this event.

**Donations:** Welcome Wagon Club of North Orange County; The Dizzy Daisy; Albertsons 17th St.; STL Ministries; AT&T Pioneers; Geo & Co.; Albertsons Orange location; El Pollo Loco 1909 Main St.; Newport Harbor Catering; The Home Depot #615; Mu Epsilon Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha; Te Kenjutsu Kan Karate Club, Jay Ignacio, Mirna Michel, Will Glover.

**Special mention volunteers:** Renee Beard; Susie Silva; Maria Sanchez



## PARTNERING IN THE COMMUNITY



Sudeep Banarjee and his B3NET team in their Santa Ana office.

### **Expert support with a side of fundraising!**

B3NET, a local web design firm, and WISEPlace have been working together since 2015, when WISEPlace embarked on a mission to give the website a face lift! Since the launch of the new and improved wiseplace.org, B3NET has been providing expert maintenance, support and advice in-kind, to allow WISEPlace to truly benefit from the upgrades in e-commerce and web outreach. In this day and age of constant technological advancement, it's tough to find a trusted team. B3NET is that and more.

In addition to their web support services, Sudeep Banarjee, the Founder & President of B3NET, is devoting many hours to support WISEPlace in our fundraising efforts. His team has designed a webpage which will be promoted through crowdfunding, where they will be flexing their digital marketing muscles to help us raise funds. "We believe it is important to strengthen our communities. WISEPlace takes the lead in making such an impact. We want to continue to support their work," said Banarjee.

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landscape construction  
landscape maintenance  
landscape architecture  
erosion control  
design build

## Marina Landscape is our latest partner!

We are thrilled to announce Marina Landscape as our newest organizational partner of 2017! President & CEO Bob Cowan is dedicated to supporting local organizations that provide critical services for women in crisis in Orange County -- like WISEPlace! We are so grateful for their support and are excited to build a lasting AND FUN relationship! Visit [www.marinaco.com](http://www.marinaco.com) to learn more about their projects to help beautify communities everywhere! We thank them so much for their interest in WISEPlace and the services we provide for unaccompanied homeless women in Orange County.

### RESIDENT PROFILE

*Each month, we will profile a current resident or recently graduate of WISEPlace. Names have been omitted for anonymity.*

**Age:** 23

**When I entered homelessness:** December 2016

**What led me down the path to homelessness:** Domestic abuse and violence.

**Why you decided to come to WISEPlace for help:** Wanted to become independent.

**What has inspired you since becoming a resident at WISEPlace:** All the empowered women.

**My favorite activity to participate in:** Yoga.

**My favorite food:** Mac n Cheese or Chicken Caesar Salad with raisins instead of croutons.

**My favorite band/music:** 80s Music!

**What I am looking forward to after WISEPlace graduation:** Taking a bath in a bathtub and hanging out at the beach.

**A piece of advice that has helped me:** "Keep going, don't give up, you can do it, I know you can!"

### WISE WORDS

When everything seems  
to be going against you,  
remember that the airplane  
takes off against the wind,  
not with it.

*Henry Ford*

