

WISEPlace is proud to be leading the 1 in 4 Movement in OC ! #1in4OC



Thank you for your interest in supporting our services
for unaccompanied homeless women in Orange County.



**In March, we celebrate 3 decades of saving women's lives
in Orange County. Get ready for a fun-filled year, friends!
Stay tuned for exciting news and events.**

UPCOMING EVENTS

GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY FLOW by Candlelight

If you love our annual summer event, get ready for a new twist on things -- FLOW by Candlelight! Join us for a Valentine's event benefiting WISEPlace Steps to Independence program.



Sunday, February 12, 2017
3 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Private home in Nellie Gail Ranch
\$100 individual ticket / \$175
Candlelight pair

Just in time for that **LOVE**ly holiday that has everyone either running for cover or for hugs, we bring you an evening of fantastic fare, decadent wine and chocolate and mellow jazz. This event is certain

to delight your senses! Click [here](#) for more information and to purchase your tickets today!

BOARD SPOTLIGHT

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

Amber Omran

Board member

Full Name: Anberin Omran

Occupation/Employer: National Sale Manager for Epsilon Electronics Inc.

Number of years of involvement with

WISEPlace: 5 years as a volunteer; new Board Member in 2016

Nickname(s): Pinky, Ambie-Bambie, Ambs

Recently-heard quote: "Be good, do good." - Asad Omran (my dad)

Favorite meal: Steak and potatoes

First car: Camaro

Pet: *Indi* and *Mica*, my weimaraners

Someone who inspires you: Mother Teresa

Favorite sport to watch: Football

Little known fact: I love almost all sports, but I don't understand baseball at all! I'd like to learn though.



AROUND THE ORGANIZATION



Over 50 volunteers participated, including estheticians from Beach Beauty Bar.



American Institute of Massage Therapy offered massages throughout the day. Below, a WISEPlace resident enjoys her cozy new robe.



It's All About You ***was a day of many successes!***

Area homeless women gathered at WISEPlace on Sunday, January 15 to receive services to assist them in their journey to independence. Dubbed "a day of self esteem," *It's All About You* pampered, styled and outfitted 100 women who are working to secure jobs and/or find permanent housing. Local social action group JCC Cares has organized the event for the last 7 years and enjoys this annual day of giving back at WISEPlace. "Our group is not about fundraising, it's about doing," said Nancy

Chase, co-founder of the group. Caryn Altman and Julie Sherman, co-organizers of the day, enlisted over 50 volunteers for the event. Thank you to JCC Cares and volunteers!



Paul Mitchell The School students offered cuts and styles.

Don't forget to shop with a SMILE!

For eligible purchases at AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of your total purchase price to WISEPlace. Just click below and you be connected with WISEPlace.

Please note that you must shop on your laptop or desktop computer in order for WISEPlace to receive these donations through AmazonSmile. The program is not currently supported by the Amazon shopping app.

Support WISEPlace.

When you shop at smile.amazon.com, Amazon donates.

[Go to smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)

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WISEPlace supporters participate in Women's March movement

Recent *A Home for the Holidays* honoree Eileen Padberg

Which march did you attend? Santa Ana

Why did you march? I marched for all the women who couldn't and to lend my voice loud and clear to members of Congress and the president that women will not tolerate going backwards and that we will vote!

What was your favorite moment of the day? Just seeing all the wonderful strong women and men marching for the same purpose.

What message do you hope that the March sends? Women will not tolerate going back 30 years. We want to move forward and we will not sit by silently.

Any other thoughts or comments: We need to find a way that we harness the energy and commitment that I witnessed on Saturday, January 21. It wasn't about Trump, it was about women and their rights.



Michelle Reinglass

Which march did you attend? Santa Ana

Why did you march? To show support for women's rights

What was your favorite moment of the day? All of it: the energy and synergy.

The unification in peace with shared objectives. Men supporting the women. The creative slogans and signs. It was a truly an inspirational day.

What message do you hope that the March sends? The powerful voice of women

Any other thoughts or comments: I have supported women and women's rights most of my adult life. To see so many women, and the young women and girls, recognizing their voice and power, having confidence in themselves, is so heartwarming.



Sharon English

Which march did you attend? Santa Ana

Why did you march? Though I support many of the causes represented, I am particularly concerned about the Violence Against Women Act which is on the chopping block for funding by the Administration and Republican side of the Congress. For over 20 years the VAWA has funded services and shelters for domestic violence victims.

What was your favorite moment of the day? Seeing the large numbers of young women and men who will be the next generation of advocates for human and women's rights. I thought the average age would be around 60 but it was clearly closer to 30. We will be in good hands if they continue to speak out, mobilize and not take liberty or democracy for granted. I was also impressed with the diversity of the crowd.

What message do you hope that the March sends? The country is facing some sad and bad times in the very near future. Voices from all sectors need to combine for strength and volume! Doing nothing will result in nothing.

Any other thoughts or comments: Pres. Roosevelt (Teddy) said, "The best gift life can offer is the opportunity to work hard at work worth doing." This is worthy work.



Tania Bhattacharyya, New Directions for Women

Which march did you attend? Los Angeles

Why did you march? I marched because I want to live by the amended slogan: "I am responsible. When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want ... to always be there." I am a part of an organization of women, standing up for women. We need to all take responsibility for helping one another, and being kind, generous, and thoughtful to the needs of our community - especially those who have not yet been blessed with what we have. I marched because our

communities deserve healthcare, parity and addiction equity for care, funding for women's health centers, clean air, clean water, and national parks.

What was your favorite moment of the day? I was proud to walk with other care partners, board members, and staff at New Directions for Women. One of us began to chant "This is what democracy looks like" and it took hold! Before I knew it, everyone around us was chanting and the message was relayed loud and clear.

What message do you hope that the March sends? In yoga we end our practice with 'namaste', meaning the divine in me bows to the divine in you. The march to me was an embodiment of that sentiment. There were no arrests made and no violence. In my experience, I saw no hate speech or negativity of any kind. It was an extremely positive gathering. Even though there were many platforms and issues represented, everyone was able to stand side by side for the good of all people. Hopefully we can continue this peaceful, thoughtful, and passionate wave into the future and stand up for what we believe in by taking actions every single day to further the issues we believe in.

matching
gifts



Ask your employer to match your donation to WISEPlace!

Did you know that many companies have gift-matching programs that will match your donation to WISEPlace dollar for dollar? Gifts may include monthly payroll deductions as well as annual gifts. Gift-matching programs are a great way to maximize your personal contribution to WISEPlace. Don't leave money on the table! Take advantage of your company's matching gift benefit to help increase YOUR impact for the community!

Simply request paperwork from your employer or contact your human resources department to find out about opportunities available to you and your colleagues. Send the paperwork to us and we'll take it from there.

Our tax-id number is 95-1684796.

PARTNERING IN THE COMMUNITY

Each month we will feature a partner in our community who supports and empowers us to continue our good work. This month ...



Ms. Linda Crowder, Crowder Consulting

Each summer, the *FLOW Annual Jazz Brunch* is eagerly anticipated. The event, which takes place at a private home in Nellie Gail, is organized by the Working Wonders of WISEPlace Guild, or WWW, as they are lovingly referred to. Linda is the fearless leader, event founder and creative muscle behind *FLOW*. This year, Linda, along with the WWW, have teamed up to bring us *FLOW by Candlelight*, an intimate Valentine's Day event. This event, on Feb 12, will look to raise awareness and support for the programs of WISEPlace during typically-quiet winter months.

Linda's work with WISEPlace started long before *FLOW*. Among other things, Linda facilitated our annual strategic planning sessions, presented at house meetings, attended graduations and any events where she could interact with the residents. She introduced WISEPlace to our single largest annual donor/partner, has served on the *A Home for the Holidays* committee and was a Board member for many years as V.P. of Organizational Development. She also helped to update our organizational processes. In 2008, Linda was honored with a Luken's Legacy award.

Linda is a talented interior designer. In addition to decorating the Positive Step House, she also added her loving touches to the WISEPlace lounge. Linda's love of WISEPlace hasn't waned over her many years as a champion for us. We thank her for her dedication, volunteerism, compassion and enthusiasm.

RESIDENT PROFILE

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

Age: 60

When I entered homelessness: May 15, 2016, due to an illegal eviction

What led me down the path to homelessness: My parents were told I had a learning disability and would never be able to drive, live alone or get a decent job. It was a lie. In 2010, my sister stole half of my inheritance from my mom.

Why you decided to come to WISEPlace for help: I received no responses from anywhere else.

What has inspired you since becoming a resident at WISEPlace: The feedback I'm getting at employment group on pursuing voice work is very encouraging.

My favorite activity to participate in: Using the internet to keep up, and research.

My favorite food: Anything with real meat in it; no fake soy stuff.

My favorite band/music: Christian, Oldies (1950s - 1980s), Weird Al Yankovic

What I am looking forward to after WISEPlace graduation: My own place

One piece of advice that has helped me: Hang in there

WISEWORDS

If it doesn't
challenge you,
it won't
change you.

AROUND THE WIRES

Stories selected may not represent the voice or opinions of WISEPlace

How the homeless count is going high-tech

<http://www.scpr.org/news/2017/01/23/68275/how-many-homeless-live-in-southern-california/>

CSUF alumnus fights homelessness

<https://dailytitan.com/2017/01/csuf-alumnus-fights-homelessness/>

Californian homeless have surf and sand, but then nighttime comes

<http://www.bendbulletin.com/lifestyle/4997010-151/californian-homeless-have-surf-and-sand-but-then>

2 Orange County armories to offer 24-hour shelter for homeless over rainy weekend

<http://www.ocregister.com/articles/armory-741695-people-armories.html>

Anaheim residents start a grassroots effort to help the city, county with homeless issues

<http://www.ocregister.com/articles/homeless-740840-city-people.html>

'It's so beautiful': Why so many came to women's march in Santa Ana

<http://www.ocregister.com/articles/women-741863-old-year.html>

Visit
www.wiseplace.org