



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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For more information contact:
Karlene Grabner, Director
920-426-3993 or Karlene@Oshkoshareacf.org

Women's Fund \$25,000 Match Grant Challenges Donors to Support Christine Ann Domestic Abuse Services, Inc.

OSHKOSH, WIS. — The Women's Fund has generously put forth a \$25,000 match grant for the Christine Ann Domestic Abuse Services Inc.'s Room for Hope campaign.

The campaign will support a \$2 million renovation to Christine Ann's downtown Oshkosh facility to improve residential living spaces, add one-on-one counseling rooms and aid accessibility with the installation of an elevator.

"The Christine Ann Center provides the community with one of the most important resources victims need on their journey to survivor: a space to feel safe, valued and respected," Executive Director Julie Fevola said. "At Christine Ann, they are able to heal from the trauma of abuse and imagine a life of peace and safety for their family – and hope for the future."

For the Women's Fund, the Board of Director's strategic decision to help fund its first capital campaign came from the work of Christine Ann matching the goals of the Women's Fund.

"The significance of offering a match grant is for strong community involvement to help support the Room for Hope Campaign," Women's Fund Board President Kelly Laux said. "We know the need is there and with the Women's Fund endorsing this campaign is our goal is to increase community awareness and support to help Christine Ann reach its goals."

The Women's Fund Board takes pride in the ability to fund the Room for Hope campaign and hopes to inspire the pattern of giving with the match gift.

"As president of the Women's Fund, I am proud to be part of this organization and to work with everyone directly involved with our mission," Laux said. "I am also thankful for the past board members without all the work they accomplished; we wouldn't have the resources to make this incredible gift."

Women's Fund of the Oshkosh Area Community Foundation
230 Ohio Street | Suite 100 | Oshkosh, WI 54902 | Phone 920-426-3993 | Fax 920-426-6997
<http://Women.OshkoshAreaCF.org>



The need for essential repairs and long-term financial resources is apparent now more than ever. From 2003 to 2010, Christine Ann has seen a 38 percent increase in shelter clients, as well as dramatic increases in helpline calls, individual advocacy efforts and increases in services to children and teens.

“We are grateful for the Women’s Fund and its support of the Room for Hope campaign,” Fevola said. “This gift will ensure that Christine Ann Domestic Abuse Services will carry out its mission to serve communities and victims of abuse in the best and most efficient way possible.”

By providing support and safety to victims and families of domestic abuse, Christine Ann Domestic Abuse Services helps combat isolation and cultivates community awareness through education and programs. The Women’s Fund gift further parallels the isolation campaign to take place in the summer of 2013.

To support this match grant, please visit <http://women.oshkoshareacf.org> and click “Invest in Women.” Be sure to specify the Christine Ann Room for Hope campaign in the “In Honor of” section on the donation page.

Since 1998, the Women’s Fund has provided nearly \$700,000 in grants to make resources available for improving the lives of women, girls and all members of the communities of Winnebago County through philanthropy, grant making and education.

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