AWARE is delighted to be able to bring events, projects, and opportunities to Juneau, to share with our community unique moments that all of us can celebrate.

Earlier this month we recognized the achievements of Norene Otnes, Patty Owen, Carol Pitts and Elaine Schroeder at our 18th Annual Women of Distinction Gala. Our community and our state would not be as healthy and vibrant without them. Thank you again!

AWARE has the distinct honor of being the first Girls on the Run Council in all of Alaska. We've been able to share the program, our knowledge and experience with others throughout SE and the state. In May, the founder of Girls on the Run International, Molly Barker, will be visiting us in Juneau. We hope that you can spend some time with her. Like many AWAREans, she is inspirational, thoughtful, kind and fun! For more information about Molly, visit molly-barker.com. Save the dates-May 8-10!

We continue to work on bringing transitional housing for women and families leaving our emergency safe shelter, to fruition. At this writing, we are in a process with the City and Borough of Juneau, and hope to make a formal announcement in the next 6 weeks. We've got a few hurdles, seemingly low ones, and appreciate your good wishes as we champion this project forward.

Lastly, I'd like us to recognize the efforts of people who use AWARE services. It's not easy for many of us to ask for help in the best of circumstances, and it's often more difficult when we're most vulnerable. What does it mean to end a relationship with someone you love? What's your next step when your world is turned upside down because the person who was supposed to protect your children molested them? What's the ground you're stepping on?

When women come to AWARE, they often say, “I've had enough,” or “I saw what was happening to my children.” Filled with fear of the unknown, which has now become preferable to the fear she's come to know, she walks through the door, greeted by an advocate asking if she'd like a cup of tea or coffee, as we begin a long series of moments together. I am grateful and humbled by the opportunities AWARE staff has to walk alongside, to bear witness, to listen and to learn from survivors as they move forward, step by step- a series of unique moments- each one worthy of celebration.

AWARE's Eighteenth Annual Women of Distinction Dinner and Silent Auction was a magnificent success! It was a privilege to recognize this year's honorees Carol Pitts, Elaine Schroeder, Norene Otnes, and Patty Owen. Their unique contributions to our community and their words of wisdom and inspiration made the evening a wonderful celebration.

AWARE extends gratitude and appreciation to our Juneau community for your overwhelming support. This annual fundraising event was made possible by numerous people offering generous gifts of expertise, energy, and heart. Our thanks to Katie Bausler for her joyful hosting as Mistress of Ceremony; to The Rob Cohen Trio (Rob, Clay Good and Adrian Minne) for graciously providing opening music; to Bobbi Mitchell for warming us up with her smile medley. We thank Amy Carroll for designing the printed program, Jeanette St. George for producing bid sheets and table names, Rie Muñoz for her beautiful artwork and Scott & Donna Johnson for videotaping the evening. Continued on page 9.
AWARE’s Calendar of Events

MARCH 27: CHOOSE RESPECT MARCH. Capitol steps to Marine Park. Noon. Over 150 Alaska communities are participating in Governor Parnell’s Choose Respect march.

APRIL 5: HEALING ARTS EXHIBIT. 4:30pm for First Friday at Silverbow Inn.

APRIL 7 & 8: Love Your Body/Healthy Relationships Class for Teens Workshop. 7pm at Becoming Images Photography Studio.

APRIL 19: UAS SELF-DEFENSE CLASS FOR WOMEN! 9am-4pm at UAS Rec Center. Please call Swarupa at AWARE 586-6623 for more information and to register.

MAY 8: Meet Molly Barker during a Night of Celebrating Women and silent dessert auction. Tickets on sale April 1, 2014. Reception starts at 6:30pm at Upstairs Rockwell.

MAY 10: GIRLS ON THE RUN 5K. Please call Julie at AWARE for times and more information at 586-6623.

AWARE’s Arts & Media Scholarship Contest!

Calling all Art Aficionados, Media Wizzes, and Aspiring Judges!

AWARE is looking for community partners to help judge submissions for our 1st Annual Arts and Media Scholarship Contest! Juneau teens between the ages of 14 and 19 submitted artistic expressions promoting healthy relationships. We are very excited to highlight these amazing creations and are looking for passionate judges to help us pick the winners of the contest! Selection of winners will occur in the last weeks of March and judges need only to be passionate about art and media, healthy relationships, and youth empowerment. If you’re interested in judging, contact Esther Smith at esthers@awareak.org.

The community is also invited to witness these teen creations, and many others’, at AWARE’s annual Healing Arts Show on the First Friday in April. The winners of the contest will be announced at the event, which will be held at the Silverbow.

Healthy Relationships Class for Women

The next 10-week session begins Tuesday, April 22, 2014.
To register, please contact Mandi J at AWARE 586-6623.

Middle School Play to Focus on Healthy Relationships

As part of the curriculum for AWARE focusing on Boundaries and Healthy Relationships, the Education Specialist is enhancing the curriculum for the production at Floyd Dryden Middle School of West Side Story by Stephen Sondheim and Leonard Bernstein. The public is invited to attend the play at TMHS, the dates for the musical are: Friday March 28 and Saturday 29 at 7pm and Sunday March 30 at 2pm. We hope to see you there!
GOTR Founder Coming to Juneau!!

Molly Barker, FOUNDER OF GIRLS ON THE RUN PROGRAM IS COMING TO JUNEAU! There will be two opportunities to meet Molly Barker and hear her inspirational words:

Be-YOU-tiful: A Night of Celebrating Women

May 8th, 6:30-8:30pm at Upstairs Rockwell. Inspirational words from Molly Barker, Silent Dessert Auction, Appetizers and more! Tickets are $25. Call Julie at 586-6623 for details.

Girls on the Run 5K

May 10th at 10am, season-end 5K Run/Walk for GOTR participants. Molly Barker will be speaking to girls prior to the run and will be there to support each girl as they cross the finish line.

Molly Barker, MSW, founded Girls on the Run in 1996 in Charlotte, North Carolina. A four-time Hawaii Ironman triathlete, she used her background in social work, counseling and teaching, along with research on adolescent issues, to develop the program. Today, there are Girls on the Run councils in over 210 cities across North America serving over 200,000 girls and women each year.

The “Girl Box,” a phrase coined by Molly, describes the imaginary place many girls go around adolescence, where cultural and societal stereotypes limit choices as well as opportunities. Molly founded Girls on the Run to create a connected and safe “space” that invites girls and women to see, unravel from and eliminate their own and often unconscious buy-in to the Girl Box and its limiting messages.

For more information about Molly Barker or Girls on the Run, visit: gotr-sealaska.org.

Prevention: Sources of Strength

February was Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month, which Sources of Strength teens highlighted through their activities. Peer Leaders promoted healthy relationships through intercom announcements, social media posts, posters, and participation in "I Billion Rising” Juneau's Lead On! For Peace and Equality teens are also promoting healthy relationships through the development and creation of their digital story, which will also highlight healthy sexuality and nonviolence. We look forward to promoting and sharing their video when it is debuted later this spring.

Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault in Alaska

This month, CNN released a series of articles on domestic violence and sexual assault in Alaska as part of their "Change the List" series which highlights important social justice issues in America today. Written by John D. Sutter, the series on Alaska included interviews with ANDVSA's member programs including Tundra Women's Coalition in Bethel and AWARE in Juneau. To view the articles, visit: http://www.cnn.com/2014/02/03/opinion/sutter-alaska-rape-governor/

~ Taken from ANDVSA's Feb. 2014 newsletter

Lovalaska
Pick.Click.Give.

Ten lucky Alaskans who make a PCG donation before March 31 and release their names from anonymity will win a cash prize equal to the amount of the 2014 dividend.
It is a special person who makes themselves ready and available 24/7 to respond to an Emergency Room call from someone who has just been devastated by sexual assault. Who is it that has the vitality to wake up at any moment during the night to "be there" within 15 minutes? Who has the compassion to hold such pain with another being? And who has taken the time to train to be effective at trauma informed service, who can develop a holistic safety plan on the spot? Who, you ask? The Hospital Emergency AWARE Response Team (HEART) members are: Toi Gille, Christine Gerhardt, Ce Ce Brenner, JPD Sergeant Scott Erikson, State Trooper Tim Birt, Asst. District Attorney Amy Williams and Legal Advocate for AWARE, Swarupa Toth. The team also welcomes new member, Sergeant Dominic Bransen.

This team represents Law Enforcement, Medical Providers and Advocacy. SART members are trained in trauma informed service to support victims of sexual assault through the stages of survival after an assault. We specialize in crisis intervention response that is designed to offer support 24/7 whether the sexual assault happened 1 hour ago, 1 day ago, a week, a month or a year and longer. Working as a team, we minimize the complexity of process s/he chooses to take striving to support the person through the difficult choices and steps over the weeks and months after.

The nurse, police officer and the advocate will gather at the hospital Emergency Room with the victim of the assault. After any medical needs are assessed, the advocate will speak to the person assaulted to review her/ his rights and discuss options. If the person decides to, a report can be made. The SART team of the detective, the nurse and the advocate will be there so that the interview and the gathering evidence for prosecution is done smoothly and without having to repeat describing the traumatic event. The AWARE advocate will be the thread throughout the weeks and months of process of whatever the victim decides along the way s/he wants to do.

An AWARE Advocate’s conversation with a participant is private and confidential. The advocate can talk in person or over the phone about options and the steps that can unfold with each option so that the victim has clear choices and can begin to take back control over her/his life.

SART’s goal is to provide a coordinated, well-trained, effective and sensitive approach to anyone who has experienced sexual assault.

If you or anyone you know has questions or would like more information about SART or about recovering from sexual assault, please call AWARE 586-6623. The path to recovery from victim to survivor can be winding, such a path is much easier if shared with a caring other.

If YOU are interested in AWARE’s HEART Service, contact Swarupa at swarupat@awareak.org to apply. Training begins in April!

AWARE Thanks our HEART Members

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On behalf of the staff and the participants served, thank you for your focused training, in-the-moment caring presence and your consistent self-care that enables you to be able to serve in this amazing way.

Tax Relief for Survivors

Tax season is no one’s favorite time of the year – and an abusive relationship (whether you’re in one, planning on leaving, or have recently left) complicates it even further.

Fortunately, there are a few economic resources that can be powerful tools in changing your circumstances for the better. Filing tax returns and seeking income tax credit refunds can help you pull together funds that may be needed to leave an abusive relationship or begin financial independence after leaving.

This may seem like a difficult process, but it’s doable! If you’re not familiar with filing taxes, check out the Get Help section at the bottom of this post for resources. Continued on next page.
When and why should you file a tax return?

- When you have a certain amount of income – either your own or, if married, the income of a spouse
- To receive tax benefits (i.e. refund or tax credits)
- To establish a separate tax "existence" from a spouse or ex
- To help save up money (ex. if you’re planning on leaving).

Concerns about tax refunds

Are you worried your mail isn’t safe? Some state agencies offer an address confidentiality program. You can also have the refund deposited directly into your bank acct.

Do you not have your own bank account? Some EITC (Earned Income Tax Credit) coalitions can help you set one up, or some sites have options for prepaid debit cards.

What are your rights?

- To see and understand the entire return before signing a joint return
- To refuse to sign a joint return (married people don’t have to file together)
- To request an automatic 4-month extension of time to file
- To get copies of prior year returns from the IRS.

Three Federal Tax Credits You May Be Eligible For:

1) Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)

- This is a wage supplement for low- and moderate-income workers.
- You must have some earned income.
- You must be a citizen, legal resident, or be married to one.
- You must have a valid SSN.
- Can claim this if you file as "Married Filing Jointly," "Single," "Head of Household," but NOT "Married Filing Separately"

2) Child Tax Credit

- This is intended to help offset some costs of raising children.
- You can claim up to $1,000 per child. The child must be claimed as a dependent, and the age limit is 17.
- Married survivors can file jointly or separately.
- If you don’t owe enough taxes to use all of the Child Tax Credit, you may be eligible for a refund.

3) Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit

- This can help you meet your child and dependent care expenses.
- The care has to be employment-related (If money was spent on childcare while a parent was working or looking for work)
- The percentage of eligible expenses you can claim is based on adjusted gross income.

Three Types of Relief You May Be Eligible For:

1) Innocent Spouse Relief

If you’re faced with tax debt or burden because of something your spouse did wrong on a jointly filed tax return, you could be eligible for this. There are different categories and different procedures for filing.

2) Relief By Separation

This involves separating the understatement of tax (plus interest and penalties) on your joint return between you and your (former or current) spouse

3) Equitable Relief

You may still be relieved of responsibility for tax/interest/penalties through this type of relief if you are not eligible for the other types.

Get Help

The IRS-sponsored VITA Program offers free tax help to low/moderate-income people

The Free File Program is an e-filing program using free tax prep software

AARP-sponsored Tax-Aide Program

Further Resources and information can be found at:

AWARE’s 2014 Women of Distinction

Norene Otnes: I am a Strong Spirited Woman

Norene originated from Gitwinksihlkw (Canyon City, British Columbia) of the Nisga’a Nation and was born in Prince Rupert, BC. She has lived in Alaska since the early 1960s. She earned her Rural Human Services Certificate for training and education along with her CDC1 (substance abuse counseling) certificates. Currently, Norene is a Primary Substance Abuse Counselor at Akeela LSSAT Community CC, a branch of the Department of Corrections. She desires to return to school and attain her Bachelors in Social Work and possibly move on to get her Master’s degree.

Over the years, Norene has had a strong presence in social work and family care. She trained at the Regional Drug & Alcohol Assessment Center (RADAC) and worked at REACH, served Tlingit & Haida Head Start as a Teacher’s Aid, and as a relief advocate at AWARE. She has also been a Traditional Family Counselor with Sitka Tribe of Alaska, a chemical dependency counselor at Sitka Counseling Prevention, a Family Case Manager at Juneau Youth Services, and Community Services Worker at SEARCH.

Norene facilitates Talking Circles, where participants sit in a circle and speak in an egalitarian manner. She has brought Talking Circles to Lemon Creek Correctional Center, Juneau Youth Services, Johnson Youth Center, and AWARE. She thrives on trainings and bringing tools back with her to help others in need. She loves working with the community and supporting people. “I love to see others find courage to move forward and see the clarity over the conflict”.

Additionally, Norene is involved with the Wisewoman Program where she helps promote wellness and awareness to women, along with encouraging youth to be involved with their heritage. She has also been a council member for the Rural Human Services as a student representative and has volunteered and facilitated Natives for Sobriety. Norene helps others move forward in a positive way while understanding addiction. She says it’s rewarding for her to see another person have an “AHA” moment and change for themselves.

Norene’s culture has helped her heal and recover. She is active in community recovery and traditional sweat ceremonies at SEARCH to support her spiritual growth. She is inspired by the elders of her dance groups, Ester Shea, Isabella Brady and many others who have given their hearts and souls to encourage wellness and teach traditional ways. Norene loves and cherishes her family; she’s happily married to Steven Otnes and together they have a son, Ryan and two daughters, Cassandra and Elizabeth, and their two grandsons, Dezmond, and Sean. In her free time, Norene enjoys making Traditional Drums, beading and weaving. Most of all she loves to be out in nature, which she says offers her solace and energy.

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Patty Owen: Health & Safety Advocate

Patty was born and raised in Juneau. She earned a Bachelor’s Degree concentrating in health promotion and education and a Graduate Certificate in Social Marketing and Public Health. In 2005, she received the Alaska Health Education Consortium’s Award for Excellence in Health Education. She is credentialed as a Master Certified Health Education Specialist and was recently selected to be on a national review team for the practice of Health Education Specialists.

Patty believes that many diseases, injury and violence are preventable and that in order to have healthy communities, we need healthy relationships and families; beginning with healthy pregnancies and early childhood development. Her care for individuals, compassion for children in need, and passion for community wellness has carried her through her personal and professional life.

Patty spent her early years working at the Juneau Public Health Center, as well as teaching swimming at the Augustus Brown Pool. She was instrumental in developing a statewide cold water safety/survival curriculum, marine safety instructor training program, and the Alaska Marine Safety Education Association. She spent several years coordinating community health fairs that provided free and low cost health education and health screening in Southeast Alaska. She went on to work for the Alaska Division of Public Health, helping to create many new health promotion programs. Patty also initiated the statewide School Health and Wellness (training) Institute and managed the statewide Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), an important CDC survey used to assess important health issues facing high school students.

Patty currently works as the Health & Safety Program Coordinator for the Alaska Department of Education & Early Development. There she is focused on the quality of health education in schools and violence prevention programs. She coordinates training on healthy relationships curricula for adolescents in an effort to reduce teen dating violence, bullying and other unhealthy behavior. She currently serves as a member of the Alaska Council on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault.

Patty has been married to Bruce Kato for 26 years. They have 3 daughters, Shanna Burns (married to Ragan), Lindsey Kato, Kylie Kato, god-daughter Jessica Voithofer, and a grandson Asher. She is inspired by her 106 year old grandmother and the memory of her dear friend Jackie Renninger.
Carol Pitts: Community Resource Coordinator

Carol grew up in poverty and was exposed to philanthropic activities from childhood. She says she spent a lifetime getting to where many people begin. Her mother was a teacher at the Salvation Army; her world was that and her three kids. She remembers her mom hauling them to The Salvation Army Center during an emergency and saying “make sandwiches.” Carol learned that “even with nothing, we had something to give, the gift of ourselves.” James 2:18 says “Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.”

Starting at a young age, Carol learned that we can be mad at society, mad at life, mad at ourselves, mad at God. But we need to let our MAD Make A Difference. She graduated with a BA in Business Management and received her MA in Public Policy and Administration, where she graduated Summa cum Laude. She is currently the CFO/CEO Managing Member at Orca Enterprises, LLC. She provides ADA compliant whale watching tours for the disabled as well as discounted or no-charge trips for educational purposes, residents of nursing homes and clergy.

Carol’s contributions to the community are many. With The Salvation Army, she coordinates the Thanksgiving Community Dinner, Adopt-a-Family, Christmas Food Basket Distribution and Angel Tree programs, where many women, children and families receive community donations for the holidays. She is involved with the Jail Ministry, transporting a toy store to the jail to assist inmates in choosing gifts for their children. She has led the local coat distribution, Operation Warmth, distributing coats to children in need. Carol believes that making a difference to even one child, especially at Christmas, means that she has succeeded. She is also a Community Care Coordinator at Wildflower Nursing Home and Chairperson for The Salvation Army Advisory Board, where she wrote the business plan to build the Salvation Army Family Store to provide a resource for affordable shopping.

Additionally, Carol is involved with Women of the Moose, Make-A-Wish Foundation, Girl Scouts of America, and Foreign Exchange Study. She is Founder and President of Marine Education & Research of Southeast Alaska (MERSEA), where she provides opportunities for children in the schools to learn about wildlife. She participates in numerous social, professional and political organizations, with the goal of making a difference locally, state-wide and nationally.

Carol is divorced and has raised two daughters, Glenda Brown of Colorado and Pamela Harper of Juneau. She has also raised her granddaughter, Sheila Pitts and also has three grandsons. She enjoys bible study, event planning, teaching, motivational speaking, crocheting blankets for nursing homes and Gastineau Humane Society, traveling by RV, theatre, and watching classical movies.

Elaine Schroeder: Psychotherapist & Peace Activist

Elaine grew up in a working class Chicago neighborhood and worked her way through college with the help of scholarships. At the University of Illinois she began her early peace and justice work organizing vigils and protests concerning the war in Vietnam. After college, in 1968, Elaine and her husband, Bob, served for two years as Peace Corps volunteers in an impoverished North Indian village working as health and birth control educators. After completing Peace Corps, Elaine began graduate studies at the University of Washington School of Social Work where she earned her MSW and Ph.D degrees. For over two years she conducted Master's thesis research in Nepal, funded by Rotary Foundation, which focused on the behavioral aspects of contraception use among Nepalese women. Her Ph.D. dissertation research concerned child sexual abuse and adolescent prostitution in Seattle.

During Elaine's years in Seattle she was one of the founders of Rape Relief, a rape crisis counseling center, and Aradia Clinic, a free women's reproductive health clinic. At the School of Social Work she organized the Feminist Caucus. She also continued actively opposing the Vietnam War and nuclear proliferation. In 1991 the University of Washington School of Social Work awarded her its Distinguished Alumnus Award.

About thirty years ago Elaine and her husband moved to Juneau. She was soon hired by AWARE to develop their sexual assault response program. She started her psychotherapy private practice at that time. Over the years she has taught psychology courses at UAS, conducted multiple trainings on child sexual abuse, and headed up a project funded by the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services to develop culturally appropriate therapy for Alaska Native incest survivors. Elaine recently co-founded the Stress Reduction Program at Bartlett Regional Hospital, and she currently leads bereavement support groups for Juneau Hospice.

Elaine's peace and social justice work has continued in Juneau. She is a founding member of Juneau People for Peace and Justice, a group that has brought numerous human rights and nonviolence activists and scholars to speak in Juneau. Over the past two years the group has sponsored six Muslim exchange students to spend the school year in Juneau. In 2011 Elaine co-organized a Juneau World Affairs Council three day symposium entitled, “The Possibility of Peace: Nonviolent Strategies to Resolve International Conflict.”

For several years Elaine has volunteered at KTOO to produce a monthly radio show about mental health issues including war trauma, child abuse, gay and lesbian issues, and the historical trauma of Alaskan Natives. She is now on the KTOO Community Advisory Board.

Elaine has been married almost 50 years to Bob Schroeder. They have three children and four grandchildren. Their first son was a 13 year old Vietnamese refugee when he was adopted. They later adopted a 5 year old son from Thailand and a 3 year old daughter from Nepal.
On February 14, 2014, women and men throughout the world participated in the One Billion Rising for Justice event. In Juneau, people came together to dance, rejoice, and envision justice for all survivors of gender violence. Some one billion people around the world held similar events in support of ending violence against women. The event was sponsored by the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (CDVSA). ANDVSA joined CDVSA to share resources and information about our member programs and pro bono program with community members. Pictured here are the Yees Ku Oo dance group who were just one of the many entertainers who participated in the event. Events were held in Juneau at the State Office Building and at University of Alaska Southeast. To learn more about One Billion Rising, visit: www.onebillionrising.org/

~Taken from ANDVSA’s Spring 2014 Newsletter

Welcome New Staff...

Richard Radford: Community Engagement Advocate

My name is Richard Radford, and I have just joined AWARE as the new community engagement advocate. I’m excited to be a part of this essential organization, and am fully committed to the objective of promoting equality and ending gender violence in Southeast Alaska. I grew up in New England. Since relocating to Juneau in 2009, I have worked in mental health and journalism, always with a mind toward community support, education, and social justice. I look forward to assisting in the implementation of AWARE’s strategies to prevent domestic violence and sexual assault, and helping to make Southeast a safe place for women and girls.

Shelter Wish List

AWARE is in constant need of certain items listed below. Your donations help us cut our operating costs and are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. We appreciate your generosity.

- New pillows
- Art Supplies
- Bus tokens
- Toilet paper
- Kitchen utensils
- 3 – 5 quart saucepans
- Office Supplies
- Stamps for residents to mail letters
- Movie, swim, skate rink, & climbing passes
- Flashlights
- Towels
- Twin Sheets & Blankets
- Trash bags
- Copy Paper
- Tri-fold paper towels
- New garbage cans
- Full-sized toiletries
- Diapers & Wipes
- Cleaning supplies
- Forks, silverware
- Your time as a volunteer
- Clipboards
- Paper cups (hot and cold)
- New sweat suits, underwear

~Taken from ANDVSA’s Spring 2014 Newsletter
Women of Distinction Recap Continued...

AWARE would also like to thank the Women of Distinction Corporate Sponsors and Precious Gems. Their generous financial support helps make this event all that it is. Special thanks to our Gold Corporate Sponsors contributing $2500 First National Bank Alaska and Hecla Greens Creek Mine, and our Silver Corporate Sponsor contributing $1,000 American Seafoods Company. We thank our precious gems - Diamonds: Alaska Communications System, Alaska Housing Finance Corporation, Kato-Owen Family, Women Caring for Women, and Wellspring; Emerald: Juneau Tlingit & Haida Community Council; Rubys: Elgee Rehfeld Mertz, CPAs and IBEW Local 1547. We offer a special thank you to KTOO Public Broadcasting and KINY Hometown Radio for their generous in-kind contributions.

Thank you to our gracious auction donors! Both businesses and individuals are listed on our website www.awareak.org – thank you for making our dinner a financial success and loads of fun!

We also thank Senator Dennis Egan and Representative Cathy Munoz for presenting the awards to our honorees. Thanks to the hundreds of people who attended the dinner, our new members and those who made a financial contribution or bought an advertisement in the Women of Distinction program book. The proceeds from the Women of Distinction event further AWARE’s work with victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and child abuse. It is a wonderful opportunity to honor women who have made a difference while supporting work to end violence in our community.

Finally, I would like to thank the dedicated Board of Directors; Co-Chairs Cheryl Eldemar and Michele Masuda, Secretary Tisha Gieser, Treasurer Maren Haavig, and members Phil Campbell, Robin Gilchrist, Jeff Irwin, Martha Moore, Mary Aparezuk Schlosser, Jessica Srader, Kerri Willoughby, the staff at AWARE, and Mandi Johnson, Event Coordinator, who worked tirelessly to bring the details of the event to life. Thanks for your commitment to AWARE and our mission.

AWARE’s ability to work with survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault is greatly enhanced by Juneau’s community support. Together we are working towards a community of respect for ourselves and others, where we can all live in peace and freedom. Thank you for your support. I hope to see you at the Choose Respect March and Rally at noon, on Thursday, March 27th at the Capitol Steps, where we bring the inspiration.

“Put your heart, mind, and soul into even your smallest acts. This is the secret of success.”

~ Swami Sivananda
Return Service Requested

Dove Cottage
A Place of Peace
Shaa-ka Ut-Yax-Noow

www.awareak.org

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