



Dear Friends,

Happy Spring!

The closer we get to launching our WISE Silver Center, the more encouraged and excited I become - not just because this new adult day center will offer the daytime respite care so urgently needed by seniors and their families in our community, but because of the many ways in which this social enterprise will assist and enrich the lives of our residents and the goals of our WISEPlace agenda.

For the first time, we will go beyond resume writing, dress for success, and basic skills training to provide our residents with on-the-job training opportunities they can take with them in their mission to get back into the world, find employment, and get their lives back. In addition, the revenue brought in by the Silver Center will be invaluable in helping us to maintain and grow our shelter and Steps to Independence program even in times of economic hardship.

But I cannot tell you how much we count on you, our volunteers and supporters, to make this new enterprise work. We need you to come forward and make the most of your own skills - from crafts, to music, to gardening, to book club experience - to help provide programming at the center.

Please catch our excitement and give us a call to learn the many ways in which you can help. Thanks as always from me and our staff and all the women at WISEPlace. We look forward to talking with you soon.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kathi".

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#### HEART-Felt Thanks to Ebell



Love was in the air here at WISEPlace on Sunday, February 14th, when the Ebell Society of Santa Ana Valley hosted a Valentine's Day Party for our residents.

The organization, which regularly provides Thanksgiving Dinner and weekly programming volunteers at WISE Place, came forward once again to brighten our Valentine's Day with decorations, love and tasty goodies.

"Ebell is primarily a philanthropic organization," explained chapter president Maeva Hutter. "But WISE Place is special to us. It gives us great pleasure to be a women's association devoted to helping other women."

## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

This month, we are pleased and proud to introduce Teri Clay, who came to WISEPlace in 2003. Then in her late fifties and separated from her addicted husband, Teri had no resources and nowhere to go.

"Having raised eight children and given everything I had in me to try and keep our lives together, I found myself suddenly without any strength and totally without resources," she says.

But Teri developed reservoirs of strength during her 12-month senior stay at WISEPlace. With someplace to live and food on her plate, she went back to school and earned a Drug and Alcohol Certificate at Saddleback College - and made the Dean's List.

She got her first job as a house manager with a domestic violence organization and moved on to work in the transportation call center of OCTA's ACCESS shuttle program for the handicapped. Best of all, her husband was able to turn his life around and is now a driver for the same OCTA program.

Now reunited and living in a newly renovated senior apartment complex, Teri and her husband recently celebrated their 38th anniversary. Teri serves as Alumni Representative on the WISEPlace Board of Directors. Her son, a skilled electrician, volunteers with maintenance at our shelter.

"The months I stayed at WISEPlace taught me how to set priorities, go after my goals and believe in myself again," Teri says. "It takes love to help you give love, and WISEPlace replenishes love."

Your gift in any amount will help WISEPlace help homeless and destitute women through the *Steps to Independence* program.  
Your gift benefits your whole community, give today.



Terri Galvan (left) and Terri Clay (right)



Join us for our LIFE BACK tour and see how WISEPlace helps women get their lives back.

April dates:

April 6th @ 7:30 am

April 13th @ 1:00 pm

April 22nd @ 4:30pm

Call 714-542-3577

or email

[tgalvan@wiseplace.org](mailto:tgalvan@wiseplace.org)

to RSVP

