



Fall 2014

## Founder's Corner

### Meet WoM's New Executive Director

Autumn is a season of transition, and this year it brings an exciting change to Women of Means (WoM)! Please join me in welcoming our new Executive Director, Michelle Smith. Michelle brings years of experience as an educator and administrator. She began her new role this September and is managing the organization with a strong emphasis on development and strategic planning.

I will be continuing my role as Chief Medical Officer, and will focus on expanding our services to include more women in our successful Medical Home Without Walls (MHWW) programs. I will also spend more time writing and teaching about access to care for vulnerable populations, using the WoM model as the new standard. What we are doing has far-reaching implications for how medical care is delivered throughout the country.

**Roseann Means, MD**  
Chief Medical Officer

*"Women of Means offers a medical model that is truly innovative and unique. Women of Means is transforming healthcare for homeless women, and I believe I have joined the organization at one of the most exciting times in its history. It is a tremendous privilege to be serving as the Executive Director."*

**Michelle Smith**  
Executive Director



## Elder Care Program is Growing

We are pleased to announce that we welcomed our 40th Elder Care Program member. This popular plan allows us to provide comprehensive primary medical care, as well as many other support services to our clients 65 years of age and older. The 40 women who have joined this remarkable program are receiving high quality care, moving into apartments, taking charge of their medical issues, and addressing dormant mental health challenges.

By working with a Boston-based accountable care organization, Commonwealth Care Alliance, we bring our care to elderly clients where and when they need it – at the shelters, in their homes or at any location convenient to them. In the first year of the MHWW Elder Care Program, we demonstrated a 61% drop in emergency room visits and a 68% decrease in hospital stays, saving the Commonwealth enrollee in our 'Medical Home Without Walls' millions of dollars!

Our youngest client is 65, the oldest is 88 and all of them have a new lease on life. We thank you for your ongoing support of this unique program that is changing lives so dramatically! In 2015, we will be expanding this program to incorporate women under 65 and other groups of homeless and poor women who need specialized attention to get the timely care they need to prevent crises from occurring.



## Join us at the Longwood Symphony Orchestra!

For the second year running, the amazing Longwood Symphony Orchestra (LSO) has selected Women of Means as a community partner, and will be holding a benefit concert on **Saturday, March 14, 2015 at 8:00 p.m.**, Look for more details to follow!

The LSO is a group of volunteer musicians and professional healthcare providers who raise funds for medically underserved populations through their Healing Art of Music concert series.

*Pictured here is the LSO's 2014-2015 Community Partner welcome concert at the Boston Esplanade Hatch Shell.*

## Special Thanks To Our Donors

### 'STARs' Align to Help Our Women!



(L-R) Catherine Garrett, Dr. Roseanna Means, Rachel Marchica, Emma Silva and Olivia Silva.

This summer Dr. Means spoke about women, health and homelessness with the **STAR Club** of Lincoln Sudbury High School, which focuses on community service initiatives. In July, Club members visited our shelter location at Women's Lunch Place and delivered gift bags they had collected for our ladies.

Subsequently, Star Club member and dancer, Rachel Marchica, arranged a charity benefit for Women of Means at the September 6 recital of the **On Your Toes Dance Company** in Acton. Roseanna spoke at this event which raised more than \$2,000 for WoM! Thank you to Rachel, the On Your Toes Dance Company and members of the STAR Club!



### 100K for 100 – Cummings Foundation Awardee

This May, Women of Means was selected as a recipient of the [Cummings Foundation](#) "\$100K for 100" grant!

The Cummings Foundation was founded in 1986 by Joyce and Bill Cummings, and supports local communities. This year, the Foundation selected 100 area non-profits that address issues relating to healthcare, social justice, education and underserved populations to receive \$100K each. This is a significant contribution to our budget, and will allow us to

provide free, high quality care to women who have nowhere to turn. *Pictured Here: Roseanna Means and Bill Cummings.*

### Local Banks, Big Impact!

Two local banks are generous supporters who make our work possible. We are grateful to **Wellesley Bank**, whose 2 year grant totals \$5,000 and will support nursing care. **People's United Bank** contributed \$2,500 to support general operations. Thank you!

### In Memoriam

We are mourning the loss of two special ladies who passed away in August. Gayla and Natalie were Women of Means patients at our wellness clinic based at the Women's Lunch Place, where they were long-time guests. We wish them everlasting peace.

### Family Clinic Welcomes New Staff



We're celebrating the 3rd anniversary of our popular free clinic at the Homes Suites Inn family shelter. We're so proud of the quality care our medical team and the shelter-site management folks provide for these families who are experiencing difficult times.

We're thrilled to welcome a new team member, Marie Bernard, a nurse practitioner who specializes in pediatric care. Marie has many years' experience working with children and young adults at Boston Medical Center, Children's Hospital, and Boston-based community health clinics.

Also new to our staff is volunteer family practice physician Laurie Quimby. Laurie provides vital care on site, as well as consultancy services on an as-needed basis. Marie Nowicki, RN, remains our critical shelter leader – working weekly at both WoM family shelter sites. Marie also oversees nursing students, develops new educational programs for our clients, and coordinates external resources for more than 140 families. *Pictured above – Marie Nowicki and guest.*

### Multi-Year Funders Make All the Difference!

Women of Means expresses sincere gratitude to **The Baupost Group**, which has made a significant multi-year gift to Women of Means. We were connected to this private Boston-based investment firm thanks to our friends at **The Boston Foundation**.

**The Flatley Foundation** has also made a critically important, multi-year gift. Both of these generous contributions will help to ensure the success of our on-going operations, and especially our Medical Home Without Walls – Elder Care Program.

### Save the Date!

#### Coming Next October 1: 15th Anniversary Gala!

Put it in your iPhone calendar today...and join us next year as we celebrate our 15th anniversary! Stay tuned, exciting details to follow...

### About Us



Dr. Means founded Women of Means, an innovative new care model, in 1999. Today, a team of over 20 volunteer and paid medical professionals bring care into the shelters where the women feel safest.

#### [Make a Donation](#)

Women of Means depends upon the generosity of our friends to provide the medical supplies with which our volunteer medical staff treats 2,500 women and children annually. Won't you please help?

#### [Volunteer](#)

Women of Means volunteers include some of the best doctors and nurses in the Boston area, as well as numerous lay volunteers who assist in fund-raising, administration and other roles. Call or email our office to find out how you can make a difference!

[www.womenofmeans.org](http://www.womenofmeans.org)

Women of Means is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization (tax ID 043487205)

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