

Pace Women's Pursuing Justice for Victims of Abuse Center

Celebrating 25 years of making a difference

PACE WOMEN'S JUSTICE CENTER AWARDED \$100,000 GRANT FROM IMPACT100 FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF GAIL'S HOUSE



L-R: Jana Kosberg-Kleidman, Associate Director, PWJC; Natalie J. Sobchak, Director, Pro Bono Programs, PWJC; Toni Everett, Former Client of PWJC; Cindy J. Kanusher, Executive Director, PWJC

WHITE PLAINS, NY, June 13, 2016: Pace Women's Justice Center (PWJC) was awarded a \$100,000 transformational grant from Impact100 Westchester on June 8, 2016. With this grant, PWJC will renovate the ground floor of its main office and create *Gail's House*: a walk-in legal resource and information center for victims and survivors of domestic violence and elder abuse in Westchester County.

"We are so grateful for Impact100's incredible generosity and for giving us the opportunity to create this much-needed resource in Westchester," said Cindy Kanusher, PWJC Executive Director. "Access to legal services is one of the most critical factors in a victim's journey to safety. With Impact100's help, we will now be able to transform our service model and provide legal services to an additional 520 victims of domestic violence and elder abuse every year."

Each year, Impact100 brings together women in Westchester County to collectively fund transformational grants for nonprofit organizations in Westchester. This year's grant cycle saw 42 applicants, and after a vigorous application process that involved written proposals and site visits, Impact100 members voted to support five organizations with nearly \$230,000 in grant money. PWJC's *Gail's House* was one of two projects to receive \$100,000.

Gail's House will be named in memory of Gail Katz, as a lasting tribute to her and the many Westchester women and men who have struggled with the terrors of domestic violence, and who would have benefited from a safe place to turn for help. Gail Katz-Bierenbaum, a doctoral student in psychology, was murdered in 1985 by her husband, Dr. Robert Bierenbaum, who was convicted in October of 2000.

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PWJC is Westchester County's largest civil legal services and training provider exclusively addressing domestic violence and elder abuse. Each year, PWJC staff and volunteers provide free legal services to nearly 3,000 victims and survivors of abuse, and conduct hundreds of outreach and training programs to educate the public, prevent abuse, and empower victims to leave abusive situations and move forward with their lives in safety. A self-funded nonprofit legal center at Pace Law School, PWJC serves low-income victims of abuse primarily in Westchester County. For more information visit: law.pace.edu/wjc

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