



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Request for pre-event coverage

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“BOWL TO STOP ABUSE” TO SUPPORT VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Local organizations partner in recognition of Sexual Assault Awareness Month

BRIDGEPORT, Conn. – March 21, 2011 – In conjunction with National Sexual Assault Awareness Month (April), a team of young professionals from Leadership Greater Bridgeport (LGB) Class 22 is hosting a “Bowl to STOP Abuse” bowl-a-thon. The event will raise critical funding for local domestic violence and sexual assault victims provided by The Center for Women and Families of Eastern Fairfield County, Inc. Bowlers will raise money and awareness on Friday, April 8, 2011 at Nutmeg Bowl in Fairfield, Conn. Registration and shoe fitting begins at 6:00 PM and games kick-off at 6:30 PM.

“We wanted to do something fun that would get the community involved and at the same time support a very important cause,” explained Malin Olofsson, member of LGB Class 22. “We also want to promote general awareness about The Center and get the word out that there is help for those in need, and it’s closer than you think.”

Participants of the bowl-a-thon will enjoy two games of bowling, pizza, music and prize drawings. For information on how to participate in Bowl to STOP Abuse, become a lane sponsor or make a donation, visit www.cwfefc.org.

All proceeds from the event support The Center for Women and Families support services, including a 24-hour hotline, an emergency shelter, support groups, community education, counseling, and victim advocacy to navigate medical, legal and government processes related to domestic and sexual violence.

The LGB team’s efforts to highlight National Sexual Assault Awareness Month will continue throughout the month of April with a public information campaign that will appear on the Greater Bridgeport Transit (GBT) bus line. Buses traveling throughout the region will display posters directing victims of sexual assault and domestic violence to The Center for help.

In addition, Awareness Walks will be held at Sacred Heart University on April 3, 2011 and the University of Bridgeport on Friday, April 15, 2011. Both events are open to the public. To learn more, visit www.cwfefc.org.

The Center for Women and Families is one of five local nonprofit members of the Bridgeport Regional

Business Council chosen for this year's LGB community projects initiative. LGB seeks to inspire a commitment to serve and to develop the participants' skills so they will have a positive impact on the future of the greater Bridgeport region. The class meets once monthly, with each session focusing on a different industry. Participants get to learn from leaders in each industry and experience a behind the scenes look at some of the region's most well known institutions. LGB is celebrating its 20th year and this year's class, made up of nearly 30 rising leaders from throughout the region, is one of the largest in recent years.

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About Leadership Greater Bridgeport (LGB)

Leadership Greater Bridgeport is a community leadership development program, founded in 1990, featuring participants who have the desire to assume roles of responsibility in political, civic and professional organizations. The Leadership program helps participants understand local issues that impact the community and business environment by direct involvement with those who are at The Center of these issues. LGB is an affiliate of the Bridgeport Regional Business Council (BRBC). To learn more, visit BRBC.org.

About The Center for Women and Families

The Center for Women and Families of Fairfield County, Inc. (<http://www.cwfefc.org>) has been helping women for 115 years. They provide free confidential and bilingual services to victims of domestic violence, child abuse, and sexual assault to those who reside in Bridgeport, Easton, Fairfield, Monroe, Stratford and Trumbull.