

MEMBERSHIP MONDAY:

The Women's Center

Highlighting The Women's Center's Impact on the Community

At the Providers' Council, we are proud to highlight the impactful work of our members who are strengthening communities across the Commonwealth. This week, for Membership Monday, we are featuring The Women's Center, a South Coast-based organization dedicated to accompanying survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault on their journey to safety, hope, and empowerment through coordinated, trauma-informed services.

Who is The Women's Center and What Do They Do?

The Women's Center (TWC) is where survivors of domestic violence or sexual assault begin a journey to safety, hope, and empowerment. Since 1973, TWC has been providing services for survivors – women, children, men, and gender non-conforming individuals – of domestic violence and sexual assault throughout the 13 communities of the SouthCoast.

Founded as a grassroots effort with just one phone line, TWC has grown into a comprehensive organization of 53 employees, offering a wide range of survivor-centered services. Over the years, the organization has expanded to include key programs such as a rape crisis center, court advocacy services, youth trauma programming, and emergency shelter, continually evolving to meet the changing needs of the communities it serves. Most recently, TWC celebrated 50 years of impact in 2023 and relocated to a more client-centered space.

Key Programs and Services Include:

Direct Services for Survivors

- 24/7 Hotline
- Supportive, non-judgmental counseling
- Help exploring choices and options
- Access to information and services, resources, and referrals to free legal services
- Court accompaniment and advocacy
- Hospital accompaniment during medical emergencies
- Trauma therapy for adults and children
- Support groups to understand the impact of domestic violence and sexual assault and develop healthy relationships
- Parenting support groups for families affected by violence
- Emergency shelter – confidential, community-based living for 9 to 12 months

- Transitional housing – up to 18 months of stable housing
- Financial guidance to support independent living

Community-Facing Services

- Community education and outreach presentations
- Stigma reduction and public awareness
- Prevention programming
- Warm referrals to trusted community partner organizations



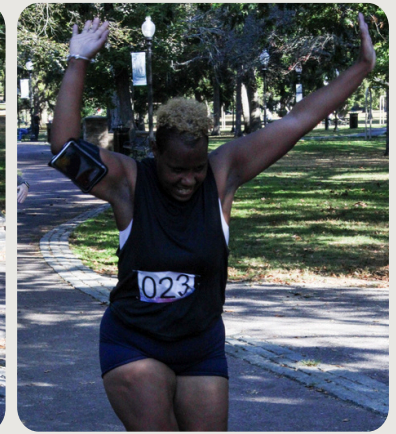
What sets The Women's Center apart is its coordinated care model. Survivors do not have to navigate their healing alone or piece together support from multiple agencies. Instead, a full spectrum of care is organized around them, ensuring support at every stage of their journey.

From the moment a survivor reaches out, they are connected to a real person, available 24/7, who listens without judgment and helps guide them through their options. Survivors can access counseling, legal advocacy, medical and court accompaniment, housing support, and trauma-informed care within one coordinated system.

The Women’s Center’s multilingual, trauma-informed staff, many of whom are survivors, support over 1,300 clients each year. With 44% of staff speaking a language other than English, the organization prioritizes culturally responsive care and ensures that individuals are either directly served or connected to trusted community partners through warm referrals.

When did The Women’s Center Join the Providers’ Council and Why?

The Women’s Center joined the Providers’ Council to be part of a long-standing network supporting communities across Massachusetts. Recognizing that education and access are key to assisting survivors, the organization values the opportunity to connect with and learn from fellow human services providers as one of the Council’s 220+ members.



A voice from The Women Center

As a survivor-led, trauma-informed organization, The Women's Center listens to and involves constituents at every level of our work. We know the devastating impact of sexual and domestic violence firsthand as many of our staff are survivors, and 44% speak a language in addition to English. This lived and linguistic connection to the communities we serve is intentional, and it shapes how we design and deliver every service we offer.

– Kristin Batstone, Executive Director



Looking Ahead: The Women’s Center’s Continued Commitment to Support and Innovation

The Women’s Center’s current priority is working to replace the staggering 52% cut in federal funding filtered down through the Massachusetts Office for Victim Assistance.

This funding loss directly impacts acute trauma therapy services, especially for children and adolescents, where the need continues to rise and jeopardizes the health and well-being of survivors, their loved ones, and the broader community.

The Women’s Center continues to build relationships with foundations and donors and remains confident in its ability to preserve ongoing services for adults and children who do not have access to other resources.

The Women’s Center’s 3rd annual S.H.E. Strides 5K Walk for Domestic Violence Awareness on **Saturday, October 3, 2026**, raises funds, strengthens community and business partnerships, and provides information and education to the public about its free, confidential, 24/7 services.



Interested in learning more or getting involved? Explore the links below to learn more about The Women’s Center, their programs and services, and upcoming opportunities to support their work and connect with the Providers’ Council.

[Providers’ Council](#)

[The Women’s Center](#)