

# The Freeman Flash

OCTOBER 2015

ELIZABETH FREEMAN CENTER'S OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

ISSUE XXXIX

## South County office news: We are hiring!

Elizabeth Freeman Center seeks a passionate counselor/advocate to work in its Great Barrington office 24-32 hours/week

(negotiable). Licensed Social Workers who apply can be offered additional supervisory hours. Prior experience working with survivors of domestic/sexual violence, connection to the community in South County, and/or Spanish-speaking preferred.

To apply, email cover letter and resume to [info@elizabethfreemancenter.org](mailto:info@elizabethfreemancenter.org). Deadline is rolling until position has been filled. For more information, visit [www.elizabethfreemancenter.org/get-involved/jobs](http://www.elizabethfreemancenter.org/get-involved/jobs)



## EFC Money School graduate opens her own business

Introducing Pittsfield's newest and finest business...**Sonia's Threading Studio** opened this month, offering threading (a gentler and more precise hair removal technique) and henna tattooing. Sonia graduated from our Money School program this past Spring, and we could not be more excited or proud for her. Stop by her studio today!

**Sonia's Threading Studio**  
1450 East Street, Suite 6B-1  
Pittsfield, MA  
(774) 420-4210



## Action of the Month: Stand with Planned Parenthood

Over the past several months, anti-abortion activists have used a video that refers to the process whereby Planned Parenthood facilitates fetal tissue donations (and sometimes accepts at-cost reimbursement from medical research facilities for the cost of doing so) in order to call for defunding and dismantling the organization. This month, we ask you to spread the word:

- Planned Parenthood's services include STI/STD screening and treatment (41%), contraception (34%), cancer screening and prevention (10%), other women's health services (11%), abortion services (3%), and other services (1%).
- As of 2012, 79% of people receiving services from Planned Parenthood lived at 150% of the federal poverty level or lower.
- Planned Parenthood receives almost no federal funding for abortion services. Federal law says that federal funds cannot be used to reimburse for abortion services except in cases of rape, incest, or to protect the life of the parent.
- One in five women has used Planned Parenthood in her lifetime.

**Stand for women's health.**

**Stand for poor people's access to health care.**

**Stand for reproductive rights.**

**Visit [www.istandwithpp.org](http://www.istandwithpp.org) to take action.**



24 hour hotline 1-866-401-2425

**Pittsfield**  
43 Francis Ave.  
(413) 499-2425

**Gt. Barrington**  
401 Stockbridge Rd., Ste. 3  
(413) 429-8190

**North Adams**  
61 Main St., Ste. 202  
(413) 663-7459

Supported locally by: Berkshire United Way • Northern Berkshire United Way • Williamstown Community Chest • City of Pittsfield • Verizon Foundation • The Mary Kay Foundation • The Green Foundation • Berkshire Bank Foundation • Town of Great Barrington • Berkshire Life Charitable Foundation • Coolidge Hill Foundation • Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation Funds including the William and Margery Barrett Fund and the James and Robert Hardman Fund • Guardian Life Insurance Company • Many community members, groups, businesses, and towns •



## Walk a Mile a whopping success

Thank you to everyone who walked, cheered, donated, and supported our Walk a Mile March to Stop Rape, Sexual Assault, and Gender Violence on September 17th. This year's Walk was our biggest yet, with over 400 people walking united against domestic and sexual violence and raising almost \$49,000 to help keep Elizabeth Freeman Center's doors open.

*Walkers, ages 1 to 91, took to the street in style. Visit our Facebook page to see all the great photos!*



### Dalton Rotary Interact Club Donates Backpacks

A big thank-you to the members of the Dalton Rotary Interact Club who donated new backpacks and school supplies in August to the children in our shelter. Needless to say, it was an exciting day at shelter when the backpacks arrived!



### EFC welcomes new Immigrant and Refugee Advocate

We are excited to welcome Ceci, our new RISE advocate, to EFC! Ceci has hit the ground running in providing support, advocacy, and assistance to immigrant and refugee survivors of domestic and sexual violence. Call her for help with applications for status, housing and benefits, support groups, counseling, and more.



*Ceci, immigrant and refugee advocate*

...And a fond farewell to the fabulous Elisa, who left the RISE position for a great opportunity at Berkshire Immigrant Center, but who will always be part of the EFC family.



### Community has a Blast at Berktoberfest

We loved seeing old friends and meeting new ones while tabling at Berktoberfest again this year. The event showcases the best craft beers from the Berkshires and beyond to help raise awareness for local charities. This year, all proceeds benefited Elizabeth Freeman Center and Moments House. Thank you, Berktoberfest! ❤️

### Join our Holiday Project



Hard as it is to believe, the holidays are fast approaching! Which means it is almost time for EFC's annual Holiday Project.

Because survivors often flee violence with few possessions and may be far from home or support, this season can be difficult. Our Holiday Project passes a client's wish list to a sponsor, who scours the stores for good deals on items like bed sheets and children's toys to provide to the client and client's children.

Call Linda S. at (413) 499-2425 if you are interested in joining the Project and spreading holiday cheer this winter.

### Riverbend Café's Purple Ribbon Smoothie

In honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, Riverbend Café in Great Barrington is serving a Purple Ribbon Smoothie and donating 15% of the smoothie's proceeds to Elizabeth Freeman Center.

Enjoying a delicious smoothie AND supporting your favorite domestic and sexual violence response agency...what could be better? Thanks, Riverbend!

