



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **New Women's Education Center at Rosie's Place Opens Doors for Poor and Homeless Women**

**(Boston)** – On January 25, 2010, Rosie's Place opened the doors to a new Women's Education Center for poor and homeless women. By creating dedicated classroom space, the center will enable Rosie's Place to expand its current Women's Education program to accommodate a greater number of students and offer a greater variety of class times.

The Women's Education program at Rosie's Place offers free English as a Second Language (ESL), GED preparation and literacy classes, all taught by volunteer teachers and tutors. Each volunteer follows a specialized curriculum to focus on the students' practical needs so that they may improve their ability to function in society, whether by having a conversation with a physician, counting change at the grocery store, or filling out a job application.

“Rosie's Place has found a unique and innovative way to serve a population that has not successfully been served by traditional adult education programs,” explains Ellen Braverman, Director of the Women's Education program. “Our commitment to social justice has led us to develop a unique approach that enables our guests to find real opportunity and security for themselves and their children. We look forward to expanding this program within its new home at the Women's Education Center at Rosie's Place.”

The Women's Education Center, which occupies a four-story row house adjacent to the main Rosie's Place facility, provides ample space for classrooms, group work, individual tutoring, computer labs, conversation classes, and a library of books and classroom materials. The new building can accommodate 80 students at any given time, bringing total possible enrollment to about 240 women per term. By offering additional class times on afternoons and weekends, Rosie's Place hopes to triple enrollment over the next five years.

Rosie's Place formally launched the Women's Education program in 2004 following a successful pilot semester. With the added space from the new center, Rosie's Place hopes to expand course offerings to include training for specific employment opportunities for the students.

**PLEASE NOTE: Rosie's Place will be hosting an Open House to tour the new learning facility on Friday, March 5, 2010, from 1 p.m. – 5 p.m. at 889 Harrison Avenue, Boston. No RSVP is required. Open to the public. Media welcome. For more information, please call (617) 442-9322 or visit [www.rosiesplace.org](http://www.rosiesplace.org).**



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**About Rosie's Place:** Since 1974, women have found an oasis of hope and nourishment at Rosie's Place. We provide a safe and nurturing environment that helps poor and homeless women maintain their dignity, seek opportunity and find security in their lives. Rosie's Place has evolved from providing meals and shelter to creating permanent solutions through advocacy, education and affordable housing. Rosie's Place relies solely on the generous support of individuals, foundations and corporations and does not accept any city, state or federal funding.

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