



Meta House

NEWS

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Dr. Francine Feinberg, Executive Director of Meta House, Inc. named “Champion of Women’s Health 2006” by Wisconsin Women’s Health Foundation, Inc.

In their annual naming of Champions in Women’s Health, the Wisconsin Women’s Health Foundation, Inc. recognized Dr. Francine Feinberg, Executive Director of Meta House, Inc. Dr. Feinberg is the first person from the substance abuse treatment field to receive a Champion in Women’s Health award.

The Wisconsin Women’s Health Foundation awards a number of individuals with the prestigious award each year. The awardees are recognized for improving the quality of life for women in Wisconsin. All the winners advocate for a cause and raise awareness about key women’s health issues.

Dr. Feinberg’s unwavering commitment to women who abuse substances and their children is evidenced in her work at Meta House. Meta House, Inc. is a nationally recognized, gender-responsive treatment center for women addicted to alcohol and drugs and their children, in the Milwaukee area. As the executive director of Meta House for over 23 years, Dr. Francine Feinberg has developed an innovative and effective treatment program to specifically meet the needs of women. When Dr. Feinberg came to Meta House in 1983, she recognized that women use substances to medicate very complex medical, social and emotional problems. She listened as women recounted unhealthy broken lives, ravaged by sexual, emotional and physical abuse and went about the task of developing a treatment program that would help them heal and became a spokeswoman for their plight. In response to women’s needs as mothers, Dr. Feinberg opened the first substance abuse treatment center in Wisconsin in 1988 that allowed children to stay with their mothers.

Sue Ann Thompson, Founder & President of Wisconsin Women’s Health Foundation said of Dr. Feinberg’s award, "As we always say at the Wisconsin Women's Health Foundation - it all begins with a healthy woman. Substance abuse affects the whole family not just the individual. Under Francine Feinberg's direction, Meta House has become a nationally-recognized model for helping women overcome addiction. Dr. Feinberg recognizes that women have unique needs and issues when it comes to treatment for substance abuse. By allowing women to live with their children, Meta House heals and strengthens the entire family."

Dr. Feinberg is honored to receive this award. As the first person in the substance abuse field to win this award, Dr. Feinberg hopes to raise awareness the substance abuse is a major health issue for women. “Recovery from addiction is a complex and difficult process,” said Dr. Feinberg, “that can only be achieved with the support of a dedicated team of professionals and an effective treatment model. With those two elements firmly in place at Meta House, we have seen countless women reclaim their lives from addiction.”

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