

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Kara Allen of Crossroads for Kids receives MCSW Unsung Heroine Award for Duxbury.

DUXBURY/BOSTON – Kara Allen of Crossroads for Kids has been awarded the Unsung Heroine Award for the town of Duxbury by the Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women.

In her role as Senior Program Director for the C5 New England Teen Leadership Program at Crossroads for Kids, Kara is a committed advocate for under-resourced, high-potential teenagers. She connects teens to educational and vocational resources and services around the state.

“Kara has been part of the Crossroads for Kids family for many years now working with children of all ages,” says Crossroads Executive Director, Deb Samuels. “She has a gift, an extraordinary way of connecting with young people and serving as a transformative influence in their lives.

C5 New England is a five-year leadership program for high potential youth that includes a Wyoming wilderness trek, a college tour, a week-long community leadership experience, 30+ hours of community service, attending and planning cultural events, visiting museums and theaters and participating in workshops on finances, college, employment, and public speaking.

The Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women will honor 287 women from cities and towns across the Commonwealth for their outstanding contributions to their organizations and communities in a ceremony on Wednesday, May 14, 2008, at the State House in Boston.

These Unsung Heroines were carefully selected from nearly 600 nominations to be honored for selflessly making a difference in the lives of others.

"Our Unsung Heroines are women who don't make the news, but make the difference in their communities, businesses, or volunteer endeavors. They are the women who quietly, without fanfare or recognition and usually behind the scenes, use their time, talent, spirit and enthusiasm to enrich the lives of others," said Linda Brantley, MCSW Executive Director. "We are awed by the fabulous work women across the Commonwealth are doing and thankful to the many nominators who brought these incredible women to our attention."

The 2008 Unsung Heroines Event will be held from 1 - 4 p.m. at the Massachusetts State House. The ceremony will include a speaking program with a keynote address delivered by Attorney General Martha Coakley, certificate presentations, a collective photo of all Heroines in attendance and a "Just Desserts" reception featuring pastries from some of the best female pastry chefs in the state.

Founded in 1936, Crossroads for Kids is a youth development organization that works with Boston area kids living in at-risk environments that can include abuse, violence, neglect and homelessness. Through comprehensive year-round programs and summer overnight camp experiences, Crossroads for Kids serves as a consistent support system in kids' lives from ages 5-17 and beyond, teaching coping, communication and life-skills. To learn more about how you can help support Crossroads for Kids visit www.crossroads4kids.org or call 781-834-2700.