

Women's Resource Center shuts its doors

By JENNIFER T. KOLLAR
Editor-in-Chief

Most YSU students probably won't feel the full impact of state-wide budget cuts until fall quarter.

Currently, the YSU community has been trying to adapt to the ripple of changes that the cuts have left in their wake that have dragged several student services into the undertow.

Unless funding is found, many students returning this fall will find that among other services, the Women's Resource Center is no longer in service.

The representatives of YSU's Women's Studies Program and the Committee For Women recently sent a letter to University President Cochran stressing the importance of the Women's Resource Center and the services it provides, hoping that it will be restored.

"The University community needs to know that a decision has been made that has resulted in the loss of Non-Traditional Student Services and the Women's Resource Center," stated Dr. Barbara Brothers, English, and a representative of the Women's Studies Program.

"Although we have been assured that it is an item of concern to the President,

we are looking forward to a positive response," she added.

Joy De Salvo, associate director, Student Support Programs, explained that the last two years have been difficult for the entire University and that Student Support Programs, which encompass the Women's Resource Center and Non-Traditional Student Services, have been operating at reduced funding the last few years.

In 1985, the Women's Resource Center was established as a three-year pilot program as a response to student and faculty requests.

Now after seven years, budget cuts have wiped out a service, which, according to De Salvo, was a resource center for women's issues and that helped channel many troubled women to places where they could find help.

Danna Bozick, coordinator of the Women's Resource Center, who is now out of a job, believes that since half of the population of YSU students are women, it is very important that services are aimed toward women.

"Without it, the students are losing out," she said.

"Besides the services aimed toward women, there was also a part we did about women's issues which included



“Right now students with problems are on their own since no arrangements have been made to do anything else.”

DANNA BOZICK
Coordinator, Women's Resource Center

parenting, acquaintance rape. We were a small staff and a lot of what we did was to act as an intermediary. If someone was raped, I would talk to that person and find help.”

At the moment, Bozick isn't quite sure what will happen next.

“Right now students with problems are on their own since no arrangements have been made to do anything else,” she said.

“Danna did so many things. She was a liason with the community. She was the intervention counselor that would get troubled students help. I am afraid that

women aren't going to have some kind of service available. And I worry about that.”

De Salvo said that she has no idea what will happen now to students who need help.

“I guess they will have to find some other community agency for help. That is very hard to do. There are so many people out there with so much need. So many young people are damaged. Although we can't fix everything, what a difference it makes to know that one

See Women, page 4

Women

Continued from page 1

person could be kind and say 'you matter to me.'" And that is what the Women's Resource Center did.

Both De Salvo and Bozick are grateful that the Women's Studies Program and the Committee For Women have voiced their concern for the loss and have kept the issue alive.

Dr. Charles McBriarty, vice president, Student Services, said that a majority of letters sent to President Cochran were in support of the Women's Resource Center.

McBriarty said that all the letters are being reviewed and are being responded to with an assurance that in several weeks some type of process will be initiated to see if any of the student services that were curtailed will be reconsidered. He said that it is possible that some kinds of functions that the services performed may be continued; however, replacement of positions is very remote.