



DISPLACED HOMEMAKER PROGRAM of New York State
THE FACTS.....

- According to Women Work!, the National Network for Women's Employment in their 2005 publication, *Chutes and Ladders: The Search for Solid Ground for Women in the Workforce*,
 - ✓ There are 463,081 displaced homemakers in New York.
 - ✓ Of those, 38% live in poverty. That amounts to 175,971 displaced homemakers living in poverty in New York State.
 - ✓ The number of displaced homemakers and single mothers has risen by 39% in the last 10 years.
 - ✓ Nationally, 58% of displaced homemakers, and 62% of single mothers have not completed education beyond a high school diploma or GED.
 - ✓ 16% of displaced homemakers and 39% of single mothers in New York live with their own children under the age of six.
 - ✓ While 48% of displaced homemakers were employed in 2003, 42% had incomes that were below the official poverty level and 16% were "near poor."
 - ✓ 90% of adults receiving TANF are women, and 93% of these women are single heads of households (according to the Department of Health and Human Services).
 - ✓ Displaced homemakers and single mothers are an untapped resource – it is predicted that there will be a national shortage of 12 million skilled workers by 2020.
- Displaced homemakers, mainly women, become displaced from their careers as homemakers due to loss of financial support through divorce, death, disability or unemployment of the family breadwinner.
- Since the program's inception, approximately 194,950 displaced homemakers and single mothers have been served and nearly 46,360 have entered the labor force.
- The 2005-2006 DHP reports are still coming in, but the latest figures are up to approximately 1200 homemakers and single mothers who entered employment through the DHP last year. The estimated contribution to New York State's economy is \$11 million, assuming minimum wage. As the majority earned a higher income, the total impact on the state is closer to \$30 million.
- According to the latest data from the Department of Social Services, the cost of maintaining a typical family on public assistance is \$8292 per year, in direct grants. About 24% of displaced homemakers served by this program receive public assistance.
- Applying this percentage to the total annual DHP job placements, and assuming that at least half of these placements earn enough to get off public assistance, a conservative estimate of savings to the State is approximately \$2,296,884 million per year.
- The New York State Department of Labor's Displaced Homemaker Program is one of the oldest, most successful State funded resources of its kind. The 22 multi-purpose centers offer a caring, holistic approach to the complex challenges faced by displaced homemakers and single mothers. The centers maximize community resources to offer skill training and job placement. Center staff, including many former displaced homemakers, are dedicated to helping each displaced homemaker obtain self-sufficiency, develop self-confidence and self-esteem.