

Long Island Business NEWS

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NONPROFITS

Giving of the century

Domestic violence victims will benefit from the latest donation from 100 Women Who Care About Long Island, a networking organization that was formed last year to support local charities. At its third meeting, held in January at Jewel in Melville, the group's members voted to direct their personal donations of \$100 each — totaling more than \$6,000 — to Pal-O-Mine Equestrian Inc., in support of the profit's program for domestic violence victims.

At each of its quarterly meetings, 100 Women randomly selects three qualified charities, which are nominated by members in attendance. The three chosen members then make five-minute presentations on why their charity should be selected for the quarterly donation.

Located in Islandia, Pal-O-Mine provides therapeutic programs using horses to help a variety of populations, including children and adults with disabilities and

those who have been abused. During her presentation, 100 Women charter member Jennie DiGuardia talked about Pal-O-Mine's services for battered women and the extent of the problem.

"One in four women will experience domestic violence in their lifetime," she said, citing numbers from the National Institute of Justice and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. "The women and children who are victims of abuse need our help in coping with the violence, developing the strength and acquiring the resources needed to leave their abusers."

