



## **New Directions for homeless families Sail Into Spring luncheon and fashion show**

### ***2010 Beacons for Homeless Families Award Recipients Recognized***

**Lexington, Mass. - May 4, 2010** – New Directions is an annual event that strives to broaden the awareness of the crisis of family homelessness in Massachusetts and benefits COMPASS *for homeless families*, a program of COMPASS for kids. Janet Wu, 7NEWS, will emcee this year's event on Thursday, May 13 at the Boston Harbor Hotel. The event will also recognize recipients of the 2010 Beacons for Homeless Families Awards, which honor individuals making a difference to homeless families in Massachusetts – and beyond- day in and day out.

The program will feature stories of graduates of the COMPASS *for homeless families* program, who via the COMPASS Community College Collaborative program, have worked to gain and sustain employment, housing, education and parenting success. Yolanda Taylor, a COMPASS for kids Board Member and retired portfolio manager at Fidelity Select Brokerage and Investment Management Portfolio, will recount her childhood story of homelessness and the surprisingly different challenges she now faces raising her own family.

Designer, Jana Kos, will unveil her summer line and narrate the Sail Into Spring fashion show alongside statement making couture jewelry from the S. King Collection; a percentage of all proceeds from the event will go to support COMPASS.

#### **2010 Beacons for Homeless Families Awards**

The awards will celebrate the accomplishments of the following:

- Michelle Botus, Massachusetts Department of Transitional Assistance
- Aida Franquiz, Boston Private Bank and Trust Company
- Freddy Gonzales, Roxbury Community College
- Lawrence Oaks, Peabody Properties
- Rachel Cortez, Lynn Jackson, and Kelly Tzannes, COMPASS for kids Advisory Board members

COMPASS *for homeless families* works to end family homelessness. COMPASS collaborates with public and private organizations, businesses and individuals to provide high impact services and supports that promote family self-sufficiency and stability in housing for homeless and at-risk children and their families.

For more information, please visit [www.compassforkids.org](http://www.compassforkids.org).

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#### **About COMPASS for kids~ guiding adults in positive directions**

COMPASS for kids provides education and support that improves the skills and transforms the perspectives of the adults and institutions that matter most to children. Additional information can be found at [www.compassforkids.org](http://www.compassforkids.org).

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