



For Immediate Release

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## **HELEN MAZARAKIS NAMED 2004 GOALS FOR LIFE HONORARY CHAIR**

Helen Mazarakis, executive director of the Montclair Economic Development Corporation (MEDC), has been named the 2004 Goals for Life Honorary Chairwoman, it was announced by Kathleen Lee, president of Goals for Life.

Goals for Life, a Montclair-based, non-profit organization, raises money for women's health initiatives. This year, Goals for Life will donate proceeds from its fund raising activities to In The Pink, the breast cancer outreach program at St. Michael's Medical Center in Newark.

Mazarakis, who has served as MEDC Executive Director for almost four years and on the Board of Directors before that, has worked in community and economic development in New York City and nationally for 18 years. At MEDC, Mazarakis was instrumental in establishing the Business Improvement District in Downtown Montclair and creating "Painting Montclair," a window painting contest for school children. She also serves on Montclair's Affordable Housing Task Force, the Redevelopment Planning Committee and the Interim Parking Committee.

Mazarakis and her husband Thanassis have lived in Montclair for seven years and have three children, George, Anna and Andreas.

Mazarakis was diagnosed with breast cancer in July 2001 and after treatment, is now cancer-free.

"I am deeply committed to informing others about the disease and actively support breast cancer organizations," said Mazarakis. "I'm grateful that through the outreach of Goals for Life I found my cancer early. Their support of In The Pink is so important, as it allows women without access to insurance to get surgery and treatment."

Goals for Life's fund-raising events planned for 2004 include a Coffee House with live music, tentatively scheduled for April 2, the Goals for Life Annual Women's Charity Soccer Tournament on June 5 at Brookdale Park in Essex County and a Trunk Show in the fall. Details regarding the events will be announced shortly.

Since its establishment in 2000, Goals for Life has donated more than \$68,000 in total during the past four years to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, In The Pink breast cancer outreach program at St. Michael's Medical Center and the Montclair Health Department's domestic violence programs.

For additional information, including volunteer opportunities with Goals for Life, call 973-744-3003, log onto the Goals for Life web site [www.goalsforlife.org](http://www.goalsforlife.org) or e-mail Goals for Life at [goalsforlife@comcast.net](mailto:goalsforlife@comcast.net).

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