

# Dorchester Reporter

“The News and Values Around the Neighborhood”

## Reporter’s People

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THE REPORTER

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Reporter’s

## People

News about people  
in & around  
our Neighborhoods

### Brookview’s Hughes named ‘Unsung Heroine’



**Deborah Hughes, an Unsung Hero.**

**Deborah Hughes**, president & CEO of Brookview House, an independent, non-profit organization for women and children in homeless families, was among more than 100 recipients of the Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women's 14th Annual Unsung Heroines Awards. Each year the Commission gathers nominations from across the state for women who make outstanding contributions to their organizations and communities. The Honorees are nominated by state legislators in their districts as a means of recognizing women for their previously unnoted yet valuable community contributions.

Based in Dorchester, Brookview House not only provides homeless women and their children with a safe place to live but it also supports services and programs that confront the root causes of homelessness and transform lives. Brookview's innovative, two-generational approach prepares families for stability and independence and empowers them to be a voice in the

community through civic engagement.

Ms. Hughes has been at the helm of Brookview since 1991. During her tenure, it has expanded into a multi-service agency developing affordable housing and on-site adult and youth services programs to 350 homeless and at risk moms and children every year.

She is a founding member of: Transition to Work Collaborative, Child Resource Collaborative and Dorchester Women's Safety Network. Prior to Brookview, she was co-founder of the Jane Doe Safety Fund, a statewide advocacy agency for domestic violence programs in Massachusetts.

Brookview's success has led to recent grants of \$1.8 million from the state and \$1.3 million from the City of Boston to construct a third affordable housing building with 12 units, bringing its total number of units to 60. The building, which will be known as 'Brookview III' will be built on Hansborough Street near Blue Hill Avenue and is expected to be completed in 2018.