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TOP STORY



Charlotte Sapp: Serving Women Who Have Served Time

DIAL UP BROAD BAND

AUGUST 13TH, 2004

Charlotte Sapp is raising three kids on her own, but she still finds time to raise issues in her community.

In 2002, she started Women in Progress, a group that provides job services for women, a community center for kids and promotes AIDS and prison awareness.

It's known for serving women who have served time.

"A lot of individuals in the community, especially women, were being released from prison and not being able to have any programs to go to to help them get jobs," says Sapp.

Sapp helps formerly incarcerated women re-enter society by providing job referrals and training, helping to establish identification and bank accounts as well as providing health education.

"Some women are lost when they come out and they don't know where to go and having people like her help them out, just enables them make their life towards stability easier," says volunteer Lisa Torres.

Barbara Jackson has never been incarcerated. Still, she came to Women in Progress because she needed help finding a job.

In the process, Charlotte's become her mentor and friend.

"She's helping you get from A to point B and will check back on you to see how it helps," says Jackson.

Sapp also holds workshops to teach younger generations how to avoid risky behavior, which she says can lead to AIDS or jail time.

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NY1 reporter Rebecca Spitz was married in July, eight months after awakening from a coma following a car accident. You can [send along your congratulations](#).



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"I think it's really good she started her own workshop because it's a lot of girls wandering around having sex and catching AIDS," says client Charisma Campbell.

"It's hobby and my job. I have passion for helping people," says Sapp.

So for improving her community by helping women and teens, as well as promoting AIDS and Prison awareness, Charlotte Sapp is our New Yorker of the Week.

– *Sandra Endo*

If you'd like to nominate someone to be NY1's New Yorker of the Week, send an email describing their qualifications to: nyer@ny1.com or mail a letter to:

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