Cindy Cortese was honored as the Women’s Resource Center Volunteer of the Year during the Center’s annual meeting and volunteer party held Wednesday at the Durango Recreation Center.

Ms. Cortese graciously accepted the award to a standing ovation of more than 80 members, guests and volunteers. “It’s not me who does anything special,” she told the crowd. “It’s our amazing community. We feed the hungry, shelter the homeless. We have the arts and music, we educate our children. It is truly a wonderful community to live in.”

Ms. Cortese was a member of the 2010 Girls Night Out Steering Committee. She solicited donations for sponsors, auction items, and Fanfares. She also sold dozens and dozens of tickets. The sold-out event attracted more than 300 guests and raised more than $42,000 after expenses.

Ms. Cortese also is an avid volunteer for the Durango Friends of the Arts, Music in the Mountains, Volunteers of America, the Durango Cowboy Gathering, Southwest Colorado Rural Philanthropy Days, the San Juan Symphony, PEO, Manna Soup Kitchen, Big Brothers Big Sisters, and many others.

The Women’s Resource Center has been honoring a Volunteer of the Year since 1991.

For more information, contact Deborah Uroda at 247-1242.

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**Our Mission**

_The Women’s Resource Center advocates for the personal empowerment and economic self-sufficiency of women and girls in La Plata County._