

VIVIAN CLECAK'S BIO

Vivian Clecak, Chief Executive Director of Human Options: *Alternatives for Abused Women and their Children*, founded Human Options together with three other women in 1981. Ms. Clecak has transformed a small outreach program, which began in a small basement room, into an established safe-haven and comprehensive multi-service agency for abused women and their children in Orange County. In 1994 she brought together a unique private/public coalition to complete a \$4 million capital campaign to build a new emergency shelter and double the program capacity. Human Options now offers four major programs - the emergency shelter and hotline, Second Step Transitional Housing Program, Community Resource and Counseling Center and Community Education Program. Since its beginnings, Human Options has served over 73,850 individuals in direct services, and over 219,724 through the community education program.

Vivian Clecak is a recognized expert on domestic violence and has appeared on both *Good Morning America* and *The Today Show*. She was the first community education chairperson of the Orange County Family Violence Council. As executive director, she has a unique background as both a therapist and an administrator. She developed a staff and volunteer training "Nurturing the Nurturer" which she has done over the past 20 years. In addition, she has been a coach for other executive directors in the Fieldstone Foundation Leadership Program.

In 2003 Ms. Clecak received the Women in Business Award from the Orange County Business Journal and the AAUW Woman of Distinction Award. In 2001 she received the Human Options DOVE Award. Vivian was honored as a 1999-2000 Frances Hesselbein Community Innovation Fellow, a national award given by the Peter Drucker Foundation to five nonprofit leaders annually and was selected by the Freeman, Freeman and Smiley Foundation for Philanthropy as their 1999 recipient of the Vision in Philanthropy Award.

Ms. Clecak graduated cum laude with a B.A. from Stanford University and completed her M.S.W. at the University of California, Los Angeles. She is a licensed clinical social worker and a licensed marriage and family therapist.