

# Edsell-Vetter to host movie screening fundraiser

By Staff reports

Thu Mar 12, 2009, 04:46 PM EDT

Medford - Medford resident and Team Metropolitan Boston Housing Partnership (MBHP) runner Carolyn Edsell-Vetter will host a screening of the 2007 award-winning, feature-length film "Sprit of the Marathon," Thursday, March 19, at 6:30 p.m. The film documents six runners of varying experience levels as they prepare for the Chicago Marathon. The event will take place at MBHP's offices at 125 Lincoln St., Fifth Floor, Boston, 02111 (near South Station).

Film executives donated permission for the one-time showing to Edsell-Vetter to help her raise funds for Team MBHP. Minimum donation for the event – which will include refreshments and a raffle of various items including Peet's coffee gifts and Xbox games – is \$10 per person.

## On the run

You could say running is in Edsell-Vetter's blood.

"I've known for a long time that I'd eventually want to run a marathon," she said. "I've been running all my life, and I wanted to prove myself and challenge myself."

Last year, Edsell-Vetter ran a 20-mile race on Martha's Vineyard and has been training for several months to meet the challenge of Boston's legendary Marathon. She said the fund-raising, though, is somewhat more of a challenge than the race.

"I'm a pretty shy person – it's a lot easier to put on running shoes three days a week than it is to go out and ask people for money," she said.

But, she said, the work that MBHP does – which she knows about from her own experience as an MBHP volunteer and through her husband, MBHP Case Management Specialist Jesse Edsell-Vetter – deserves the effort. MBHP was given three charity spots in the Marathon by John Hancock Financial Services on the condition that the runners raise money to support MBHP's privately funded programs and services.

Edsell-Vetter said focusing on MBHP's work with those most at risk of homelessness gives people the perfect reason to open their wallets and support Team MBHP. "People really get it in a very visceral way," she said. "Those who MBHP help are choosing between rent and food, or worse. Supporting MBHP can make a difference in those people's lives."

Edsell-Vetter said a particular target of her fund-raising is the "35-and-unders," who are on

tighter budgets and may not have come from families that were in the “habit of giving.” She challenges them to commit to making a difference in someone’s life – to look hard at their lifestyle and where they can spare even a few dollars – and consider MBHP as a way to use their donations to help others. “I know what MBHP does, how much the staff really cares about their clients,” she said.

Edsell-Vetter, who hails from North Carolina, lives with her husband and 3-year-old son in Medford. She’s a graduate of Cornell University and has a master’s in divinity from Harvard. She is a design project manager for the Waltham-based A Yard And A Half Landscaping service and is a member of the Havurat Shalom congregation in Medford.