Legislators Pick Their
Women of the Year

Winners share spirit of community
service

A criminal justice
specialist, Silbert helped
establish the Delancey Street
Foundation, a residential
treatment program for former
felons and substance abusers.
During the two decades
she's worked in the field, Silbert
has directed the evaluation of
more than 100 criminal justice
projects and trained numerous
law enforcement and corrections
departments in alternatives to
jailing convicts.

“The work I do is so basic to
life,” said Silbert, who as
president of the foundation,
lives in Delancey Street’s Pacific
Heights headquarters. The digs
soon are moving to San
Francisco’s newest neighborhood, South Beach.
I grew up in a poor area of Boston and I saw how some people
could break out of (their living situation) and those who couldn’t.
The most exciting thing in the world to me is to see people taking old
of their lives.”
It is on that philosophy that Delancey Street, which serves 700
adults and juveniles in four states, was founded.
Chosen by Assembly Speaker Willie Brown as his Woman of the
Year, Silbert said she will be accepting the honor on behalf of all the
women who have participated in the Delancey Street program.