



WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT NETWORK

ANNUAL REPORT

JULY 2018 TO JUNE 2019



table of contents

2	PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT	9	WE LOVE OUR VOLUNTEERS
3	MISSION, VISION AND THE ALLIANCE	10	WEN ANNUAL LUNCHEON
4	OUR HISTORY AND THE BOARD	11	KANSAS CITY'S GOT TALENT
5	ABOUT OUR PROGRAM	12	WEN KC JOB FAIRS
6	PROGRAM STATISTICS	13	2018-2019 FINANCIALS
7	CLIENT STORY STACEY - CLASS #300	14	LEGACY CIRCLE
8	WEN ON THE ROAD		



PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT

This year was a positive and eventful one as we continued to serve a steady number of women in the community, thanks in part to launching our new WEN on the Road initiative. WEN's continued growth and impact in Kansas City is a testament to the commitment and compassion of our community partners, our financial supporters, our volunteers, and our staff who have all contributed to WEN throughout the years. This community support is paramount to our success in supporting our clients as they navigate significant obstacles to financial self-sufficiency and personal discovery to become more than they thought they could be. We are excited as we look ahead to the upcoming year and beyond as we continue to make a difference in Kansas City – one woman at a time.

sherry turner

WEN PRESIDENT
ONEKC FOR WOMEN FOUNDER



mission

To help women raise their self-esteem and achieve economic independence through sustained employment.

vision

To advance positive change in the lives of women, their families and the community, one woman at a time.



alliance

WEN is a proud partner of the OneKC for Women alliance with the Women’s Business Center, Women’s Capital Connection, and WE-Lend. By working together as OneKC for Women, these partner organizations are able to better achieve a common goal: empowering women to achieve financial independence.



our history



WEN CO-FOUNDERS BETH K. SMITH
AND MARJORIE POWELL ALLEN



WEN CLASS #203
SEPTEMBER 2006

In 1986, two Kansas City philanthropists and visionaries, Beth K. Smith and Marjorie Powell Allen, had a profound idea of how to "help women help themselves" and they worked to form the Women's Employment Network. With the involvement and support of hundreds of volunteers, donors, and dedicated staff, WEN has grown from a single classroom at Pioneer College to where we are today.

WEN has continued to work toward the mission and vision of its founders and has played an important role in the professional growth of women in Kansas City for over three decades – at no cost to the women WEN serves.

the board

2018 - 2019 Directors:

Angela Hurt, Chair

Kim Jones, Vice-Chair

Phyllis Collins, Secretary

Jen Regas, Treasurer

Anab Abdulahi

Janice Blansit

Colleen Browne

Katheen Dodd

Kiersten Firquain

Glenda Friesen

Sonia Garapaty

Victoria Kandt

Teresa Kellett

Stacey Paine

Cyndi Swall



about our program

For over three decades, WEN has provided high-quality, much-needed programming in Kansas City. WEN believes that when you give women the support to build a foundation for their futures, potential, and well-being, you also strengthen the foundation for the entire community. WEN's holistic approach helps women reach their fullest potential beyond unemployment, and underemployment, not only by helping them find work,



but also by developing their personal strengths, assisting them in understanding and realizing attainable goals, guiding them through the debt reduction process, and building personal finance skills and wealth over time.



746

TOTAL UNDUPLICATED CLIENTS

453

NEW CLIENTS

189

FINANCIAL COACHING CLIENTS

1697

HOURS IN JOB SEARCH LAB

program statistics

78% **women clients
below federal
poverty level**

BASED ON HOUSEHOLDS OF FOUR

\$12.81

AVERAGE FULL-TIME WAGE

84% **women clients
making very
low income**

BASED ON KC METRO MEDIAN INCOME

79% / 20%

MISSOURI / KANSAS CLIENTS

78% **women clients
single or
divorced**

RELATIONSHIP STATUS

65% **women clients
identifying as a
person of color**

RACE AND ETHNICITY



A CLIENT STORY - CLASS #300

stacey

“WEN taught me to empower myself and stay strong.”

2019 LUNCHEON VIDEO

One day I realized I was not seeing the light at the end of the tunnel in various aspects of my life. I was unemployed without insurance and I was looking for a job 15 plus years out of the job search loop with no direction or strong networking.

I met with a close friend and discussed my road blocks. My friend Robin was very instrumental in changing my path in life when she introduced me to the Women's Employment Network (WEN). I joined and attended WEN and on January 14, 2019, I had an "ah-ha" moment...an epiphany. I am blessed.

We all have deep regrets, might-haves and should-have-dones, but I put that all to the side when I became a WEN member. I made an effort, which is hard for most women to do, and I focused for once in my life on Stacey.

I attended several workshops at WEN,

including: *The Myth of the Superwoman, Behavioral Interviewing and Personality Assessment.*

These were the top workshops that changed my focus and goals in life and enhanced me to be a better person for my next purpose in life. I will forever be a WEN alumna and take away a new Stacey with a bold confidence during my job search and new goals that will help me succeed in my next promising career. My long-term career goal is to work for a company that matches my personality so I can succeed in the job culture and increase my financial income. The end result will be a happy lifestyle for me and my family.

Many thanks to Ms. Lynnette and Ms. Tonia for being patient, knowledgeable and intuitive during this journey.



wen on the road

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT MANAGER PRESENTS A WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT AND SELF-CARE WORKSHOP AT SWOPE HEALTH SERVICES IN FEBRUARY OF 2019

145

WORKSHOPS ATTENDEES

WEN on the Road continued to work with former and new community partners in 2018-2019. The process for requesting workshops was reevaluated and a new form was created so that organizations could more easily request workshops. We look forward to sharing our workforce and financial expertise in partnership with other nonprofits, community colleges, churches, health centers, and social services agencies.

WEN has come to understand the need for sharing our expertise beyond traditional parameters. In addition to our programming offered on-site at WEN's office, we offer workshops in collaboration with community partner organizations where they physically reside.

2018-2019 Community Partner Organizations:

City Union Mission, Community Assistance Council, Community LINC, Economic Opportunity Foundation, El Centro, Good Samaritan Center, Independence Housing Authority, Johnson County Government, LINC Works, Literacy KC, Metropolitan Lutheran Ministry, New Hope Shelter Inc, Phoenix Family Services, Project Eagle: Connections, River of Refuge, Samuel U. Rodgers Community Health Center, Synergy Service Inc., Turning Point, and YWCA.



KC CREW'S MENTOR PROGRAM PACKED 60
LET'S GET STARTED KITS FOR WEN CLIENTS

224

OF UNDUPLICATED
PROGRAM VOLUNTEERS

301

SEPARATE VOLUNTEER SESSIONS

550

VOLUNTEER HOURS

This year WEN partnered with H&R Block and Allied Global Services in volunteer efforts. H&R Block presented workshops and provided panel interviewers. Allied Global Services welcomed clients on-site for one-on-one coaching sessions and mock interviews. These are just two examples of the amazing support we have from our Kansas City business community. We value our employer partners for sharing stellar volunteers, valuable time and job leads!

we ♥ our volunteers

WEN could not do what we do without the support of our amazing program volunteers. Over 75 companies in the Kansas City metro area (visit kwen.org for complete list of company names) gifted 550 volunteer hours to provide crucial support for our program staff members by conducting mock interviews, resume reviews, and facilitating workshops.



“As a volunteer, I get to meet many incredible women professionals!”

—Neha Mohnot, volunteer

WEN ANNUAL LUNCHEON



Since 1986, WEN has helped women reach and realize the defining moments of their lives. We have all had these defining moments where we are urged to make a pivotal decision or when we experience something that fundamentally changes us and, for some, that moment is walking through the front doors of WEN. Each woman who comes to WEN experiences a unique journey that goes far beyond finding sustainable employment and economic independence; they find a renewed sense of self-confidence, self-assurance, and self-esteem.



On Thursday, April 18, over 1,100 people gathered at WEN's Annual Luncheon co-chaired by Joshua Rowland, vice chairman and CEO of Lead Bank, and Andy Fromm, chairman and CEO of Service Management Group (bottom left) to celebrate women and hear the inspiring stories of WEN clients, Stacey and Fiona (middle left), who shared their defining moments. Phyllis Collins (top left), who has presented workshops at WEN since 2010 and currently serves on the Board of Directors, was presented with the 2019 Beth K. Smith Award by WEN President, Sherry Turner.



Thanks to supporters like you, we raised over \$350,000 at the luncheon, which will directly help more women realize their potential and obtain sustainable employment. THANK YOU!

kc's got talent



Thank you to everyone who attended and supported our 8th annual KC's Got Talent corporate talent show! We had ten incredible acts, four fabulous judges, and two amazing emcees surrounded by a great crowd of WEN supporters.

Congratulations to all of our 2018 acts and winners:

- 1st place: Kadesh Flow, sponsored by Happy Food Co.
- 2nd place: Brian Prashak, sponsored by CommunityAmerica Credit Union
- People's Choice: You'll Be Back, sponsored by Veracity Consulting

We can't wait to see what talent you bring to the stage next year!





WEN's KC Job Fairs held annually in May and in October, continue to succeed as events for both employers and job seekers. Both Job Fairs estimated attendance was over 400 job seekers. In May, there were 60 vendors and in October, 70. A variety of industries attended, including: banking, nonprofit, healthcare, technology, local and federal government, food and hospitality, legal, education, staffing, transportation, and media relations. Job Fair vendor surveys showed most participants were very satisfied and more than half of the vendors are extremely likely to participate in the future.

rosa

Rosa heard about WEN while living in another state and found that WEN was unique to Kansas City. When she moved to KC, along with her two children to be with her family, she looked WEN up and made a commitment to herself by joining the program. As the sole income provider in her household, she was working two jobs to make ends meet. At WEN, she learned how valuable her bilingual skills were. She could not attend the Job Fair in October but her WEN classmates, who became her support network during the class, passed out her resume to companies she identified. One Human Resources Manager, with Imperial PFS, was so impressed by the rave reviews from her cohort (and her resume), she reached out to WEN to set up an interview with Rosa. WEN is excited to announce that Rosa was offered a position as a Bilingual Customer Service Representative with full benefits – a connection she might have missed without the KC Job Fair.

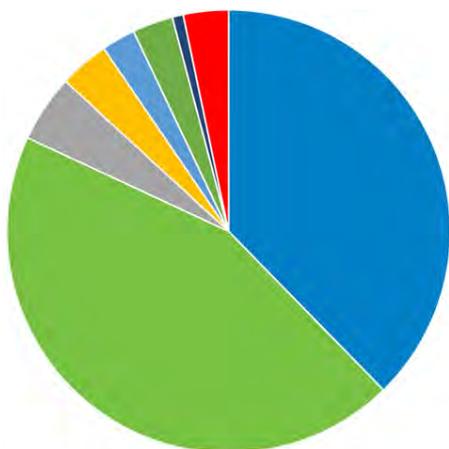


2018 - 2019 FINANCIALS

Since 2009, WEN has balanced its budget and increased cash reserves, resulting in strong financial sustainability for the organization. The Finance Committee remains diligent in monitoring our cash flow and sources of revenue in concert with our Board of Directors.

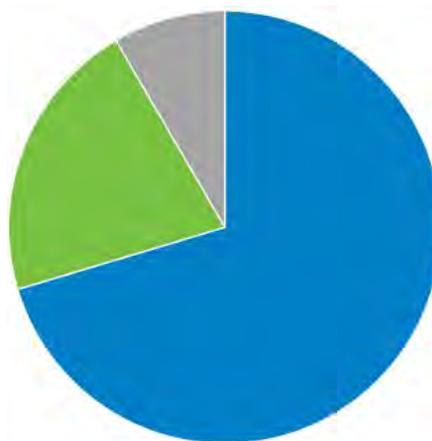
**A strong cash positioning from the previous year allowed expense overage in 2019.*

revenue



■ Foundations/Trusts	\$382,128
■ Special Events	\$448,306
■ Legacy Circle	\$49,704
■ Individuals	\$36,804
■ In-kind	\$25,000
■ Contract Services	\$30,024
■ United Way	\$8,099
■ Other	\$33,368

expenses



■ Program	\$780,355
■ Development/Fundraising	\$235,382
■ Administration	\$93,324

TOTAL REVENUE - \$1,013,433

TOTAL EXPENSES - \$1,109,061*

LEGACY CIRCLE



The Beth K. Smith & Marjorie Powell Allen

LEGACY CIRCLE

WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT NETWORK

LEGEND

Ann & Kenneth Baum
Janice Blansit & Terrance Kolich
Elizabeth "Zibbie" Ferrell
Angela Hurt
Teresa Kellett
Catherine J. Kelly
Marta Padula
Anne St. Peter
Debbie Smith
Jeannine Strandjord

FOUNDER

Dana Abraham
Teri Ackerson
Cathy Baier
Kate Ferrell Banks
Rita Blitt
Laura Brady
Pam Breuckmann
Tonia Bomar
Kay Callison
Mindy Corporon
Michelle & Peter deSilva
Kathy Dodd
Kiersten Firquain
Cheryl Flood
Aaron Fulk
Lisa Gioia
Amber Goering
Debra Grunst
Brenda Hafner
& Alexandra Strong
Jenny Haile
Marilyn & James Hebenstreit
Shirley Helzberg
Karen M. Herman
Celia Huneycutt
Lori Kelleher
Christine Kemper
Nancy Kenner
Julie Nelson Meers
Lily Hayes Maxwell
Melissa Meadows
Sheila McCarrick
Madeline McDonough
Lori McGroder
Arlene Mockapetris
Sandie S. Mullen

FOUNDER (CONT)

Kelly Murphy
Megan O'Rear
Maureen Purcell
& Dr. David Husted
Victoria Rae
& Matthew Swindells
Joan Redhair
Victoria Reisler
Cindy Richey
Dr. Michelle Robin
Joshua Rowland
Kelly Scanlon
Amy Slattery
Deborah Starke
Susan Stanton
Shannon Swift
Cynthia Weber Scherb
Diana Toman
Paul Weber
Cheryl Lockton Williams
Lynnette Williams
Julia Wilson

VISONARY

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& Michael Henry
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Linda Bemis
Joan & Bert Berkley
Karen Bisset
Tracy Bornman
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Colleen Browne
Erica Brune
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& Vince Clark
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Sara Holmes
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& Meredith Moser
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Norma McKelvy
Kate Migneron
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Jen Regas
Carolyn Reintjes
Yvette Richards
Ashley Rickett
Kimberly Robinett
Stacey & Jim Saladin
Martha Salinas
Renee Sheppard
Melissa & Tom Schroeder
Barbara & Larry Schulte
Audrie Seeley
Laura Snow
Margo Shepard
Christen Shepherd
S. Sloane Simmons
& Harl A. Van Deursen
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Charlie & Jeanne Sosland
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Lisa Terry
Deborah Throckmorton
Angela Tower
Sherry Turner
Nan Vail & Keith Bortorff
Shanelle Varone
Kristy Vetter
Toni Walsh
Martha Warren
Melody Warren
Tanya Rodecker Wendt
Megan Whitman
Nancy Whitworth
Marie Woodbury
Karen Zecy





Women's Employment NETWORK

Proud partner of **ONE**forWOMEN



ONEKC FOR WOMEN ALLIANCE STAFF REPRESENTING WEN, WBC AND WCC

kcwen.org

4328 MADISON AVE | KANSAS CITY, MO 64111

(816) 822-8083



@WOMENSEMPLOYMENTNETWORK | @ONEKCFORWOMEN