Dear Friends,

The holidays are a time I count my many blessings. The continued blessing of your support has made this year productive, rewarding and life changing for the thousands of women we have been honored to serve.

I have seen how blessed our community of clients feel from our collective work. This diverse group includes low-income, job-ready women of all ages, ethnicities and cultures who are ready to begin their professional journey—whether they are unemployed, recent graduates, veterans, mothers or all of the above. We have served 3,000 clients, and 55% of them are employed, an average well above other affiliates worldwide.

Women are the anchors of families, and DFSH helps empower women, giving them a sense of self-confidence and the financial literacy to use their money intelligently. These women become role models for their children...AND their success truly has a lasting, positive effect on the Houston business community. Our programs equip women with the skills needed to maintain employment and advance in their careers. A suit may become outdated; however, the skills women master from our programs last a lifetime!

The first year in our new facility, we delivered 4,800 units of service. Four years later, we expect to deliver over 14,000 units to our clients. Talk about a transformation — and a blessing! These women truly inspire me, and I know that you support DFSH because they inspire you, as well. So on behalf of all the incredible women and families we serve, thank you for your passion which allows us to inspire courage and authentic change for women on a life journey. What a thrill to be on that journey together!

Wishing you a blessed holiday season!

Nancy S. Levicki
President & Co-Founder
**Professional Women’s Group (PWG)**

**Entrepreneurship Boot Camp**

We continually look to offer new programs that meet the current needs and interests of our growing PWG membership. Over the last few years, we have noticed more and more women wanting to start their own businesses, but not knowing exactly where to start.

We partnered with Accenture and the Houston Technology Center to offer a one-day boot camp to give members basic information they would need to know when starting their own business. Fifty members received guidance from industry professionals as they started setting goals to help them be successful in their ventures.

**Financial Literacy Program**

The spring and summer Financial Literacy boot camps, sponsored by HBC and PWG respectively, saw a 54% increase in attendance. The 13-week program saw 23 women begin their journey to financial security—almost double the number that completed last year’s program!

**US VETERANS SERVICE DAY AND CAREER FAIR**

On November 2, 2016, Dress for Success Houston hosted a Veteran Service Day Career Fair and Luncheon sponsored by Walmart. During the sixth and final Veteran Service Day of the year, 30 Veterans attended Interview Preparation sessions and a Personal Branding Workshop to prepare for an afternoon Career Fair. The Houston Symphony played five beautiful compositions over lunch.

**14 Corporations Participated**

Allied Universal • CHI St. Luke’s • City of Houston Mayor’s Office of Veteran Affairs • Comcast • Comerica Bank • Employer Flexible Geico • Hewlett Packard Enterprise • Tenaris • The Houstonian UT Health • Vet Center • Village Plumbing • Walmart

**Child Watch Services**

Child Watch attendance has increased over 50% in 2016. PWG members are able to utilize Child Watch services during meetings at no cost, positively impacting the families we serve.

**PWG Member Success Story**

Paulette was a single parent trying to make ends meet, battling depression, low self-esteem and feeling very discouraged after suffering a job loss. Like so many women we serve, Paulette was referred to Dress for Success Houston simply expecting an interview suit. She was both excited and relieved to find out there is so much more beyond the suit. PWG has given her the motivation to achieve her goals.

Our Child Watch program has given Paulette the ability to attend meetings, knowing her younger son, Ike, is being taken care of by volunteers he knows. Career development meetings have given Paulette relevant tools to apply every day at work, while the Altman-Goldstein Scholarship has allowed her to continue her education and receive numerous certifications in human resources.

Paulette is the true example of landing a job and building it into a career. She started as a training coordinator at Hongwha America in 2014 and was promoted shortly thereafter. She became their human resources manager. Paulette credits PWG with building her confidence, promoting a healthy work-life balance and teaching her the skills needed to successfully climb the corporate ladder. She is passing on her knowledge and experience by taking a leadership role in One Year. One Job, a program for new PWG members. She and her son are also members of the PWG SK team for the second year in a row and are taking part in our training partnership with Bel Bizzo. Every day, Paulette is showing her two sons what an empowered, working mother can accomplish!

**PWG Member Feedback**

(You have created a ripple, a ripple that affects our lives, the lives of our children, our workplace and our communities. We are taking the gifts you have given, and we are giving back to the world around us.)

**PWG Sponsorship Program**

**SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

Clenthia Orphey
Fiera Teaching
Vernon Generalist Grades 3-5
Ryanne Palomo
FM Institute
Criminal Justice
Julie Pfeiffer
HCC Psychology
Chanda Polk
HCC Business Management
Givanna Rivera
UH Education
Hilda Rivers
Alief ISD Bilingual and ESL Certification
Maribel Rodriguez
HCC Accounting
Serobia Rogers
TSU History
Aracely Saenz
HCC Business
Susana Saravia
HCC Education
Peggy Stephens
San Jacinto College, Mental Health Services
Caren Sullivan
National Kitchen & Bath Association, Certification in Kitchen & Bath Design
Kenya Volantine
Lee Star College, Science
Gwendolyn Vernado
University of St. Thomas, Principals and Professional Leadership
Janelle Ventura
Champlain School of Real Estate, Real Estate Management
Leslie Walker
HCC Accelerated Teacher Certification
Barbara Ware
DeVry University, MBA Marketing
Connamary Wilson
TSU, Organizational Leadership
Shantirra Wilson
HCC, Business & Accounting
Shantelle Winesinger
CJ Instruction, Applied Administration
Shane Young
HCC Business Management
Jennifer Zouflik
HCC Accounting

**PWG Sponsorship Program**

**PWG Member Success Story**

Barbetta Hammond and her mentee, Louise, were matched as part of the Women2Women Mentoring program sponsored by the Wayne Duttlenstein Foundation. In November, Barbara was in attendance as Louise graduated from our 13 week Financial Literacy Program.

**PWG Member Feedback**

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Runnning for Dress for Success Houston

We are excited about our fourth year participating in Chevron Houston Marathon’s Run for a Reason program. Co-Chairs Chris Bradshaw, Kim Cagle, Lauren Hanks, Amanda Johansen and Maide Ryan have been building an amazing team of 117 participants who have raised $36,000 with a goal of $50,000 by race day. January 15, 2017: Cheer on our team at the race!

THANK YOU TO OUR TEAM MEMBERS!

Alyssa Abdollah • Stacy Atef • Tanika Alexander Michael Aff • Ashley Angela • Indra Arias Karishma Asrani • Hilary Baars • Marla Bernard Marlo Bass • Keavon Bick • Kaysha Rochelle Biko • Chris Bidhah • Lisa Braxial • Tiffany Buck Kim Cagle • Bertha Castelli • Elizabeth Chapin Binkie Cortes • Amanda Davis Bloom • Margaret De Young • Sherry Mae Deigatt • Kayla Demieoff Ashley Donald • Elizabeth Doughan • Amanda Escobar • Kelly Evans • Ansa Ezra • Sue Fogliatta Christine Forgetta • Margaret Francis • Teresa Fuller Teresa George • Stella Gergis • Ana Aiko Gonzalez Isabel Gonzalez • Alinka Green • Cheliepga • Errol Healy • Virginia Steppe • Alissa Lerner • Fantasia Lewis • Richard Huskey • Karen Henry • Phyllis Huang Jai Amin • Jason Human • Patricia Isler • Elizabeth Jane • Amanda Johansen • Frederick Johnson • Brittney King • Lekisha Lee • Ali Khan • Nancy Lexiuk • Lauren Lexiuk • Courville Jordan Lewis • Johnathan Lopez • Pamela Merchad • Kim McCormick • Ashley McPhail • Suzanne Mihalakis Jenna Moobarian • Tim Muñoz • Marcielis Munoz Susan Ortiz • Sherida Oliver • Ike Onekuni • Sandrine Oxley • Ann Frigo • Rosanne Palomo Natalie Pappas • Sarah Pata • Maria Peña • Paulina Phillips • Arlene Phillips • Chandra Polk • Amanda Port • Raemee Qansi • Abdon Rangel • Mercy Ramirez • Madeline River • Gabriela Rivera • Courtney Robin • Elizabeth Robinson • Emily Robinson Lydia Robich • Patricia Roumel • Harald Rodgers Kirsten Ruhtum • Maudie Ryan • Ananya Saaw Ahmed Saleh • Mike Sanchez • Alxea Saxon • Pati Siems • Angelina Spriggs • Latina Spring • Kendace Staub • Virginia Steen • Claire Strande • Heather Studebaker • Michelle Tortorella • Tracy • Victoria Villareal • Staci Vii Nicole Vyles • Alexha Walker • Leslie Walker Barbara Wier • Kathryn Weiss • Ashley Werner Sharon Williams • Debra Wilgus • Alexandra Yaglin

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

8th Wonder Brewery • Au Bon Pain • Bello Woodifield Pizza • Bonjur Creperie • Comerica Bank • Dish Society • Kimberly’s Cafes • The Houstonian • Katie & Staci Scott • Katy Six House • Lazer Edge Engraving • Reed Smith LLC • Songbird Thai Kitchen • Southpole • Suzanne Bruce and Associates • The Owl Bar

Send ONE Suit MONTH

March 2017

136 Companies
177 Drop-off sites
25,366 Professional Items

Above statistics represent results from S.O.S. Month 2016.

HELP US BREAK RECORDS IN 2017

Save the date for S.O.S. Month! For more information about participating in S.O.S. Month in March 2017, please contact Stacy Manif at stacy@dfshouston.org or 713.337.0821.

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Read Online

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FRAN GRANGER
IN MEMORY
and with GRATITUDE.

On August 3, 2016, Fran Granger, a member of our Advisory Council and a Founding Volunteer, lost her valiant battle with cancer. Fran and I had been friends for 20 years when she decided to begin volunteering at DFSH. Each and every week, and often even more, Fran would walk in with a big smile on her face and say to me “what do you need today?” I used to tease her that she was our only volunteer who donated the funds to purchase plus-sized suits, then when they arrived she would unpack and clean them, and the next day suit clients would arrive with the purchased suits and send them off for a job interview. These were the early days of DFSH; we only had a few volunteers, but we were very dependent on the women who helped us “keep the success” in DFSH… and no one did this as well as our Fran.

Our work continues. She is missed, but her spirit lives on…

With love, Nancy

AMIE SEARS
FALL 2016, STAR VOLUNTEER

WHAT HAS BEEN A SPECIAL INTERACTION WITH A CLIENT? One of our clients who joined the Job Search Team described herself as very shy and felt overwhelmed at the idea of networking. However, with a bit of guidance and encouragement she blossomed into a confident public speaker and quickly began making meaningful contacts in her job search. Her transformation then became an inspiration to the other members of the team.

HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT BEING NAMED STAR VOLUNTEER? I am so touched. The mission of DFSH is near and dear to my heart, and I am honored to be a part of this team of volunteers who amazes me on a daily basis by how they manage to change the lives of the women they serve.

Ann Seaborn
The Corporate Guild

1. Naaman Marcus hosted more than 100 women for a fall fashion presentation with Le Metier de Beaute and jewelry designer Ashley Pittman, pictured with Roy D渭 and Swatch Neil of Naaman Marcus.

2. Nancy Levicki with Lindsay Hyman of Accenture and Janet Greene of Phelps 6 of Naaman Marcus.


4. Joni Baird and her colleagues from Chevron enjoying the show at A Night Out.

5. Event emcee, Rachel McNell, HRSO at PwC and, with her mother, McNell of PwC.

6. Corporate Guild President, Staci Vell and Lauren Hall of Texas Aromatics with Ashley Fitzgerald of Chevron at A Night Out.

7. Kim Whaley of Texas Heritage with Pam Jesse of Fitzgerald at A Night Out.

8. Finalists in a game of Heads or Tails for a chance to win a rose gold and diamond necklace from Dickinson by Design.

9. John Daugherty of John Daugherty Realtors, pictured with the K Foundation.


11. The Corporate Guild.

12. September's Fall Fashion, Fitness, Fun!

13. WOW Steering Commitee members at Joy Sewing studio with instructors J. Landa's exquisite.

14. Tootsies Sizzling Summer Soiree event.

Thank you to all who made this corporate event a success. We look forward to next year's event.
Navy veteran, Dezzi, was homeless with two young daughters until she was referred to DFS by Texas Veterans Commission and landed her dream job at Marathon Oil Corporation.}

The mission of Dress for Success Houston is to empower women to achieve economic independence by providing a network of support, professional attire and career development tools to help women thrive in work and in life.