



**W O M E N ' S
E M P L O Y M E N T
N E T W O R K**

2015-2016

**Changing the lives of women,
their families and the community,
one woman at a time.**

Since 1986

Letter from the President



2016 has been a milestone year for the Women's Employment Network, and we are lucky to have the opportunity to celebrate and reflect on 30 years of service to women in our community. Three decades of dynamic programming, while influencing countless lives, is quite an accomplishment for any organization. We attribute our success to the numerous thought leaders, CEO's, volunteers, philanthropists, corporate sponsors and talented staff who have contributed to WEN throughout the years. The support of the community is paramount to our success in supporting our clients as they navigate significant obstacles to financial self-sufficiency and personal discovery. Our model of service is a holistic approach to empowerment, ensuring barriers to client success can be overcome. Due to our long history in Kansas City, WEN is able to leverage relationships with many partners to positively impact families by connecting women with the resources they need to get ahead, both inside and outside our traditional programming. Our OneKC for Women alliance with the Women's Business Center, Women's Capital Connection and WE-Lend Initiative provides additional options of financial success for the clients we are so privileged to serve. Thank you Kansas City for allowing our clients to change their lives and the lives of their families.

Sherry Turner
WEN President
Founder, OneKC for Women

Our Mission

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

Our Vision

WEN's vision is to advance positive change in the lives of women, their families and the community, one woman at a time.

WEN Board of Directors

Chair— Megan McCurdy
Vice-Chair— Angela Hurt
Secretary— Kelly Murphy
Treasurer— Pamela Breuckmann
Anab Abdulahi
Janice Blansit

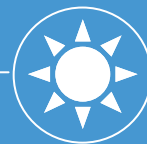
Phyllis Collins
Kathy Dodd
Jeanetta Ellis
Glenda Friesen
Sonia Garapaty
Kayden Howard
Victoria Kandt

Teresa Kellett
Lily Maxwell
Arlene Mockapetris
Stacey Paine
Cyndi Swall
Elma Warrick

Beth K. Smith, Ex-Officio

2015-2016 WEN Client Information

WEN serves a broad spectrum of women throughout the Kansas City metro area who are unemployed, under-employed, new to the workforce, or seeking to re-enter the workplace. Women must be at least 18 years old with a high school diploma or equivalent. Approximately 75% of WEN clients have incomes below the federal poverty level. Likewise, women who come to WEN face a variety of challenges to securing employment, including homelessness or unstable housing, finding and affording childcare, insufficient or nonexistent medical or mental health care, limited means of transportation, substance abuse and recovery, and domestic violence.



In the 2015-2016 program year, WEN served:

721 Total Women

455 New clients

65% of Clients reside in Jackson County

Our Clients

65% of clients are single or divorced

29% of clients do not have stable housing

60% of clients have children

52% of clients report a household income of under \$10,000

40% of clients are the sole provider of income for a household with dependent children

-\$333.39 is the Average Net Income for our clients per month

Our vision for WEN continues to evolve, as women have become 50% of the nation's workforce, enroll in college more than ever before, and become self-employed at 1.5 times the national average, but continue to remain in poverty as single mothers. It is vital that they have the support WEN offers to gain sustainable wages and education necessary that lead them to success.

2015-2016 WEN Program Information

Women's Employment Network (WEN) was founded in 1986 with the goal of helping women, especially the long-term unemployed, transition back into the workforce and become economically self-sufficient. The unique structure of WEN's program was designed to meet the varying needs and skill levels of women in all stages of employment, including the unemployed, underemployed, laid off, new to the job market, or those seeking to re-enter the workplace. WEN takes a proactive approach in shaping Kansas City women's careers and financial stability with a personalized and comprehensive program that addresses their talents and challenges on an individual basis.

2015-2016 Program Outcomes



143

Self-reported jobs



321

Employer partners



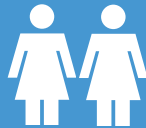
595

Workshop attendees



1879

Hours in job search lab



136

Clients served per month



\$14.12

Average hourly full-time wage reported

What Sets WEN Apart

Signature Program

This comprehensive training helps women build an action-plan for success, focuses on their short term and long term goals, and guides them through the job search process. The training includes four components: career exploration; essential job tools; interview strategies; and access to supported job search.

Licensed Case Management

WEN provides professional case management services for women who need assistance in overcoming personal obstacles to successful employment. Through licensed case management, the personal support team at WEN helps women address barriers and concerns, assess their strengths, and create a plan for success.

Custom Job Search

WEN designs customized programming for women working part-time or attending school. Our staff works closely with each woman to determine what parts of the five-week training will help her reach the next steps in her employment or self-employment goals.

Alumnae Programming

WEN offers continuing opportunities for graduates to hone professional skills, expand networking opportunities, and provide another layer of support as they find careers and pursue long-term employment goals. This includes on-going employment, financial coaching, and individual personal support.

2015-2016 WEN Financial Coaching

In November of 2013, WEN was designated as a Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) Financial Opportunity Center (FOC). Using the nationally recognized and highly acclaimed Financial Opportunity Center model, WEN's program is one of only four in the metropolitan area. Our Financial Coaches work with clients to change their financial behavior in a way that encourages them to make a long-term commitment to increasing monthly net income, credit building, and acquisition of assets. By stabilizing family incomes, we are helping to stabilize our urban neighborhoods and ultimately affect and benefit the entire community.

Our Financial Coaches Provide



- **Individualized, one-on-one financial coaching, meeting the client where they are, and focused on short-term and long-term goals as it relates to personal finances.**
- **Support in developing a personal spending plan, including consistent monitoring, review, and accountability.**
- **Access to credit building tools, credit counseling, and credit dispute resolution.**

2015-2016 Financial Coaching Outcomes

In 2015, WEN began providing financial education workshops and one-on-one financial coaching to community members in conjunction with the Kansas City Public Library. Targeted community members included: women of diverse groups, immigrants, and adults ages 55 and over. WEN began delivering financial workshops through the Kansas City Public Library system. Curriculum for five separate financial workshops includes: Budgeting, Banking Basics, Credit, Payday Loans, and Identity Theft. Additional non-profit organizations receive access to our financial workshops upon request.



180 Financial coaching clients



21 coaching clients each month



53 participants improved credit score

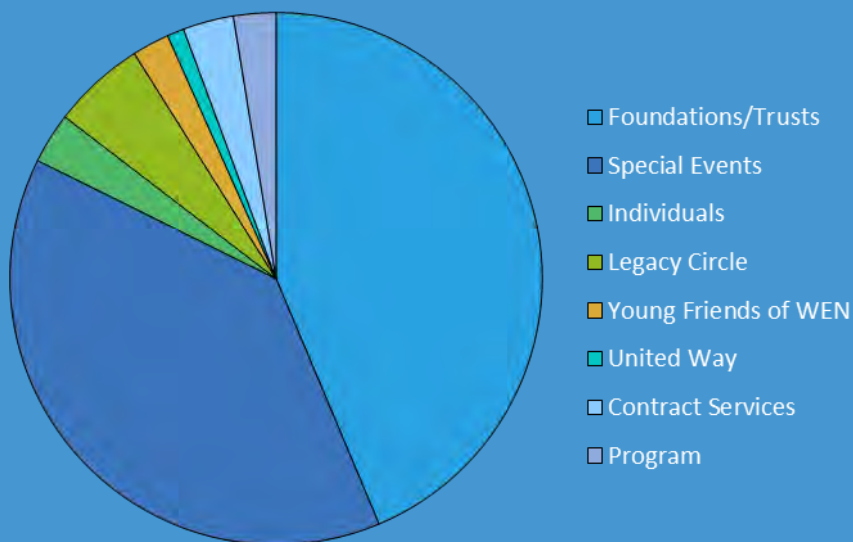


44 participants decreased their outstanding collections

2015-2016 WEN Financials

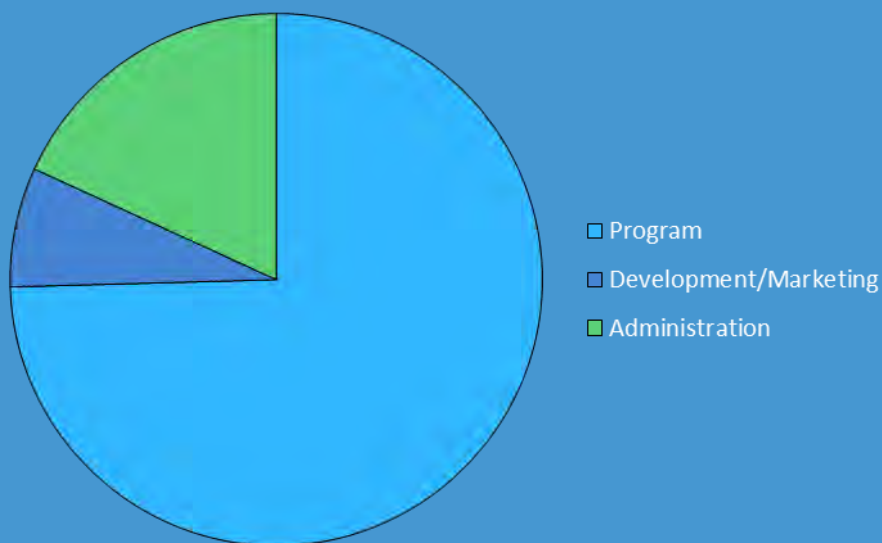
WEN diversifies sources of funding to ensure future financial stability for the organization. For the last six years, WEN has balanced our budget and increased cash reserves, resulting in stronger financial sustainability for the organization. We have maintained a conservative, balanced budget each year and increased revenue between 3-5%. This has been an intentional effort to ensure market fluctuations that might decrease revenues for some of our funders does not put our organization in jeopardy. The Finance Committee remains diligent in monitoring our cash flow and sources of revenue in concert with our Development Committee and full Board of Directors.

Annual Revenue



Revenue	
Foundations/Trusts	\$425,000
Special Events	\$376,000
Individuals	\$30,000
Legacy Circle	\$55,000
Young Friends of WEN	\$22,000
United Way	\$10,000
Contract Services	\$30,024
Program	\$25,000
Total	\$973,024

Annual Expenses



Expenses	
Program	\$756,700
Development /Marketing	\$73,790
Administration	\$184,400
Total	\$1,014,890

**Difference in income and expenses reflects strong cash position; expenses include previous year (2014-15) restricted account dollars, approved by WEN's board.*

Celebrating 30 Years of WEN



WEN's first class in 1986.



Founders Beth K. Smith and Marjorie Powell Allen.

In 1986, thirty years ago, 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 a ten thousand square foot facility that served over 700 women last year alone.

Over the last three decades, WEN has continued to work toward the mission and vision of its founders and has played an important role in the professional growth of Kansas City women.

In 2009, WEN joined with the Women’s Business Center and Women’s Capital Connection to create the OneKC for Women alliance, which now also includes WE-Lend, a micro-lending initiative. The alliance provides a range of resources to women and provides clients with more options for financial independence, including improved educational opportunities, entrepreneurial skills and leadership training.

In November of 2013, WEN was designated as a Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) Financial Opportunity Center (FOC).

In 2015, WEN created Young Friends of WEN (YFOW), a group of philanthropically minded professionals with a collective aim to raise resources and boost awareness of WEN. YFOW’s mission is to inspire a new generation of WEN supporters through opportunities to volunteer, socialize and network at a variety of social and professional development events.

At NO cost to the women served, WEN has graduated hundreds of women from its programs while assisting thousands more through support services and community referrals.



Group of recent WEN alumnae.

BETH K. SMITH AND MARJORIE POWELL ALLEN LEGACY CIRCLE

The Beth K. Smith and Marjorie Powell Allen Legacy Circle is a three-year commitment of \$500 and above. Sustaining gifts from Legacy Circle members honor the vision of our founders and help maintain WEN's tradition of empowering women and families.



LEGEND - \$3,000

Ann & Kenneth Baum
Elizabeth "Zibbie" Ferrell
Catherine J. Kelly
Teresa Kellett
Cheryl Lockton Williams
Marta Padula
Anne D. St. Peter
Beth K. Smith
Debbie Smith
Jeannine Strandjord

FOUNDER - \$1,000

Cathy Baier
Kate Ferrell Banks
Rita Blitt
Laura Brady
Kay Callison
Michelle & Peter deSilva
Kathy Dodd
Kiersten Firquain
Cheryl Flood
Brenda Hafner & Alexandra Strong
Marilyn & Jim Hebenstreit
Angela Hurt
Lori Kelleher
Nancy Kenner
Christine Kemper
Lily Hayes Maxwell
Lori McGroder
Arlene Mockapetris
Sandy S. Mullen
Kelly Murphy
Michele Pope
Victoria Rae & Matthew Swindells
Joan Redhair
Victoria Reisler
Cindy Richey
Dr. Michelle Robin
Kelly Scanlon
Deborah Starke
Cynthia Weber Scherb
Shannon Swift
Lynnette Williams

VISIONARY - \$500

Christine & Don Alexander
Terry Anderson & Michael Henry
Julie Anderson Clark & Vince Clark
Jennifer Atterbury
Katherine Baker & Dan Nelson
Carol & Tom Barnett
Sarah Baum
Linda Bemis
Joan & Bert Berkley
Janice Blansit
Karen Bisset
Tonia Bomar
Tracy Bornman
Pam Breuckmann
Kathleen Brooke
Erica Brune
Mr. and Mrs. Bob Burnett
Elizabeth Cleveland
Erin & Shannon Cole
Phyllis Collins
Mindy Corporon
Lucy & Fred Coulson
Julie Donelon
Darlene Dunn
Alice Ellison
Ann Fay
Hannah Fenley
Sherry Forsee
Theresa Freilich
Karen Fulgham-McCoy
Lisa Gioia
Stephanie Guin
Jen Gulvik
Jenny Haile
Donald Hall
Belinda Harrison
Deborah Hays
Shirley Helzberg
Karen & Michael Herman
Micah Hobbs
Kayden Howard
Theresa Hursh
Kim Jones & Shelly Freeman
Victoria Kandt

Stephanie Kearney
Haylee Kelley
Courtney Kounkel
Cindy Laffey
Julie & Bill Lattimer
Megan McCurdy & Meredith Moser
Norma McKelvy
Kate Mignerone
Sandy Moll
Kelly Nash
Barbara Koval Nelson
Julie Nelson Meers
Stacey Payne
Cheryl & Ryan Poage
Wendy Powell
Maureen Purcell & Dr. David Husted
Jen Regas
Carolyn Reintjes
Tanya Rodecker Wendt
Kimberly Robinett
Stacey & James Saladin
Melissa & Tom Schroeder
Barbara & Larry Schulte
Audrie Seeley
Margo Shepard
Christen Shepherd
S. Sloane Simmons &
Harl A. Van Deursen
Hillary Stamper
Rachel Smith & Christopher Vickers
Jennifer Stevenson
Lisa Terry
Deborah Throckmorton
Angela Tower
Sarah Trembley Evans
Sherry Turner
Nan Vail & Keith Bottorff
Martha Warren
Melody Warren
Paul Weber
Nancy Whitworth
Julia Wilson
Marie Woodbury
Karen Zecy



**Women's
Employment
NETWORK**

Proud partner of OneKC for Women

Women's Employment Network

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