# WOMEN'S **EMPLOYMENT** NETWORK SINCE 1986.

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

2014-2015 ANNUAL REPORT





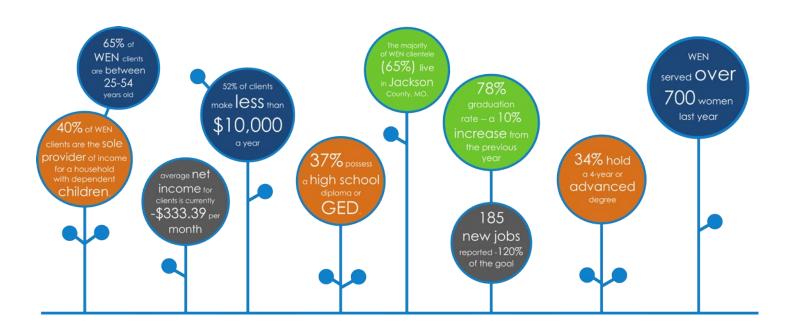
The 2014-2015 fiscal year was a fantastic year of discovery and growth at Women's Employment Network. We continue to serve a great number of women in the Kansas City community and, with the growth of our Financial Coaching and Credit Building program, clients are learning how to stand on their own financial feet and secure long-term financial stability for themselves and their families.

In 2016 WEN will celebrate 30 years as an organization focused on the financial self-sufficiency of women. Our vision for WEN continues to evolve as women become 50% of the nation's workforce, enroll in college more than ever before, remain in poverty as single mothers and become self-employed at 1.5 times the national average. Challenges and barriers remain much the same, but providing all options to gain sustainable wages and education is necessary for WEN to continue leading women to success. WEN participates in a community strategy as a LISC Financial Opportunity Center, with emphasis on financial coaching as a

model improving sustainable outcomes for our clients, and now also takes the lead in delivering financial workshops through the Kansas City Public Library system. We participate in the OneKC for Women alliance that includes the Women's Business Center (WBC), the Women's Capital Connection (WCC), and the new WE-Lend Initiative, our micro loan program. This alliance allows the highest quality model of financial success through job placement, credit/financial health, and aspirations to self-employment and small business ownership. We will continue to empower our clients as they grow in their careers and economic stability -- and give prospective clients the courage to take a leap of faith and explore WEN as a place of care and compassion.

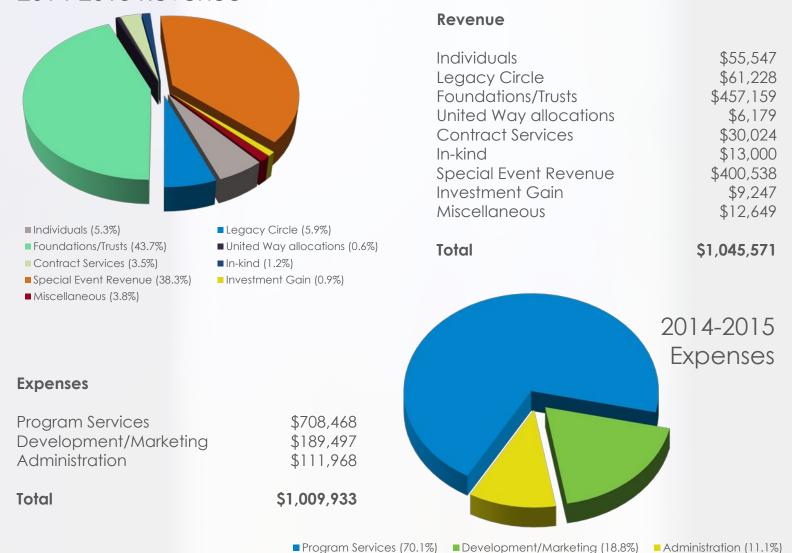
U Sherry Turner WEN President Founder, OneKC for Women

#### 2014-2015 WEN Client Demographics



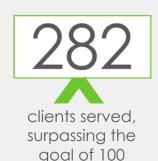
# FINANCIALS FOR WEN'S 2014-2015 FISCAL YEAR

2014-2015 Revenue



## FINANCIAL COACHING PAYS OFF FOR WEN CLIENTS

For women and families who have struggled to make ends meet, a secure job is the first step toward financial stability. But, it's only the first step. As a Financial Opportunity Center (FOC), WEN now provides long-term, one-on-one financial coaching to help take a client out of a downward spiral. During the 2014-2015 fiscal year:









## 2015 LUNCHEON - CHANGING LIVES TOGETHER

The Women's Employment Network annual spring luncheon was overflowing with some of the metro's most influential business and community leaders. It was an inspiring event thanks to the over 1,000 supporters, volunteers, and professionals from across the community who came together to celebrate and honor women in our community who have overcome great obstacles to get to where they are.

Dianne and Congressman Emanuel Cleaver II were the Honorary Co-Chairs, and Katie Van Luchene and Beth Zollars served as Luncheon Co-Chairs. Alice Ellison, former Vice President of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas City, received the 2015 Beth K. Smith Award, which recognizes those who advance the mission of WEN. The afternoon was a record-breaking success raising much-needed dollars to help women achieve economic self-sufficiency and forge positive change for themselves and their families. In fact, WEN has consistently been honored as one of the City's Top Five Luncheons based on net dollars raised.



Luncheon Co-Chair Katie Van Luchene, WEN graduate speaker Katrina Clark, WEN Board Chair Jen Gulvik and Co-Chair Beth Zollars gather before the 2015 Luncheon.



Mayor Sly James, Katie Van Luchene, Alice Ellison, Congressman Emanuel Cleaver II, Dianne Cleaver and Beth Zollars.

## ALICE ELLISON RECEIVES 2015 BETH K. SMITH AWARD



WEN Board Chair Jen Gulvik presents the 2015 Beth K. Smith Award to Alice Ellison.

Alice Ellison, former WEN Board Chair, was the 2015 Beth K. Smith Award recipient. Alice will received the distinguished honor onstage at WEN's Annual Luncheon. The Beth K. Smith Award, named after one of WEN's founders, was created several years ago to recognize individuals who have demonstrated exemplary commitment to advancing the mission of WEN. While serving as Vice President of Community Relations at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas City, Alice got involved with WEN and later led the Board for two consecutive three-year terms, including roles as both Board Vice-Chair and Chair. We are grateful to her for her many years of outstanding service to WEN and our mission.

# JOIN US FOR OUR 30TH ANNIVERSARY LUNCHEON

In 2016, WEN will celebrate 30 years of helping Kansas City women write their next chapter and reach their dreams. Join us on **April 6th** at the Sheraton Crown Center in to help us celebrate these real-life success stories.

**Honorary Co-Chairs:**Barbara P. Allen and Deborah Allen

**Luncheon Co-Chairs:**Debby Ballard and Cora Storbeck





# CHANGING LIVES TOGETHER



#### Legend - \$3,000

Ann & Kenneth Baum
Tara & Jon Darbyshire
Elizabeth J. Ferrell
Ann Fish
Theresa Hursh
Teresa Kellett
Catherine Kelly
Cheryl Lockton Williams
Dawn Murphy
Marta Padula
Anne 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 Chervl Flood Brenda Hafner & Alexandra Strong M. Suzanne Hall Marilyn & James Hebenstreit Angela Hurt Lori Kelleher Christine Kemper Lily Hayes Maxwell Jean McDonnell Lori McGroder Marti & Patrick McLarnev Arlene Mockapetris Kelly Murphy Jeannette Nichols Michele Pope Joan Redhair Victoria Reisler Cindy Richey Dr. Michelle Robin Kelly Scanlon Deborah Starke Shannon Swift

### Visionary - \$500

Christine Alexander Terry Anderson & Michael Henry Julie Anderson Clark & Vince Clark Jennifer Atterbury Dawn & David Baker Katherine Baker & Dan Nelson Carol & Tom Barnett Sarah Baum Linda Bemis Joan & Bert Berkley Karen Bisset Janice Blansit Tonia Bomar Mary Branton Pamela Breuckmann Kathleen Brooke Mr. & Mrs. Bob Burnett Danielle & John Ciccarelli Elizabeth Cleveland Joan Cohen 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 Jen Gulvik Stephanie Guin Carlene Hall Donald Hall Belinda Harrison Deborah Hays Shirley Helzberg Karen & Michael Herman Micah Hobbs Kayden Howard Heather & Jim Humphrey Victoria Kandt

Stephanie Kearney Haylee Kelley Nancy Kenner Courtney Kounkel Julie & Bill Lattimer Lana Maudlin Megan McCurdy Norma McKelvy Kate Migneron Sandy Moll Kelly Nash Barbara Koval Nelson Julie Nelson Meers Roshann Parris Cheryl & Ryan Poage Wendy Powell Maureen Purcell Carolyn Reintjes Stacey & Jim Saladin Cynthia Weber Scherb Melissa & Tom Schroeder Barbara & Larry Schulte Mickella Shecut Margo Shepard Christen Shepherd S. Sloane Simmons & Harl A. Van Deursen Jeanne & Charlie Sosland Hillary Stamper Jennifer Stevenson Darcy & Lindsey Stewart Deborah Throckmorton Sarah Trembley Evans **Sherry Turner** Nan Vail & Keith Bottorff Martha Warren Melody Warren Paul Weber Lynnette Williams Julia Wilson Beth G. Wittig Marie Woodbury



Anna Van Ophem

# **Board of Directors**

Jen Gulvik

Megan McCurdy Vice Chair

Angela Tower
Treasurer

Kelly Murphy Secretary Janice Blansit
Pam Breuckmann
Phyllis Collins
Jeanetta Ellis
Kayden Howard
Angela Hurt
Victoria Kandt
Teresa Kellett
Lily Hayes Maxwell
Arlene Mockapetris
Elma Warrick

# JOIN US IN CHANGING LIVES TOGETHER

Big, systemic change can start by helping one woman secure employment and become financially and emotionally self-sufficient -- WEN is the agent for this change. We couldn't do what we do without the support of the community. There are many opportunities to volunteer at WEN, including: workshop facilitation, mock interviewing, résumé writing, or working in WEN's professional clothing bank. Other ways to contribute include sponsoring, attending or hosting one of our Special Events, joining the Legacy Circle or Young Friends of WEN, or becoming a monthly donor. For more information on ways to get involved, visit www.kcwen.org.

## **WEN Co-Founders**

Two legendary Kansas City philanthropists Beth K. Smith (left) and Marjorie Powell Allen (right) founded WEN in 1986. In the three decades since, WEN has supported countless women and their families as they work to achieve financial independence.



# HELPING WOMEN HELP THEMSELVES

Women's Employment Network's (WEN's) mission is to help women raise their self-esteem and achieve economic independence through sustained employment. WEN is a nonprofit organization that offers job-search training and resources, individualized coaching, professional case management and financial education opportunities.