This year was a year of change for WEN, especially during the second half of the fiscal year. We leased a new building to provide enhanced learning and work environments for our clients and alumnae including: a new training area with advanced audio and visual capabilities, a career hub with an updated computer lab, shared work and networking areas, a clothing closet equipped with a dressing room and the convenience of surface parking just feet from the front door. Our WEN team and clients were right at home in our new space. Then, on March 21, 2020, our offices, training area and career hub were shut down due to the pandemic. We quickly shifted our work, including WEN’s Annual Luncheon and all of our services, to online.

Our efforts to quickly embrace virtual training and one-on-one consultations over Zoom, emails and phone to serve our clients is a testament to our commitment to the women in our Kansas City community and the impact we have on the families who depend on these women. Our success was made possible in large part due to the overwhelming support and compassion from our community partners, our donors, our volunteers, and our WEN team. This community support is paramount to our success in empowering our clients as they navigate significant obstacles to financial self-sufficiency and personal discovery as they look back and move forward. We are excited as we look ahead to the upcoming year and beyond as WEN continues to make a difference in Kansas City — one woman at a time.

sherry turner
WEN PRESIDENT AND 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 Women Lead Initiative. By working together as OneKC for Women, these partner organizations are able to better achieve a common goal: empowering women to achieve financial independence.
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**

**2019 - 2020 Directors:**
Angela Hurt, Chair
Kim Jones, Vice-Chair
Phyllis Collins, Secretary
Jen Regas, Treasurer
Anab Abdulahi
Janice Blansit
Katheen Dodd
Kiersten Firquain

Sonia Garapaty
Victoria Kandt
Nicole Miller
Arlene Mockapetris
Stacey Paine
Julie Pine
Cyndi Swall
Toni Walsh
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 full 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.
### Program Statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Median Income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>80%</td>
<td>80% of clients were below the federal poverty level.</td>
<td>$18.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50%</td>
<td>50% of clients were making very low income.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73%</td>
<td>73% of clients were single or divorced.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52%</td>
<td>52% of clients were identifying as a person of color.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Based on households of four
- Average full-time wage
- Based on KC Metro median income
- Missouri / Kansas clients
- Average monthly net income reported at intake
I’m really proud of where my mom is today.

ROSE’S DAUGHTER, NINA - 2020 LUNCHEON VIDEO

Life was very routine, but a chaotic routine. It wasn’t really stable. It was kind of just all over the place.

After the WEN program, I learned how to persevere and fight for the things that I want.

I saw a flyer at the library and that’s how I found out about WEN. The things that it said in the flyer just kind of really stuck with me. I had been at a job for quite a while... I just knew I didn’t want to do that job for most of my life but I just didn’t know what it was I needed to do about it. So, I thought this was an opportunity to kind of figure that out. I wasn’t sure what I needed to do next, but I knew that I wanted something more purposeful for my life — for myself and for my kids.

I looked at some of the things that were on the flyer — the training, the job search...things like that.

During that time, I was really reflecting on just life in general. So, I finally decided to call. After WEN, I made a lot of changes — one was going back to school.

I left my kids’ father. I started getting involved in my community at my kids’ school. There were a lot of big changes that I made in my life. It was hard but WEN really just started this fire inside of me that helped me know that I could do this, you know?

I’ve fallen before, but WEN helped me know I could get back up and keep moving forward.

WEN had a huge impact on my kids because of the changes I made. I wouldn’t have done those things if I hadn’t come to WEN. WEN helps empower women in the community and they’re with them every step of the way helping them be where they want and need to be in the future.
Since 1986, each woman who comes to WEN has experienced 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. Annually, WEN celebrates the successes of these women by hosting an annual luncheon.

The 2020 WEN Annual Luncheon premiered on YouTube on April 14th at 11:30am with a live chat from luncheon attendees. It was exciting to hear from our 2020 Luncheon Co-chairs, Andrea Hendricks, Cerner Corporation, and Megan McCurdy, Stinson LLP, as they talked about the organization that we love so much. Their kind words and true appreciation for all that we do for women in the Kansas City community made the way we were able to pivot from an over 1000 attendee in-person luncheon to a public VIRTUAL event in a matter of weeks worth all the effort.

Congratulations to our 2020 Beth K. Smith Award recipients, S. Sloane Simmons and Casey Simmons.

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!
Thank you to everyone who attended and supported our 9th annual KC’s Got Talent corporate talent show! We had seven incredible acts, three fabulous judges, and two amazing emcees surrounded by a great crowd of WEN supporters.

Congratulations to all of our 2019 acts and winners:

- 1st place: Regina Del Carmen sponsored by Stellar Image Studios.
- 2nd place: Korso sponsored by Lead Bank
- People’s Choice: Virago sponsored by Happy Food Co.

Thank you to our Grammy Sponsor, Country Club Bank, and all of this year’s Tony Sponsors: Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas City, Centric, CrossFirst Bank, Happy Food Co., JE Dunn Construction, Lead Bank, Stellar Image Studios, Stinson LLP and Veracity Consulting, Inc.
WEN’s KC Job Fairs, held annually in May and in October, continue to succeed as events for both employers and job seekers.

October 2019’s KC Job Fair hosted 74 employers at the Sheraton Crown Center, with an estimated attendance of over 400 job seekers. A variety of industries were present to recruit for positions including: banking, nonprofit, healthcare, technology, local and federal government, food and hospitality, legal, education, staffing and transportation. May 2020’s KC Job Fair was cancelled due to Covid-19 pandemic.
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: $638,338
- Special Events: $361,316
- Legacy Circle: $66,458
- Individuals: $17,642
- In-kind: $25,000
- Contract Services: $30,020
- United Way: $6,840
- Other: $17,006

**expenses**

- Program: $945,736
- Development/Fundraising: $164,689
- Administration: $178,561

**TOTAL REVENUE** - $1,162,620

**TOTAL EXPENSES** - $1,288,986*
WEN moved into our new location at 4328 Madison Avenue. The move was made possible by our partners at Country Club Bank.
WEN’S OFFICES ARE LOCATED IN THE HEART OF WESTPORT IN KANSAS CITY

WOMEN’S EMPLOYMENT NETWORK

kcwen.org

4328 MADISON AVE  |  KANSAS CITY, MO 64111
(816) 822-8083

@WOMENSEMPLOYMENTNETWORK  |  WOMEN’S-EMPLOYMENT-NETWORK

@ONEKCFORWOMEN  |  YOUTUBE.COM/WOMENSEMPLOYMENTNETWORK