

# The Gratitude Report

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## Circle of Hope 2023 30 years of incredible impact



Thanks to you, we raised more than \$140,000 at this year's Circle of Hope. On October 12, 2023, nearly 350 of our dearest friends, community members, clients, and supporters joined us at The Westin Pittsburgh to celebrate 30 years of PA Women Work.

During the celebration, we honored our clients' achievements and recognized the incredible support you have provided to help get us where we are today. We are filled with gratitude and inspiration as we look back at the impact you had in moving our mission forward. Your continued involvement helps us lift and support job-seekers across our region.

Every silent auction bid, raffle entry, ticket purchase and donation made a real difference. Thank you for being part of our community and joining us in our work as we look toward the next 30 years.

Check out photos from this year's event and see a full list of our generous sponsors at [www.pawomenwork.org/circle-of-hope-2023](http://www.pawomenwork.org/circle-of-hope-2023).

## Your gifts at work New programs and initiatives

Every time you make a gift - big or small - it supports our mission to serve our region's job-seekers with impactful and life-changing career development programming and opportunities. Made possible by our generous community, we are rolling out new, client-requested programs. Take a look at how your donation is going to work for your neighbors:



### Power Up Connections

In July we launched Power Up Connections, a speed networking event designed to facilitate meaningful engagement between PA Women Work's program participants and representatives from local companies.

### Micro Internships

In partnership with Parker Dewey, our new micro internship program provides our participants the opportunity to gain professional experience in a real-world setting, connect with local employers, build their resume and try out various positions.



### Launch: Entrepreneurship

This month, we are introducing a two-day course on starting your own business in collaboration with Paramount Pursuits. Participants will craft a business plan and build entrepreneurship skills.

Thank you for making these new programs possible! To learn more or get involved in any of the programs above, visit [www.pawomenwork.org](http://www.pawomenwork.org) or contact [info@pawomenwork.org](mailto:info@pawomenwork.org).

# Starting over; Building a new life: *Serap's story*



While in the United States on a trip with her family, Serap learned about chaos and controversy happening in her home country, Turkey. She and her husband made the incredibly tough decision to stay in the United States to protect themselves and their two daughters.

"It was a really big decision. We had everything in our home country. But we had to do what was needed to keep our kids safe," Serap reflected.

After starting their lives from scratch, Serap and her husband began to seek employment that was both meaningful and economically sustainable. With 18 years of teaching experience, Serap struggled to map out a career path without the necessary credentials to pursue a teaching position in the U.S.

"I love teaching. To think I might never teach again or find a fulfilling job was very disappointing," Serap said.

She discovered PA Women Work where she participated in New Choices and RISE - our career development program for immigrants and refugees. She found

a community of other job-seekers and received one-on-one career coaching to learn how she could use her teaching skills and background toward a new position.

"I saw that I was not alone. PA Women Work helped me see other options and search for different opportunities," Serap explained.

Serap landed a job with Jewish Family and Community Services of Pittsburgh as a case worker and has found a passion for supporting new Americans as they get settled here. "I can say I am really proud. I have the opportunity to help others and touch lives in my job."

Serap was one of this year's Client Empowerment Award winners at Circle of Hope. To watch her full story, visit [www.pawomenwork.org/success-stories](http://www.pawomenwork.org/success-stories).

## Spread the word

You can help PA Women Work raise awareness throughout our community. This January, show your support for our 3 Cups of Coffee program for #NationalMentoringMonth. Help us pour information all over LinkedIn by joining our campaign.

To learn more, contact our Communications Director, Abby Swalga, at [aswalga@pawomenwork.org](mailto:aswalga@pawomenwork.org).



## Stay in touch

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## Donor Spotlight: *Jenn Osinski*



With a passion for helping lift women up in the workplace, Jenn Osinski, Senior Manager Data Analytics at UnitedHealth Group, felt drawn to the mission and clients of PA Women Work.

In 2023, she connected with PA Women Work and began volunteering as a 3 Cups of Coffee mentor.

"It is important to support other women along their career path," said Jenn. "We should always remember to reach down and help others to come up to where we are, just like those who went before us."

Her commitment and involvement to PA Women Work continues to grow. While still volunteering as a mentor, Jenn donated her time to support our annual fall fundraising event,

Circle of Hope. Additionally, she recently signed up for The Coffee Club, our monthly giving circle.

"It's a great organization with a solid mission and team, and I feel that volunteers can really make a huge impact in the lives of those they interact with through the programs," said Jenn.

Thank you, Jenn, for joining our team as a donor and volunteer. Your time and commitment makes a life-changing impact.

To learn how you can get involved as a volunteer, visit [www.pawomenwork.org/get-involved](http://www.pawomenwork.org/get-involved).