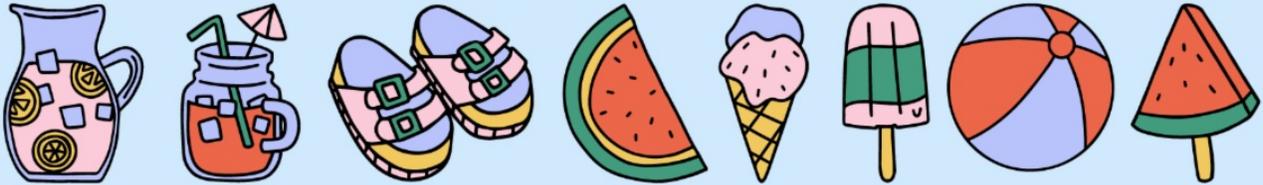


Summer News Flash

PENNSYLVANIA WOMEN WORK



Thought Leadership Blog



This month's blog post by Any Kay Yaghoubian encourages you with tips and suggestions on how you can surround yourself with a powerful network of women.

[Check it out here.](#)

We moved!



Have you heard the exciting news? PA Women Work moved! We are excited to grow our reach and partnerships in a new space and location in the East End of Pittsburgh. Please make note of our new address!

Offices at Baum

Celebrating Nieves Stiker's retirement *Nearly 30 years at PA Women Work*



It leaves many in our community with bittersweet emotions that the year we celebrate 30 years of Pennsylvania Women Work, we also send off our friend, facilitator and mentor, **Nieves Stiker**. She will retire after nearly 30 years of involvement with our organization.

As we look back on our organization's three decades, Nieves is at the center of many memories, stories and milestones. Earlier this month, we met in a studio with some of the members of our community to capture the impact of our last 30 years. Nieves joined us, along with some of her past program participants.

Standing in the spotlight surrounded by a brilliant white backdrop, Nieves stood arm in arm with two of her former students. As the cameras rolled to capture their scene, one of the women, with tears in her eyes said, "Nieves, you changed my life."

This sentiment; this connection; this transformation is just one of the thousands Nieves has created during her time with our organization.

"Failure is an opportunity to learn; you did what you did with what you had at the time," Nieves tells her students.

Save the date!

Save the date

CIRCLE OF HOPE

celebrating 30 years of Pennsylvania Women Work

October 12, 2023 | The Westin Pittsburgh

Pennsylvania Women Work invites you to join us to celebrate our 30th year of supporting women on their path to success at this year's Circle of Hope Awards Dinner! Mark your calendar for October 12, 2023, at The Westin Pittsburgh. More details to follow.

Know someone who deserves to be recognized? We are now accepting nominations for our Corporate Volunteerism Award and Diversity and Inclusion Award. [Click here to learn more or place your nomination.](#)

Harrisburg Trip



This spring, we headed to the Capital to meet with legislators and discuss the impact and reach of our New Choices program. Throughout the day, our New Choices directors, along with staff and New

"The important thing is understanding what you learned about yourself, what you're going to do about it, and then you forgive yourself."

Over her 28 years with PA Women Work, we estimate that Nieves has reached more than 7,000 job-seekers on their path to a more meaningful career and prosperous life. During this time, Nieves has been many things to many people. She was an instructor, friend, mentor, ally, coworker, supporter, director, and volunteer. But most of all, she was an inspiration.

"I have hundreds of cards and notes from students saying 'you changed my life'," said Nieves humbly. "I didn't change their life; I was simply walking with them when they changed their life."

Thank you, Nieves, for your many years of service to PA Women Work and to the people of this region. Enjoy your well-deserved retirement!

To read more about Nieves's time with our organization, [click here to view the full article](#)

Working 9-to-5 Bingo was a FUN success!



On May 11, we hosted our first-ever **Working 9-to-5 Bingo**. More than 150 people joined us for our 1970's themed event where we honored the trailblazing women who started the work we continue today.

Thank you to our groovy-attired attendees! You danced, you won prizes, you laughed, you celebrated, but most of all, you supported local job-seeking women through your participation in our event.

A special thank you to **CentiMark Corporation**, our 'We can do it!' sponsor, and Pittsburgh Event Group for providing a photobooth, our bingo caller, and 1970s tunes. Check out all our photos on our [Facebook album!](#)

Choices participants, shared information about our program and expressed the importance to job-seekers across our Commonwealth.

Thank you to those who joined us on our trip, and to those who advocated on our behalf with phone calls and emails to your legislators.

Meet our staff: *Hilda Valdespino*



We are pleased to welcome Hilda Valdespino as a Program Manager. In her role, Hilda will focus on supporting job-seeking refugees, immigrants, and individuals with more intense barriers to employment, such as people who have a justice-involved background or are in recovery. An entrepreneur, Hilda brings with her over a decade of motivational speaking, workforce development and instruction experience.

"I am passionate about helping individuals unlock their potential and live better lives. As the daughter of Cuban exile parents, I know the benefits this country has to offer. I would like to assist others in navigating the world of work in Western PA," Hilda said.

Upcoming classes

We teamed up with Senator Bartolotta for Career Kick-Start



Our Career Kick-Start program is a one-day career development event where job-seekers learn job-search skills, finesse or create their resume, participate in mock interviews, and get one-on-one career coaching. Last month, we *partnered with Senator Camera Bartolotta to bring this program to Washington County!*

"I would like to thank PA Women Work for working with me at Career Kick-Start. You shared a lot of valuable feedback, and I truly appreciate it. I look forward to continuing my journey with the organization," said Terri, an attendee at the May 19 Career Kick-Start event.

A special thank you to the partner organizations who attended to share information about hiring and paid training opportunities: CentiMark Corporation, Washington & Jefferson College, PennDot, Range Resources, Blueprints, University of Pittsburgh, and UPMC.

Career Kick-Start is made possible with generous funding from the EQT Foundation.

Making a career change: *Frances's story*



After working as a buyer and manager in retail for nearly a decade, Frances O'Brien felt stuck. At a crossroads, she left her job to pursue a new path. She signed up for a training program in software engineering and decided she wanted to make this her career, but she wasn't sure where to begin.

"At the end of the training, I felt like I had the experience to get a job in software engineering, but I didn't know how to start or exactly what jobs to look for. I didn't really know anyone who could help; I didn't have any contacts in the field," Frances



New Choices

Virtual

July 10-14, M-F; 9 - 11:45 a.m.

July 17-21, M-F; 6 - 8:45 p.m.

Communicating for Success

Saturday, June 17

9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

UPMC Health Plan Neighborhood Center

6401 Penn Ave.

Pittsburgh, PA 15206

**This program is made possible thanks to funding from the PNC Foundation.*

Client Support Services

Already a current or former PA Women Work client? You're eligible to [participate in the following virtual workshops](#) to help continue on your path to success.

A Closer Look, 10-11:30 a.m.

June 20, Secret to Success

July 18, LinkedIn

Career Pathways, 9-11 a.m.

July 19, Transportation

Gathering Place

June 29, 7-8 p.m.

July 12, 12-1 p.m.

July 27, 7-8 p.m.

explained.

She discovered PA Women Work and was connected with a staff member who encouraged her to participate in 3 Cups of Coffee. She was matched with a mentor in the software engineering field who provided her support and guidance to get her new career off the ground.

"My mentor helped me learn how to develop relationships with people in this industry. She helped me identify the skills I had gained in the training, and the skills I was bringing from my previous work experiences," Frances said.

Frances accepted a software support role at ConnectiveRX earlier this year. She's building her skills and growing her connections and hopes to further her career in the field.

Thank you to our 3 Cups of Coffee funders for making stories like Frances's possible: Arby's Foundation | Arconic Foundation | American Eagle Outfitters Foundation | J. Jill Compassion Fund | Jack Buncher Foundation | CNX Foundation | Snee-Reinhardt Charitable Foundation

Volunteer Spotlight: *Welcome our new Board President and Vice President!*



At the end of the month, our current Board President, Leslye Herrmann, will complete her four-year term in the position. It has been an honor to work with Leslye. During her tenure, she helped to strengthen and grow the organization, including the creation of our three-year strategic plan. She has provided endless support, mentorship and leadership and we are grateful for the commitment she has given to support job-seeking women in our community.

With Leslye's departure, we are excited to announce our new Board President and Vice President, who will begin their roles July 1, 2023. **Nicole King Yohe will become our Board President** - she has been our Vice President for the last three years, and we are excited for her to take her involvement and leadership to this next chapter. Outside of her involvement with PA Women Work, Nicole is an attorney at FirstEnergy. **Jazmine Grant, Council, PNC Bank, will step into the role of Vice President.** She is an active

Thank you, funders!



Thank you to our funder, **Kia America**, for their dedication to our organization. Kia's generosity enables our GROW and RISE programs to provide more refugees, immigrants and women from underserved communities with free career

coaching and job placement assistance. These programs offer our clients individualized support focusing on the specific skills they need to succeed.

volunteer with the organization and is stepping into this new leadership position with enthusiasm.

Thank you to our entire Board of Directors for all of your incredible support!

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