

News to Suit You

WINTER

A NEWSLETTER FROM DRESS FOR SUCCESS HOUSTON

2023



"DFS Houston's support helped me land my job!"



"I am grateful for the professional development and sisterhood that DFS Houston has provided."



Dear Friends,

As we enter our 25th year, I reflect on all we have accomplished since our co-founders, Nancy Levicki and Susie Cunningham, started the agency with 10 committed Founding Board Members — Sharon Bush, Kirby Cohn, Flo Crady, Sylvie Crum, Sukey Fenoglio, Berthica Fitzsimons, Ethel Hutchinson, Larry Jones, Trish Morille, and Roseann Rogers. That year they served 117 women, and their passion and community engagement brought us to where we are now. In the words of Margaret Mead, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed individuals can change the world. In fact, it's the only thing that ever has." You all are an integral part of that change. We have provided to more than 46,000 women and their families since 1998, thank you!

DFS Houston's annual *Her Path Forward* giving campaign kicks off March 1 in celebration of Women's History Month and International Women's Day. On this 25th anniversary of empowering women in our community, we ask for your support in this giving campaign. This year, double your impact with generous matches up to \$25,000! Contributions impact a women's career development, job search skills, veteran resources, and more. See page five to be a part of the change.



For the past several years, women have faced innumerable challenges. They continue to leave the workplace in search of flexibility and inclusion. Additionally, women face the age-old struggle of balancing childcare and managing a home, increased workloads, and loss of confidence. We help by providing a community of support to ensure a woman not only lands a job but builds a career. See page three to learn more.

Our 2022 *Rendezvous with DFS Houston* was a success, raising more than \$600,000! Thank you to our incredible event chairs: Monisa Cline, Myrtle Jones and Linda Padon, auction chairs: Susie Cunningham, Kate Dearing Fowler, Monica Richards and Katherine Ross, generous sponsors and

talented chefs. See page five to support those who support DFS Houston!

With your support, we are transforming lives. When a woman has access to education and job resources, their contributions strengthen communities, increase organizational effectiveness, and business results and economies grow. We are working effectively, and passionately to uplift more than 2,500 women in 2023 – each of you ensures we will achieve this goal. Thank you!

With heartfelt gratitude,

Lauren Levicki Courville

LAUREN LEVICKI COURVILLE
DFS HOUSTON PRESIDENT

In 2022, members of the PWG had access to presenters and programs from Slalom Consulting, Mia Gradney's "Speak for Success", TUTS, the Houston Symphony, and Bel Inizio. These programs and others ensure the personal and professional growth of the PWG members.



Financial Literacy

Congratulations to the PWG 13-week Financial Literacy Program graduates. These women worked every Thursday evening in person, learning how to improve their financial literacy. Topics included budgeting, credit,

and debt management, as well as how emotions and family play into their finances. One woman stated, "I paid off my credit card of \$10,000 of debt!" These women are well on their way to financial

independence! Thank you, Christian Brothers Automotive, for providing these women the opportunity to grow financial knowledge.



All the information I've learned so far has really changed my outlook on finances, credit, and investment. I've become empowered over the last thirteen weeks, and this financial class has been such an inspiration to me. I can share this information with others; this is just the beginning of a different start!

—ANGELA L.

Women's Veteran Program

Focusing on the "Whole Person Concept," the Veterans Program has had an impactful year serving over 275 veterans. The whole person concept aims to support veteran women to build confidence in themselves and within a more extensive support community. Thank you to our community partners such as Halliburton and H-E-B for supporting this endeavor and ensuring our women feel whole from

the inside out. In 2022, more than \$15,000 worth of H-E-B groceries, helping over 100 women veterans and their families, were distributed.

The DFS Houston Women Veterans program offers so many opportunities to build me up, de-stress, connect with other veterans, and gain the necessary tools to move forward with my life.

—TIFFANY, U.S. ARMY VETERAN



Dr. Amanda Canto of Cosmetic Dentists Houston provided complimentary dental services for six women veterans.

Job Search

Job Search is now an entry point into the agency; and women have access to resources and programming year-round. In 2022, this program served 180 women. The Career Center, sponsored by Chevron, offers workshops and one-on-one sessions at the agency. We look forward to continued growth and development as we meet our women where they are in their job search journey.



SUCCESS STORY

When Denise came in, a medical emergency had changed her life forcing her to sell and leave her business. Goodwill Houston referred her to the DFS Houston Job Search Program.

With this program, Denise completed a LinkedIn Workshop and How to Master the 60-Second Elevator Speech before landing her job with Houston Health and Human Services. She then received additional professional attire for her new position. Congratulations Denise!

25 Years of Empowering Women

Co-Founders Nancy Levicki and Susie Cunningham had a vision of what DFS Houston could be, which has been fulfilled many times. We are incredibly grateful for where we are and for all of you who have ensured we continue to adapt and evolve since 1998. Thank you to our donors, sponsors, volunteers, staff, and of course, the

women who put their trust in us to help them succeed. There are so many wonderful success stories; each month this year, we will highlight a woman's inspirational journey on social media and in our bi-monthly eblasts. We look forward to celebrating the successes with you throughout 2023!

"You treat your clients with dignity from start to finish. I can't wait to tell my clients about you."

—MANNY ESCOT, WORK TEXAS



"Thank you so much for all of the help you have given me. I think I wouldn't have made it without the Women Veterans Program."

—JESSICA

"The team was so welcoming and supportive from the start when I made my appointment and throughout my suiting experience."

—YVONNE

Join the Conversation

THE IMPORTANCE OF FLEXIBILITY

Women in the Workplace, the most extensive study of women in corporate America, concluded in a post-COVID-crisis world, women do not want to return to the workplace of the past. Since women still have the highest burden of household work, they want to work for companies prioritizing flexibility, employee well-being

and DEI. Companies not providing these options are losing experienced women leaders and younger female employees. Managers are often the key to turning this around and need to take bold action. Open the QR code to read more and join this critical conversation.



25 YEARS

OF ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF MORE THAN 46,000 WOMEN AND CREATING SYSTEMIC CHANGE IN THEIR LIVES, THEIR FAMILIES AND OUR COMMUNITY ALL BECAUSE OF SUPPORTERS LIKE YOU.

IN 2022, **1,934** WOMEN WERE IMPACTED BY **10,348** UNITS OF SERVICE

SUCH AS PROFESSIONAL ATTIRE, CAREER EDUCATION, PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT AND VETERANS PROGRAMS.

PWG | **380** CURRENT MEMBERS
THE PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S GROUP
ONGOING CAREER EDUCATION & NETWORK OF SUPPORT

90%
HAVE IMPROVED
SELF-CONFIDENCE

84%
ARE MORE
SELF-SUFFICIENT

92%
WERE MOTIVATED TO
TAKE ACTION AFTER
PWG MEETINGS



57
SCHOLARSHIPS
AWARDED

105
CELEBRATED THE
HOLIDAYS WITH
DFS HOUSTON

259 VOLUNTEERS
DONATED
4,717 HOURS
IN 2022



ONLY 8% OF CHARITIES NATIONALLY EVALUATED
HAVE RECEIVED AT LEAST **EIGHT** CONSECUTIVE
4-STAR EVALUATIONS.

1,432
WOMEN SUITED

56%
OF WOMEN
SUITED GAINED
EMPLOYMENT
IN 2022



1,500+
VETERANS
SERVED
SINCE 2014

300+
H-E-B GIFT CARDS
TO VETERANS



600+
WOMEN RECEIVING
SUPPORT THROUGH
147
VIRTUAL WORKSHOPS



CHAIRS
*Monisa Cline, Myrtle Jones,
Linda Padon*

AUCTION CHAIRS
*Susie Cunningham, Kate Dearing
Fowler, Monica Richards,
Katherine Orellana Ross*



Thank you to all our wonderful sponsors who made the event a success!

WE APPRECIATE THE GENEROSITY OF

A Fare Extraordinaire, Arnaldo Pico's Hospitality Group, CIEL, Coppa Osteria, Daily Gather, Guard & Grace, Hungry's, Liberty Kitchen, Loro, LuLoo's Day & Night, Michael's Cookie Jar, Ostia, Pondicheri, Relish, Ten Sushi, Van Leeuwen Ice Cream, and Total Wine & More

\$617,000 RAISED TO
SUPPORT DFSH PROGRAMS

575 GUESTS ATTENDED

HER PATH FORWARD

SPONSORED BY CHEVRON



Support the women of Dress for Success Houston by giving to Her Path Forward in March! This month-long campaign kicks off March 1 in celebration of Women's History Month and International Women's Day. The campaign is inspired by the belief that when women have access to education and job resources, their contributions strengthen communities, increase organizational effectiveness, and grow business results and economies. This year, double your impact with generous matches up to \$25,000! Contributions impact a women's career development, job search skills, veteran resources, and more. For sponsorship opportunities, contact Director of Development Kelly Moneyhan at Kelly@dfshouston.org.



Thank You to Our Donors

LEGACY GIVING SOCIETY FOUNDING MEMBERS

Shannon and Jeff Abel	Katherine Chomout	Mia Gradney	Ellen Levin	Bonnie Reitz
Joan and Stanford* Alexander	Laura and Ralph Clinard	Arline Guefen	Kristi McCarthy	Becky and Dick Roberts
Marla and Rick Barnard	Monisa Cline	Kim and Ted Hartz	Nikki Rosenberg	Nikki Rosenberg
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Kearston Block	Lauren Levicki and Kyle Courville	Courtney Hopson	Melkeya McDuffie	Sydney and Jeff Shellebarger
Tali and Eric Blumrosen	Flo Crady	Clare and Steve Jackson	Trini Mendenhall	Art Smith
Genora and Dwight Boykins	Susie Wood Cunningham	Clare and Steve Jackson	Niloufar and Amir Molavi	Cynthia Speyrer
Chris and Kristy Bradshaw	Kasey and Mark Dunn	Janis and Paul Jarosz	Jerri and Jim Moore	Connie and Kylyn Taylor
Jennifer Briscoe	Sukey Fenoglio	Donna and Dub Jett	Trish and Rock Morille	Staci Voll and Erick Wegmann
Maria Bryant	Berthica Fitzsimons	Myrtle Jones	Linda Padon	Linda Webb
Libby Cagle and Lauren Taft	Diedra Fontaine	Marie Louise and David Kinder	Mary and Ben Patton	French Anne Young
Kristi and Chick Chickering	Kate Dearing Fowler	Caroline and Jeff Lafond	Amanda and Jeff Polich	
		Nancy Levicki	Gary and Rebekah Reaves	

For more information about Legacy Giving, please contact Nancy Levicki at nancy@dfshouston.org.

**Deceased*

FOUNDATIONS

\$500 AND MORE

Stanford and Joan Alexander Foundation	Comerica Bank	Winston & Strawn LLP	Shearman & Sterling LLP	Melkeya McDuffie
Pauline Altman Foundation Inc.	ConocoPhillips	Woodforest National Bank	Silver Chase Design	Monica McNeill
The Harry S. and Isabel C. Cameron Foundation	Crestwood Equity Partners LP	YPO EA Houston Chapter	Sirius Solutions, LLLP	Trish Morille
CFP Foundation	Curate Capital	Zadok Jewelers	Sullivan Group	Lauren Page
Charity Guild of Catholic Women	Cvr Energy, Inc.	CORPORATE GUILD	Texas Aromatics	Cinda Palacios
Cotton Foundation	Daikin Comfort Technologies	A Fare Extraordinaire	Texas Dental Specialists	Mary Patton
Jerry C. Dearing Family Foundation	Deloitte Tax LLP	Amegy Bank	Third Coast Bank SSB	Amanda Polich
Elegant Bee Charities, Inc	Direct Digital Holdings, Inc.	Ampersand Professionals	Transocean	Rebekah Reaves
The Hamill Foundation	EOG Resources	BVA Group	Truist Bank	Bonnie Reitz
George and Mary Josephine Hamman Foundation	Ethos Consulting	Baker Botts L.L.P.	UKG	Monica Richards
Heimbinder Family Foundation	First American Title Company	Bank of Texas	Ulta Beauty	Becky Roberts
Albert & Ethel Herzstein Charitable Foundation	First Horizon Bank	Bespoke Communications	United Airlines	Robin and Tom Segesta
Houston Junior Forum	Goodman Financial Corporation	Cadence Bank	Wells Fargo	Sydney and Jeff Shellebarger
Houston Producers' Forum	Grant Thornton LLP	CBG Interiors	Westwood Wealth Management	Arthur L. Smith
Junior League of Houston, Inc.	Greenwood King Properties	CenterPoint Energy	Winston & Strawn LLP	Willie M. Stanfield
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Foundation	Houstonian Hotel, Club & Spa	Comcast	Theresa Bazan	Nick Tran
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	Lane Bryant	Daikin Comfort Technologies	Kristy Bradshaw	
	Marathon Oil Corporation	Dry Bar Houston	Paige and Kris Branam	
	Memorial Hermann Health System	Ethos Consulting Group	Lindsey Brown	
	New American Funding	First American Title	Maria Bryant	
	Nextier	First Horizon Bank	Shantera Chatman	
	Northern Trust	Four Seasons Hotel Houston	Kristi Chickering	
	Norton Rose Fulbright	The Greenhouse Day Spa	Monisa Cline	
	Omatic Software	Greenwood King Properties	Mary Ellen Coombe	
	Perry Homes	Grant Thornton LLP	Flo Crady Newton	
	PNC Financial Services Group	Hilcorp Energy Company	Sylvie Crum	
	Poshmark	Hoar Construction	Wendy Daboval	
	PwC	Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP	Vivian Darling	
	Quorum Software	Inscription Capital	Jerri Duddleston Moore	
	Reed Smith LLP	Jenkins & Kamin, LLP	Sukey Fenoglio	
	Reliant, an NRG company	Judson Design	Berthica Andrea Fitzsimons	
	River Oaks District	LeadStyle, LLC	Diedra Fontaine	
	Benefit Cosmetics	Macquarie	Ellie Francisco	
	Bespoke Communications	Marathon Oil Corporation	Rohini Gakhar	
	Bristow Group	Modern Luxury	Jennifer Gatto	
	BVA Group	Midway	Mia Gradney	
	Cadence Bank	New American Funding	Lindsay Holstead	
	Camden Property Trust	Northern Trust	Pam Jesse	
	Care Source	Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP	Hang and Corey Bower	
	Cbg Interiors Ltd	TC Energy	Genora and Dwight Boykins	
	Challenger, Gray & Christmas, Inc.	Texas Aromatics, LP	Shauna Johnson Clark and Morris R. Clark	
	Chevron	Transocean	Kristy and Chris Bradshaw	
	Chicago Title	The Sterling Group	Paige and Kris Branam	
	Christian Brothers Automotive Corporation	Tootsies	Toby Brown	
	Christy Lynn	Truist Bank	Maria and Terry Bryant	
	Clean Harbors	Ulta Beauty	Jenn Buntin	
	Comcast	Ultimate Kronos Group	Jessica Burton	
		Wells Fargo	Maureen and Ric Campo	
		Williams	Toniqa L. Carrier	
			David Carsey	

INDIVIDUALS

\$500 AND MORE

Joan Alexander	Theresa Castro	Rhonda Justice	Suzanne Walstad	CIEL	Memel Designs	Terrace 54
Orlando Alvarado	Shantera Chapman	Susan and Tom Keefe	Claudia Ward	Cointreau	Lemon Laine	The Annie
Holly and Roger Anderson	Anna and Fred Charlton	Kelli Kickerillo and Todd Forester	Thebe Warren	COLT+CRIT	Lerant	The Big Vibe Group
Jessica Arledge	Cathy and Joe Cleary	Marie Louise and David Kinder	Eileen and Thomas Washburn	Coppa Osteria	Liberty Kitchen	The Houston Ballet
Janet Greene	Laura and Ralph Clinard	Meg and Dick Weekley	Meg and Dick Weekley	Cosmetic Dentists Houston	Lindsey Leigh Jewelry	The Houston Symphony
Anna Gryska	Monisa Cline	Whitney Weighter	Sarah Whiteford	Dagne Dover	LivPur	The Lancaster Hotel
Arline Guefen	Samantha Coleman	Fred and Adele Kneipp	Jenn Wiley	Daily Gather	LMNT	The Studio FORM
Paul Guillory	Moni and Jason Collins	Christine and Marc Laborde	Elizabeth and Wayne Wilkerson	Davies Vineyards	Local Foods	The Wine Group (ChloeWine Collection)
Amy and Mark Hammer	Allison Colvard	Georgiana and Robert Ladd	Lynn H. Williams	Deepa Gurnani	Local Table	Three of Cups Soapery
Paul Harhammer	Todd Colvard and Kelly Moneyhan	Caroline and Jeffrey Lafond	Samantha Willenbacher	Diamonds Direct	Loch Bar	Tiffs Treats
Courtney and Zac Harmon	Art Smith	George Lancaster	Jill and Malcolm Winspear	Dig World	Loft18	Todd and Kelly Colvard
Kim and Ted Hartz	Cynthia Speyrer	Karen and Seth Lerner	Hannah and Paul Wolfert	Dobel Tequila	Lola Savannah	Tootsies
Barbara Hawthorn	Connie and Kylyn Taylor	Nancy Levicki	Katherine Wood	Dodd and Elena Hackman	Loro Houston	Topo Chico
Marion Healey	Staci Voll and Erick Wegmann	Lorraine Lewis	Crystal and Randall Wright	Love & Make	Love Shack Fancy	Total Wine & More
Aimee and Daniel Heimbinder	Linda Webb	Lourdes Long	Pat Yarrington	Love the Label	Love the Label	Tracy Sweney
Tracy Hennesy	French Anne Young	Maria and Graham Lowrey	French Anne Young	LuLoo's Day & Night	MAD Houston	Trattoria Sofia
Mary and William Henrich		Emily and Marye Kathleen Mathes	Crystal and Randall Wright	Makeup by Mari	Mansur Gavriel	Treadwell
Janis Henry		B. Lynn Mathre		Marriott Hotel and Spa - Napa Valley	Mary Patton Art	Trez Bistro and Wine Bar
Bill Stewart		Tiffany Mauldin		Mess in a Bottle	Menu of Menus	True Anomaly
Linda Strickland		Kristine Mayhall		Michael's Cookie Jar	Eurkea Heights Brewing Co.	Twirl Cotton Candy
Karen Stubblefield		Laura Mayorga		Mess in a Bottle	Eversan Cooper	Two Stars Whiskey
Beth and Bradley Stump		Kristy and Michael McCarthy		Mind Your Mess	Face Foundrie	UGG Boots
Jill Talisman		Florence McGee		Mirrh	Acrylic Sticks	Ulta Beauty
Connie and Kylyn Taylor		Lee McMurtry		United Airlines	Agavales Tequila / Mexcor International	Urban Harvest
Gaylene Taylor		Monica McNeill		Modern Vintage	Angel Cifuentes Hair Salon	Momentum Indoor Climbing
Brad Thien and Kenn McLaughlin		Trini Mendenhall		Momentum Indoor Climbing	Anheuser-Busch	Van Leeuwen Ice Cream
Travis Torrence		Jon Moretta		Watches of Switzerland	Antone's Famous Po' Boys	Village Dermatology
Joyce and Louis Tucker		Betty Morgan		Wente Vineyards	Arbonne	Whistle Pig
Melissa Villamarin		Trish and Rock Morille		Whitehurst Farms	Armandos	William Price Distilling
Jennifer and John Vogel		Caroline Nakamura		Womxn on the Moon	Armando Richards' Picos	Your Estetic Edit



**Of Empowering
Houston Women**
DRESS FOR SUCCESS HOUSTON

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PRESIDENT

Lauren Levicki Courville



AGENCY NEEDS

*Professional shoes, handbags, business portfolios, and blazers.
The Reliant donation circle is open Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.*

Legacy Giving

Dress for Success Houston ensures future programming to support the empowerment of women in our community. If you wish to learn more about being a part of the Legacy Giving Society, please contact Nancy Levicki, Founding Director of Legacy Giving, nancy@dfshouston.org.

“I am proud to endorse the Legacy Giving program for Dress for Success Houston. For 25 years, the organization has been helping women who are seeking to enter the Houston workforce and build a sustainable career for themselves and their children. Making a systemic impact in our community now and for the future.”

– DR. STEPHEN KLINEBERG,
RICE UNIVERSITY, FOUNDING DIRECTOR
KINDER INSTITUTE FOR URBAN RESEARCH

Get Involved

Are you passionate about impacting the community with strong, dedicated women by your side? **Volunteer** with us individually or join one of our auxiliary groups supporting our mission of helping women secure gainful employment.

The Corporate Guild is a networking association of women helping women, supporting and promoting each other as professionals while simultaneously providing impact to DFS Houston’s 20+ programs and the women we serve. In 2022, the Corporate Guild consisted of 70 companies from various industries.

Celebrating 20 years, our young professionals’ group, **Women of Wardrobe**, raises funds and awareness of DFS Houston through social events, volunteering, and fundraisers. Active members receive complimentary entry to monthly events throughout the year while networking with like-minded women.

Learn more about these service-driven groups via the QR code below.

