



Save the date!



We are pleased to announce that for this year's Circle of Hope, we'll be together, at last. Mark your calendars for October 26 and join us for the 21st Annual Circle of Hope Awards Dinner at The Westin Pittsburgh.

More details and info to follow.

Thought Leadership Blog



Supporting moms in their recovery with New Choices



There are organizations across our city serving individuals looking for a fresh start. At Pennsylvania Women

Work, we know how vital it is to be connected to agencies who share our passion for helping women achieve success and self-sufficiency. Most recently, Pennsylvania Women Work teamed up with Sojourner House to conduct a New Choices class on-site.

Sojourner House provides residential recovery services to mothers and children in the Pittsburgh area. The organization's services support addicted mothers as they learn to break the intergenerational cycle of poverty and chemical abuse while rebuilding damaged relationships with their children.

"We are consistently being inspired by the mothers at Sojourner House who are in the midst of the vital and challenging work of recovering from addiction," said Susan Showalter-Bucher, deputy director, PA Women Work. "A critical component to long-term recovery is finding the right job opportunity and returning to employment. We are honored to partner with Sojourner House to provide essential workforce development services and support to these amazing women on their path to recovery and self-sufficiency."

During our program, participants are not only building critical career development skills, they are learning how to

It's summertime, which for many, means days spent on the golf course. Did you ever consider how the game of golf can actually help you build your professional network and advance your career? Ron McCloskey, VP and Chief Financial Officer PNCI, PNC Financial Services Group, shares why "it's not just golf, it's business" in our most recent blog post. [Read the blog here!](#)

Advocacy update



Every spring, our staff, volunteers, clients and Board of Directors meet with Pennsylvania legislators to share stories of the success and impact that the New Choices program is making for job-seekers across the state. New Choices is funded through the Department of Labor and Industry.

PA Women Work provides programming and support to get people into jobs where they can succeed. New Choices helps women feel supported as they work to re-enter or rethink their career in this post-pandemic world.

As we await the final budget approval, we are grateful for the support from our clients, volunteers and legislators.

support themselves, set attainable and realistic goals, and manage their time as working moms.

A participant of the class recently said, "We are always talking about our past, it is nice to see what my future could look like and PA Women Work did that for me."

"PA Women Work has assisted us in fulfilling a very important gap in our services, which is how to have a successful independent life after treatment," said Monica Philippone, clinical supervisor, Sojourner House. "PA Women Work has helped empower our women to believe that they can be successful in the workforce and have an abundance of opportunity for future employment. For this, we are very grateful."

In addition to the program at Sojourner House, PA Women Work will offer several other in-person and hybrid opportunities later this year. [Click here](#) to learn more about New Choices and see a list of upcoming classes.

Nominations are open for 2022 Circle of Hope



Together, at last, our 21st Annual Circle of Hope Awards Dinner will take place in person. Join us on Wednesday, October 26, as we celebrate the spirit of

togetherness, honor individuals and corporations who are leading the way for women in the workforce, and shine a light on the incredible achievements and resilience of our clients.

Nominations are now open for our 2022 awards.

New this year, the [Corporate Volunteerism Award](#) recognizes an organization or individual(s) within a company that has made significant contributions to PA Women Work's clients, programs, fundraising, and overall mission through volunteerism. This award allows us to recognize our outstanding employer partners and volunteers.

The [Diversity and Inclusion Award](#) honors a corporation or individual(s) within a company that has made significant contributions in the area of diversity and inclusion in the workplace. This award pays tribute to those who have demonstrated a sustained commitment to



Photographs from top to bottom: Kayla Druga (volunteer), Kristin Ioannou (Executive Director, PA Women Work), Sen. Camera Bartolotta, Kathy Slencak (volunteer), Abby Swalga (PA Women Work); Rep. Valerie Gaydos, Leslye Herrmann (Board President, PA Women Work); Christina Gremba (PA Women Work client), Kristin Ioannou

Volunteer opportunities



Looking for a way to give back? We are currently seeking volunteers for the following opportunities. [Click here now to sign up!](#)

Volunteer & Ambassador Council

Council members support the organization’s mission by helping to generate community connections, raise funds, and strengthen services for clients. Join us for quarterly meetings to stay up-to-date on what’s going on at PA Women Work and how you can help.

improving opportunities for the diverse communities we serve.

For more information and to place your nomination, [click here](#). If you have additional questions, please reach out to Development Director Lauren Riegelnegg at lriegelnegg@pawomenwork.org.

Realizing her worth: *Tiffany's story*



After battling a drug addiction that led to unemployment, homelessness, and eventually imprisonment, Tiffany was looking for a fresh start as she completed

rehab and got sober. She found PA Organization for Women in Early Recovery (POWER), a local organization that helps women build a strong foundation to sustain their recovery.

“Once I got connected with POWER, I knew I would need to find a job, but I just didn’t know where to start,” Tiffany explained. “This was a new beginning for me.”

PA Women Work partners with POWER to offer its GROW program, which supports job seekers in overcoming their unique barriers to obtaining employment. GROW is a trauma-informed course that helps participants address their individual challenges; create a new resume; realize their strengths; and ultimately connect them with a job at which they can succeed.

Tiffany participated in the program in January 2021. “PA Women Work helped me expand my resume, and the class allowed me to really focus on myself. I had shunned away from applying for certain jobs, but this class helped me build confidence and see my worth.”

During GROW, Tiffany identified job opportunities that fit her needs and set attainable goals. She learned how to respond to tough questions about her incarceration and present herself more professionally. After just two months, Tiffany found a job and moved into a new apartment.

“As women, we beat ourselves down, but we are all worth so much more. GROW is a great opportunity for women who are looking to start their life again,” Tiffany said.

GROW is generously funded by Bank of America. Thank you for your support.

**The client’s name has been changed to protect her privacy.*

Virtual Mock Interviews

Do you have experience interviewing? Help our clients practice through virtual interviews. Slots are one hour between 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. on July 7 and August 4.

Employer Meet & Greets

Is your company hiring or looking for strong job applicants? Share your opportunities and meet with our qualified clients at an upcoming Employer Meet & Greet. Each employer slot is 30 minutes between 9 – 11 a.m. on July 20 and August 17.

Upcoming classes**New Choices**

Boost your job search with our FREE [New Choices](#) program!

- June 20-24, Monday to Friday, 9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. or 6 - 8:30 p.m.
- July 11-15, Monday to Friday, 9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- July 25-29, Monday to Friday, 6 - 8:30 p.m.
- August 8-11, Monday to Friday, 9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- August 22-26, Monday to Friday, 6 - 8:30 p.m.

Client Support Services

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

Mindful Career Exploration
12-1 p.m.

- July 11: Mindfulness through Movement

Volunteer spotlight: Anne Kauffman

"PA Women work is transforming lives every day for our neighbors and our own communities."

Those are the words of Anne Kauffman, HR Business Partner at Peoples, an Essential Utility Company. Anne has been involved with PA Women Work since 2017, lending her time and expertise in a number of different capacities. She's mentored women in our 3 Cups

of Coffee program, been a key member of volunteer committees, and interviewed Customer Service class graduates for open positions at Peoples.

Most recently, Anne sits on our Employer Partner Committee providing insights into hiring trends, professional development gaps and other topics that keep our programming relevant to the needs of both our clients and the region's top employers. Her involvement has allowed her to witness the impact PA Women Work's programs and volunteers make. "I love that you can see first-hand how your efforts affect women in the community, not at some later date, but now, when it is needed most."

Anne volunteers because she is passionate about the mission and the work to empower women. "Being involved in empowering women with employment opportunities and helping them build their confidence is amazing and rewarding work. I love to hear the success stories and how far some of the clients have come. It truly is moving."

To learn more about how you can join Anne in this critical work by becoming a mentor, joining our Employer Partner Committee, or through other volunteer opportunities, [click here](#).

3 Cups of Coffee makes a difference

"The information my mentor provided was specific to my needs. Focusing on my individual circumstances rather than general job search skills made every moment with my mentor a real learning experience. She took time to seek out the hiring managers for the positions that interested me, gave me referrals, passed on my resume and gave me guidance on salary ranges. She went above and beyond, and I'm thrilled that she wants to stay in touch."

- July 18: Mindfulness through Expressive Art
- July 25: Mindfulness through Expressive Writing

Virtual Mock Interviews

9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

- July 7
- August 4

Employer Meet & Greet

9-11 a.m.

- July 20
- August 17

[Register now.](#)

Help us earn a Great Nonprofits Badge



In under 3 minutes, you can help PA Women Work earn this special achievement. Whether you're a current or former client, volunteer, or friend of the organization, simply leave a short review on GreatNonprofits.org.

[Post your review now.](#)

Thank you, funders!



HIGHMARK

A special thank you to Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield for their support of our RISE program. Thanks to their generous funding, PA Women Work is able to serve

– A recent 3 Cups of Coffee mentee

Special thank you to the funders who make these success stories possible.

3 Cups of Coffee funders: Arconic Foundation, FedEx Ground, J.Jill Compassion Fund, The Jack Buncher Foundation

3 Cups of Coffee GRAD funders: American Eagle Outfitters Foundation, Duquesne Light, FirstEnergy, Snee-Reinhardt Foundation, United Way of Southwestern PA

Welcome new staff members!



Manager of Participant Learning and Development, Liz Gryger

A Pittsburgh native, Liz joined our staff as the Manager of Participant Learning and Development at the beginning of May. In this new role, she is responsible for small group facilitation and training, one-on-one coaching, and case management for those we serve

in our New Choices, RISE, GROW, and Customer Service First-Class programs.

A former client of New Choices herself, Liz understands the needs of local job seekers and is able to offer a personal perspective. "I am thrilled to have the opportunity to deliver this experience to others since I know firsthand how impactful it can be," she said. Her main goal in her position is to ensure that our training offerings are excellent and meet the needs of today's job seekers.



3 Cups of Coffee Manager, Laura F. Dulaney

Bringing 15+ years of experience working with undergraduate, graduate, and alumni in higher education, Laura Dulaney began her role as 3 Cups of Coffee Manager in May. She recognizes the importance of networking and professional development and is excited to continue making life-changing connections between

job seekers and our 3 Cups of Coffee mentors

Laura is hopes to find new ways to engage mentors, grow our 3 Cups of Coffee GRAD program, and work one-on-one with mentees to help them achieve their career goals. "Empowering others is genuinely who I am inside and outside of the organization," Laura said.

refugees, immigrants and foreign-born job seekers with critical career development programming and support.

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