Dear Friends,

I am honored to be writing my first President’s Letter. After six years as Vice President, I am thrilled to lead such an incredible team that empowers the women we have the privilege to serve. Each of you plays an integral role in our success, and we are grateful for your support of our mission.

Over the past six years in our building, we have seen a 165% growth here at Dress for Success Houston. We truly have grown #beyondthesuit.

With summertime approaching, I often think of our veterans as we honor them over Memorial Day and Fourth of July. I am extremely proud that we have grown our women veterans’ program. Since its inception in 2014, the program has expanded from four days a year to now offering 22 workshops in 2019. More information about this expansion can be found on page two.

I invite you to join me and our Chairs, Kim Campo Hartz & Ted Hartz and Melissa & Dan Sugulas, on Saturday, October 19 for Rendezvous at the Revaire, our annual fundraiser. This year we will honor the more than 1,200 women veterans served since 2014. This service is available thanks to supporters like you, as we are not Government or United Way funded.

For the past four years, our partnerships with TUTS and The Houston Symphony have provided exposure to our women that they perhaps may have never experienced in their lives and their children’s lives. We are excited to be a part of the TUTS Public Works programming in its inaugural year. Join us July 18 as we Fill the Hill at Miller Outdoor Theatre – learn more on page two.

With heartfelt thanks,

Lauren Levicki Courville
President
Our partnership with Theater Under the Stars (TUTS) has expanded this year, and we are one of four non-profits to be a part of their inaugural Public Works programming. We have 12 PWG members participating in this intensive program. Participants meet three to four times a month outside of regular PWG meetings to work on storytelling, improv skills, vocal techniques, and more. While these skills may be related to theater, they are also skills that the women can use at work and at home. Their participation also helps them build confidence and relationships. The course culminates in the women writing their own short performance piece called Labyrinth which shares the impact of PWG and the network of support received from our programs.

To showcase their new skills, the women will participate in a community production of Seussical at Miller Outdoor Theatre July 16 – 21. Please join us as we Fill the Hill on July 18 to celebrate the hard work of these women as they hit the stage!

### 1,200 Veterans Served Since 2014

**Top Employment Industries**
- 31% Healthcare
- 9% Hospitality
- 8% Education/Retail

**Entrepreneurial Series**
Sponsored by Christian Brothers Automotive

We had such a positive response to our last three Entrepreneurial Boot Camps that we have expanded our program to include a 16-week, eight-part series. The program is built to walk participants step-by-step through essential business foundations, such as legal entity formations, business plans, and marketing.

**Veterans Program**
Sponsored by Palais Royal

In our fifth year of serving women veterans, the program has expanded to take a more holistic approach to address the transition from a military occupation to a civilian career. Growing from four veteran specific events per year in 2014, to offering 22 in 2019, women veterans have the opportunity to attend workshops on various topics such as: The Power of Positive Thinking; Goal Setting & Action Plans; Resiliency & Coping with Stress; Navigating the VA; E-Colors Personality Assessments; and Disability Claims Clinics.

These workshops are facilitated by community partners such as the VA, Wounded Warrior Project, Halliburton and Schlumberger.

**18,500 Units of Service Will Be Impacted By**

**3,750 Women**

Such as professional attire, career education, job search courses and veterans programs.
Thanks a Million
FOR A SUCCESSFUL
Walk or Run for a Reason
SATURDAY, JANUARY 18 OR
SUNDAY, JANUARY 19, 2020

Send ONE Suit
Chevron
MONTH
March 2019

200 Companies
250 Drop-off sites
40,000 Professional Items

Be a part of our team for the
WE ARE HOUSTON 5K,
ARAMCO HALF MARATHON or the
CHEVRON HOUSTON MARATHON
in 2020!

Contact r4r@dfshouston.org for more information.

Legacy Giving
PLANNING FOR
CONTINUED SUCCESS

Thanks in large part
to your support,
more than 43,500
women have
been impacted
by our programs
since our founding
in 1998. As you
know, Dress for Success
Houston empowers women by giving them
tools to make a positive first impression on
potential employers and maintain a lasting
impression once they land the job.
The women who participate in our programs
quit public assistance, are more equipped
to handle the unexpected, regularly afford
meals and, most importantly, feel that
life is worthwhile. They share stories of
accomplishment, financial success, and enjoy
a life that is meaningful to them and their
families. Their success transforms the lives
and legacy not only of their children but
also their entire community by sharing the
lessons learned here.

As a tribute to these women’s legacy and a
vision for the women who will come after, I
felt it imperative that I establish the Legacy
Giving Program as my final contribution to
DFSH. I’d like to invite you to join me as
a founding member of the Legacy Society
to ensure future generations of women
continue to receive the benefit of Dress
for Success Houston’s life-changing and
legacy-building programs. Thank you for the
impact you have and continue to make to
DFSH and the women we serve.

With gratitude,

Nancy Stierch
FOUNDING DIRECTOR OF LEGACY GIVING
PRESIDENT EMERITUS & CO-FOUNDER DFSH

Interested in learning more? Contact Nancy
at 713.337.0876 or nancy@dfshouston.org.

Rendezvous at the Revaire
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2019

SAVE the DATE
SATURDAY 10.19.19 from 6:30PM
to 11PM
THE REVAIRE
7122 Old Katy Road, Houston, TX 77024

SALUTING Our Women Veterans

AUCTION CHAIRS
Kim Campo Hartz & Ted Hartz
Melissa & Dan Sugulas

For more information, please contact Lauren Levicki Courville at lauren@dfshouston.org

A Night Out
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2019

SAVE THE DATE

ANightOut
presented by
Dress for Success Houston

WHEN
Thursday, November 14, 2019 • 6pm - 9:30pm

LOCATION
River Oaks Country Club • 1600 River Oaks Blvd.

CONTACT
Lauren Levicki Courville • lauren@dfshouston.org • 713.337.0884

TICKETS ARE $250 AND TABLES START AT $5K

CELEBRATING 21 YEARS OF EMPOWERING LIVES

AUCTION CHAIRS
Susie Cunningham, Kelli Kickerillo, & Monica Richards

EVENT CHAIRS
Kim Campo Hartz & Ted Hartz
Melissa & Dan Sugulas

All proceeds support DFSH and its mission to empower women
through career development.

SAVE THE DATE

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2019

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Success Story

Kristin

Navy Veteran &
Human Resources Representative

Kristin proudly served as a Master-at-Arms (Military Police) and Corpsman in the United States Navy for eight years. Following her Honorable Discharge in 2016, Kristin moved to Houston to start a new life. Unfortunately, like 25% of the women Dress for Success Houston serves, Kristin was in an abusive relationship and lost her spirit and confidence.

Kristin landed a job in the Health Care field as a Human Resource Representative and started attending Professional Women’s Group (PWG) meetings. Kristin says that being a part of PWG has helped her to feel like she was in a safe place to heal. Now more confident, she felt like she could grow professionally. Kristin says that PWG meetings like “Continuing Crucial Conversations” and the “Accenture Leadership Series” helped her to positively develop and expand in her HR role. Her commitment to applying what she learned in PWG has paid off: in just two years, Kristin has received three raises!

Kristin says Dress for Success Houston has played a huge role in her becoming something greater for not only for herself, but for her three year old son.

Tribute

Virginia Steppe

On May 5, Virginia Steppe, a member of our Board and long-time supporter of DFS Houston, lost her valiant battle with cancer. Virginia and her daughter Alissa Maples, DFSH Advisory Council member, have co-chaired our auction for our largest fundraiser for the past six years. Virginia’s passion, poise, zest for life and empowerment of the women of DFSH will be incredibly missed.

This beautiful quote Virginia lived by will inspire us all – “Always leave people better than you found them. Hug the hurt. Kiss the broken. Befriend the lost. Love the lonely.”

Virginia is missed, but her spirit lives on as our work continues.

Kevin & Alissa Maples, Virginia & Dan Steppe at Rendezvous at The Revaire October 2018