News to Suit You

Winter

A NEWSLETTER FROM DRESS FOR SUCCESS HOUSTON

2018

20 YEARS

20 Programs

43,500 Women served

Impacting more than 63,000 children
The Future of DFSH
A WORD FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

As DFSH's 20th anniversary year concludes, we look forward to a series of new beginnings. Most notably, we will transition the organization's leadership for the first time in our relatively brief history. Effective January 1, Nancy Levicki, our President and a Co-Founder, will retire as President. She will be succeeded by Lauren Levicki Courville, our current Vice President. While I am sorry to see Nancy retire, I am equally thrilled with the prospects for DFSH under Lauren's leadership. Let me explain why.

Lauren is ready to assume the presidency. During her six years as Vice President of DFSH, Lauren has continually increased her responsibilities, essentially operating as the organization's "COO" in recent years. The Board believes that Lauren possesses outstanding leadership skills, energy, creativity and a passionate work ethic – talents that will allow the organization to continue to grow and prosper over the next 20 years.

Although Nancy is retiring as President, she will continue to be intimately involved with the organization. Nancy will serve on our Board of Directors and will be involved in special projects on behalf of the organization. Additionally, she will continue to serve as a mentor to Lauren.

Addressing the succession of a founder-President presents unique challenges and opportunities. Accordingly, we have been planning on Nancy’s succession for years. Nancy and our Board have implemented a succession plan that I believe puts the organization in position to continue to serve our clients and the Houston community.

Finally, those of us who are familiar with DFSH know that Nancy has been the driving force for the organization since its founding. Nancy, more than anyone, shaped our vision and oversaw the building of an organization that began as a start-up and currently consists of 13 full-time employees and over 600 volunteers. During Nancy's tenure, our programs have grown exponentially and we have built the only permanent Dress for Success facility within the global organization. In recognition of her contributions, our Board bestowed the honorary title of President Emeritus on Nancy effective upon her retirement. I know you will all agree this is a more than well-deserved honor.

As we close out on a record year for the agency, I am confident the future of the agency is secure with Lauren Levicki Courville as our incoming President.

Thank you for your continued support and please join me in congratulating Nancy and Lauren.

Best,

President's Letter

Dear Friends,

The 20th year of Dress for Success Houston has been the most stellar of all – and I have each of you to thank for this incredible accomplishment.

In 2018, we served over 3,500 women, referred by 200 agencies, and 56% found employment.

We exceeded all of our fundraising goals, expanded capacity in all our programs and our shared success was captured in a documentary produced by KHOU that validates the impact of our programs to a world audience!

And now it is time for me to relinquish the role of President to our Vice President and my daughter, Lauren Levicki Courville. This organization couldn't be in better hands.

I want to thank all the past and present members of the Board of Directors, especially the Founding Board, the Advisory Council, our volunteers, and each of you for believing in the mission of DFSH.

The transformational changes that we have inspired in the lives of thousands of women have blessed me beyond measure. What a thrilling ride it’s been and I thank you all for taking the journey with me!

Happy Holidays!

All the best in 2019,

Nancy Levicki
President & Co-Founder
For four years, Houston Symphony’s Community Embedded Musician program has presented content on communication skills, adaptability and focus to the PWG members.

The PWG partnership with TUTS began two years ago with workshops using musical theatre techniques to develop skills such as storytelling and improv for networking and interviewing.

Twelve companies met with over 40 female veterans at our Career Fair in November.

More than 360 female veterans were impacted in 2018 through specialized veteran service programs.

Cristina
Government Industry
Army Veteran

Karma
Oil & Gas Industry

Phillippia
Healthcare Industry
Air Force Veteran

Zeinab
Associate Attorney

In 2018, 3,500 women were impacted by 18,000 units of service such as professional attire, career education, job search courses and veterans programs.
In honor of Dress for Success Houston’s 20th Anniversary, KHOU 11 presents “A Common Thread,” a one-hour documentary film highlighting three remarkable women and their journeys beyond the suit.

Zeinab Kachmar Zahid, Associate Attorney, Matías J. Androgué PLLC (pictured left)

Latisa Brown, Senior Manager, IT Strategy & Planning, TechnipFMC (pictured center)

Karma Laico, Project Manager, Bureau Veritas Consumer Products Services (pictured right)

Visit KHOU.com/ACommonThread to see their stories of heartache, hard work, happiness and healing.

MARCH 2019
BE A PART OF
SEND ONE SUIT MONTH
TO HOST A SUIT DRIVE OR FOR SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES, CONTACT CATARINA BILL CATARINA@DFSHOUANT.ORG OR 713.337.0879.