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
DFS HOUSTON PRESIDENT
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 impact 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.

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!

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.

“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

Join the Conversation

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.

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

SUCCESS STORY

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

THE IMPORTANCE OF FLEXIBILITY

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THE PROFESSIONAL WOMEN’S GROUP
ONGOING PERSONAL & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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.

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 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!
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, WERE IMPACTED BY
1,934 WOMEN
10,348 UNITS OF SERVICE
SUCH AS PROFESSIONAL ATTIRE, CAREER EDUCATION, PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT AND VETERANS PROGRAMS.

1,432 WOMEN SUITED
56% OF WOMEN SUITED GAINED EMPLOYMENT IN 2022

IN 2022, UNITS OF SERVICE WERE IMPACTED BY
1,934 WOMEN
10,348 UNITS OF SERVICE
SUCH AS PROFESSIONAL ATTIRE, CAREER EDUCATION, PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT AND VETERANS PROGRAMS.

56% OF WOMEN SUITED GAINED EMPLOYMENT IN 2022

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

300+ H-E-B GIFT CARDS TO VETERANS
1,500+ VETERANS SERVED SINCE 2014

105 CELEBRATED THE HOLIDAYS WITH DFS HOUSTON
57 SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

600+ WOMEN RECEIVING SUPPORT THROUGH 147 VIRTUAL WORKSHOPS

259 VOLUNTEERS DONATED 4,717 HOURS IN 2022

105 CELEBRATED THE HOLIDAYS WITH DFS HOUSTON
57 SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

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, Ortis, 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.
2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Richard Campo  Meera Kothari
Susie Cunningham  Nancy Levicki
Allie Danziger  Kristi McCarthy
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Kate Doaring Fowler  Ben Patton
Courtney Hopson  Gary Reaves
Janis Jarosz  Connie Simmons Taylor
Myrtle Jones  Travis Torrence
Carla Kneipp

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.