



Helping Women Help Themselves

2010-2011 Annual Report





WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT NETWORK

Helping women help themselves

Dear All,

I want to personally thank you for your interest and support of Women's Employment Network. We could not do what we do without you.

This past year has been a very big year for us — we celebrated our 25th Anniversary, a banner year. Financial stability remains strong. There have been significant strides in programming and operations which allow us to strengthen and create new services for women in the metropolitan area, while maintaining and delivering our top-notch current menu of programming and services. And we continue to build on the momentum from One KC for Women, our collaboration with Women's Business Center and Women's Capital Connection, which empowers women to achieve financial stability and success.

As we are all well aware, in the Kansas City metropolitan area, women are being affected by persistently high jobless rates, and the need for WEN's programs and services is greater than ever. We take a long-view of our clients' lives and futures. And we do more than just help women find jobs; we help women find careers and paths to futures that include financial self-sufficiency, stability and hope.

We thank you for supporting the work we do for the women and families in our community. Our staff takes great pride in our delivery of service, and we work diligently to ensure that we continue to be good stewards of all funds raised. In 2010-2011, WEN's total organizational budget was \$811,755, and, of that amount, \$564,864 provided program training and services to women in our community. All of us here at WEN are poised and ready to enter these next 25 years with the same resolve, passion and commitment to help more women achieve self-sufficiency.

Sincerely,

Sherry Turner
President

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Helping Women Help Themselves

Our Mission:

To help women raise their self-esteem and achieve economic independence through sustained employment.

Women's Employment Network (WEN) is a nonprofit organization that offers job-search training and resources, individualized coaching, and professional case management. We also provide a shoulder to lean on, day care advice, professional wardrobes, transportation assistance and fresh starts. We specialize in turning dreams into reality, heartbreak into hope, despair into determination.

We are WEN.

Where women work together to find new jobs.

And new lives.

Meeting the Need:

An Overview of WEN's Program and Services

WEN's program offerings are uniquely structured to meet the varying needs and skill levels of women in all stages of unemployment. WEN understands that achieving economic stability requires training and support at multiple levels. WEN's program and services are described below.

- **Social Support Services:** Not every woman who comes to WEN for assistance is prepared to jump into job-search mode and secure employment; often, there are challenges with housing, domestic abuse, legal issues, to name a few. WEN provides these clients with personalized assistance to address these barriers and issues.
- **5-Week Curricula/Training:** Our top-quality, five-week intensive training is held eight times every year, with an average of 15 women graduating each session. It is comprised of the following components: Career Exploration, to identify skills and interests; Essential Job Tools, to create well-written resumes and cover letters; Interview Strategies, to hone skills and gain confidence through mock interview settings (which have, on occasion, produced jobs on the spot); and Job Search Resources, to assist with self-directed job searches and networking opportunities.
- **Workshops/Alumnae Support:** To ensure continued success, WEN graduates may return to us at anytime for continued case management support, community resource referrals, resume updating, job referrals and career counseling. Supplemental Workshops are offered to further build life skills.

WEN takes a long-view of our clients' lives and futures. We abide by the adage of "teaching a woman to fish, instead of giving a woman one fish." Through goal-setting, perseverance, hard work — and with a strong network of support — WEN graduates are on their way to a bright future.

Learn more about the programs and services offered through the Women's Employment Network by visiting us online at www.kcwen.org or call our office at (816) 822-8083.

Wanda's Story

"I am someone whose life has been transformed because of WEN.

I am a mother of three boys. I had just gotten out of the military, was attending DeVry, and had a 4.0 grade point average — when everything changed. My ex-husband, who watched our children while I went to school, left town, leaving me and our kids without support.

I found myself applying for public assistance; they told me about WEN — and I enrolled.

WEN is more than a place to go and learn employment preparation and career skills. It became a sort of home-base for me, a place where I received support on multiple levels. The staff there was — and continues to be — incredibly supportive, tough, fair and incredibly competent. They encouraged me — and all of their clients — to be at my best. And they gave me the tools to do this. It was not easy work, but it was everything I needed.

Because of WEN, I found employment at DST. It is important to note that WEN did more than help me find employment, they prepared me to succeed in my job once I was hired. I am proud to report that I recently earned another promotion.

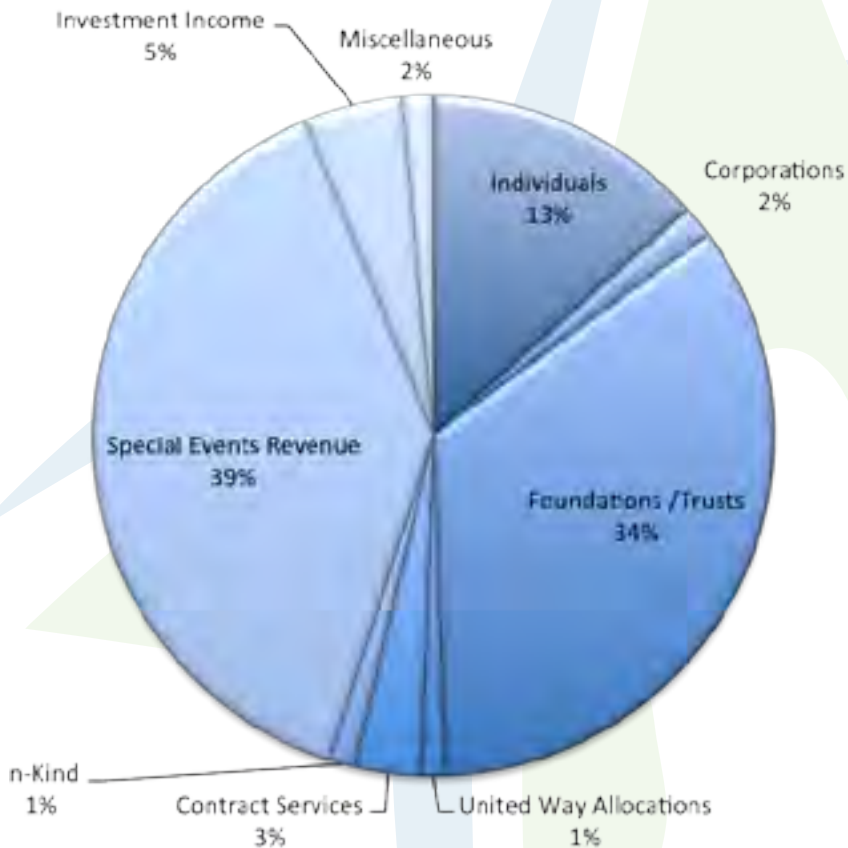
I am very proud of my accomplishments, very happy with the direction my life continues to move in, and very thankful for the Women's Employment Network.

WEN is the best thing that ever happened to me."

— Wanda Coleman

2010-2011 Financial Information

Revenue



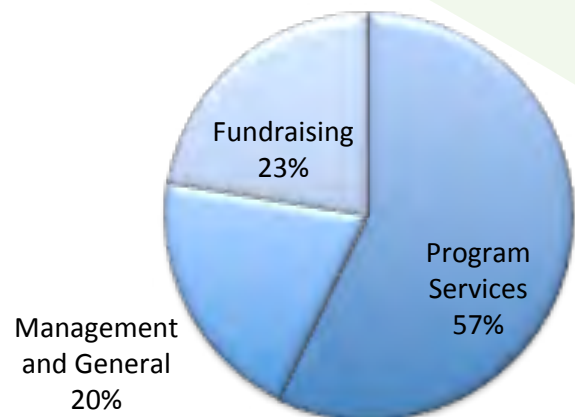
REVENUE

Individuals	\$106,943.00
Corporations	\$12,432.00
Foundations / Trusts	\$274,303.00
United Way Allocations	\$8,931.00
Contract Services	\$25,020.00
In-Kind	\$10,100.00
Special Events Revenue	\$309,568.00
Investment Income	\$37,490.00
Miscellaneous	\$11,678.00

EXPENSES

Program Services	\$416,417.00
Management and General	\$148,447.00
Fundraising	\$163,301.00

Expenses



Michelle's Story

"When I first heard about WEN, I was living in a domestic violence shelter. I had just returned to the state of Missouri and was court-ordered to hand over my children to their father, who was my abuser, because he had been awarded temporary custody. It was so important for me to get a job — I needed to have a job so that I could put myself in a better position to get my children back.

After learning more about the program and all of its requirements, I was unsure if I could make it through. There were so many sacrifices I would need to make in order to graduate from this program. *I am so thankful I did.*

What I discovered was WEN is different from any other program out there. And different in the best way possible. The program is therapeutic and educational. Throughout the process, I gained confidence in myself and in my mind.

This program has been amazing. There are so many resources and options to choose from. I pray that it will all work out; I'm learning that it generally does. I hope to get a great job through the support of this program. I will take what I have learned and received and run with it and achieve more than I ever imagined."

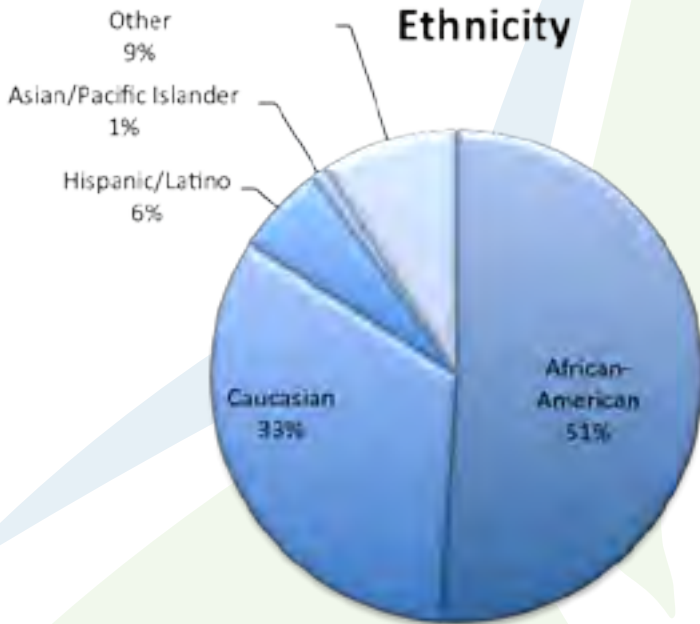
— Michelle

Michelle now proudly holds two jobs, thanks to WEN. She is employed by a local school district as a para-professional and works as a retail associate at a local, high-end boutique.

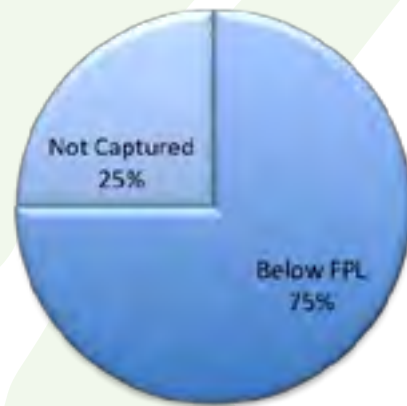
More WEN Stories

For more client success stories, visit
our website at www.kcwen.org.

2010-2011 Client Demographics



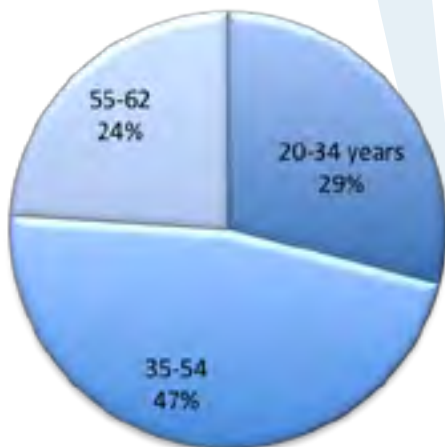
Economic Status



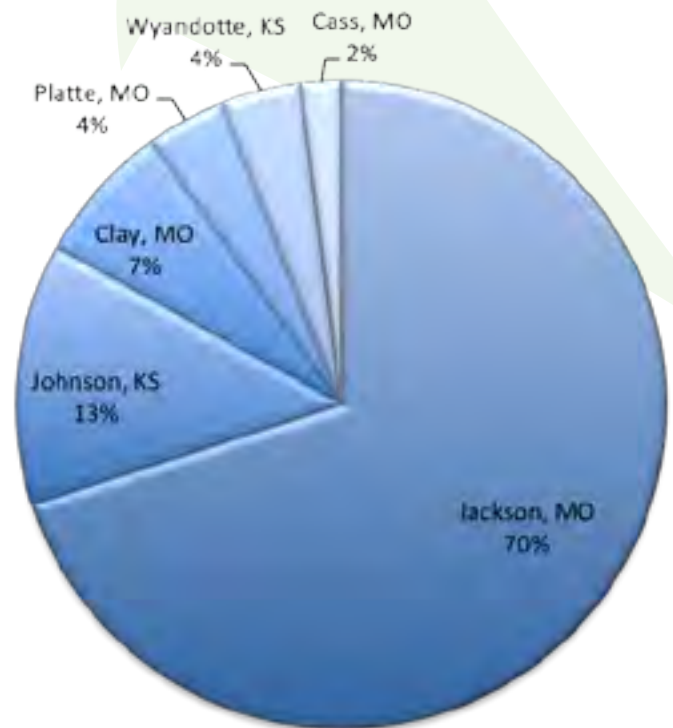
Gender



Age



Geographic Area, Served by County



Maven's Story

Fresh from college (with the student loans and credit card bills to prove it), Maven started down her career path brilliantly. But the path took a wrong turn when her chosen field was hit hard by the economy. Her employers loved her work ethic and talent, but the business just wasn't there.

Four layoffs in five years left Maven's self-esteem in shreds. "I had absolutely no hope." Maven struggled to make ends meet. "I was just trying to survive."

A former co-worker told her about WEN. Maven needed a career transition. And that's what she got, plus so much more. Her resume fine-tuned and interview skills polished, Maven, with WEN's help, was able to pinpoint other marketable skills that would take her to a more stable line of work. More importantly, she found support — both professionally and personally. "It was an uplifting experience. I felt if I put my mind to it, I could do anything."

Maven is not just a graduate of WEN. She is also a financial supporter, happy to be in a position to give back to the program that she knows works wonders. "In this economy, finding jobs for women is the number-one priority. It's a noble cause."

WEN Facts

- WEN provides services to over 500 clients per year.
- WEN currently averages 50 new clients each month.
- On average, 100 WEN alumnae and current clients access WEN services each month.
- On average, 13 jobs reported each month.



**2010-2011
Donors**

July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011

Donors \$50,000 to \$100,000

Ames Fund of the Ten Ten Foundation
SkillBuilders Fund

Donors \$25,000 to \$49,999

Hall Family Foundation

Donors \$10,000 to \$24,999

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