

FASHION FORWARD

On matters of style, swim the current, on matters of principle, stand like a rock



DRESS FOR SUCCESS[®]
COLUMBUS

1260 North High Street, Columbus, Ohio 43201
614.291.0431
www.dressforsuccess.org/columbus

2nd Edition

Summer 2009

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

We all know someone who has been affected by the economy. At Dress for Success Columbus, we experienced a week-long furlough in June and know that many of you have experienced similar circumstances.

How do we help boost the economy? As you read this, a woman is rebuilding her self-esteem while trying on a suit for her upcoming interview in our Dressing Boutique, strengthening her computer skills in our Career Center, or preparing a personal budget using lessons learned at a Professional Women's Group meeting. For every woman we touch and is empowered to achieve, for every woman we serve who walks into an employment interview with the confidence to land the job, for every woman who gets her paycheck and pays her rent, childcare expenses and empowers her peers to do the same, we help the economy.

Please support our efforts through a financial gift, by attending our upcoming Gala highlighted on the following page, or volunteer your time to help further our mission. We appreciate your generous contributions.

Vicki Bowen Hewes
Executive Director
Dress for Success Columbus



Inspirational Moment: It was an honor to be with DFS Worldwide CEO Joi Gordon on July 14, 2009, as she rang the NASDAQ closing bell.

PWG Member Highlight

My name is Yvonne Collins. Two years ago, I was introduced to Dress for Success Columbus by my Housing Specialist at Rebecca's Place, where I was staying during my transition to Columbus from Chicago.

I have had a life-long dream to be a caterer, but didn't know how to get started. The Professional Women's Group has provided me with the tools and skills I needed to start my own business. I started by catering some events for Dress for Success Columbus and our Professional Women's Group meetings. I catered our annual Christmas Party, and most recently the Red, White, and Independence Open House.



(PWG cont'd) Cooking is a passion of mine. I love to see the smiles and happiness that food brings to people. I chose to call my business **D.R.E.A.M.** (**D** for my grandmother, Daisy; **R** for my son, Rushion; **E** for my great-grandmother, Emma; **A** for my grand-daughter, Alexis; **M** for Mom, most of all!) **Catering** which represents the love and lessons I have received from my family members was most fitting. Each one of these people play a part of the dream I have. My special thanks to Vicki and Samara for being the supportive persons they are.

Announcing the Dress for Success Columbus Mentoring Program

On September 2009, Dress for Success Columbus will begin its Mentoring Program. This is a great opportunity to provide a vital community service and share your talents and experience. Participants are asked to make a commitment of four months, 2-4 hours per month. The Mentor/Mentee relationship will develop through mutual agreement. Dress for Success Columbus provides guidelines for the relationship and have an introductory session, provide written guidelines, guidance and encouragement.

If interested, please contact Karen Cowan at 734-536-1003 or karen@karencowan.net or Mary Coleman at melliecoleman@hotmail.com

Volunteer Highlight – Tanya Jones

When Tanya Jones traveled from Columbus, Ohio to Atlanta, Georgia a little more than a year ago, she never expected that it would lead to something that would profoundly affect her. While in Atlanta, she saw a sign for "Dress for Success". The name caught her attention and when she returned home, she "Google-ed" Dress for Success and liked what she saw.



Tanya has lived in Central Ohio for all her life. She has worked for Discover 19 years and in 2008 came forward to volunteer and is now the Chairperson for the Professional Women's Group - PWG. PWG offers DFS Columbus members workshops on financial literacy (including tax preparation), self-esteem and motivation, professional development skills, and health and wellness programs. Tanya is hoping to add a workshop in continuing education over the next year.

Recently, Tanya participated in selecting a winner for the Success Summit, which was in San Francisco in July

(Volunteer – cont'd) 2009. PWG members submitted applications which were reviewed by Tanya and the committee. Names and personal information were removed to ensure a non-biased selection. The essays were all incredible but the winner's essay particularly touched Tanya. The winner had been through such an incredibly challenging life experience but was determined to not only change her own life, but the lives of women who found themselves faced with daunting barriers.

Tanya has been inspired countless times by the members of the Professional Women's Group because in spite of their life challenges, these women desire to improve their own lives, their families' lives and the lives of other women in the community.

Would you like to share your time with Dress for Success Columbus? Call 614-291-0431 for more information.



Share in a toast for Dress for Success Columbus !

Reserve your spot now! The first annual 'Cocktails For A Cause' event benefiting and hosted by Dress for Success Columbus, will take place on Friday, August 21, from 7:00-11:00 p.m. at COSI,

the Center of Science and Industry.

'Cocktails For A Cause' attendees will enjoy a "Roaring Twenties"-themed affair with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, an exciting fashion show featuring garments from local boutiques, and a silent auction. A live jazz band will get the event rolling followed by a D.J. later in the evening. 1920's-themed festive cocktail wear is the suggested attire.

Admission options include General Event; \$50, and V.I.P.; \$100. V.I.P. guests enjoy a complimentary Champagne Cocktail Reception beginning at 6:00 PM, receive an Ultimate Swag Bag, and have advance access to the silent auction.

Tickets can be purchased online at the following Web address: www.cocktailsforacause.eventbrite.com.

Upcoming Events

Don't miss these opportunities to support Dress for Success Columbus. Please visit www.dressforsuccess.org/columbus and access the EVENTS page for more details:

- September:** Pumps, Pearls & Purses Open House
- October:** Wine Tasting
- December:** What's in Her Bag?
Look Great & Feel Fabulous

In Recognition

JobLeaders / COWIC



Located at 1111 East Broad Street in Columbus, Ohio, **JobLeaders** is a development program with Columbus Ohio Workforce Investment Corporation - COWIC. COWIC's mission is to meet the employment needs of businesses and job seekers to support economic development in Central Ohio. Their vision is to become the premier model workforce development organization, the "go to" place for job seekers and employers that facilitates meeting labor market needs and acts as a catalyst to attract and retain businesses for a vibrant economy.

The Resource Center provides computers for job seekers to review listings of open positions, information on educational and training programs, labor market trends, job search strategies and hiring requirements. Additionally, they provide workshops on interviewing techniques, computer skills and resume preparation.

COWIC/JobLeaders also offers a service that provides information to employers and their employees that will be experiencing job loss due to reduction in workforce or company closure. The Employment Relations Team is designed to assist dislocated employees and their families successfully re-enter the workforce in the shortest timeframe possible.

Dress for Success Columbus values and respects the JobLeaders organization as a formidable partner that makes a significant impact in our community, and we appreciate their referral of clients to our agency.

For more information, please visit JobLeaders website at www.cowicjobleaders.org

TASTE - May 14, 2009

We want to thank everyone who participated in TASTE. It was an evening filled with delicious food & wine in a terrific atmosphere at Sandbox Columbus. We are grateful for the support of donors, attendees and Board Member Christine Travis for hosting this event that raised over \$5,000 for Dress for Success Columbus.

