

Fact Sheet

WHW Mission

The mission of WHW is to provide the unemployed and underemployed the skills and resources they need to get and keep a good job.

About us

Since 1993, WHW has served over 90,000 Job Seekers referred by over 275 partner agencies at no charge. Each year thousands of Job Seekers participate in programs focused on equipping them to be the most marketable candidate for the job they seek. Programs include Employment Readiness Workshops, Computer Training, Job Placement Assistance, Employment Retention Support and Professional Apparel. For more information on WHW and how to support our Job Seekers, please visit www.whw.org.

Our History

- WHW was founded by two survivors of domestic violence in 1993. The founders, legal professionals who had lacked the financial means to build their own professional attire, came up with the idea to collect professional clothing and donate it to women in need.
- In the first year of operation, 63 women were served. Since 1993, more than 90,000 men and women have been given a helping hand in their efforts to overcome various barriers in their quest to become gainfully employed.
- What started as two survivors collecting clothes in their trunk for women in various shelters has turned into a full array of employment readiness services to support Job Seekers in their journey to employment.

Who We Serve

- Each year, WHW serves over 8,000 men and women from all over Orange County who are unemployed or underemployed for various reasons including, economic downturns, traumatic situations, lack of skills in job search techniques, limited access to resources and other barriers to employment.
- Clients are referred to WHW from over 275 non-profit agencies.
- 96% of WHW clients are considered low income by HUD standards.
- 81% of WHW clients are single head of household.
- Clients' ages range from 15 to 70+ years old.

What We Do

- **Employment Readiness Workshops** provide basic job seeking skills, resume building, interview preparation, self-improvement and confidence building and networking skills.
- **Computer Training** provides basic computer skills, training on navigating the internet for effective job searching and beginning, intermediate and advanced training in the Microsoft Office Suite of Applications which are essentials for a successful job search and for the workplace.
- **Job Placement Assistance** gives clients access to employment job fairs, weekly job leads, employer/employee matching and even transportation if this is a barrier to a successful job search.
- **Employment Retention Support** includes WHW's Employment Incentive Program, WHW's Top Performer Employment Coaching and WHW's Alumni Alliance which promotes personal and professional development and leadership skills.
- **Professional Apparel** and Accessories are provided to clients in need so that they can feel confident at interviews and make a first impression to potential employers that give them a competitive advantage in the hiring process.

The Impact We Make

- **90 Cents of every dollar** donated goes directly to WHW Programs.
- **More than 80%** of WHW Job Seekers are employed within 3 months increasing their household income by over 300%.
- In 2016-2017, WHW Job Seekers earned **over \$81 million**, saving our community over \$19.8 million in entitlement payments.

How to Help

- **Donate** – Join WHW's Club259 and support the journey of a Job Seeker with every \$259 you donate. \$259 provides one Job Seeker access to all of WHW's programs.
- **Volunteer** – Contribute your time to teach a workshop, interview a Job Seeker or help a Job Seeker achieve a new professional look.
- **Shop** – Shop for a Cause at WHW's Retail Shop, Deja New or at a Quarterly Saturday Sale and support the mission through fashion.
- **Connect** – Sign up for WHW's Monthly Newsletter, like us on Facebook, follow us on LinkedIn, YouTube and Instagram
- **Remember** – Make WHW part of your planned giving. Leave a legacy that will help the mission live on and empower employment success for generations to come.

Contact

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