Boys2Men Event Helps Prepare Foster Youth for the Working World

Santa Ana, California (June 13, 2012) – On Saturday, June 9th WHW (Women Helping Women/Men2Work) hosted 19 foster youth from agency partner Orangewood Children’s Foundation at a Boys2Men Event to help prepare the young men for the workforce. The day included workforce development workshops focused on job seeking skills such as networking, interviewing, resume creation and professional etiquette. Additionally, each young man received professional clothing, an array of accessories and hygiene items and one-on-one image consulting to create a polished and professional look. For most of the youth, it was their very first time putting on a suit and learning to tie a tie.

“This essential partnership empowers and educates at-risk foster youth with the skills and training to attain and sustain gainful employment at the most critical time in their lives as they deal with being emancipated,” said WHW Associate Director, Brateil Aghasi, who runs the annual event.

Other WHW Youth Initiatives include Quarterly Job Readiness Workshops with youth from Orangewood Children’s Foundation, Monthly Teen Employment Support Programs with youth from the Youth Employment Service (YES) and an annual collaborative event with Orangewood Children’s Foundation and Girls Incorporated of Orange County to provide at-risk teen girls a day of prom shopping including dresses, accessories and empowerment workshops. All services and clothing are provided at no charge and are part of WHW’s commitment to help empower the youth of Orange County to become tomorrow’s leaders.

About WHW (Women Helping Women/Men2Work). WHW is a 501(c)(3) whose mission is to provide comprehensive employment support services to empower disadvantaged men, women and teens to achieve economic self sufficiency through employment success and who has served over 25,000 clients since 1993. WHW’s Employment Success Program includes resume and interviewing skills, workshops, computer classes, job placement, image consulting and professional clothing appropriate for interviews. Supported by United Way, WHW’s services are always at no charge or obligation to clients and referring non-profit partners. For more information on WHW and its Employment Success Program, go to www.whw.org.

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