



### Thought Leadership Blog



Spring is in the air, making it the perfect time for spring cleaning. Check out our most recent Thought Leadership article from Kayla Druga, Talent Manager, Arconic Human Resources, and PA Women Work volunteer. She walks you through the best ways to "Spring Clean Your LinkedIn Profile."

[Read the blog here!](#)

### Annual Report

## PA Women Work teams up with Literacy Pittsburgh



Providing environments and classes where adults can build their skills, learn, grow and achieve success is a shared passion of both PA Women Work and Literacy Pittsburgh. A partnership between our organizations seemed natural. Earlier this year,

we teamed up to provide a New Choices class for Literacy Pittsburgh clients, where nine different countries were represented.

"When we met, we quickly recognized an opportunity for our organizations to work together that would be beneficial to Literacy Pittsburgh's ESL clients," explained Susan Showalter-Bucher, deputy director, PA Women Work. "Many of the ESL clients expressed a need to better understand how they could translate their skills to find sustainable employment in the American job market. The flexibility of our New Choices program made it the perfect fit. We also were able to add depth to the clients' experience by providing a staff facilitator who specializes in the unique workforce barriers often experienced by refugees and immigrants."

During the class, participants worked to determine their transferable skills, set attainable goals for themselves, build their interviewing skills, navigate the job application process, develop skills to plan their finances, and revise their resumes.



2020-2021  
**Annual Report**  
Pennsylvania Women Work

PENNSYLVANIA  
**Women  
Work**

Our new Annual Report is now online. The highlights and success stories featured within are thanks to clients, volunteers, thought-leaders, board members, donors and supporters like you. Check out all of the wonderful things that YOU helped make possible last year, and know how grateful we are for each and every one of you and what you bring to this critical work.

[Check out our 2020-2021 Annual Report now!](#)

## Upcoming Classes



### New Choices

Jump start your career search today! [Sign up](#) for our FREE New Choices program and explore your next steps, boost your resume, practice interviewing, build your confidence, and more.

- Apr. 4-8, Monday to Friday, 9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. or 6 - 8:30 p.m.
- Apr. 18-22, Monday to Friday, 9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. or 6 - 8:30 p.m.
- May 2-6, Monday to Friday, 9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. or 6 - 8:30 p.m.
- May 16-20, Monday to Friday, 9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. or 6 - 8:30 p.m.

"I could not have been more impressed with this program and partnership. It just felt natural," said Abby Seeley, director of enrollment, Literacy Pittsburgh. "Our foreign-born clients are often so focused on learning English. New Choices is a great opportunity for them to place a focus on their job search and on workforce development."

The first class took place in February of this year, and a second is being scheduled for April. "The class was a success. The clients have an increased understanding of the American job search process and are prepared with the tools and skills needed to achieve employment. We are looking forward to future collaborations," said Susan.

## Introducing The Coffee Club, our monthly giving circle



One cup of coffee. A pastry and a latte. Lunch from your favorite local spot. *Could you give up these items one time each month – just \$5, \$10 or \$20 – to change a woman's life?*

When you join [The Coffee Club](#), PA Women Work's monthly giving circle, you make a small monthly monetary commitment that creates big long-term impacts for local job-seeking women through our 3 Cups of Coffee mentorship program.

Members of The Coffee Club gain access to special perks depending on their giving level, including an insulated mug, recognition on our website, an invitation to an exclusive coffee and donuts event, and more.

"Supporting women in the workforce is a priority for me, and when something is a priority, you make space for it in your life and in your budget. As a busy mom, making an automated monthly donation is an easy way to support PA Women Work's clients and to make space for something that is close to my heart," said Amanda Cole, founding member of The Coffee Club and a PA Women Work board member.

Better yet? When you join Amanda in The Coffee Club today, a generous supporter will **amplify your gift by making a matching \$100 donation – up to \$2,500!**

**Join The Coffee Club and starting making an impact today.**

### Client Support Services

Already participated in New Choices or one of our other services but need more support to land that next job? We've got you covered. [Join us](#) for one of our workshops to keep the momentum going.

#### Mindful Career Exploration

7-8 p.m.

- Mar. 28: Mindfulness through Movement
- Apr. 4: Mindfulness through Expressive Art
- Apr. 11: Mindfulness through Expressive Writing

#### A Closer Look

10-11:30 a.m.

- Apr. 5: Dress to impress
- May 3: Get social
- June 7: Personal branding

#### Virtual Mock Interviews

9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

- May 5
- June 2

#### Employer Meet & Greets

9-11 a.m.

- April 20
- May 18
- June 5

[Register now.](#)

## Volunteer opportunities



Put your skills to use as a volunteer with PA Women Work. We are currently seeking professionals to [join us](#) in the opportunities below and make a difference in the lives of local job-seeking women:

#### Immediate volunteer needs

## Making big moves during a pandemic: *Kristen's story*



For nearly seven years, Kristen, originally from the Greater Pittsburgh area, worked at a job she loved in New York City. When the pandemic began, Kristen's position was eliminated. "Not having a job and with such high rent, it really caused me to make some big decisions

about my life," Kristen remembered.

Reassessing her goals, Kristen moved back in with her parents locally until she gained employment and got back on her feet. However, it was more difficult than she imagined finding a job in her field. "I really wanted a change, but the cycle of jobs available during Covid made things difficult. Beginning in January 2021, I was ready to get focused."

Kristen registered for [New Choices](#), where she became part of a supportive environment and connected with other people experiencing similar challenges. While refreshing her resume and learning new skills, Kristen discovered tactics to organize herself – and the spark to continue her job search. "What was great about the program was connecting with other people who were going through a similar situation – especially with Covid. We were all figuring out what our next move was," Kristen said.

Empowered with the skills she learned and the connections she made through New Choices, Kristen found a new management position at a media and events company.

***Congratulations, Kristen!***

## Volunteer spotlight: *Carla E. Frost*

Over the past two decades, Carla E. Frost has served as an active member of our Corporate Advisory Committee, assisted with our

- Mock Interviews, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.: May 5, June 2
- Employer Meet & Greet, 9-11 a.m.: April 20, May 18, June 22

Ongoing volunteer needs

- 2022 Circle of Hope committee
- Become a 3 Cups of Coffee Mentor

### Advocate for New Choices!



New Choices helps job-seeking Pennsylvanians rediscover their goals and find family-sustaining employment. We need your help to ensure this critical program remains in the Governor’s budget for 2022-2023.

If you are interested in reaching out to your local state legislators and sharing why the New Choices program is a vital resource, contact Abby Swalga at [aswalga@pawomenwork.org](mailto:aswalga@pawomenwork.org).

### Help us earn our 2022 Great Nonprofits Badge



advocacy efforts, leant her hiring expertise to mock interview sessions, supported fundraising and so much more. “What I love most about Carla,” said PA Women Work Executive Director Kristin Ioannou, “is the energy

and enthusiasm that she brings to her volunteerism. She deeply cares about the women we support and is personally invested in our mission to empower women in the workplace.”

Carla’s own testimonial on what keeps her engaged highlights her connection to the mission: “I believe that women facing obstacles to gainful employment need and deserve a network of support and resources. The countless connections and collaborations that PA Women Work facilitates are transformative for clients.”

Carla would like to see more volunteers get involved. “PA Women Work is women-bred and women-led, and that by volunteering, women have the opportunity to provide solutions from an inclusive, woman-centric perspective. We bring insights through the lens of working, career-oriented women, who are uniquely positioned to open doors to places that can truly impact the economic trajectory of other women in our region.”

Thank you, Carla, for twenty years (and counting!) of volunteering your time and expertise to support our clients on their journeys to meaningful and family-sustaining employment. [Click here to join Carla and PA Women Work’s incredible team of volunteers.](#)

### Welcome to our new staff members!



#### Director of Programs, Naomi Tannenbaum

With over 20 years of experience in the nonprofit sector, Naomi Tannenbaum joined our team in January as our new Director of Programs. She has jumped right in, taking the lead on all programming in southwestern

Pennsylvania to ensure we are meeting the needs of those we serve.

In under 3 minutes, you can help PA Women Work earn this special achievement. Whether you're a current or former client, volunteer, or friend of the organization, simply leave a short review on GreatNonprofits.org. Thank you for your help! [Post your review now.](#)

### Thank you to our funders!

Thanks to our friends from Ameriprise Financial, G. C. Murphy Co. Foundation, Phillips Charitable Foundation, and Robert S. and Louise S. Kahn Foundation for generously supporting our organization. Their involvement helps move our mission forward and allows us to continue to support women on their path to meaningful employment. For a list of our funders, [click here.](#)

In past roles, Naomi has led all aspects of nonprofit programming such as feasibility, fundraising, developing partnerships, evaluation, and more. "It's my goal to not only provide premier workforce development training and opportunities geared toward women, but to ensure that PA Women Work collaborates across sectors to meet our mission," Naomi said.



#### Client Services & Program Specialist, Bonnie Evans

Bonnie Evans joined us as the Client Services and Program Specialist in December. Bonnie is an advocator for women's rights and empowerment. In her new role, she assists with immediate and ongoing client needs across

all our programs; coordinates workshops; and organizes, plans and tracks the progress of our New Choices and ancillary workshops.

#### Senior Administrative Assistant, Barb Wagner

Barb Wagner stepped in as our new Senior Administrative Assistant in February. She is in charge of providing information to our clients, scheduling and coordinating meetings, maintaining correspondence, and supporting our staff to have an efficient work environment.

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