

EMPOWERMENT IN ACTION

PENNSYLVANIA WOMEN WORK | MARCH 2026



Thought Leadership Blog



This quarter's blog will help you **make your presence visible in the job market!** Veni Mittal, Senior Analyst-Sustainability Reporting at JLL and PWW past participant and current volunteer, is providing all the insight. [Check it out now.](#)

Supporting women 50+ with funding from Citizens Bank



We're excited to share that **PA Women Work has been named Citizens' 2026 Champion in Action!** This recognition comes with \$50,000 in funding to support women 50+ as they navigate the next chapter of their careers.

Save the date



Little by little. Month by month. **Our monthly donors change lives.** Join The Coffee Club right now for any monthly amount, and start making an impact today. Your gift will connect more women with life-

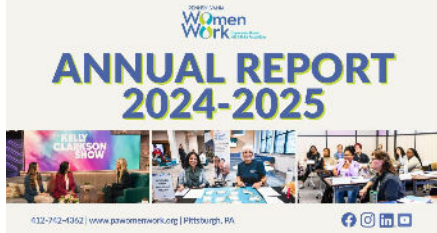
Women over 50 are the fastest-growing part of the workforce, but they face real challenges, from age discrimination to long-standing pay gaps. Through this new effort, we are working to address these barriers through programming tailored to women 50+ entering or reentering the workforce and help employers recognize the value of hiring experienced talent.

The funding from Citizens will allow us to provide **personalized coaching, peer support groups, referrals to digital skills training, mentorship, networking opportunities and confidence-building workshops** – all aimed at helping women turn their years of experience into new opportunities.

“With this focus, we are acknowledging the unique challenges women may encounter at this stage of their lives and careers, while offering opportunities to build tech skills, connect with others, and step into a new chapter

changing mentors to help them on their path to success. [Start giving monthly now.](#)

Annual Report



We're excited to share our Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Annual Report. Thank you to everyone who took part in this incredibly impactful and exciting year. [Check out all of the good stuff here.](#)

Upcoming programs



New Choices

To sign up for New Choices, [get started](#) with a career coach.

- April 6-10, 9:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.
- April 20-24, 6 - 8:45 p.m.
- May 4-8, 9:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Client Services

The following opportunities are for PWW participants.

[A Closer Look](#)

- Expanding Your Circle: April 21, 10 - 11:30 a.m.

[Financial Wellness](#)

- Virtual Budgeting: April 29, 10 - 11:15 a.m.
- Debt Management: May 6, 10 - 11:15 a.m.
- Credit Reports: May 13, 10 - 11:15 a.m.
- Home Ownership: May 20, 10 - 11:15 a.m.

with confidence," said Nancy Estrada, Manager of Participant Learning at PA Women Work.

We're grateful to Citizens for supporting this work and investing in solutions that uplift women at every stage of their careers.

It's time for B-I-N-G-O!



Back by VERY popular (and groovy) demand is our [Working 9-to-5 Bingo](#) event! Tickets are on sale now for this May 7 event, and you don't want to miss it.

Take part in this psychedelic

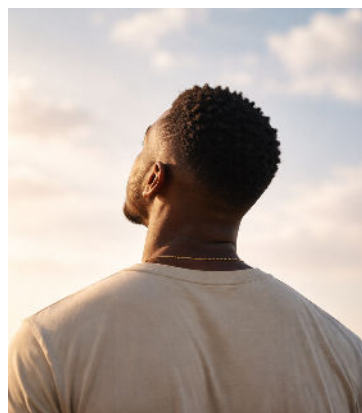
celebration of the trailblazing women of the 1970s who paved the way for the work Pennsylvania Women Work continues today. Pull out your 1970s-themed outfits, your Bingo dobbers (*just kidding - we'll set you up with those*), and grab your friends for your chance to win prizes, participate in exciting raffles, and dance the night away in support of women's workforce development.

We expect this event to sell out, so don't wait to get your tickets. [Buy them now!](#)

- **May 7, 2026, 7-9:30 p.m.**
- **Grand Hall at The Priory**
- **Sponsorship opportunities:** bfussner@pawomenwork.org

[BUY TICKETS NOW](#)

Building a life in America: Marcel's story



When Marcel* arrived in the U.S. in 2024 from a refugee camp in Burundi, he came with one goal: build a better life for his family. With his wife and infant by his side, he was determined, but the path forward wasn't easy.

With limited English and little-to-no familiarity with the job market, even basic

Career Development Workshops

[Empowerment in the Workplace](#)

May 2, 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Mt Lebanon Library

[Career Kick-Start](#)

May 8, 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Frank Sarris Library -
Canonsburg

Brand Ambassador Training



A huge **THANK YOU** to the **National Aviary** for hosting December's PWW Brand Ambassador Training. In partnership with The Motherhood, volunteers and staff joined us for an interactive training on how we can share our PWW story with others.

Volunteer Needs



Advocate

Our New Choices program is funded by the PA Department of Labor and Industry and supports job-seeking women across the state on their path to success. Connect with your state legislators to support New Choices at its full \$1,000,000 level so this critical work can continue.

If you would like to participate in this advocacy effort, please

needs like transportation were a challenge. Marcel found a job, but the commute was grueling.

“It would take me three hours to get there and three hours to get back,” he said. “I would walk in the rain and the snow to get to the bus stop.”

Still, he kept going, working long hours, taking English classes, and continuing her search for employment closer to home. At one point, the stress and danger of his commute nearly pushed him to give up.

“I thought I might die. I was ready to go back to Africa,” Marcel said. “But when I discovered PA Women Work and met Kristen, everything got better.”

Through a connection at his church, Marcel was introduced to PA Women Work and connected with Senior RISE Program Manager, Kristen Tsapis. **Within three months, he secured a housekeeping job at a nearby hospital.** While there, he discovered an interest in healthcare and landed a new role as a Patient Technician.

As his situation improved, so did life for his family. They moved to an apartment closer to transportation, saved money, and were able to purchase a car. With support from PA Women Work, Marcel received a scholarship to take a driving class and earned his driver's license.

Today, Marcel is taking college classes and working toward a career in nursing. Looking back, Marcel credits PA Women Work with changing his life.

“I just want to say thank you,” he said. “PA Women Work, you are saving lives.”

Thank you to the following funders for making RISE success stories like this possible: Jefferson Regional Foundation, PNC Foundation, Marinus & Minna B. Koster Foundation, Howard & Nell E. Miller Foundation, FedEx Cares, and The Jack Buncher Foundation

**The participant's name was changed to protect their privacy.*

Celebrating mentorship at Meet & Mingle Breakfast



Thank you to everyone who joined us on February 19 at The LeMont Restaurant for our **fourth annual Meet & Mingle Breakfast**. And a special thank

you to Heritage Wealth Advisors for their sponsorship of this event! Nearly 150 of you joined us in powerful

contact [Lizzi Holmes](#).

Employer Partnership

When you become a PA Women Work Employer Partner, you join our community of work-ready job-seekers, professional volunteers and corporate connections. Whether you're looking to hire diverse candidates or your company wants to give back to the community, we are eager to work together and grow our partnership with you.

To learn more about employer partnership, contact [Heather Coleman](#).

conversation, networking and discussion about mentorship, professional development, workplace challenges and more. On top of that, eight of you signed on to be monthly donors through our [Coffee Club](#) at this event - thank you, thank you, thank you!

Thank you, Duquesne Light!



Thank you to Duquesne Light for their partnership in the Neighborhood Assistance Program!

With this support, PA Women Work can reach more job-seekers in the South Hills communities of Carrick, Brookline, Brentwood, Whitehall, and Baldwin, providing them with the tools and connections needed to find meaningful and family-sustaining employment.

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