

The Pathfinder

Summer 2014
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Danter Announces Retirement

Dear Friends,

After 11 years at New Directions Career Center, I am ready to take on new challenges as I begin the next chapter of my life. I will retire as Executive Director on October 3, 2014 and will step back and pause before deciding what I'll do next. One thing is sure — I will spend more time with family, travel more often, and continue to support NDCC as both a donor and a volunteer.

New Directions has given me the rich experience of working with wonderful, talented volunteers and staff. Together we have empowered thousands of central Ohio women-in-transition to achieve economic self-sufficiency. This journey has deepened my appreciation for the important role NDCC plays in breaking the cycle of poverty. For nearly 35 years, the Center has successfully put women on a pathway to success — both through education and in the work force. On average, more than 76% of our program graduates have created livable wages and rewarding careers for themselves and their families. What a track record!

I feel a sense of pride and accomplishment that I can leave the Center in a strong position to begin the next 35 years. We have amazing staff, partners, volunteers, and an excellent Board of Directors that is committed to the Center's mission and vision. In January 2014, the Board put a search committee in place in preparation for this transition. The committee started with an internal search, which — to our delight— identified a highly qualified candidate from within our organization!

It is my pleasure to inform you that current Development Director Linda Warden will be my successor. We have worked very closely during our time at NDCC as a dynamic team, so I am confident the Center will continue its work in good hands. Linda and I, in concert with the Center's Board of Trustees, are investing our time to ensure a smooth transition.

It is an exciting time for me and for the Center. I know I will continue to see you and we will work together to provide women with the service they need (and deserve) to change their lives. Thank you again for your support and commitment. I hope you will join me in a celebration of my NDCC career at this year's Annual Meeting/Volunteer Reception on September 23 (see p. 3).



Linda S. Danter

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“See with clear eyes. Take risks. Live out loud.”

Kathleen McCartney

Four E³ Participants Receive WLC Scholarships

Four (4) participants in the E³ (Educate, Empower, Elevate) program were recently awarded full, two-year scholarships to further their post-secondary education. The scholarships were funded by the Women's Leadership Council of the United Way of Central Ohio, which is also providing funding for the E³ program. The new scholarship recipients are:

Trae Booker

Trae is attending Central Ohio Technical College in pursuit of her associate degree in Heavy Equipment and Excavation Sciences. She says, "After accomplishing this achievement, I will possess the skills, training and knowledge to work for top companies such as Columbia Gas, the City of Columbus and the State of Ohio. I can then become a WLC member, giving back to more women and keeping the dreams of career success a reality."

Isis Doss

Isis is enrolled in Columbus State Community College pursuing an associate degree in Healthcare Management, a field that she is passionate about. Isis has 10 years experience in this area. In her position in a kidney transplant unit processing lab results for possible donors, she had the opportunity to deliver the good news to a patient that a match became available. This degree will help Isis expand her skill set, making her more employable and able to build a more secure foundation for her and her daughter.

Micaela Padilla

Micaela is attending Columbus State Community College working on her associate degree with a plan to transfer to The Ohio State University to complete her bachelor's degree. She is interested in a career as an interpreter. Micaela writes "I look forward to being a resource to my family and my community; inspiring and guiding others to improve their situations the way I have been empowered to improve my own."

Misty Ward

Misty came to the E³ program to chart a new career path for herself, and "never looked back." Misty has embarked on a certification program in Esthetics at the Spa School. She says, "In five years I will have a degree. I will have my dream job, and I will be giving back as a member of the WLC. I will be helping to empower, educate and elevate women just like me."

These four exemplary women joined the 2013 winners--Jennifer Combs, Flora Yee, Jolara O'Harra and Jessica Skeen --as the newest WLC scholarship recipients. Thanks to the generosity of WLC members, there are now a total of **eight** E³ women attending college full time!

Volunteers to Be Recognized on September 23

New Directions Career Center's volunteers will be thanked with a special reception on Tuesday, September 23 from 5:45—7:30 p.m. to be held at The Columbus Foundation, Davis Hall, 1234 E. Broad Street. Awards will be presented to outstanding volunteers in several categories. The meeting will also include a short annual report and presentation of the Bostwick Scholarship to a graduate of an NDCC program who is pursuing post-secondary education to achieve her career goal.

There is no charge for attending this event. If you wish to make a donation, we suggest \$10, which will go to the Bostwick Scholarship Fund to provide future scholarships to deserving women. This year's event will also celebrate the contributions of retiring Executive Director, Linda Danter, so please join us for this special evening. RSVP your attendance by contacting Volunteer Coordinator, Polly Dix at 849-0028 ext. 107.

“Fall Into Fashion” an NDYP Fund-raiser for the Center

New Directions Young Professionals (NDYP) is gearing up for their second fundraising event of 2014. On September 25th, NDYP will host *Fall into Fashion*, an evening dedicated to looking your best this autumn. Be sure to bring your friends to enjoy wine, appetizers, and fabulous demonstrations on new fall fashions, hair, and makeup. A raffle, silent auction, and shopping in B's Boutique will be available to round out this great event.

The models for NDYP's event will be none other than NDCC program graduates. Models will be able to receive a makeover complements of hair and makeup professionals, while event participants can learn tips for evolving their own hair, makeup, and wardrobe. This affordable and fun event is \$25 per person, or \$20 per person for NDYP members.

Join us on September 25th to support NDYP/NDCC, and become a little more fashion forward!



NDYP members networking and discussing upcoming events

NDCC Hosts Successful Health Fair for Women

NDCC hosted its first Health Fair for Women on Saturday, August 23. The event proved educational, fun and rewarding for the nearly 60 women attendees — most of whom were program participants or program graduates of the Center. NDCC partnered with Mt. Carmel to provide on-site mammograms to pre-registered women and free health screenings for blood pressure, glucose and cholesterol.



Twelve (12) additional health and wellness exhibits were hosted by local health-related agencies and provided educational resource information for participants. The Health Fair also included health and wellness participatory workshops and demonstrations that addressed a variety of topics including: Stress Reduction Through Breath and Gentle Stretching (by Center for Wholeness), Healthy Cooking for Kids on a Budget (by Maggie Fekete, registered dietician), Breathing, Laughing and Other Good Things (by The Breathing Association), and Simple Weight-Lifting for Busy Women (by B.O.S.S. Fitness Studio).

Special thanks are extended to a terrific group of talented professional women, who undertook planning and implementing this effort as their “Leadership Columbus” project. “Thank You” to: Cindi Englefield, Sheri Tackett, Tammy Rideout, Tracy James, Shiloh Todorov, and Amy Ita. Appreciation is also extended to the following corporate sponsors for their in-kind and/or financial support: Quantum Health, Delta Energy, Duchess, Grange Insurance, Barnes & Thornburg,LLP, and Sprout Early Education Center.

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NDCC Staff Roster

Linda S. Danter, Ph.D., Executive Director
Linda Warden, Development Director
Raeanna O'Brien, LPCC-S Director, Programs/Services
Amanda Fox, LPC Counselor & Program Manager
Cynthia Kazalia, Employment Specialist
Meredith Kitts, Operations Manager
Caroline Woliver, Classroom Instructor/Outreach Associate
Rosanna Tabler, Office Assistant
Polly Dix, Volunteer Coordinator
Elspeth Willoughby, B's Boutique Volunteer Coordinator
Taylor Lincicome, Student Intern

NDCC Board of Trustees

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Zhongmei (Susanna) Su, Nationwide
Kay Williamson, Ameriprise Financial
Donya Wilson, Grange Insurance

New Directions Career Center (NDCC) assists individuals — particularly women in transition — to help them attain and maintain economic self-sufficiency. To achieve this mission, NDCC delivers career counseling, employment-related education, life skills training and job placement services. These programs and services empower individuals to find fulfilling employment that will support a lifetime of economic independence — not just a job.

Since its inception in 1980, the New Directions Career Center (NDCC) has touched the lives of more than 65,000 individuals.

Lives Get Changed Here.

Wish List

The following items are needed:

- Paper Towels
- Toilet Paper
- Kleenex
- Postage Stamps
- 8 1/2 x 11 Copier Paper
- Paper plates (dessert size)
- Paper cocktail-size napkins
- Coffee (regular and decaf)
- Hand Sanitizer
- Liquid Hand Soap
- 8 1/2 x 11 Manila File Folders
- Air Freshener
- New or “nearly new” clothing and accessories (shoes, purses, jewelry, scarves, jackets, sweaters, shrugs, coats) for B's Boutique and November 10 Accessory Party



To make a donation, please contact Linda Warden, Development Director, 614-849-0028 Ext. 110 or lwarden@newdirectionscc.org

Funding News

Several recent grants will help the Center continue to deliver career services to Central Ohio women. Recognition and thanks are extended to the following funders :

- \$5,000 grant from **Huntington Bank** will support financial literacy programming.
- \$3,000 gift from the **Human Resource Association of Central Ohio (HRACO)** in memory of Tammy Evans, to support a scholarship for a Center graduate to pursue post secondary education in HR.
- \$2,500 gift from **Landmark Survey** in honor of Donna Stevenson, will support various programs and initiatives.

