

W^enews

WE Clears Paths to College for Adult Students



Women Employed continues to blaze trails for working adults who want to go to college. In partnership with City Colleges of Chicago, we have created a new curriculum for an early childhood education bridge program, which will help students gain the academic skills they need to succeed in college while helping them explore the early childhood education field. With this addition, we now offer lesson plans for bridge programs in four high-demand fields and plan to release more in the near future.

We're also partnering with 12 Chicago organizations to build a city-wide system that will help adult students transition to college and then move into good careers. As part of this initiative, these community-based organizations will offer their clients the Career Foundations course that Women Employed developed with City Colleges of Chicago. The course helps students who need a high school degree explore career options and make a plan to get to college. We recently trained instructors from these organizations to use the Career Foundations curriculum with their clients.

Our partners (pictured above, at a kick-off planning session) will help their students make the transition to college and will then keep track of their college success. We look forward to seeing many more students succeed in college and build a bright future for themselves and their families.

Why does Joyce Webb, Investor for Change, support Women Employed?

Join her! Make your gift at womenemployed.org/investors.



Remembering Labor Lawyer & WE Counsel Peggy Hillman

Longtime Women Employed activist and donor Peggy Hillman passed away on August 31, 2015. Peggy got involved with Women Employed in the 1970s and represented the organization pro bono, assisting members facing retaliation for asserting their rights. Her work with WE on major discrimination cases changed employment practices for women and minorities in Chicago and across the country.

We are honored that Peggy's family named Women Employed as a recipient of donations in her memory. We are grateful to them and to the donors who gave so generously. We will continue to be inspired by Peggy's life-long advocacy for economic justice.

“I'm a working mother who enjoys a fulfilling, successful career. I've got a lot of support—and advantages—and I can see how difficult it is for me to manage my life. When I think about the lack of resources that low-paid women have and the hurdles they face trying to provide for their families, I can't imagine how hard it is for them. If I can do something to improve their situation and allow them to achieve their dreams, that is worth every dime and every minute of my time.

If you are someone who is trying to find the right organization that has a huge impact—a lasting impact—for your dollars and your time, Women Employed fits that bill. ”



Women Employed

65 East Wacker Place, Suite 1500
Chicago, IL 60601-7253

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Make a Gift and Be a Champion for Women Like Carlisha



“Some weeks I could be scheduled 5 days, sometimes it could be 3. This week, I’m only scheduled to work 2 days. That’s not enough to pay my bills.” – *Carlisha, retail worker and mom*

For too many workers, it’s a familiar story. They might work 30 hours one week and 10 the next. They may be scheduled for a combination of day and night shifts with no predictable pattern. And all too often, they don’t get their schedules until days—even hours—in advance of their shifts.

With chaotic schedules like these, how can a mom set up reliable child care? How can a working student attend her classes? How can anybody build a budget, not knowing how much they’ll earn? **It just doesn’t work.**

And it needs to change. Women Employed has been building awareness about the scheduling challenges facing so many low-paid workers. We recently connected a *Chicago Tribune* reporter with two workers who suffer from unstable work schedules for a front-page feature on Labor Day.

We’re also working with employers and policymakers to find solutions that will end these scheduling practices. But we can’t do it without you. Make a gift today and help us win this fight.



Learn more about Carlisha and make your gift at womenemployed.org/Give2015.