

CARE



Compassionate • Academic Success • Respect • Empathy

W3 NEWSLETTER | January 2018 | VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1

From the Board Chair

It is my privilege to offer you the second edition of CARE, the official publication of Women Walking West. It is my intention to keep you informed about our activities and accomplishments and to share my thoughts and plans as we start the New Year.

We had much to be proud of in 2017. As of today, we have served over 70 foreign-born women from 21 different countries. Our Board of Directors are especially pleased to report that in spite of the challenges inherent in the nation, state and local economy, W3 continues to grow its services primarily due to the generous support of our corporate sponsors and individual donors who deeply care about W3. Since the inception of our organization in June 2015, we have been fortunate to receive sponsorships from over 15 industries and 7 colleges and universities. In addition, we now have four endowments in place due to the generosity of individuals who have a passion for educating women.

Among the exciting new initiatives, you will learn more about our first fundraising event we plan to have in the fall of 2018. I am also pleased to report to you that W3 in partnership with Antioch University Midwest completed a successful grant funded by the Middletown Community Foundation (MCF). The focus of the grant was to conduct the needs assessment of foreign born women who live in Middletown and other areas served by MCF. It is the goal of W3 to serve hundreds of foreign-born women in the next 5 years. For that to happen we count on your support and generosity.

On behalf of Women Walking West, I offer my heartfelt and sincere gratitude to our Board of Directors, volunteer staff, donors and mentors for their on-going support and commitment to help grow the organization and to assist foreign born women in achieving their educational dreams, *one woman at a time.*



Dr. George Sehi, Board Chair

Best wishes for another successful year!

Mission

W3's mission is to remove language, social, cultural, academic, and financial barriers that foreign born adult women experience in the U.S.

This mission helps instill an environment of connections that creates a base of support to provide opportunities for women to overcome difficulties and therefore achieve their lifelong professional and personal goals.

Values

To create a culture that includes our core values: Compassion, Academic Success, Respect and Empathy (CARE).

1
Board Chair
Message

2
Mentor
Daniela Noack

3
Tom Daskalakis
UC Health West
Chester Hospital

4
Yad Singh
Scholarship
Endowment Fund

W3 NEWSLETTER

EDITOR: Alicia Farbstein
DESIGNER: Jennifer Seifert

Mentor Daniela Noack

I am a prime example of one Eastern European Woman that followed her dreams. Who, by her never-give-up attitude, managed to succeed. I believe in W3's concept and I am proud to be a small part of making BIG dreams come true for other women in this amazing country full of endless opportunities.

I was born in Czech Republic (Czechoslovakia) where I lived under the communist regime my first 20 years of life. During my adolescence, I had to overcome hardships even before I came to the US, like getting molested and living through domestic violence. As a young student, I participated in the Velvet Revolution, which ended 41 years of authoritarian Communist rule in Czechoslovakia in 1989. The revolution opened the doors of the 'iron curtain', allowing me the opportunity to come to The United States.

Coming to America changed my life for the better, but living here alone was not easy, especially because I didn't speak the language. The only words I knew were "How do you do" and "coffee". My first year here I was raped and beaten; found myself on a street with no home and no one to turn to. However, with the help of great people who were strangers then but lifelong friends now, I was able to start fresh again. I can honestly say with the support of my friends, never giving up, always believing in myself, and living through my experiences made me who I am now.

My first job I had was babysitting children, cooking, and cleaning. Once my language improved, I was able to get a job in a restaurant, then in a department store, and, finally, I landed my first accounting job in accounts receivable. It was then that I finally realized what I wanted to do in my career and my life. I worked my way up from the bottom to where I am now. I've learned the hard way how to understand the schooling system, here in the USA on my own. After years of studies, while working an average 60 hours per week, I have obtained a Baccalaureate Degree in Accounting in 2014 and became an officer of a company that I now proudly represent.



Daniela Noack with her mentee, Naazy Khoda Parast

I believe in the mission of this organization and the support W3 provides to women. Foreign born women are strong and determined to better themselves, but vulnerable. Regardless of who we are or where we came from, there are moments in our lives we find ourselves needing help, and this is exactly what W3 does.

When I first met Naazy, her personality immediately reminded me of myself. She is a very kind, determined, and strong woman, who is just now realizing her purpose in life. I am confident with the support of W3 and her friends, she'll make her lifetime dreams come true. I am truly honored and fortunate to have met her as a mentor through W3.



Foreign born females are currently earning nearly \$7000 per year less than females born in the US.

53% of foreign born members of the population of the US have no college education as compared to 40% of those born in the US.

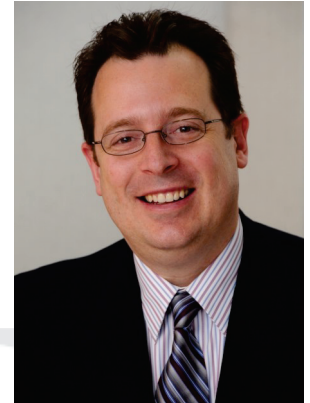
21% of growth in the Columbus Metro come from international migration.

Source: Columbus Council on World Affairs.



Caring Community Partner

“We are pleased to support Women Walking West,” said Tom Daskalakis, Chief Administrative Officer. He is proud that West Chester Hospital has become a true healthcare resource for not only the West Chester community, but also for the surrounding communities in northern Cincinnati and southern Dayton. The dedication of the West Chester Hospital team has placed them in the top 5% of hospitals in the nation for customer service and clinical care.



Tom Daskalakis, CAO



The hospital is a collaborative partner and sponsor for many charitable organizations, local businesses and community events. “Our leadership team and employees are passionate about supporting our community in a variety of ways,” Tom shared. WCH is supportive of all non-profit organizations who further educational opportunities for people of all genders, races and orientations. “We recognize the need to constantly strengthen our community and the people who live and work here,” shared Tom. “Through these efforts, we can foster educational opportunities, and create more career opportunities for all people. If this is our focus, West Chester Hospital will continue to be successful.”



Much like W3, West Chester Hospital fosters an environment focused on professional opportunities and helping women achieve success by making them an important supporter of the organization. “At West Chester Hospital, we take pride in all of our employees,” Tom explained. “We offer a variety of educational and professional growth programs, that promote advancement to ensure our associates, many of which are female, can enhance their knowledge, skills and experience and can skillfully grow and advance their career.”



Women Walking West would like to welcome Alicia Farbstein as our new Operations Coordinator!

Alicia has a background in education and event planning. She also serves on several non-profit boards. Alicia is excited to be part of such a worthwhile cause.



Alicia with Dr. Sehi

W3 Board

George Sehi, Ph.D. Chair

Executive Director for University Relations
Warren County Educational Service Center

Dwight Packard, JD, Vice-Chair

Attorney at Law, Graydon

Sherry Taylor, Treasurer

President & CEO, Mason Deerfield Chamber

Irina Davis, Secretary

Senior Sales Representative, Novo Nordisk

Marian Glancy, Ph.D.

Provost/CEO, Antioch University Midwest

Shannon Isom

President/CEO, YWCA Dayton

Vijaya Reddy, MD

Internal Medicine/Geriatric, UC Health

Daniel Hall, JD, Ed.D.

Professor/Chair Department of Justice and
Community Studies, Miami University-Hamilton

Tessa Xuan

Executive Director
Greater Cincinnati Chinese Chamber of Commerce

Jean Leverone

Vice President, Leverone and Associates

Janice Walker, Ph.D.

VP of Diversity & Inclusion, Xavier University

Rick Casey

Executive Director, J.P. Morgan Chase

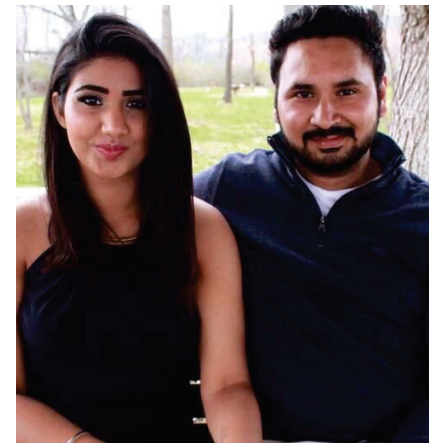
Carey Curtis

Regional President, Community Banking Division
U.S. Bank

Jasmin Sandhu

Auditor, Clark Schaefer Hackett

Mr. & Mrs. Yad Singh Scholarship Endowment Fund



Mr. and Mrs. Yad Singh

Women Walking West interviewed Mr. & Mrs. Singh asking about their motivation for establishing their endowment. Below is a summary of their interview.

“An African proverb says, ‘we educate a boy, we educate one person. If we educate a girl, we educate a family – and a whole nation.’

Research shows that women continue to be the single most excluded group in the world. They face discrimination and abuse simply because they are female. Girls are often denied their right to equal opportunity and engagement in society. Many are unable to attend school or make important decisions about their own futures, and they are far too often the victims of gender-based violence. We believe that gender equality is central to achieving long-term change. We have a vision of a world that values girls, promotes their rights, and ends injustice.

As many claim, investing in a girl's education is investing in a nation. And here, by supporting Women Walking West, we are all investing in our nation to be brighter and better. Education is proven as the most effective way to empower women for lifelong success. Not only does education open the door to better employment opportunities, it also teaches a woman to make positive choices that will help her, and her children. Here are some facts and figures, which show where women stand as far as education is concerned.

Even today, Female college graduates actually outnumber male college graduates—but don't let this fool you. Getting a higher education is still a struggle especially for the most vulnerable and at-risk women including single mothers, women in poverty, and survivors of abuse.

Only 7% of single moms under 30 have finished college, and most cannot afford a degree now because childcare and housing expenses swallow over half their income.

A woman who hasn't graduated college typically earns 67% less per year than a woman with a bachelor's degree and is more likely to live in poverty and suffer health issues.

Let our small contributions, make big and better changes in women's lives. Let's help women with education and make this nation worthwhile.”

We thank Mr. and Mrs. Singh for their generous support of Women Walking West by establishing a \$25,000 scholarship endowment fund. To learn more about starting an endowment with W3, please visit our website.



Advancing education for women from across the globe

1-844-500-WEST (9378) | www.womenwalkingwest.org | info@womenwalkingwest.org

Easy Ways to Support W3

1. Shop at www.smile.amazon.com and select Women Walking West as your organization that you support.

2. Designate Women Walking West as your Kroger rewards organization. Sign into your Kroger account (or create an account with your plus card) at: <http://krogercommunityrewards.com/> select our organization by using **W3 ID #79151**. Then, every time you use your plus card, a portion of your purchase will come back to W3!