

Fall 2020 Newsletter

Losing a Job During a Pandemic: Anna's Story

Wings is proud to share with you the next installment in our client success story series:

After her full-time job in a warehouse was eliminated due to COVID-19, Anna*, a young, single mom, worried about how to support her family. Fortunately, her previous experience as a home health aide landed her a part-time job with Visiting Angels. In order to begin seeing clients, however, Anna needed to purchase a set of medical scrubs, which put an additional financial strain on her already tight budget.

That's when she remembered Wings for Success, which had helped her a few years earlier during the start of her employment journey. Wings was delighted to equip Anna with the scrubs needed for her new job and Anna appreciated how Wings graciously supported her in a way that didn't make her feel embarrassed about needing the help.

Shortly after beginning her job, Anna realized she would need to supplement her part-time income with a second job. She interviewed for a much-desired warehouse position and the great news is that she was hired! Anna will soon be returning to Wings for the clothing she'll need to begin working. According to Anna: "I'm so grateful to Wings for helping me start both jobs out on the right foot!"

*Name changed for privacy purposes

SCCON Referral Partner Highlight: Southern Chester County Opportunity Network (SCCON)

Since the beginning of the pandemic, our Kennett Square Program Manager, Kelly Quant, has participated in biweekly Zoom calls hosted by the Southern Chester County Opportunity Network (SCCON). A collaboration of local community resources, non-profit organizations, school districts, and municipalities, SCCON holds these calls to discuss urgent needs in the community during these difficult times. Participants brainstorm solutions ranging from preventing evictions to ensuring food security to supporting students, teachers, and child care providers.

Through this collaboration, members of SCCON became aware of Wings and our goal to raise money to purchase medical scrubs for our clients who are frontline workers. No sooner had we shared this goal with the group when a participant on the call immediately pledged a \$500 donation.

We are so grateful for our collaboration with SCCON and for the diligence and compassion this group continues to demonstrate in tackling emergencies that affect our community. If you are interested in joining SCCON or in learning more about their mission, visit the SCCON website.

VISIT SCCON WEBSITE



Join Us for Wings and Wheels-In Person or Online!

This fall, our annual fundraiser will be a hybrid event that includes options for both virtual participation and safe in-person attendance outdoors. Details for both events are listed below:

ONLINE EVENT: Thursday, October 8th; 7-7:30 PM

For those still social distancing, our online event will feature our guest host, Lisa Robertson, owner of LisaRobertson.com and former QVC host. Lisa is donating a \$1,000 shopping spree for her online shop as a raffle item! The virtual event will also include a client testimony, inspiring videos, and even some fun surprises! A pre-party, which starts 15 minutes beforehand at 6:45 PM, includes music from The Blue Sky Band. Our online event will be hosted on the Wings for Success Facebook page as well as on Zoom. Links for both platforms can be found <u>here</u>.

IN-PERSON EVENT: Friday, October 9th; 4-6 PM or 6:30-8:30 PM

Enjoy live music from the Blue Sky Band, luxury cars (provided by Porsche of The Main Line), food and spirits, and a raffle. The event will be held outdoors at Vanguard ID Systems, located at the Brandywine Airport in West Chester. Attendees will be required to wear face masks when they are not eating or drinking.

The in-person event is split into two different time blocks to limit the number of people and ensure social distancing. When you purchase your ticket for the inperson event, you will have the option of selecting your preferred time slot.

Tickets are \$75 per person. The first 100 tickets will be entered into a drawing for a chance to win a free flight on a private plane that departs and returns from the Brandywine Airport!*

Wings and Wheels is right around the corner-order your tickets today!

*Not a voucher for airline travel.

ORDER TICKETS



Volunteer Highlight: Our Summer Intern, Ketsali

Wings is honored to offer local high school students internship and volunteering opportunities through various community partnerships. It was through our partnership with The Garage Career Compass Program that we had the good fortune of meeting high school senior, Ketsali.

As a summer intern at our Kennett Square site, Ketsali helped with dressing appointments, packed emergency clothing bags for clients, participated in virtual community partnership meetings, dressed our mannequins, and more. In addition to her regular duties, Ketsali also created a video highlighting stylish work-appropriate outfits, which she presented in a virtual workshop to her fellow classmates.

Although summer is over, Ketsali hopes to return to Wings during the school year to continue her volunteering efforts. Wings has been a great fit for her, as she has dreams of owning her own boutique one day and loves helping women in the community approach the workplace with greater confidence.

"Being an intern at Wings has been a great experience!" said Ketsali. "I grew out of my comfort zone and now know I would like to do something related to this as my career. Thank you, Wings, for this opportunity!"



Fall Fashion Trend: Moto Jackets

Elevate your jeans, skirt, or dress with a motorcycle (or moto) jacket! This fall, you'll find many different brands and styles to choose from as well as patterns ranging from solids to animal prints. The jacket pictured here, by Clara Sunwoo, is made of vegan liquid leather. Similar cuts are available in other fabrics, too, creating an ideal business casual look. Rev up your fall wardrobe with a little moto!

— Style tip provided by Peggy Conlon, Style Director for Main Line Fashionista (www.styledbypeggy.net)



Looking for a Job? Monarch Staffing Has Openings!

Monarch Staffing, a women-owned staffing, human resources and recruitment consulting firm, is now hiring for full-time, part-time, and temporary positions.

To make your job search easier, Wings has pulled together the latest job openings and added them to our website.

SEARCH JOB OPENINGS



New Procedures for Donation Days

For the safety of our volunteers, donors, and clients, Wings has updated our policies for donation days:

- * Due to limited space, we can accept no more than 2 large shopping bags or boxes per donor (donations must be items found on our current clothing needs list)
- * The number of people allowed on-site at any time will be limited
- * All donors must register in advance through our online donation registration form and choose a time for drop-off

We are now accepting cold weather items, including coats, boots, hats, scarves, and gloves during the following donation days:

Kennett Square Donation Day: Saturday, October 3rd; 9 AM to 12 PM

Frazer Donation Day: Saturday, October 10th; 9 AM to 12 PM

For full donation day details, including our current clothing needs list and a link to our donor registration form, click the button below.

FULL DONATION DAY DETAILS



Our Purse Raffle raised over \$3,000! Every dollar helps us continue our work in equipping women.

Top 3 Ways to Support Wings

Wings for Success is able to assist women in need thanks to people like you who care about our mission and want to make a difference. Looking to better the lives of women and their families? Below are the top 3 ways you can support Wings:



Plan to attend

Make plans to attend Wings and Wheels, our biggest fundraiser of the year. This year's event offers options for either in-person or online attendance.

ORDER TICKETS



Support current clothing needs

We depend on the generosity of the community to help keep our closets full and welcome donations that meet our current clothing needs.



Donate funds

Make your tax-deductible donation to Wings today. Wings uses all monetary donations very costeffectively. A modest donation can go a long way toward outfitting a woman with confidence!

DONATE

"Transformational. Everyone went out of their way to accommodate my style!"

- T.M., Wings for Success client



To empower women in need to pursue employment and economic security through apparel, advice, and advocacy.



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