

# VICKI BOWEN HEWES

Columbus, Ohio • 614-314-3855 • vbh@vickibowenhewes.com • [linkedin](#) • [www.vickibowenhewes.com](http://www.vickibowenhewes.com)

LEADER | COMMUNITY BUILDER | MOTIVATOR | STRATEGIST

Authentic, respected professional possessing 18 years corporate and 12 years nonprofit leadership experience. Recognized for organizational agility to achieve goals by nurturing diverse cultures of inclusivity, accountability and mutual respect. Strategically guide purpose-driven initiatives that create opportunities to join forces and propel meaningful change with positive outcomes. Resilient cross-functional partner with entrepreneurial spirit and growth mindset, devoted to dismantling barriers and collaborative solutions.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

EXECUTIVE CONSULTANT | Dress for Success Worldwide | January 2019 - March 2021



As a full-time consultant for Dress for Success (DFS) Worldwide, worked directly with the CEO and VP who oversee operations of 150 chapters in 25 countries. Leveraged experience and proven success to strengthen affiliate-level strategy, board development, marketing, engagement and resource development. Directed global Success Summit; led course correction of regional organizations; spearheaded engagement and philanthropy at Affiliate Leadership Conference. Provided ad-hoc advisory services May 2020 - March 2021.

### Global Engagement & Impact

Crafted curriculum, budget, marketing, communication and led team of 21 for global conference with 80 leaders at sea, culminating in launch of 2020 worldwide community action projects that address critical needs.

### Mission Transformation

Transformed 4 Dress for Success organizations in 3 regions. Provided 1:1 guidance to staffs and boards; created strategic, revenue and marketing plans; mentored leadership through succession transitions.

### Leadership Collaboration

Spearheaded planning and execution with executive team on 4-day symposium for 275 worldwide executives. Brought leaders together in a culture of global strength and fellowship..

FOUNDER | Fashion Forward Online | November 2019 - January 2021



Fashion Forward brought true purpose to wardrobes with 60% of every purchase donated to nonprofits empowering women. Launched and led designer resale e-commerce social enterprise uniting consigners and shoppers to change lives, concept now being piloted by TheRealReal. During pandemic, raised over \$10,000 contributed to 10 nonprofits in six states, providing critical services for 100 women when it was needed most.

FOUNDER & CEO | Dress for Success Columbus | January 2007 - December 2018



Launched and built direct service women's empowerment organization from the ground up. Dress for Success Columbus recognized as #1 global affiliate in 2010 and annually ranked in top 5 of 150 worldwide organizations. Strategically established and scaled life-changing programs and award-winning community engagement initiatives. Empowered 15,000+ women age 15-85 to achieve economic independence through free-of-charge career services, lifting thousands of families and strengthening our community.

**Inclusive Leader and Diversity Champion:** Created, implemented and expanded free of charge programs for women from diverse cultural, educational, economic backgrounds to resolve obstacles and rebuild their lives. Led a culture of respect, value and sisterhood needed for thousands of women to regain their dignity, navigate career programs and thrive; grew volunteer corps by building bridges of compassion about barriers in underserved communities.

**Service Silo Disruptor:** Established a 7-county 120+ partner referral alliance with social service organizations, schools and government agencies to minimize service duplication and maximize efficiency and impact; developed partnerships with local and global corporations to deliver world-class professional development programs by while minimizing expenses.

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## FOUNDER & CEO | Dress for Success Columbus (continued)

**Resource Innovator:** Launched social enterprise that raised 5% of annual budget; built coalitions across diverse sectors to optimize resources and achieve mutual ESG objectives. Earned the confidence of key stakeholders including individuals, corporations, foundations and government agencies. Forged long-term multi-tier partnerships that supported mission growth and leveraged every dollar raised to make triple impact; increased revenue by minimum of 10% annually; managed expenses within budget.

**Tech Trailblazer:** Led development and integration of client scheduling portal and text-alert system, increasing service delivery and engagement by 50%; employed social media to deliver career programs, accelerating engagement and overcoming transportation barriers.

**Leadership Developer:** Founded the 3rd national Y.E.S! Young Executives for Success chapter, a networking and volunteer board dedicated to growing engagement and resources for DFSC within the 18-35 age group. Y.E.S! provides a continual pipeline of new leadership and advocacy; 500+ young professionals build networks and increase philanthropic involvement.

**Community Builder:** With the support of DFSC, thousands of women have become gainfully employed in a variety of fields from entry-level to executive positions. The impact of women becoming financially independent strengthens our economy. Women served purchase homes, further their education and put their children through college, breaking the cycle of generational and situational poverty, strengthening families and communities in Central Ohio.

**'Mission First' Steward:** After building a solid foundation and the mission was poised for it's next chapter, executed a 12-month founder succession and new leadership onboarding plan with board to ensure organization sustainability.

### START-UP TO THRIVING

2007 v 2018



**Women Served Annually**  
58 v 2,000



**Paid Staff**  
700% Increase



**Volunteer Corps**  
28 v 600  
15K Service Hours Yearly



**Resources Raised Annually**  
\$199,152 v \$2M



**Coalition/Referral Partners**  
5 v 120

### ORGANIZATION AWARDS & RECOGNITION

2018	Best Charitable Gala - Dine. Drink. Dress.	City Scene
2017	Workforce Development Innovation Award	COWIC
2016	Small Nonprofit of the Year	Columbus CEO
2015	Advancement Partner of the Year	Marysville ORW
2014	Community Partner of the Year	Besa
2011	Professional Women's Group of the Year	Dress for Success Worldwide
2010	Lublin Award	Dress for Success Worldwide

## NATIONAL TRAINING & OPERATIONS DIRECTOR | AERC | 1993 - 2006



Associated Estates

Led communication and technical training, customer engagement programs and corporate social responsibility initiatives for multifamily REIT. Scaled operations from 3 states to 10 and associate engagement from 150 to 1,500+. Focus included new-hire onboarding, coaching, process training, progress evaluations and community volunteerism. Developed and supported individuals and teams to deliver world-class customer service. Aligned strategically with Operations to achieve measurable improvements. Worked cross-functionally with field and administration, C-Suite, Investor Relations, IT and HR.

Portfolio comprised of mixed-use holdings ranging from HUD to Class A properties. Consistently exceeded 96%+ occupancy goals and surpassed revenue projections by a minimum of 5% annually. Established highly successful demographic-driven marketing, loyalty and giving campaigns including associates and resident/tenant engagement for social service organizations in diverse communities.

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## AWARDS & RECOGNITION

2020	100 Women Who Inspire	Role Model Magazine
2019	Women of Excellence and Advocacy	EnVision Proven Success
2018	U.S. House of Representatives, Joyce Beatty	Congressional Recognition
2018	Community Champion	Molina Healthcare
2018	Ignite Unite Incite Award	In Christy's Shoes
2018	Women WELDING the Way	Women's Economic Leadersiip Development
2017	20 Outstanding Women	Sunny 95 / Franklin Media Group
2016	True Hero	Bryant Corporation
2015	Community Partner Award	Nationwide / AWARE
2014	Community Partner Award	National Council of Negro Women
2013	President's Award	Ohio Department of Community Development
2012	Collaborative Women in Leadership Award	NiSource / DAWN
2011	Women Leading Change Award	Franklin County Workforce Taskforce
2010	Empowering Leadership Award	Upper Arlington Young Professionals
2009	Re-Entry Advocate Award	Ohio Department of Rehabilitation & Correction

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS & VOLUNTEERISM

Boards/Committees:	BREATHE Columbus, Understanding White Privilege Task Force Chairperson, June 2020 - Present Short North Church, Advisory Committee, 2018 - 2019 The Columbus Police Foundation, Board of Directors, 2017 - 2018 Franklin County Re-Entry Coalition, Employment Committee, 2012 - 2015 Fashion Week Columbus, Board of Directors, 2012 - 2014 Ohio Anti-Poverty Taskforce, Employment Committee, 2008 - 2010 Dress for Success Columbus, Board of Directors, 2007 - Present Women's League of Kuwait, Board Vice President - 1996
Member:	Women's Economic Leadership Development (WELD), 2018 - Present Vistage Executive Coaching and Peer Advisory Group, 2017 - 2018 Association of Fundraising Professionals, 2013 - 2019 National Association of Training and Development, 1997 - 2008
Mentor:	Albert Schweitzer fellows at The Ohio State University Fisher School of Business, 2013 - 2018
Guest Speaker:	Frequent speaker for a variety of community groups, boards and conferences

## EDUCATION & RELATED SKILLS

University of Pittsburgh / Bradford Business School / Degree in Business with Marketing Specialization  
Social Impact Investing, Executive Education Program - The Wells Foundation  
WELD Government & Corporate Board Certification - Women's Economic Leadership and Development  
Proficient user of social media to drive content and engagement - Cultivate Your Content - Mikeala Media  
Extensive travel across the US and international locations; lived in Kuwait and Egypt  
Systems/Software: MAC, PC, Word, Salesforce, Shopify, Klaviyo, Wix, Canva, Zoom

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit: [www.vickibowenhewes.com](http://www.vickibowenhewes.com)

Connect with me on [LinkedIn](#)