



Washington Women's Employment & Education

"Transforming Lives from the Inside Out"

Fiscal Year 2009 Annual Report

Dear Friends of WWEE:

Thank you, on behalf of over 14,000 WWEE participants, for your continuing support.

These are difficult economic times for many of us. It is particularly hard for low-income families trying to move from public assistance to a sustainable wage job at a time of high unemployment and intense competition. Now more than ever, individuals need our help and WWEE is here to serve.

WWEE's mission and goal is to assist low-income individuals and their families to gain the skills, knowledge and courage to achieve economic self-sufficiency. REACH Plus, our seminal program, helps participants rediscover their self-esteem and self-confidence, set and achieve goals, and master workplace and computer skills.

WWEE prides itself on being nimble and responsive. Our experienced instructors regularly review our curriculum to incorporate changes mandated by the changing workplace and highlight strong and emerging industry sectors. Throughout the course of each program, participants receive:

- Customized seminars
- Housing assistance
- Job development and retention services
- Partnerships with local colleges, universities and trades for graduates to pursue careers in emerging industries
- Continuing education for personal and professional development
- At least two years of follow-up services

Simply put, WWEE works! With your support, WWEE will continue to open doors for women and their families to reach their potential, achieve economic stability, and give back to their communities.



Lois Kreitzer

Robin Lester


A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lois Kreitzer".

Lois Kreitzer
Board President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robin Lester".

Robin Lester
Chief Executive Officer

Opening Doors. Reaching potential.



At Washington Women's Employment & Education (WWEE), our core programs are

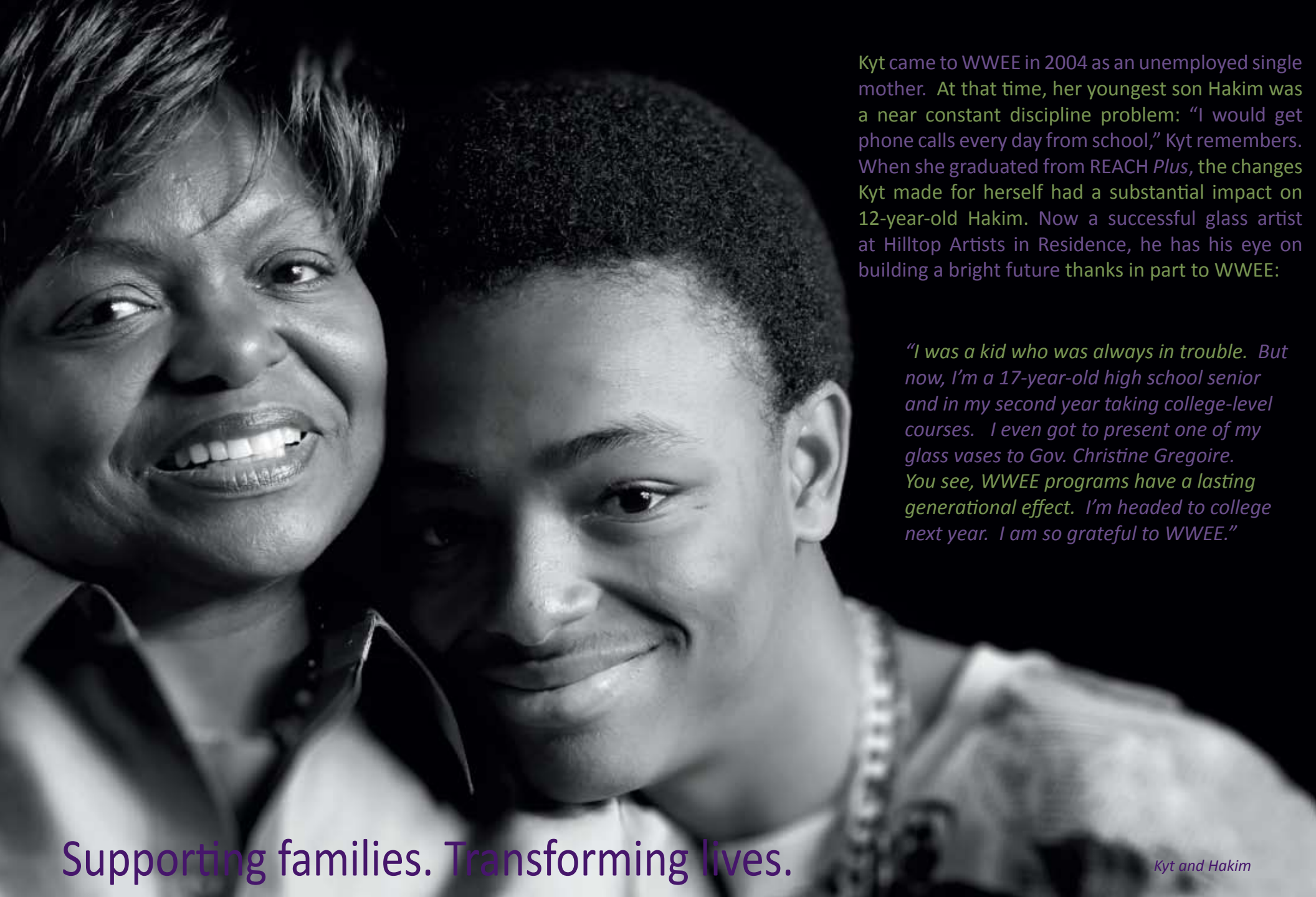
Reaching Employability and Achieving Career Habits (REACH *Plus*)
and **Housing Bridges to Self-Sufficiency (HBSS)**.

Together, they meet the basic needs of our clients: job training, enhanced interview and job-search skills, access to stable housing, workplace-appropriate clothing, emergency services, internships and two years of follow-up support.

REACH *Plus* and HBSS are powerful tools which reduce poverty in Pierce and South King Counties.

No one should live in poverty simply because they lack the skills to enter the workforce. WWEE couples housing, job training and mentoring to form a powerful support structure which enables clients to build a self-directed path out of poverty.

Enhancing stability. Improving self-sufficiency.




Kyt came to WWEE in 2004 as an unemployed single mother. At that time, her youngest son Hakim was a near constant discipline problem: "I would get phone calls every day from school," Kyt remembers. When she graduated from REACH Plus, the changes Kyt made for herself had a substantial impact on 12-year-old Hakim. Now a successful glass artist at Hilltop Artists in Residence, he has his eye on building a bright future thanks in part to WWEE:

"I was a kid who was always in trouble. But now, I'm a 17-year-old high school senior and in my second year taking college-level courses. I even got to present one of my glass vases to Gov. Christine Gregoire. You see, WWEE programs have a lasting generational effect. I'm headed to college next year. I am so grateful to WWEE."

Supporting families. Transforming lives.

Kyt and Hakim

A black and white photograph showing a close-up of a woman and a young girl. The woman is on the left, looking towards the girl on the right. Both are smiling warmly. The girl has braided hair with decorative elements. The lighting is soft, highlighting their faces against a dark background.

Dorah came to WWEE in September, 2009 when a difficult family situation left her as the sole provider for her three school-aged daughters. She enrolled in REACH *Plus* where she learned concrete workplace skills and prepared to enter the workforce. Our programs made a profound difference for Dorah and her family:

“Through WWEE I realized there were some things that I didn’t even know I needed to work on that were getting in the way of what I wanted in my life. I guess the best way to say it is that I found myself. I was rebuilt through WWEE and found my independence and direction.”

Encouraging independence. Building success.

Dorah & Tykeara



Joan

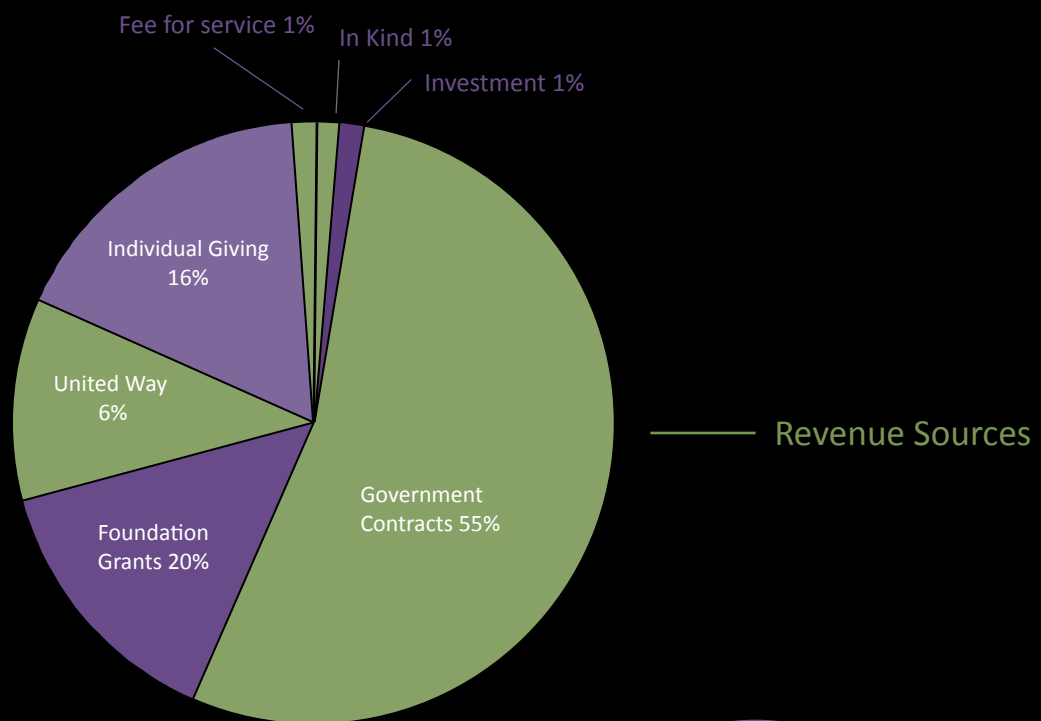
As a nation, we are facing an unprecedented period of economic instability. Washington State has a record unemployment rate - currently over 9%.

Despite this challenging climate, two-thirds of WWEE graduates entered full- or part-time employment, enrolled in higher education or vocational training or entered an internship at the end of this fiscal year.

WWEE's job training and skill-building programs remain the best way for unemployed workers to build the skills they need in the workplace, hone their resumes and cover letters, improve their interview skills and ready themselves to compete in the job market.

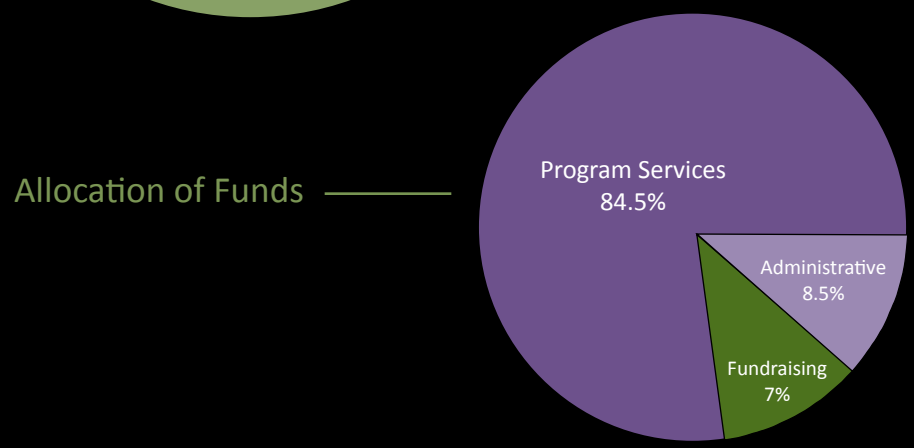
Last year, clients who came to WWEE entered our programs with an average monthly wage of \$708. Those who completed a WWEE program attained an average wage of \$1,681 or an increase of 137%.

Responding to needs. Increasing Wages.



Revenues

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Individual Giving | \$285,256 |
| In Kind | \$ 15,618 |
| Foundation Grants | \$340,850 |
| United Way | \$110,936 |
| Government Contracts | \$951,998 |
| Fee For Service | \$ 20,332 |
| Other | \$ 6,749 |
| Investments | \$ 10,958 |
| Total | \$1,742,697 |



Expenses

| | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| Program Services | \$1,341,562 |
| Fundraising | \$ 113,930 |
| Management | \$ 137,658 |
| Total | \$1,593,150 |

Sustaining funding. Diversifying revenue.

Director's Circle Supporters

WWEE's Director's Circle represents the highest level of individual giving to our organization.

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WWEE values the support of all our donors. If we have omitted or misspelled your name, we apologize and invite you to call our office to note corrections. On behalf of the women and families we serve, thank you for your support.

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Vicki Thompson in honor of Lois Harvey
Allison Smith in honor of Lois Kreitzer
Helen Chase in honor of Lois Kreitzer
Nancy Adams in honor of Gertrude Langton
Anonymous in honor of Karen McKea
Katie Parker in honor of Lainey & Moriah

Memorial Gifts

Jerry King in memory of Emily King

WWEE Staff:

Directors

Robin Lester, Chief Executive Officer
Julie Davis, Associate Director
Deborah Howell, Director of Programs

Administrative Staff

Sheila Champeau, Controller
Amy Kostelecky-Roe, Volunteer Manager & Development Associate
Andy Lewis-Lechner, Grants Manager
Caroline Swart, Development Assistant

Program Staff

Fatma Abdinasir, Kent Program Support
Nancy Adams, Transition Coordinator
Naqeeb Anderson, Kent Site Supervisor
Penny Bangert, CJ Lead Coordinator
Sherry Cotton, Housing Specialist
Emma Rose Hawley, Office Manager/Program Support
Heather Hurd, Case Aide
Debi LaFleur, HBSS Project Manager
Shelby McCulloch, Education Specialist
Amira Siegel, Education Coordinator, Kent
Wendy Simmons, Education Coordinator
Tahaira Spice, Finance Assistant/Program Support
Gwen Willis, Education Services Manager Support

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Community Volunteer

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Janelle