



### FACT SHEET

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#### **Vision and Mission:**

Founded in 1979, WIM is the premier business organization for both women business owners and corporate executives in the Fairfield/Westchester area. We welcome women from diverse industries and businesses of all sizes who seek to develop high quality networking contacts, access leading edge professional development, and give back to other women through community service and public recognition of women's business achievements. WIM is a not-for-profit association comprised of talented, dynamic women from a wide range of professional disciplines.

The *mission* of Women in Management is to be a leader in promoting the professional advancement of women in business.

#### **Goals:**

- To encourage and assist members in identifying and achieving their career and personal objectives.
- To provide ongoing professional, managerial and leadership skill development opportunities as a means of accomplishing these objectives.
- To offer formal and informal opportunities for exchanging information and ideas.
- To acknowledge the distinguished achievements of WIM members.
- To recognize those businesses and organizations, which actively encourage, acknowledge and reward the contributions of their women managers.
- To commit expertise and resources to the communities in which WIM members work and live.

WIM's activities are focused on:

**Networking to Build Relationships** – The diversity of WIM's membership gives you a unique opportunity to network with women from many different fields and professional experiences.

**Supporting Change for Personal and Professional Growth** – WIM offers encouragement and advice for women at all stages of career transition, including changing fields, seeking employment, redefining the work/family balance, and moving from corporate management to business owner or vice versa.

**Peer-to-Peer Advisory**– Our Coaching program matches WIM members by request for ongoing peer-to-peer advice and support. There are also many informal opportunities to

connect for long or short-term guidance through monthly programs, professional development activities, and the Membership Directory of members' skills and interests.

**Giving Back to Our Communities** – WIM supports women's aspirations at all levels, including local high school girls and disadvantaged women, through our **ASPIRE** program and **Women in Management Scholarship, Inc.**

### **Programs:**

WIM hosts monthly dinner programs and professional development workshops featuring industry renowned speakers at convenient area locations. Some events are for members only, while others are open to both members and guests (non-members). In addition, special programs sponsored by ASPIRE and Mentorship are held throughout the year.

### **Benefits of Membership:**

#### ***Networking***

The level of education, the diversity of the skills and professions in our membership, and the high level of expertise represented by our members ensure that you will meet people who can help further your business goals.

The *WIM Membership Directory*, available to members only, is updated regularly and is available on-line at our website. It is an important vehicle for furthering relationship building among members.

#### ***Extended Benefits Through Affiliations***

WIM provides you with additional opportunities to enhance your business acumen and to network through our affiliations with the Stamford Chamber of Commerce and The International Alliance.

- When you join WIM, you will have access to programs sponsored by the **Stamford Chamber of Commerce** – one of the area's largest and most vital business organizations. The Stamford Chamber offers a myriad of networking and educational events.
- **Women's Business New York** is dedicated to providing visibility for women in business in New York, New Jersey and Connecticut through monthly networking luncheons and their monthly publication, *Women's Business*, the Professional and Business Woman's Journal. Complimentary copies are available on the information table at WIM Program meetings.

#### ***Professional Development***

The topics that we address in our programs and workshops and the quality of the speakers we feature guarantee that you get the best and most current business education available. We are committed to helping you achieve your career and business goals through our dynamic professional events.

## ***Women's Advocacy***

For over 20 years, WIM has been dedicated to furthering the careers of women in business, both within the organization and through community outreach. We operate three programs designed to support this goal:

- **Women in Management Scholarship, Inc.:** Each year WIM Scholarship awards a \$3000 scholarship to a woman in need of financial assistance to complete her undergraduate education.
- **ASPIRE:** Each year WIM conducts a mentoring program for girls at Westhill High School in Stamford. This program nurtures their career aspirations and skills to help prepare these girls for college and for the business world. For ASPIRE participants, WIM Scholarship also provides a \$2000 annual scholarship to a girl in need of financial assistance to attend college.
- **Peer-to-Peer Advisory:** WIM offers a structured coaching program available to members only. This program gives members an opportunity to share their expertise to help each other achieve their career and business goals.

## **Committees: Opportunities for Service, Networking and Personal Growth**

The secret of successful networking is active participation in WIM activities. For many members the most rewarding relationships form when working on a committee or lending a helping hand on a project.

**Program Committee** – Plans and coordinates monthly events and programs, as well as professional development activities.

**Membership Committee** – Attracts and retains members by reviewing applications, managing events targeted to prospective members, and promoting awareness of the organization.

**Communications Committee** – Generates publicity in local media for WIM activities and accomplishments and promotes the WIM brand.

**Website Committee** – Designs, implements, and maintains technical features of the WIM website and updates content.

**Finance Committee** – Reviews the annual budget and assures that WIM funds are wisely invested and oversees annual preparation and filing of the tax return.

**Peer-to-Peer Advisory Committee** – Matches WIM members on request for guidance and advice with project management, goal achievement and business problem-solving.

**ASPIRE Committee** – Works one-on-one with local high school girls to “Ask, Search, Prepare, Improve, Reward, and Encourage” career goals and professional skills.

**WIM Scholarship, Inc.** – A charitable sister organization that helps deserving women overcome financial obstacles to a college education.

### **Membership:**

WIM members work in companies both large and small, in government, in education, in not-for-profit organizations – in virtually any sector of the economy. They may be corporate managers or entrepreneurs engaged in a wide variety of industries and professional disciplines.

Requirements for WIM membership are:

- A minimum of three years of management responsibility with demonstrable professional accomplishments
- A bachelor's degree or equivalent education or experience
- Sponsorship by two WIM members

We also encourage participation in two WIM events prior to becoming a member.

### **Procedures**

A completed membership application, two sponsor forms and a check for \$219 should be sent to the WIM office. The check covers the annual dues and a one time administrative fee of \$50. The Membership Committee will review the application. Approval of membership will be communicated by the Committee.

### **Annual Dues**

Annual dues are \$169 payable in the month of August.

### **Membership Information**

Application and sponsor forms are available at WIM meetings and on our Website.

Phone        1-866-698-3511  
Fax            1-203-359-8743  
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