



THE CATHEDRAL CENTER Women's Independence Program (WIP)

Empowerment is based on the idea that giving people skills, resources, authority, opportunity, motivations as well as holding them responsible and accountable for outcomes of their actions will contribute to their competence and satisfaction.



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Our **Women's Independence Program (WIP)** empowers women and parents who are experiencing a housing crisis to achieve their fullest potential by meeting participants where they are - to get them where they want to be. This is accomplished by weaving professional case management, a stable and supportive living environment, pre- and post-employment support, and access to a network of actively engaged employer partners.

As a workforce development program for vulnerable populations, WIP offers the unique framework that connects our clients with supportive services, soft-skills education, workforce skills and trainings, a career path, as well as employer-specific orientations and trainings. We then match our clients with employer partners based on employer needs and client skills.

WIP Prepares Individuals for the Workforce and Matches Employers' Needs

Our Women's Independence Program helps individuals to identify their strengths and remove barriers via peer group and one-one-one sessions; individual assessments; and then matches individuals with appropriate employment opportunities, supporting them in successful interviews and continued support once they begin working.

There are many benefits to being an employer partner with Cathedral Center's Women's Independence Program. As a valued employer partner:

- The individuals you engage with will be ready and eager to get into the workforce
- Candidates will be vetted before presented to your organization
- Their previous skills will allow them to become an asset to your company
- WIP team will engage with Hiring Managers on a regular basis

Work Readiness focuses on employment relationships, professionalism, and problem-solving skills, preparing individuals for the workforce.

WIP participants also develop their resume and cover letter; learn interviewing techniques; participate in peer group and one-on-one sessions, and receive a flash drive with their resume, cover letter, references and thank you letter so employers have the information needed.

Soft-skills Training focuses on communication skills, personal development, and life skills, providing strategies and tools needed to succeed in the workforce.

Interview/Work Attire and Transportation is provided as needed so individuals feel confident and dress professionally. Assistance with transportation helps to ensure that individuals arrive on time for their interview and for work.

Employment and Retention services are offered for on-going support, from the hiring process through job placement. WIP participants receive employment skills and problem-solving support to help ensure retention.

The Cathedral Center provides a safe environment for women and families while working to end homelessness, one life at a time.

