



## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Hello, you EWI of Omaha do-gooders!

What a night last Wednesday was! The ASIST Scholarship Banquet continues to be a highlight of my year. Every year I tell myself I won't cry, and every year I fail. There is always at least one (usually more than one!) recipient who hits me in all the feels, and this year was no different. The single mother who welled up at the mere mention of her children, the proud mom watching her daughter win a scholarship to pursue a degree in chemical dependency counseling after overcoming her own addiction struggles, and so many other inspirational stories. Like I have said over and over, this is our why! Many thanks to Kristin Gochenour, Diana Busche and Jordan Stocking for all their work pulling the event together, and to our three judges who reviewed 35 (not a typo!) completed applications, more than double our total last year. Word is getting out and I love to see it. Can't wait to see what next year brings.

While we're on the subject of do-gooding, this is the home stretch for our Reading Rally. We are collecting books and monetary donations through May 31. More details are in the flyer later in this newsletter. We will also be assembling a group to deliver and arrange the books at MICAH House sometime in June, as well as signing up volunteers read at scheduled times to the children at the Florence M. Lakin Child Development Center so if you are interested in either or both opportunities, please contact Natalie Kotrc. This is our second year working with MICAH House in what I hope will be a wonderful partnership for years to come!

Lastly, registration is underway for the EWI Leadership Caucus and Annual Meeting (LCAM). We already have six registered with more to come! Omaha always has one of the larger delegations and I won't let that tradition end on my watch. I may or may not be a tad competitive, but I also know what a valuable experience it is! This will be my fifth year attending and I always walk away having learned so much to help me both personally and professionally, a renewed energy from hearing all the inspiring stories, having lots of laughs, seeing old friends and making new ones. If you are interested in attending LCAM, please watch the recording of the webinar that corporate offered on May 28. If this is your first time attending, the Board is offering a scholarship to cover your registration fee! The application was attached to this email and is due June 6. Early bird registration ends June 30 so get registered ASAP!

I look forward to seeing you all at our next chapter meeting on June 25. Wear comfy clothes and shoes since we will be doing some beginner-level Pilates moves. Don't be scared – just be ready to stretch the stress away!

Molly Murphy  
2024-2025 President  
EWI of Omaha

## 2024-2025 Officers and Directors

### President

Molly Murphy – Omaha Steaks  
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### Parliamentarian

Sharon Mize – Suzanne & Walter Scott  
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Congratulations to all our incredible scholarship winners! We are so excited to see the remarkable things you will accomplish in the years to come. A heartfelt thank you to Burlington Capital for generously hosting the event and to Lisa Roskens for her inspiring words. We are also deeply grateful to all the participating firms and their representatives—your support is what makes this program truly impactful.

Thanks to your generosity, EWI of Omaha was proud to award \$22,000 in scholarships, along with beautiful bouquets and backpacks filled with supplies and gift cards.

We were also able to award Ruth Utman with a Lifetime Membership Award. Congratulations, Ruth!

Together, we’re building brighter futures!





# Mark Your Calendars!

EWI Board Meeting  
June 10, 2025  
5:30pm – Omaha Steaks

EWI Chapter Meeting  
June 25, 2025  
Outlook Nebraska

UPCOMING CHAPTER MEETINGS

June 25<sup>th</sup>

July 23<sup>rd</sup>

August 27<sup>th</sup>



EWI of Omaha is proud to announce that one of the winners is Molly Murphy, our EWI of Omaha President!

We are excited to announce the winners of this year's **Emerging Executive Women** program! Please join us in congratulating:

- **Felicia Senter** – EWI of Tulsa
- **Molly Murphy** – EWI of Omaha
- **Angie Walters** – EWI of Tulsa
- **Lesley Cornathan** – EWI of Columbus
- **Marsha Garza** – EWI of San Antonio
- **Tia Scott** – EWI of Harnsburg

These outstanding women were selected for their leadership, ambition, and commitment to their professional growth. When asked what receiving this award means to them — and how they plan to use it — they shared some inspiring thoughts:

**Molly Murphy** (EWI of Omaha) shared how this opportunity will directly impact her educational goals and career advancement:

*"With the help of this grant and the leadership coaching that accompanies it, I will have the tools and support needed to finally take the plunge and invest in myself by pursuing a Master's in Legal Studies. This degree will allow me to assist our HR team in navigating complex legal challenges while broadening my overall impact as a leader within our company. I'm excited to embark on this next chapter and grateful for the support that makes it possible."*

CONNECTIONS | CAREERS | COMMUNITY

# 2025 Reading Rally

EWI Omaha has the opportunity once again this year to help build the library of the Florence M Lakin Child Development Center at MICA House. MICA House, founded in 1986, is an emergency family homeless shelter that provides shelter and support services to hundreds of children and adults annually. The Florence M Lakin Child Development Center opened last year and with our 2024 EWI donations added almost 300 books!

The child care center offers safe, affordable, and care-centric childcare for our families. This program fills the gaps in MICA House children's developmental delays while our parents will have an opportunity to work towards financial stability, wellness, and interdependence. Children served are between the ages of 6 months to 6 years.

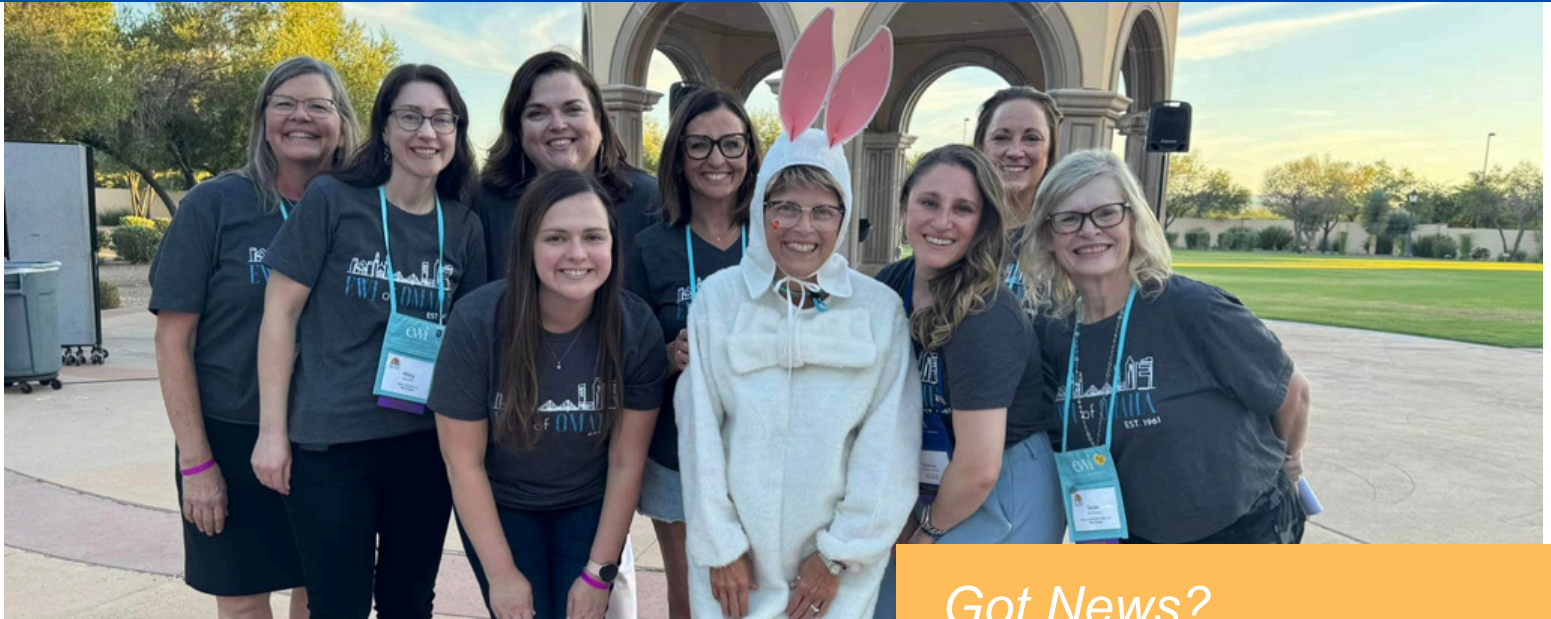
**What is needed:**

- \* **New or used children's books for ages 6 months—6 years**
- \* **Funds to purchase additional books, bookshelves, and bags allowing children to borrow books from the library**
- \* **Volunteers to deliver and arrange books**
- \* **Volunteers available to read to children on a scheduled basis**

**We will be accepting donations through May 31<sup>st</sup>.** Donated books can be dropped off during monthly meetings in April or May. Molly can also accept donations at Omaha Steaks (10909 John Galt Blvd/68137) Monday through Friday from 8:30-4:30. We can also arrange a drop off/pickup directly. You can email Natalie for arrangements at [natalie.kotrc@yahoo.com](mailto:natalie.kotrc@yahoo.com) or call or text 402-707-6582. Reading opportunities will be shared as the schedule is established.



# Newsletter Tidbits



Have you signed up yet?

You can raise funds for EWI of Omaha simply by buying gift cards from 750+ brands. Our chapter earns 2-20% from each card purchased! No extra money spent. No selling needed. It's that easy.

Click this [link](#) to register and learn more!



## Meeting Space

If your firm has space to accommodate an EWI of Omaha Chapter meeting and/or you would like to help with future meetings by joining the Programs Committee, please reach out to our Program Directors, Amy Ayer at [amy.ayer@hdrinc.com](mailto:amy.ayer@hdrinc.com) and Sheila Fitzgerald at [sheila@anewleafomaha.com](mailto:sheila@anewleafomaha.com).



## Got News?

Would you like to give kudos to a fellow member? Brag about an award you or a fellow member won? Is your firm hosting a special event? Spread the word in our newsletter! Email your newsletter submissions to Jordan Stocking at [jstocking@burlingtoncapital.com](mailto:jstocking@burlingtoncapital.com).

## Share Our News!

Forward a copy of the EWI of Omaha Connect to your Firm Executive and let them know how our chapter is promoting member firms, enhancing personal and professional development, and encouraging community involvement.

## Tell Us the News!

If you know of any EWI member who could use some support, please email Pam Yenko at [pyenko@accessbank.com](mailto:pyenko@accessbank.com).

# EWI of Omaha

## Member Firms and Representatives

*A New Leaf – Sheila Fitzgerald*  
*A View Venues – Britney McLaughlin*  
*Access Bank – Pam Yenke*  
*Agile Mindfulness – Nora Plambeck*  
*Bankers Trust Company – Angie Peters*  
*Bland & Associates, PC – Hilary Allen, Diana Busche*  
*Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Nebraska – Susan Hussey*  
*Borsheims – Chris Buckingham*  
*Burlington Capital – Jordan Stocking, Ruth Utman*  
*CHI Health – Valencia Gammage*  
*Elegant Edge Events – Natalie Kotrc*  
*Green Plains Inc. – Lindsay Christiansen*  
*HDR – Amy Ayer*  
*Hemphill Search Group – Susie Hemphill*  
*Lund Company, The – Jessica Diamond, Jonna Radtke*  
*Marriott Downtown at the Capitol District – Karlie Van Meter*  
*McFarlin & Brokke, P.C. – Melissa Travis*  
*MK Swan, Inc. – Melissa Swan*

*Omaha Steaks – Kristin Gochenour, Molly Murphy*  
*Outlook Collaborative – Lori Mitera, Susanne Waltermeyer*  
*Outlook Enrichment – Nina Rongisch*  
*Pinnacle Bank – Alisha Nash*  
*Power UP Leadership Coaching – Sandy Spady*  
*Signature Performance – Stacie Robertson*  
*Stratum Live Event & Productions – Tori Anderson*  
*Streck – Alexis Boyd*  
*Sunflower Advisors – Amy Bodenner*  
*Sunflower Grant Writers – Katie LeDoux*  
*Suzanne & Walter Scott Foundation – Sharon Mize*  
*Talking Rain – Kristen Long*  
*United Republic Bank – Anne Riley*  
*WoodmenLife – Serita Kyle*  
  
*Individual Member – Cindy Brickey*  
  
*Life Members – Jane Allamong, Carol Armstrong, Patty Bain, Cathy Bodammer, Sue Burkhard, Loy Flanagan, Lenore Honke, Sally Komrofske, Cheryl McCall, Patty McElderry, Ellie Morrow, Janet Schawang*

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### Our Mission

Executive Women International (EWI) brings together key individuals from diverse businesses for the purpose of promoting member firms, enhancing personal and professional development, and encouraging community involvement.



### Our Vision

To enhance professional growth and development within a diverse group of women while empowering them to make a difference as they inspire others.

### Our Values

Integrity | Excellence | Respect | Collaboration