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## September 2026 PRESIDENT'S LETTER

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Greetings EWI of Omaha,

As I write my final President's Message, I am filled with gratitude for the opportunity to serve as your Chapter President this past year. It has been an honor to work alongside such an engaged and dedicated group of professionals.

Together, we accomplished so much. We welcomed 13 new members, launched our retention and recruitment initiative with 70% member participation in the Logo Item Credit program to date, and continued to strengthen our chapter through connection and engagement.

One of the highlights of the year was attending LCAM with 12 fellow Omaha members. It was inspiring to connect with EWI members from across the country, and I was especially proud when our chapter was recognized with both a Membership Growth Award and the prestigious Chapter of Excellence Award. These honors belong to all of you. I also encourage everyone to consider attending LCAM in Las Vegas next year. It is a wonderful opportunity to learn, network, and experience the power of EWI beyond our chapter!

Thank you to our outgoing Board of Directors for your leadership, volunteerism, and commitment. Your countless hours of service helped make this a successful and memorable year. Thank you also to every member whose participation, support, and passion continue to make EWI of Omaha such a special chapter.

On September 23rd we held our second Business Meeting of the year, installed our new Board of Directors, and I am excited to have passed the gavel to Amy. She is a dedicated leader who cares deeply about our chapter, and I know she will do an outstanding job leading EWI of Omaha in the year ahead. While my presidency is ending, I am proud to continue serving as Board Advisor and supporting Amy and the new board.

Thank you for your trust, support, and friendship throughout this journey. I am incredibly proud of what we have accomplished together and excited for what lies ahead.

Together, we do great things!

Warmest regards,  
Susan Hussey  
2025-2026 Chapter President



President

Susan Hussey – Dvorak Law Group  
shussey@ddlawgroup.com

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apeters@bankerstrust.com

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Ways & Means Director

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Director At-Large

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Parliamentarian

Hilary Allen – Bland & Associates, PC  
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# Chapter News



CLICK HERE



Last chance

to get your EWI Swag before  
midnight on September 30<sup>th</sup> !  
Members, use your first initial + last  
name to receive your \$50 discount

## UPCOMING EVENTS

13

**Board Meeting & Retreat**

5:30pm

22

**Scholarship Fundraiser**

5:00pm

28

**Chapter Meeting**

5:30pm



RaiseRight

Help raise funds for EWI of Omaha by  
buying gift cards from 750+ brands!

[Click here to learn more!](#)



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**SOCIAL MEDIA**

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[www.linkedin.com/company/ewi-of-omaha](http://www.linkedin.com/company/ewi-of-omaha)

*Happy  
Birthday!*

Brenda Ulven - Oct 4  
Sue Burkhard - Oct 10  
Natalie Kotrc - Oct 18  
Jane Allamong - Oct 24

# Chapter News



EWIT of Omaha Board

2026/2027

# Chapter Events

## BUSINESS MEETING & EWI OF OMAHA BOARD INSTALLATION



SEPTEMBER 23

# Chapter Events

## Darlis Vauble Fundraiser Vino Mas Wine Tasting

October 22nd - 5-8pm

\$25/tasting

Bring your friends, family and acquaintances!  
Tasting and Sales will contribute toward fundraising goal



EWI OMAHA PRESENTS

## PAST PRESIDENTS' NIGHT

HONORING OUR LEGACY OF LEADERSHIP

Join us for an evening of connection, celebration, and recognition as we honor all past presidents of the EWI Omaha Chapter.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2026

Beacon Hills • 6750 Mercy Road • Omaha, Nebraska

\$30 PER PERSON

### EVENING SCHEDULE

|                |                                             |
|----------------|---------------------------------------------|
| 5:30 – 6:30 PM | Networking                                  |
| 6:00 – 6:15 PM | Welcome • Roll Call • Inspirational Reading |
| 6:15 – 6:45 PM | Dinner                                      |
| 6:45 – 7:30 PM | Program                                     |
| 7:30 PM        | Recognition of Past Presidents              |

RESERVE YOUR SEAT

RSVP by October 21, 2026

Celebrating Leadership • Inspiring the Future • Honoring Our Legacy

# LCAM Spotlight



"My favorite part this year at LCAM 2026 was our inspirational speaker, Grace Key. Grace spoke at the Thursday morning breakfast to kick off LCAM. She was born with Down syndrome, but they prefer to call it UP syndrome. She has been through some crazy bullying and not-so-nice treatment in life. The bullying in high school was horrendous. She and her mom came up with a 'fun' idea that has turned into a money-making job for Grace to run, and be profitable in, as well as public speaking engagements. She was bright and articulate and made us cry and laugh out loud. She spoke the truth and encouraged all of us to BE Candidly KIND.

GO AHEAD – BUY A SHIRT OR TWO!

*click  
here!*



I grew up with my Aunt Jill, and she too had Down syndrome. There is something extremely kind and loving about Down syndrome people. I feel blessed to have had my Aunt Jill in my life for over 50 years, and meeting Grace reminded me how truly blessed I am."

**-Amy Ayer**

"This was my 12th LCAM!!! LCAM is a conference I look forward to every year, not just to spend time with some great people, but also for the content and value that I have taken away from most every conference has helped me grow professionally and develop relationships that I will treasure for the rest of my life. I would highly encourage any EWI member to experience LCAM at least once!!!"

**-Kristin Gochenour**



# LCAM Spotlight

"EWI LCAM 2026 was a wonderful opportunity to connect with fellow EWI members, celebrate our organization, and return home inspired with new ideas for leadership and service. One of the highlights was the Academy of Leadership, "Legacy Leadership – Building Bridges to Tomorrow," which challenged us to think about the kind of leaders we want to be and the impact we want to leave behind. From the reminder that everyone has leadership potential to discussions about courage, resilience, collaboration, conflict, and developing others, the sessions offered plenty of opportunities for reflection. "The Listening Advantage" also reminded us that some of the most powerful leadership moments happen when we simply slow down, eliminate distractions, and truly listen. Perhaps the biggest takeaway from LCAM was this: Be the type of leader you want to attract—and build something that will continue to make a difference long after you leave the room."

-Susanne Waltermeyer



"LCAM in Mobile was exactly what I needed in so many ways. It was a getaway, inspiration, laughter, and a powerful reminder that what we do at EWI matters. Grace and her mom from Candidly Kind were beyond inspirational, and hearing corporate ASIST scholarship winner Princess Winters share how she is pursuing her law degree while raising two children as a single mom brought our mission to life. When the Tulsa chapter surprised her with an additional \$5,000, I was crying like a baby! Mobile knocked it out of the park with its hospitality, and meeting the mayor was a highlight after hearing so many locals sing his praises. But the friendships were just as meaningful...from connecting with women across chapters to laughing with my roommate, Sandy Spady, like we were at a grade-school sleepover. I came home refreshed, inspired, and grateful to be part of EWI. If you're considering LCAM next year, start making plans...I would love for more of our Omaha ladies to experience it together!"

-Amy Bodenner

# LCAM Spotlight



This year's LCAM (#6 for me) was one of my favorites. It is tough to pick a favorite moment but it would probably be the keynote speakers: Grace Key and her mother, Carrie Key who are founders of Candidly Kind.

Grace has Down Syndrome and her parents were told that she would possibly never talk or walk, but now she is giving keynote speeches to huge crowds across the country.

Talk about inspiring! Needless to say, she brought the house down and there were very few dry eyes in the room. Grace also does all the designs for Candidly Kind merchandise and fulfills orders herself. Did I need another t-shirt? No. Did I buy one? Absolutely. The professional development workshops were led by our own Amy Bodenner and Sandy Spady, and our chapter resumed its reign as a Chapter of Excellence, so Omaha was shining mighty bright. I also loved reconnecting with

friends from other chapters which strengthens the sense of EWI community and reignites my drive to keep improving our chapter. I shared a flight home with several women from the Tulsa chapter who were talking up EWI to the flight attendant! It was so fun to see how passionate EWI members are from all over the country – and inspired me to never stop recruiting. 😊

-Molly Murphy



Omaha  
ewiConnect

# LCAM Spotlight



# Member News & Events



## **Make Dinner Count — Support Outlook Enrichment at Chipotle!**

Take a night off from cooking and support Outlook Enrichment at the same time!

Join us for a Chipotle Fundraiser and enjoy your favorite burrito, bowl, tacos, or salad while helping support Outlook Enrichment's programs and services for individuals who are blind or visually impaired.



Tuesday, October 20

5:00–9:00 p.m.

Chipotle – 3605 N. 147th Street, Omaha

### **Participating is easy:**

- Ordering in person? Let the cashier know you're there to support Outlook Enrichment before you pay.
- Ordering online for pickup? Use fundraiser code PJRG9RN when placing your order. Grab dinner for yourself, your family, or your friends and help support Outlook Enrichment while enjoying a delicious meal.

Eat Chipotle. Support Outlook Enrichment. Make a difference—one burrito at a time!



# Member News & Events

MIC DROP club

## JOIN OMAHA'S WOMEN'S PUBLIC SPEAKING CLUB

Hosted by:



Leia Baez, Co-Host  
Mic Drop Club Omaha  
leiabaez.com



Sandy Spady, Co-Host  
Mic Drop Club Omaha  
powerupbysandy.com

**25% OFF**

Discount code: OMAHA25  
www.micdropworkshop.com/coupon/OMAHA25

RESTORE ♡ RENEW ♡ REMEMBER

SUNFLOWER ADVISORS

## Christian Women's Retreat ♡

A WEEKEND TO GROW CLOSER TO GOD, YOURSELF & SISTERHOOD. ♡

A WEEKEND TO BE ENCOURAGED, EMPOWERED, EQUIPPED AND YOU.



BE ENCOURAGED



BE EMPOWERED



BE EQUIPPED



BE YOU

You are loved. You are chosen. You are enough.



OCTOBER 16 - 18, 2026  
THE LODGE AT MAHONEY STATE PARK  
28500 W Park Hwy  
Ashland, NE 68003

| RETREAT INVESTMENT    |                     |               |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| WEEKEND WITH ROOMMATE | WEEKEND SINGLE ROOM | SATURDAY ONLY |
| \$250                 | \$360               | \$120         |

♡ For more information, contact

AMY BODENNER  
785.424.3449 | amy@sunfloweradvisors.com

SUNFLOWER ADVISORS

# Corporate News



## EWI Corporate Board

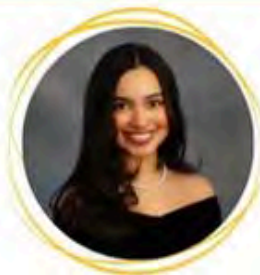
2026/2027

*Congratulations, Diana on your appointment!*

# Corporate News

## ONGOING

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WEBINAR SERIES



### The Happiest of Hours with EWI: A Different Kind of Happy Hour

The Last Friday of the Month Through November 2026 | 06:00 PM CT

Lesley Cornathan, EWI Corporate's Growth and Engagement Director

Guest: Francesca Reyes, Marketing Major at The Ohio State University

## OCTOBER

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WEBINAR



### Stop Overthinking. Start Moving Forward.

Wednesday, October 14, 2026 | 12:00 PM CT

Penny Casselman, Speaker

[Register Here](#)

## NOVEMBER

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WEBINAR



### Financial Planning 101: Retirement, Income & Peace of Mind

Monday, November 18, 2026 | 12:00 PM CT

Kyle Hittle, Director of Retirement Plans | Wealth Advisor, SWBC

[Register Here](#)

# Corporate News

**90 Days.  
One Goal.  
Real Support.**



What could change if you gave one meaningful goal your focused attention for the next 90 days?



## YOU CHOOSE YOUR GOAL



Personal



Business



EWI

Boards and Committees are welcome to participate together on a shared Chapter goal.

## WHAT YOU'LL EXPERIENCE

- ✓ Kickoff goal-setting webinar
- ✓ Weekly accountability
- ✓ Coaching when you get stuck
- ✓ Connection with fellow EWI members



### G.E.M. 90-Day Goal Series

Mondays | September 28 – December 21

11:00 am ET / 10:00 am CT



Attend the first session to set your goal, then join the weekly calls as needed for accountability, coaching, or Q&A.



REGISTER AT [EWICONNECT.COM](https://ewiconnect.com)

*Your next 90 days are going to happen anyway.  
What would you love to be able to say you moved forward?*



## Member Firms and Representatives

A View Venues – Brooke Johnsen  
Access Bank – Pam Yenke  
Agile Mindfulness – Nora Plambeck  
Bankers Trust Company – Angie Peters  
Bland & Associates, PC – Hilary Allen, Diana Busche  
Borsheims – Chris Buckingham  
Burlington Capital – Jordan Stocking  
Doubletree Downtown Omaha – Sara Freeman  
Dvorak Law Group – Amy Ayer, Susan Hussey  
Elegant Edge Events – Natalie Kotrc  
Green Plains Inc. – Lindsay Christiansen  
HDR – Denise Beideck  
Hemphill Search Group – Susie Hemphill  
Hyatt Omaha – Trish Bauermeister  
Lund Company, The – Jessica Diamond, Jonna Radtke  
Marriott Downtown at the Capitol District – Maggie Rasmussen  
Madsen Wealth Management - Sarah Madsen  
McFarlin & Brokke, P.C. – Melissa Travis  
Midlands Business Journal – Andee Hoig  
MK Swan, Inc. – Melissa Swan  
Omaha Steaks – Kristin Gochenour, Molly Murphy, Stephanie Skavdahl

Outlook Collaborative – Lori Mitera, Susanne Waltermeyer  
Partnership 4 Kids – Open  
Party Bar, The – Jodi Carper  
Pinnacle Bank – Alisha Nash, Christina Dizona  
Power UP Leadership Coaching – Sandy Spady  
Standard Heating & Air – Jody DuRee  
Sunflower Advisors – Amy Bodenner  
Suzanne & Walter Scott Foundation – Sharon Mize  
Talking Rain – Kristen Cummings  
Thrivent – Open  
United Republic Bank – Anne Riley  
Venue 1883 – Brenda Ulven

Individual Members – Cindy Brickey, Reem Rawashdeh

Member in Transition – Amber Stroh  
Sustaining Members- Stacie Robertson, Jane Heath

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, Ruth Utman