Dear WE CAN Friends,

I was introduced to WE CAN’s mission more than a decade ago and over the years experienced the power of WE CAN’s work as a community collaborator, donor, and volunteer. Now as WE CAN’s Executive Director, I have the honor of leading this incredible organization with a mission needed more than ever in our community – to empower women and their families to thrive.

We will serve nearly 3,000 women this year with a small staff and a network of over 300 volunteers. We will pursue strategic ways to serve women in all regions of the Cape and those who may be under-served because of age, language barriers, economic status, or transportation challenges.

We could not do this without you – our community of supporters, volunteers, and partners who demonstrate unwavering commitment to WE CAN’s mission. I welcome the opportunity to hear from you: 508-430-8111 or Lisa@wecancenter.org

Lisa Guyon
Executive Director, WE CAN

Letter from the President of WE CAN’s Board of Directors

It is with pride and pleasure that I greet you as summer folds into fall. What a bustling year it has been!

In March, we welcomed our dynamic new Executive Director, Harwich native Lisa Guyon. Lisa jumped in head high and heart first, leading her staff to five (5!) successful major events in her first 100 days. And at the same time conducting a robust schedule of WE CAN services and programming.

As you know, our mission is to serve women in transition with resources that educate, mentor and support, so that empowered, they realize lasting, positive change. With you, WE CAN will continue to make a difference in the lives of all Cape women.

Lori Pinard
President, WE CAN
THE POWER OF WE CAN VOLUNTEERS

WE CAN’s mission is supported by one of the largest volunteer networks on Cape Cod.

VOLUNTEERS: 6,589 HOURS DONATED BY 313 PEOPLE IN 2018

- **4,326 hours** volunteered by **40 office volunteers** who are often the first voice heard or face seen by women when reaching out to WE CAN for help
- **488 hours** volunteered by **48 attorneys** providing pro bono legal expertise to WE CAN participants on issues including family law, estate planning, employment law, and landlord/tenant issues
- **137 hours** given by **15 financial professionals**, providing participants guidance on topics such as budgeting, debt management, finances in retirement, and student loan debt
- **258 hours** given by **20 career/business professionals**, advising and coaching participants on job search, career development, and business topics
- **32 Mentors** supported their **32 PathMakers** as they gained self-confidence and pursued their personal goals over a 10-month period

WHY I VOLUNTEER

Although fairly new to WE CAN, Muska Yousuf is already quite involved with providing Cape women with legal answers. Muska offers monthly 30-minute evening legal consultations for WE CAN participants, plus an occasional legal workshop. When asked what motivates her to volunteer, she simply states “It is my desire to give back to the Cape community.” She describes her strong ties to the Cape. Her family arrived in the 1980s after fleeing the war in Afghanistan. The entire community wrapped itself around them providing emotional support and other comforts. She was only two years old, yet she holds these kindnesses close to her heart.

Muska is keenly aware that many do not qualify for pro bono services and yet do not earn enough to pay customary legal fees. She provides volunteer legal services to WE CAN participants and for two Lawyer of the Day programs. Through her Cape-based practice, she offers services through LAR (Limited Assistance Representation). Muska considers herself lucky to be on the giving side. WE CAN and all who know her feel equally lucky.
WE CAN SERVICES OVERVIEW

2018 BY THE NUMBERS

14,500
Women Seeking Services
Calls & Walk-ins Combined

2,720
Individual Women Participating in WE CAN Services/Programs

70%
Women Who Accessed Multiple WE CAN Services

SERVICES & PROGRAMS
- Intake & Direct Referral to services across Cape Cod
- Legal Services include individual 1:1 consultations and workshops
- Work Support Services offer job, career, and business support
- Financial Empowerment Services include debt management, budgeting, and savings planning
- PathMakers Mentoring Program pairs women in transition with mentors to achieve their goals
- GROW Program supports women entrepreneurs and women-led businesses
- Personal Development programs help women to manage life transitions

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES
I. Increase Access to WE CAN Services:
- Expanding geographic access to WE CAN services by co-locating services with strategic non-profit partners across Cape Cod
- Upgrading technology to support remote services

II. Engage Under-Served Women:
- Offering services in Spanish and Portuguese via bilingual staff
- Developing services to meet the specific needs of the Cape's growing population of women over the age of 60

III. Results-Based Accountability:
- Implementing new evaluation tools to measure the long-term impact of WE CAN services on participants

WE CAN CHANGES LIVES

A WE CAN Participant shares her experience:

"My life has gotten to a place where it's functionally manageable and that feels so empowering. I have a full-time job; I did my own taxes for the first time; I am about to buy my own car...I'm evolving from a broken-down person filled with anxieties to a woman who has actually had a couple of days where I felt like: I CAN DO THIS! I GOT THIS!

Significantly, I can imagine bigger possibilities; that I may actually be able to give back someday. There is no doubt in my mind that none of this would have been possible without WE CAN. My gratitude knows no bounds."

Danielle participated in WE CAN's Work Support, Legal Services, and the PathMakers Mentoring Program.
Through WE CAN's unique and practical services, empowered women achieve positive lasting change for themselves, their families, and ultimately, our entire community.

**WHY I GIVE**

"As a Cape resident and business owner, I value the work WE CAN does to support women and families in our community. Their team’s commitment and approach to helping women develop skills and gain tools to thrive is truly special. Investing in WE CAN and our fellow neighbors is important to the strength of our Cape Cod community."

**Aaron Polhemus**
WE CAN Community Builder Donor Since 2016
President & CEO, Polhemus Savery DaSilva Architects Builders

To view the WE CAN 2018 Donor List, visit: www.wecancenter.org/donor-list-2018