



2021

## THE YEAR OF GRATITUDE

*Give thanks to the Lord for He is good; His steadfast love endures forever.*  
Psalm 107:1

During this year commemorating our 20th anniversary, God's goodness and steadfast love have been evident!

- Thirty-three women graduated our 12-week Employment Readiness Program.
- Twelve women completed Spanish Computer classes.
- 73% of the graduates were employed.
- Computer test scores increased on average by 17 points.
- Four women became new believers and four rededicated their faith.
- 100% reported that they grew in their relationship with Christ!

EQUIP for Employment  
EMPOWER with Dignity & Hope  
ENCOURAGE with the Love of Jesus



## NEW HAPPENINGS

Thanks to a generous grant from the Women's Fund of Smith County, additional monthly funding was provided in 2021. This allowed CWJC Tyler to add new curriculum to our Employment Readiness Program and develop a new website.

New features on the website include online learning and a local job board, which are available for free to our community.

Employers are invited to post job openings to our website at no charge. Our hope is that the job board will become a resource connecting local employers with CWJC graduates and other qualified candidates who are seeking employment.

We hope you will visit our newly refreshed website soon!



### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Gay Brookshire

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Melanie Poland

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### STAFF

Lesley Jones, Executive Director

Dawn Jones, Program Manager

## CRYSTAL'S CWJC STORY



Crystal, Spring 2021 Graduate

Being part of CWJC has been an inspiring season of my life and as my walk with Jesus Christ only gets more amazing and fulfilling as I have witnessed the change not only in myself but also in my sisters in Christ as we grow in our faith and transform our dreams into reality by being empowered by the body of Christ that has been carefully handpicked by God himself to be in this place at this time in our lives.

I have personally experienced the impact that CWJC has on women firsthand from the kindness and compassion extended from the staff, volunteers, teachers, journey partners, mock interviewers, job coaches and praise and worship, as they pour wisdom and care into thirsty souls looking for guidance and let us know we are capable and worthy, by leading by example of what living a Godly life looks like, while giving and serving unconditionally to minister to the lives of women.

The journey has meant more than words can express to have traveled and grown closer with Jesus and now I feel more confident and able to communicate in a work environment and improve a career that fulfills my purpose and ambition to serve others and minister to them.

*We invite you to watch videos of graduate speeches found in News at [cwjctyler.org](http://cwjctyler.org). Grab a tissue and enjoy these heartfelt moments with us!*

## GIVE

When you give to Christian Women's Job Corps of Tyler, you support women and their families.

Your gift transforms lives now and for eternity!

**Please consider an end of year gift or join our Mission Friends by signing up to give monthly in 2022. Both may be given online at [www.cwjctyler.org](http://www.cwjctyler.org)**

## NEW PROGRAM MANAGER

In the spring of this year, former Site Coordinator, Kim Stewart, moved to the Beaumont area to be closer to her family. However, CWJC was not left without coverage because at the same time, God was preparing the heart of our new Program Manager, Dawn Jones, to pursue His plans for her life and career. While our Lord outlined the final details in Dawn's journey to CWJC, she waited patiently and listened as He told her to "follow me".

Dawn joined our team with extensive experience in corporate training and client relations. Her expertise in adult education allows her to continually develop the programs of CWJC as we strive to remain current and provide education that is relevant in today's workplace. Most importantly, Dawn finds joy in serving others. Her gifts, talents and servant's heart make a true difference as she works directly with our clients acting as a source of encouragement and guidance. You will find that she is cheerful, full of compassion, and provides a powerful level of positivity that is sure to bring a smile to your face.

"CWJC named 2021 The Year of Gratitude and I am extremely grateful to be here. With God at the helm of my life, I am confident that He will direct my path and ask that He use me for His honor and glory." -Dawn

But He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly about my weakness, so that Christ's power may rest on me. Corinthians 12:9



Dawn Jones  
Program Manager



# STRENGTHS-BASED FOCUS

Resume Writing is one of the first topics taught during our semester. It gives students the opportunity to create an initial resume that they revise and refine throughout the semester as they develop their career goals. It is very common during this class to hear students express sentiments such as “I’ve never \_\_\_\_\_”, “I don’t have \_\_\_\_\_” or “I’m only \_\_\_\_\_”. One can easily fill in the blanks; we’ve heard it all— lack of experience, education, skills... but most often the underlying stronghold is simply a lack of confidence. Throughout our lives, we are often focused on areas of needed improvement. We spin our wheels exerting precious time and energy just trying to reach a level of “good enough”. Now, imagine that instead of focusing on “improvement needed”, we focused on what we do well. What if you could be handed a list of your top 5 Strengths? Then, you’re told what they look like in everyday life and how they can be used in the workplace. You’re taught to embrace what comes naturally and to put your strengths to work —to grow in your God-given talents. What a life-changing perspective that would be! This is what is taught in CWJC’s CliftonStrengths training.

CliftonStrengths was added to our curriculum in the fall of 2021 and is taught before Resume Writing. Now, when students begin writing their resumes and creating their personal branding statements, they can define their strengths and interweave them into their resume. “I’ve never”, “I’m not” and “I’m only” are replaced with resounding statements such as, “I am responsible”, “I am a strong communicator”, “I am an achiever”.

Fall 2021 Graduate, Mika, shared it perfectly during her speech addressing her fellow graduates:

“Graduates, do you remember those first days of Jobs for Life class when we had to introduce ourselves? [Shyly, “Hello. My name is Mika. I’m just a stay home wife & mom of 22 years.”].

I’m just... I’m only... Or maybe that was just my story.

One of the phrases our Bible class leader, Ms.Fay, shared was, ‘We live between what God has done and what He’s gonna do’.

I’m pretty sure you, graduates, remember your strengths because we all got goosebumps! We thought we answered the test questions wrong, and yet we were shocked that the results pegged us pretty well. We even used these strengths to write our personal branding statement on our resumes.

Graduates, I’d like you to turn to someone sitting next to you and tell them your strengths or branding statement.

For me, this was so transformative, as I realized I am not ‘just a mom’ nor ‘only a house wife’. It revealed to me that I have allowed negative thoughts, past circumstances or choices (our roadblocks as our Jobs for Life curriculum calls these) to define me a victim or slave of these ideas about who I am. I allowed these roadblocks not only to define me, but also assign my value and worth. Now I can say, ‘Hello. My name is Mika Campbell, a passionate educator’.

In Jobs for Life one of our foundational chapters included Ephesians 2:10:

We are God’s...

We are God’s handiwork...

We are God’s handiwork, created for the purpose He has planned for us since before time.

We live in between what God has done & what He’s gonna do. Congratulations, CWJC graduates, I can’t wait to see what He’s gonna do through us.”



Mika, Fall 2021 Graduate

# VOLUNTEER

In 2021, volunteers shared approximately 1,900 hours with Christian Women’s Job Corps!

With a two-person staff, we can only accomplish our mission thanks to a team of dedicated and talented volunteers. They happily share their time with CWJC because the payoff is so easily seen in the success of the courageous women we serve. A visible transformation occurs when our students gain confidence and learn that they are worthy of all that God has created them to be!

We would love for you to join our Volunteer Team! Call or visit us online today.

903-592-4693

www.cwjctyler.org



For further information on CliftonStrengths© or to complete the strengths assessment online, go to [www.gallup.com/cliftonstrengths](http://www.gallup.com/cliftonstrengths).



Christian Women’s Job Corps of Tyler began with a vision of helping unemployed women in Smith County secure and keep employment. CWJC Tyler was founded in 1998. In 2001, it was incorporated as a 501(c)3 and held its first class of six women. Since then, over 1,800 women have completed computer training and the Employment Readiness Program.

The Board of Directors actively supports the goals of Christian Women’s Job Corps. Several Board Members have been a part of CWJC for many years volunteering in other capacities and some continue to teach class today. They have a true love for the mission.

Thanks to a faithful team of volunteers and an in-kind building rental from First Baptist Church, CWJC is able to operate with low overhead and a staff of only two employees. This allows a significant portion of donations to directly support programs. God has blessed us abundantly!

Participants pay only \$34 to enroll in the Employment Readiness Program. The fee covers a slight portion of the program cost but helps to gain commitment.

All expenses from books, materials and technology to the meals and red graduation caps that mean so much are covered for the students thanks to our generous giving community! With your support, CWJC has maintained a legacy of fiscal stability.

Graduates of our 12-week Employment Readiness Program gain computer skills, confidence, direction and hope for their futures through Jesus. With each passing week of our program, heads are held higher and smiles shine brighter. There is laughter, prayer and hugging in our hallways. Relationships are formed. Lives are impacted now and for eternity!



**Mission: Equipping women with job skills & life skills in a Christ-centered environment**

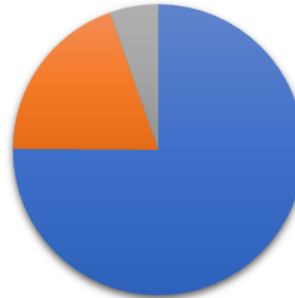
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2021 Income: \$285,011



■ Unrestricted Donations ■ In-kind Building Rental  
■ Grants & Other Revenues ■ Program Fees  
■ Interest Revenue ■ Restricted Donations

2021 Functional Expenses: \$213,872



■ Program Services ■ General & Administrative ■ Fundraising