

BELIEVE IN Success



Gail Garramone, (right) Executive Director, Fashion Delivers helps Daniella, a Back to Work participant, select a business suit for her scheduled job interview.



“Fashion Delivers” Self-Esteem that Reflects Hopes for a Better Future

F·E·G·S Consumers Express Thanks and Mutual Support at Mother’s Day Tribute

Amidst applause, laughter, tears, hugs, and exclamations of mutual support, more than 80 women – all participants in F·E·G·S programs – were able to celebrate the recent Mother’s Day in style, thanks to new outfits especially selected for them and provided through the Fashion Delivers Charitable Foundation. In many ways, though, it was more than a simple celebration – it was a tribute to a group of women who

have demonstrated their determination and commitment to rebuilding their lives. The F·E·G·S women consumers face a range of personal challenges, for which they receive counseling, training, and support through an array of F·E·G·S programs. Many are participating in employment assistance and workforce preparation programs. Others are attending classes to earn their GEDs. Still others are in recovery from mental illness. Some are coping with issues relating to family violence.

Fashion Delivers Charitable Foundation Supports F·E·G·S

The women received new outfits, makeup, and accessories – primarily business attire suitable for the job interviews that most of the women were working towards – at a luncheon held shortly before Mother’s Day at F·E·G·S’s Hudson Street headquarters in Lower Manhattan.



(L-R) Dorothy, a participant in the WeCARE program, is assisted by Giselle Roach, Fashion Delivers, in selecting the perfect interview suit.

“We’re here to help you dress for your new lives,” said Gail Garramone, Executive Director of Fashion Delivers. The Foundation has worked with F·E·G·S for several years, providing new merchandise from major clothing manufacturers – including Andrea Lieu, Anne Klein, Calvin Klein, Coach, Jones New York, Maybelline, Michael Kors, Nine West, Oxford, Ralsey, and RXB, among others. “We believe in you and in your hopes and dreams,” Garramone said.

Fashion Delivers is one of the major suppliers of clothing to the F·E·G·S **Suited for Work** program, which outfits F·E·G·S participants who are going on a job interview. This program, presented in a store-like setting, features new items – from suits, shoes, shirts, ties, accessories and more, for both men and women – donated by major clothing designers, manufacturers, and retail department stores.

F·E·G·S Provides Needed Services to Women

F·E·G·S’s commitment to women is reflected through sobering statistics:

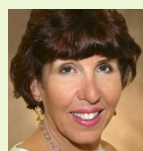
- **Over 60 percent – more than 26,000** individuals – in F·E·G·S welfare-to-work programs are women.
- **In F·E·G·S’s behavioral health clinics, more than 4,100 women** – almost six out of every ten clients – receive ongoing mental health counseling.
- **Women comprise virtually all of the 350 consumers** in the F·E·G·S Center for Women and Families, which provides support, counseling and emergency housing to individuals coping with family violence issues.



(L-R) Lauren Perry, Director of Communications & Marketing, Fashion Delivers assists Georgette, a participant of the Brooklyn Employment *Back to Work* program.

“These women, by their participation in F·E·G·S programs, are moving ahead to better futures,” explained Karen Zuckerman, Associate Vice President for Student Internships and Volunteer Services. She expressed thanks to the Fashion Delivers Charitable Foundation, commenting, “The new outfits are transformational and give participants a tangible sense of self-esteem, confidence, and a belief in their own worth.”

Many luncheon attendees shared how F·E·G·S had changed their lives. One woman stated, “I am 59 years old with a medical condition and at one point became homeless. F·E·G·S caseworkers were sensitive and caring and supportive. They helped me become serious and focused, to find employment, and continue training that will make it possible for me to become a direct care worker. I feel honored and privileged to be part of this very special day.”



Ask the Experts

If you would like to volunteer or if you would like to donate business clothing to our Suited to Work program, contact:

Karen Zuckerman
Associate Vice President,
Student Internship
& Volunteer Programs

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Fashion Delivers success: (L-R) Karen Zuckerman, Associate Vice President, Student Internship & Volunteer Services, FE·G·S with Fashion Delivers’ Gail Garramone, Giselle Roach, and Lauren Perry.