



FINANCIAL WOMEN IN TEXAS

helping women succeed



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

As we all continue to live and work in unprecedented times, our Association has also seen unprecedented events. First, we held our first ever MINI Conference; however, the scaled down conference was a HUGE success! Secondly, for the first time in the history of FWIT, I will be serving a second term as President of the Association. My theme and message remain the same: Crossing the Finish Line. My goal is to help our women finish the goals they have set for themselves, professionally and personally. A book by Jon Acuff titled "Finish - Give Yourself the Gift of Done" offers practical ideas for finishing your goals and explains why perfectionism is the number one enemy in getting any goal or project done. My favorite idea covered in the book is Make It Fun if You Want It Done! The author states that perfectionism believes the harder something is, the more miserable something is, the better it is. Perfectionism thinks fun doesn't count. And that is a lie. Fun not only counts, but it's necessary if you want to beat perfectionism and get to the finish.

Our FWIT leadership forums, annual conferences and group meetings are the perfect examples of having fun while getting it done. We come together in fellowship and take the word "work" out of networking. We create a safe environment for women to be transparent with one another. We don't compete, we collaborate.

My sprint has turned into a marathon, but I still look forward to serving you in the days ahead, crossing the finish lines with you, and having fun!

WHAT'S INSIDE

President's Message

Who We Are

Highlights from Conference

Group News



Crossing The Finish Line

WHO WE ARE:

FINANCIAL WOMEN IN TEXAS (FWIT) BRINGS TOGETHER WOMEN IN FINANCE FOR THE EXCHANGE OF IDEAS, EXPERIENCES AND INTERESTS.

WE WANT TO FURTHER THE MEANINGFUL PROFESSIONS OR CAREERS OF OUR MEMBERS AND WOMEN IN GENERAL.

WE ENCOURAGE WOMEN TO CHOOSE FINANCE AS A CAREER AND WORK TO ADVANCE THE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL WOMEN IN FINANCE.

FWIT SERVES AS AN ADVOCATE OF AND TO PROMOTE IMPROVEMENTS IN THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, LEADERSHIP SKILLS, EDUCATION AND TRAINING OF WOMEN IN FINANCE.

Our rich history began in the early 1900's when a group of women formed the National Association of Bank Women (NABW) which grew into a worldwide organization known as Financial Women International (FWI). FWI continued to grow and flourish until the Financial Crisis of 2008. At that time, FWI saw a drastic decline in membership which forced them to make the difficult decision to disband.

However, the women of the Texas District refused to give up all the benefits of an association dedicated to helping women succeed by strengthening our leadership skills, offering professional development, and creating invaluable networking and mentoring opportunities.

In 2009, Financial Women in Texas was established with 83 members and five founding groups still committed to helping women succeed. We've grown to nearly 200 members and 10 groups today with interest in additional areas where we hope to form new groups soon.

2020 MINI CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS: *TRAINING FOR CROSSING THE FINISH LINE*



FWIT Mini-Conference 2020 – September 10-11

Crossing the Finish Line

Marriott Marquis Houston



Wednesday, Sept. 09 7:00 PM - Dinner at The Grove: Upscale casual American eats

Thursday, Sept 10

9:30 – 10:00 AM Gather and welcome by Lori Victory, FWIT Association President

10:00 – 10:30 AM Kim Becking – Epic Leadership - in 20 minutes

11:00 – 11:30 AM Lisa Fey – Communicating in a Remote Reality

12:00 noon – 1:30 PM Luncheon – Celeste M. Embrey, SVP Government Relations / Dep General Counsel, Texas Bankers Association - Legislative Update

2:00 – 2:30 PM Traci Brown – Detecting Lies, Fraud, and Identity Theft

2:30 – 6:30 PM Personal time to rest, relax and recharge at the hotel's amenities or in the area

6:30 PM - Dinner at The Hearsay: Southern-style takes on New American dishes /

Friday, Sept 11

9:30 – 10:00 AM Jennifer Darling – Online Branding and Perceptions

10:30 – 11:30 AM Lori Victory, FWIT Association President - FWIT Annual Meeting & Officer Installation

Noon – 1:30 PM Luncheon with CJ Coolidge – In Person! How Do We Deal with all this “STUFF” and Still Finish Well?

Conference Co-Chairs - Lori Victory & BJ Cary





QUOTES FROM CONFERENCE ATTENDEES:

We appreciate the encouragement and support from the Board, Attendees and Sponsors in helping make our FWIT Mini-Conference 2020 – Training for Crossing the Finish Line, a resounding success! We can't say it any better than the Attendees: "The FWIT Mini-Conference in Houston renewed friendships and restored some of our equilibrium from all the stresses each of us has been feeling!" "Thank you for making an in-person conference safe and successful during trying/challenging times!" We look forward to seeing you next year in Houston for all the camaraderie, fun, learning, networking and surprises of the full 2021 Crossing the Finish Line Conference!

Lori & BJ - Co-chairs 2020-2021

"The FWIT Mini-Conference was wonderful! Even though most speakers were online, it was a successful event. It was great to see those that made it out!"

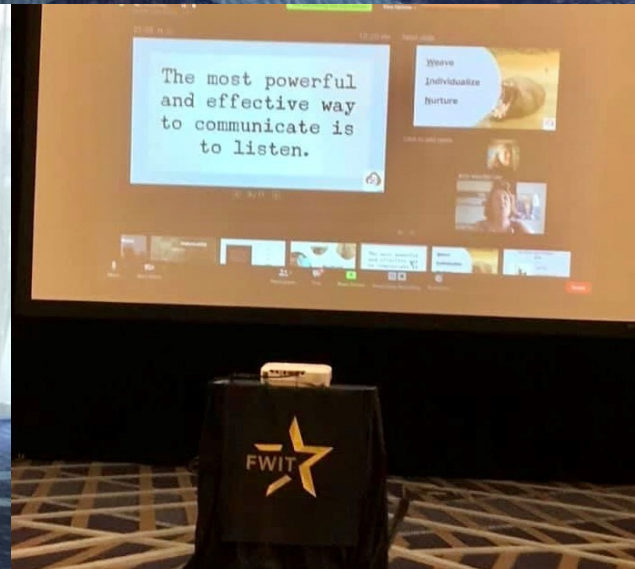
Audrey Zamora, Paso Del Norte Group

"Another great conference in the books! Thank you Lori Victory & BJ Cary and all the Houston group for making an in-person conference safe and successful during trying/challenging times!" -

Tammy Gibbons, East Texas Group

"It was wonderful for us to be together in person. Although the conference had a different look with mostly virtual speakers, we learned, shared and reconnected. What a great experience to recharge us – and we got a taste of what will be an amazing conference in 2021!" -

Nancy Kinder, San Antonio Group



MINI CONFERENCE WAS A HUGE SUCCESS!

Top left to right: Lori Victory presiding at conference; 45 attendees with one live speaker who was quite a lively one indeed based on group participation; plus several virtual speakers offering great insight via Zoom. Lower left: East Texas attendees and bottom right our Silent Auction netted \$1,100.00 to go toward FWIT scholarships!





GROUP NEWS: HOUSTON

Incoming Officers

Kendra Targac - President
Carmen Bates - Vice Pres.
Lori Victory - Treasurer
Ashley Plant - Secretary

Houston is planning a full year of social and speaker events for the year. Their 1ST meeting will be in late October and the annual White Elephant Christmas Party in early December.

*Congrats to two
expectant mothers!
Baby girl Targac &
Baby girl Ueckert due
in 2021!*

HOUSTON LADIES AT CONFERENCE:



GROUP NEWS

San Antonio

The FWIT San Antonio Group met via Zoom on August 6, 2020 for a regular membership meeting to wrap up the 2019-2020 year, followed by a planning meeting for the coming 2020-2021 year. Fourteen group members attended, including our newest member, Wendy Albers, who joined in May in the midst of the pandemic. The group's membership is now at 27.

During the planning meeting strategic goals were set for membership, social media, and programs. It was decided to keep the meetings virtual for the rest of 2020, and to be prepared to be flexible in 2021 when we are hoping to be able to meet in person again.

Gretchen Herrera, 2019-2020 Group President, and Nancy Kinder, 2020-2021 Group President, both attended the FWIT Association Mini-Conference in Houston in September.

Other officers serving for the 2020-2021 year are Christie Gates, Treasurer; Sharna Zimmermann, Secretary; and Gretchen Herrera, Vice President.

The group's virtual meeting on September 17th had 25 registered including 14 San Antonio Group members, 8 guests, and 3 Hill Country Group members. The program was "Let's Get Virtual" led by Zelda Perez-Morales and Julissa Lopez, the training team from Jefferson Bank. The focus was how to make the most out of fusing distance, technology, and people.

The October 8th group meeting will be "Helping Women Small Business Owners Succeed in Today's Economy" with Mary Peters, Associate Director - Operations, UTSA Small Business Development Center; and November 12th will be on women's mental Health with Amanda Wetegrove-Romine, Psychologist.

GROUP NEWS

Paso Del Norte

The Paso Del Norte Group elected officers for 2020-2021

President: Nancy C. McElroy

Vice President: Bernadette Ramos

Treasurer: Jenny Turner

Secretary: Courtney Yeatman

Upcoming Meetings include:

- Oct 21, 2020- Zoom meeting, Anita will give a presentation on Positive Thinking. We are opening it up to guests to join us.
- Nov 18, 2020- Zoom meeting, group meeting updates, looking to organize a donation to a local non-for-profit in time for the holidays. Donate items like blankets, jackets, things of that sort.
- December 10 or 17, 2020- Trying to get a consensus to see if we can do a Holiday gathering



EAST TEXAS NEWS



East Texas members Sonya Lawrence, Janet Sledge, Pam Mitchell, Tammy Gibbons and Laura Rogers attended conference.

East Texas Group President, Tammy Gibbons celebrated a 40 year milestone anniversary at Spring Hill State Bank! Congratulations Tammy!

BIG COUNTRY NEWS

Since Big Country members were unable to attend the Mini-Conference in Houston, they brought a little piece of conference to Abilene! The group hosted, via Zoom, Henry Russell, IV with Nike's Athletic Attraction Recruitment. Henry spoke on his journey and what it took for him to "Cross the Finish Line." 17 members joined the call and were motivated by Henry's journey of perseverance, failures, family and having faith in yourself and your craft in order to cross the finish line. Henry began his career with Nike as a seasonal associate in a Louisville, KY store and has promoted to management and a corporate position to train employees on diversity and inclusion nationwide for Nike! His journey defines how one should never give up and keep running to achieve their goals!



"Be on the Offense Always" & "Win as a Team"
We choose Forward. We choose Inclusion. We choose to Win Together.

#UNTILWEALLWIN

ATAC (pronounced ATTACK)



Crossing The Finish Line

Yes, we are running a different race on an unfamiliar track and having to think about how to jump lots of hurdles, but together, we still have the power to Cross The Finish Line!

Save the date!

FWIT 12th Annual Conference!

► September 9 - 10, 2021



Crossing The Finish Line

► Marriott Marquis Houston

► Link for special rate:

<https://book.passkey.com/e/50142497>

► Registration & Exhibit Hall
open @ 5PM Wed Sept 8

► + Optional Wed dinner off-site