



## The 2021 Mentorship Program for Scholarship Recipients and Members

This year we successfully piloted an exciting, new **Mentorship Program** for BBPW Scholarship recipients and members. For 2021, several more of Berkshire BPW's experienced members are committing their time and energy to provide support and advice to those in the early stages of their careers, those changing careers, and those needing direction and encouragement.

Here's what the 2020 Mentees had to say about the pilot program:

"Give a man a fish, he eats for a day. Teach a man to fish, he eats for a lifetime. I learned the importance of a professional network and how to develop skills during a time of uncertainty. Thank you for teaching me how to fish!" - Mentee Ivy Rodriguez, Mentor Linda Dulye

"A wonderful opportunity to talk through future goals and current challenges-- it is so nice to have someone to bounce new ideas off of, or to push me into seeing a situation or opportunity in a different light." - Mentee Molly Merrihew, Mentor Karen O'Donnell

"Having a mentor is helping me prepare for a professional world that is very new to me. It has built up my confidence and found a vital place in my growth not only as a professional but also a woman." Mentee Soncere (Starr) Williams, Mentor Celia Clancy

“The mentorship program has given me so much guidance and internal insight on how to build my dream into reality. Without this opportunity, I would not have had the professional and personal growth I have been able to experience.” - Mentee Beth Gilbert, Mentor Linda Dulye

“Having a mentor helps you to realize your own potential through someone else’s eyes. I have learned I simply need to be kinder to myself, be my best self and have confidence in my potential for career development.” - Mentee Sharon Coe, Mentor Karen Zink

## **Apply for the 2021 Mentorship Program**

We are currently extending personal invitations to this year’s Scholarship group to apply for the 2021 program. Members are welcome to apply at anytime. Each mentee will be thoughtfully matched with a senior female executive on a first-come, first-served basis.

Once the mentees are accepted, there will be an initial **Zoom Orientation Meeting in December for mentors and mentees**. Starting after the first of the year, each mentor and mentee will meet weekly or bi-weekly, either virtually or over the phone.

While there is no cost to either the mentor or mentee, there is a commitment of time and effort to foster an effective relationship. At Orientation, we will ask both mentor and mentee to sign a commitment contract. The program will last for twelve months.

**If you want to gain a seat for 2021, please download the application at [berkshirebpw.org/programs/mentoring/](http://berkshirebpw.org/programs/mentoring/) , complete and submit by November 7<sup>th</sup>. Please email your completed application along with your resume to: [bbpwsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:bbpwsecretary@gmail.com)**

We hope that you will consider this opportunity regardless of where you are in your career and we look forward to meeting with you.

This is something you won’t want to miss out on!

Warmly,

The Mentorship Committee

*Linda Dulye, Karen Zink, Karen O’Donnell, Beth Wallace, Suzanne Engels and Celia Clancy*