

Dear CEW member,

Women are naturally amazing. We see the invisible. We accomplish the impossible. When first joining the Chamber of Commerce, I was so inspired to learn of CEW. For me, a budding entrepreneur with a small business, CEW represented an opportunity to learn from established professional women. Women who could help me move my mountains because they had already moved their own. Through member sponsorship, my relationships grew. The ambition of others served to cultivate my own. It is in this new year, we extend the warmth and wisdom enjoyed by those in our ranks to those outside of us. In this new year, we reach out and touch our community like never before.



Our communities are better when we are at our best. And while the past accomplishments of CEW are notable, let us leverage 2023 to shape the future. A future that is in desperate need of our talent, perspective, and insight. We can't do this with vision alone. It is time to act.

The volatility of the last three years proved an old saying; difficulty brings clarity. The marketplace was reset. Having a *job* gave way to having a *meaningful* job. Corporate profit is now tethered to social purpose. Women naturally understand the balance between care and commerce. We develop, direct and delegate with little effort. Each day, balancing a personal home with a professional career. This is our time because we are naturally amazing.

Join me in claiming 2023 as “**The Year of Meaningful Action**”, *meaningful* being the operative word. This is a time to create positive, measurable change in the lives of others. Too much is at stake. We cannot meet for meeting sake, give to simply say we gave, or even mentor just to say we have mentees. Coming in contact with a member of CEW in 2023 should be a life-changing event. With that said, I want to ask you a question; how many of your talents and gifts are lying dormant? What books are inside of you that would change the world if ever written? How many young women would be changed if you made time in your schedule to offer a word of advice? This year take action, *meaningful* action.

As your incoming chair, I am personally committing myself to the following actions in 2023:

- Increase CEW membership by 30%
- Secure three community partnerships providing opportunities focused on young women leaders
- Establish three membership programs focused on executive development

I look forward to hearing your ideas for making this year the best CEW has experienced. Let's activate the power of partnership. I believe our meaningful actions will create meaningful results in the lives of those we meet. This is our time. CEW was made for this.

Sincerely,
Sheronica Burgess
2023 CEW Chairwoman