

# WTS South Florida



# Chapter Overview

# WTS HISTORY

FOUNDED in 1977, Women's Transportation Seminar (WTS) is an international organization dedicated to building the future of transportation through the global advancement of women. Boasting more than 8,500 members –both women and men – WTS is helping women find opportunity and recognition in the transportation industry. Through its professional activities, networking opportunities, and unparalleled access to industry and government leaders, WTS is turning the glass ceiling into a career portal.

WTS stands for Women's Transportation Seminar, which was how it was named when founded in 1977 when women couldn't get subsidized for association memberships unless they were educational. But times have changed, and now joining an association is an opportunity women and men can take advantage of to work together and benefit each other in their careers.

We are what we do, and WTS International does a great deal. To fulfill its mission of advancing both the transportation industry and the professional women who are a growing part of it, WTS gives its members all of the necessary tools.

Today, WTS International is a vibrant and essential part of an industry of more than 40,000 transportation professionals and 65 professional chapters.

## MISSION

WTS attracts, sustains, connects and advances women's careers to strengthen the transportation industry. To fulfill this mission, WTS operates under a specific vision with core values, goals, and guiding principles behind all of its activities and programs.

## VISION

Equity and access for women in transportation.





# GUIDING PRINCIPLES

WTS is an international organization dedicated to shaping the future of transportation for the public good through the global advancement of women. To achieve our shared vision of One WTS, we are a dedicated and aligned organization focused on supporting students, members, and chapters.

Advancing women in transportation is key to advancing transportation and ensuring a diverse, inclusive, and equitable workforce. WTS is committed to ethical leadership, integrity, and respect for all as we shape future generations of transportation leaders.

WTS actively collaborates with its transportation community that includes corporations, public agencies, associations, and learning institutions.

## CORE VALUES

Our success hinges on conducting ourselves in accordance with a set of core values—operating principles— in everything we do. **Together.**

**We are future focused.** We embrace change as proof that we are making progress. Our long-range goals drive today's decisions and actions, however, we are agile and innovative as we anticipate and respond to new opportunities and challenges for current members, students, and future workforce.

**We are inclusive.** WTS is a safe place to find one's voice, develop, learn, and thrive. We embrace the belief that all people have value and the right to belong. We are committed to fostering a culture of mutual respect and creating an open environment that is equitable and accessible to all, where differences of thought, life experiences, and backgrounds are appreciated and welcomed, and contributions are valued.

**We are collaborative.** Our ability to be influential and impactful hinges on cultivating a culture of teamwork. We welcome and seek ways to collaborate within and beyond WTS with both traditional and non-traditional organizations to support our vision, mission, goals, and objectives. We believe we are better together.

**We are professional.** Everything we do is linked to delivering better benefits and services to our members and our community. We approach everything we do with honesty, transparency, and integrity. We are committed to doing what's best for our members through responsible actions.

# GOALS & OBJECTIVES

## ATTRACT

Develop and cultivate the next generation of a diverse and inclusive workforce, from students through professionals, and prepare these individuals to join and champion a more accessible and equitable transportation industry.

## CONNECT

Create strategic networks to facilitate and enhance meaningful and lasting professional relationships to foster career and personal growth. Increase partnerships to advance the transportation industry.

## SUSTAIN

Support and retain broader and equal representation for women and all untapped populations through all levels of their transportation career by providing innovative programs, initiatives, and advocacy.

## ADVANCE

Broaden women's professional and leadership skills in all disciplines and all levels of transportation to achieve career goals, diversify the workforce, and advance transportation for the public good.



**WTS** Advancing women  
Advancing transportation



# WELCOME TO WTS SOUTH FLORIDA!

The South Florida Chapter focuses on promoting and advancing the WTS mission here locally in Palm Beach, Broward and Miami-Dade Counties. Through our events and programs, members and sponsors have forged new relationships and expanded networks, provided mentorship and training to help advance women in leadership, and have helped financially support up and coming female students (through scholarships) and deserving women professionals (through conference attendance). Joining this organization locally provides invaluable connections to the industry throughout the region, but also at the National level given the high profile of WTS and its mission Internationally.

We are always looking for more people who want to get involved! Feel free to browse our site. For more information regarding membership, contact our Chapter Membership Chair, Alexandra Lopez at **[Alexandra.Lopez@state.fl.us](mailto:Alexandra.Lopez@state.fl.us)**.

Yingfei Huang  
President, WTS South Florida  
**[yhuang@camsys.com](mailto:yhuang@camsys.com)**



## LOCAL SUPPORT

» with a global community.

**WTS** Advancing women  
Advancing transportation

**WTS** Advancing women  
Advancing transportation  
» South Florida

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# ADVANCING WOMEN IN TRANSPORTATION



## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

WTS Career Center is the premier electronic recruitment resource for the industry. Employers and recruiters can access the most qualified talent pool with relevant work experience to fulfill staffing needs. Job seekers can search for positions tailored to the transportation industry. WTS fosters professional development by offering a diverse mix of contacts within and across transportation sectors.



## SCHOLARSHIP

The WTS Foundation awards scholarships to women who are pursuing careers in transportation through undergraduate and graduate programs. The scholarships are competitive and based on the applicant's specific transportation goals, academic record and transportation-related activities or job skills. Minority candidates are encouraged to apply.



## MENTORSHIP

WTS offers a successful mentoring program to all members, developed to benefit both the mentee as well as the mentor. Benefits for the mentor include sharing career success stories with women leaders, building long-term relationships, and giving back to an industry that needs to hear and remember these stories. Mentees gain the knowledge and wisdom of the transportation pioneers who blazed the path before them.



# ADVANCING WOMEN IN TRANSPORTATION



## NETWORKING

Networking opportunities are a central advantage of WTS members. A key tool to facilitating networking across chapters is the TransPortal, a member-only professional networking site that delivers access to the chapters where members can view events, announcements, participate in a variety of different discussions, collaborate on projects, and engage in dialogue with other members.



## PEER SUPPORT

WTS is a safe place to find one's voice, develop, learn, and thrive. We embrace the belief that all people have value and the right to belong.

We are committed to fostering a culture of mutual respect and creating an open environment that is equitable and accessible to all, where differences of thought, life experiences, and backgrounds are appreciated and welcomed, and contributions are valued.



## LEADERSHIP

This program selects a group of qualified participants each year for personal training and interaction with leading industry professionals. Challenging their analytical and creative skills, program leaders mentor participants in tackling case studies and exercises dealing with complex transportation issues of people, policy, and politics.

# TRANSPORTATION YOU



Transportation YOU is a hands-on, interactive, mentoring program that offers young girls ages 13-18 an introduction to a wide variety of transportation careers.

The mission of the Transportation YOU program is to develop the next generation of the transportation industry by growing the involvement and interest of girls and young women in STEM studies. Through the program, WTS chapters work to make a difference in the lives of girls by offering activities that introduce them to all modes of transportation, and encourage school course selection in math, science, and technology – the stepping-stones to careers that can change the face of the transportation industry.

Traditionally, the DC Summit is the signature program of Transportation YOU. The DC Summit offers attendees an opportunity to meet college representatives and senior administration officials, including the U.S. Department of Transportation Senior Leadership; explore the White House and U.S. Capitol, local airports, the Washington Area Metropolitan Transit Authority (Metro), and other transportation hubs; experience engineering challenges, professional development programs, and networking events; and learn about college opportunities, core transportation development components, such as accessibility and livable communities, and career planning.

Historically, the DC Summit brings mentees (students age 15-17) and mentors (transportation professionals) to Washington, DC in June, for a 4-day program of tours, lectures, and interactive experiences showcasing careers in Transportation. Students register to attend the Summit through WTS Chapters, and each of the 65 WTS Chapters register 3 students + 1 mentor.



If you are interested about the Transportation YOU program, contact Arlene Willis at **[arlene.willis@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:arlene.willis@dot.state.fl.us)**.

# 2022 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Month	Event
June	2022 Mentor Program Advertisement
July	Lunch & Learn
August	Annual Board Retreat
August	2022 Mentorship Program Kick-off
September	Lunch & Learn
September	Membership Recognition Event & Membership Drive
October	Construction Career Days
November	WTS Leadership Training
November	Lunch & Learn
December	Joint Professional Societies' Holiday Party



For more information regarding our events and volunteer opportunities, contact our Chapter Events & Program Chair, Cavel Williamson at [cwilliamson@esciencesinc.com](mailto:cwilliamson@esciencesinc.com).



# MEMBERSHIP

WTS International connects you to a network of 8,500 transportation professionals through local, regional, and International communities, events, and training. Members receive access to a suite of tools to develop professionally, enhance leadership skills and advance one's career. Advance your career, strengthen your leadership skills and impact the transportation industry with tools and networking with WTS International.

- **Advance Your Career**
- **Strengthen Your Leadership Skills**
- **Impact the Transportation Industry**

Women as well as men are invited to join. WTS International seeks to break down historic barriers to entry and obstacles to success within the transportation industry. We all have a role to play in this mission and welcome all to be a part of its achievement.



For more information regarding membership, contact our Chapter Membership Chair, Alexandra Lopez at **[Alexandra.Lopez@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:Alexandra.Lopez@dot.state.fl.us)**.

# SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Sponsorship Level \ Sponsorship Benefits	Diamond*	Platinum	Gold	Silver	Bronze**
Minimum donation	\$2,000	\$1,500	\$1,000	\$500	\$0
Chapter memberships	4	2	1		
Complimentary luncheon tickets	6	4	2		
Company/organization logo on all event materials	√	√	√	√	√
Company/organization logo on eNewsletter	√	√	√	√	√
Company/organization name visible at all events	√	√	√	√	√
Logo on website	√	√	√	√	√
Links to career opportunities on website & via WTS communications	√	√	√	√	√
Company/organization spotlight, featured project or editorial in eNewsletter	√	√			
Welcoming remarks and company/organization introduction at WTS signature events	√				
Company/organization marketing materials at WTS events	√				
Podium recognition at all events	√				

\* Limited to 3.

\*\*Limited to government, state and local agencies and non-profits. Limited to 5.



WTS South Florida Chapter could not have achieved our mission without the support of our sponsors. To become a sponsor today, please contact the South Florida WTS Sponsorship Committee representative Lisa Dykstra at (954)236-7377 or [lisa.dykstra@sandh.com](mailto:lisa.dykstra@sandh.com).