

WTS

**Minnesota Chapter
2022 Annual Report**

February 2023



› Minnesota

**Advancing women
Advancing transportation**

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WTS Minnesota Mission

Transforming the transportation industry through the advancement of women.

Message from the President

The 2022 WTS Minnesota Board of Directors is pleased to provide our members with the chapter's 2022 Annual Report. The report provides a summary of the chapter's activities, growth, and accomplishments over the past year.

The 2022 Board included 11 directors, 12 committee chairs, and one Central Region Council member. Our chapter's robust leadership allows our chapter to provide new initiatives, while improving and expanding our established programs. This has been a rewarding year to serve as Chapter President as we continued transitioning back to in person events while also offering hybrid or virtual options to ensure a wide range of our community can attend WTS programs. I'd like to highlight a few of our successes in 2022.



2022 Highlights:

- The Diversity & Inclusion Committee led two land acknowledgement events, a first of its kind for our chapter. That work will continue in 2023.
- Our Programs Committee continued to serve our chapter in accordance with local guidance relative to COVID-19 safety measures. That included two virtual programs and eight in-person tours, panels, and social hours.
- We returned to an in-person celebration for our annual Scholarships and Recognitions event.
- The TYOU program continued their partnership with Blaine High School through virtual and in-person programs in the fall.
- Our mentorship program completed another great year with 14 mentor/mentee pairs.
- Our Public and Corporate Sponsors generous support allowed our chapter to continue to serve our members and friends through programs and professional development opportunities.
- Finally, we celebrated our 40th Anniversary as a chapter! We held a great celebration in July which featured influential members from the four decades as a chapter and met our goal of recruiting 40 new members for the 40th Anniversary!

The above list captures a fraction of the accomplishments from this year. Please read on to discover more details of the 2022 successes and growth provided in this report. It is through the great involvement of our members and friends, the volunteers, and the leadership of our board that allows our chapter to grow and improve year after year. It has been an honor to serve as the 2022 Minnesota Chapter President and I am humbled by the dedication of this group that works tirelessly to support the WTS Minnesota mission of transforming the Minnesota transportation industry through the advancement of women.

Lyssa Leitner
WTS Minnesota 2022 Chapter President

Board of Directors

PRESIDENT

Lyssa Leitner, Washington County

VICE PRESIDENT

Adele Hall, SRF Consulting

PAST PRESIDENT

Andrea Arnoldi, Kimley-Horn

TREASURER

Eden Rogers, Washington County

SECRETARY

Rachel Haase, Kimley-Horn

DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

Jackie Dylla, KLJ

MARKETING DIRECTOR

Emily Bowen, Kimley-Horn

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

Carrie Desmond, Metro Transit

PROGRAMS DIRECTORS

Allie Futhey, Isthmus Engineering

Erin Jordan, SEH

SCHOLARSHIPS & RECOGNITIONS DIRECTOR

Emily Jorgensen, Washington County

Committee Chairs

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

Liz Morice, Kimley-Horn
Jennifer Wiltgen, MnDOT

MEMBERSHIP

Catherine Judd, HDR

MENTORING

Caroline Miller, HDR
Ashley Morello, Hennepin County

PROGRAMS

Keelee Roggenbuck, KLJ

REGIONAL BOARD REPRESENTATIVE

Sara Pflaum, MnDOT

SOCIAL MEDIA

Kate Hvizdos, SRF Consulting

SPECIAL EVENTS

Daniel Baxter, Michael Baker International
Alicia Valenti, SRF Consulting

TRANSPORTATION YOU

Melissa Duhn, Baun Intertec
Laura Melcher, WSB Engineering

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Angie Bolstad, Stantec

WEBSITE

Sara Allen, Washington County

2022 Advisory Board

Morgan Abbott, Washington County

Laura Amundson, WSP

Kristin Asher, City of Richfield

Biz Colburn, Retired

Sandy Cullen, University of Minnesota Parking & Transportation Services

Margaret Donahoe, Minnesota Transportation Alliance

Chelsey Hendrickson, Kimley-Horn

Gloria Jeff, MnDOT

Ann Johnson, PE Services

Jessica Laabs, Kimley-Horn

Scott McBride, Bolton & Menk

Kristina Nesse, Radical Soul Coaching

Amber Nord, Isthmus Engineering

Katie Roth, Metro Transit

Fay Simer, MnDOT

Molly Stewart, SRF Consulting

Kristin Thompson, Metro Transit

Amy Vennewitz, Metropolitan Council

HunWen Westman, City of Saint Paul

Membership

2022 MEMBERSHIP YEAR IN REVIEW

The 2022 membership goals included:

- Have 40 new members join the chapter as part of celebrating WTS Minnesota's 40th anniversary as a chapter.
- Hold a member drive to increase total membership in 2022.
- Continue the Connect with Coffee program in 2022 to encourage new connections through WTS and add value to WTS membership.
- Host a program with our 2021 and 2022 honorary members

At the beginning of 2022 the chapter set what felt like an ambitious goal to have 40 new members join the chapter as part of our 40th anniversary celebrations. Starting the year off with 145 active members, this felt like significant growth. Not only did the chapter achieve this goal, it exceeded it with 50 new members joining in 2022. Thank you to everyone that joined as a new member and to all of our existing members for helping share the value of the organization with their colleagues.

Not one, but three distinct membership drives were held in 2022. The first coincided with Women's History Month in March. The second drive was in late spring going into summer leading up to the 40th anniversary event. The final drive occurred in the fall. As a result of new member growth and a continued focus on retention, our chapter had a total of 164 active members by the end of 2022.

The Connect with Coffee program continued to be a successful tool to engage new members in 2022. We offered this program to new members to meet a WTS member over coffee both virtually and in person. Since the creation of the Connect with Coffee program in 2015, numerous pairs were connected, and the program has continued to grow. Feedback from participants showed members really appreciated the opportunity to connect with others in the industry through this program.

Finally, the Membership Committee was excited to host the June program featuring 2021 and 2022 Honorary Members. The panel discussed current issues in workforce development, programs in our state to attract women into diverse transportation fields and what we as WTS can do to further our mission in Minnesota. Panelists included Dr. Nerita Hughes, Dean of School of Business, Careers, Education & Workforce Innovation at North Hennepin Community College and Margaret Lewis, Senior Vice President Manufacturing and Facilities at New Flyer. The discussion was moderated by Brian Funk, Deputy General Manager and Chief Operating Officer, Metro Transit. The program was followed by a member appreciation social hour after the discussion.

Diversity & Inclusion

The Diversity & Inclusion Committee continued the work started in 2020 and made contributions to WTS in the form of newsletter articles, programs, and other initiatives.

2022 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Reflecting on 2022, there was so much great work by the Diversity & Inclusion (D&I) Committee:

- Developed and disseminated a survey to sponsor organizations gauging current best practices in D&I. Developed and posted a best practices document ([available here](#)) for organizations to refer to and use.
- Presented on the trainings and best practices at the Minnesota Transportation Conference in May 2022.
- Started a monthly D&I working group to provide support in applying lessons from the D&I trainings in members' respective workplaces.
- Worked with interested members to begin a Land Acknowledgement Action Plan. This has included several steps:
 - At the end of 2021, the WTS MN D&I Committee committed to developing concrete actions that WTS MN can take to:
 - Acknowledge the full history of the land in Minnesota, our place in that history, and its continued implications on the natural and social landscape, of which our transportation system is a part.
 - Learn more about transportation issues that impact Tribal Nations and Indigenous communities in Minnesota.
 - Celebrate and acknowledge the contributions of the members of the Tribal Nations and Indigenous communities to transportation in Minnesota and globally.
 - March 2022 event: Breakfast and open discussion with WTS members about ways to implement the goals above.
 - December 2022 discussion and roundtable: Reviewed resources for celebrating, working with, and supporting tribal governments and communities, and had roundtable discussions related to what actions we can take as an organization and as individuals.

Currently, we are engaged in updating our work plan and seeking ways our committee can support, enhance, and promote diversity, equity, and inclusion for WTS MN members and the transportation industry. Please join us in 2023 to see what else we can accomplish together!

Programs

JANUARY 2022 | BRIDGES TO PROSPERITY: THE POWER OF CONNECTION

Many WTS MN members have dedicated their careers to improving transportation access, services, and infrastructure for the communities we serve, and we were pleased to showcase the work of Bridges to Prosperity (B2P). B2P envisions a world where poverty caused by rural isolation no longer exists. They work with isolated communities to create access to essential healthcare, education, and economic opportunities by building and promoting the installation of trail bridges over impassable rivers. To do so, they partner with local communities and governments and - to date - they have helped construct 380 bridges that connect over 1.3 million people.

Nico Turrini, Manager of Global Corporate Partnerships and East Africa Marketing, shared information about this non-profit organization. Nico presented about his experience with B2P, B2P's approach, community impacts, elevating women in their organization and communities, as well as cooperate sponsorship and volunteer opportunities.

In addition, Tara Olds, Acting Executive Director of MnDOT's Connected and Automated Vehicles Program, shared about her previous involvement with B2P as a university student in South America and as an employee working in Central America. She presented about her experiences with the organization and highlighted how her experiences have shaped her work throughout her career in Minnesota.

FEBRUARY 2022 | WTS & NCITE ETHICS TRAINING

This presentation, "Ethics - The Heart of the Engineering Profession," discussed why ethics is a core principle of our industry, while outlining some of the ethical issues that engineers encounter over their careers using pertinent case studies. We discussed the gamut of issues; reviewed the engineering code of ethics applicable to professional societies, professional licensing boards, and our places of employment; and introduced tools and resources that will help engineers and planners stay on the right path, professionally.

James (Jim) T. Johnson presented an engaging training where he drew on his own experiences as an engineer and shared some real world ethical decisions he's been faced with. Jim is a Senior Consultant with Verdantas. His career has spanned over 40 years in both the public and private sectors. While in the public sector, Jim served as the Chief Engineer for the Delaware Department of Transportation and was the Executive Director for the Delaware River & Bay Authority, a bi-state transportation agency. He conducts lectures on ethics for engineering students at the university level, for state departments of transportation, and for Professional Engineers licensed in the mid-Atlantic region. Jim is a registered Professional Engineer in Delaware and Maryland. He was recognized as Delaware's Engineer of the Year in 2004. Jim received a BSCE from Virginia Tech and a MS in Strategic Leadership from Neumann University.

Programs

MARCH 2022 | D & I LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND ACTION PLAN BREAKFAST

Hosted by the WTS MN D&I Committee, this discussion focused on the WTS Land Acknowledgement Statement. Tribal Nations and Native people are important contributors to the economic and human environments in Minnesota and land acknowledgment is one of many ways to recognize that contribution. A Land Acknowledgement is a formal statement that recognizes and respects Indigenous Peoples as traditional stewards of this land and the enduring relationship that exists between Indigenous Peoples and their traditional territories. The acknowledgements of land rights are and have been an important first step in understanding the past, present, and future of the land in Minnesota.

APRIL 2022 | METRO TRANSIT ORANGE LINE BRT TOUR

WTS MN's April program led a hands-on tour of the Twin Cities' latest transitway project, the METRO Orange Line. The METRO Orange Line is a bus rapid transit (BRT) line connecting the Heart of the City in Burnsville to the MARQ2 transit corridor in downtown Minneapolis, with stops along the way. The tour was led by Orange Line Project Managers Christina Morrison and Alicia Vap. The tour started at the 76th St & Knox Ave station in Richfield, traveled northbound on I-35W, stopping for tours of the 46th Street and Lake Street stations. The group learned about the planning and design efforts that went into making this BRT project a success. The Orange Line project included a transitway along Knox Ave, beneath I-494, connecting the 76th St and American Blvd stations. This transitway included a multi-use trail that made it easy for the group to walk to Lucky's 13 Pub after the program to continue socializing. It was a great time to reconnect with friends and colleagues - new and old!

JUNE 2022 | WTS 2021-2022 HONORARY MEMBER PANEL DISCUSSION

On Tuesday, June 21st, WTS MN hosted our 2021-2022 Honorary Members for a panel discussion at the HDR building. Moderated by Brian Funk, Deputy General Manager and Chief Operating Officer at Metro Transit, the panel hosted Dr. Nerita Hughes, Dean of School of Business, Careers, Education & Workforce Innovation at North Hennepin Community College, and Margaret Lewis, Senior VP Manufacturing and Facilities at New Flyer. The panel discussed current issues in workforce development, programs in our state to attract women into diverse transportation fields, and how WTS can further our mission in Minnesota. The evening was full of lively discussion and celebration.

JULY 2022 | WTS MN 40TH ANNIVERSARY EVENT

This year, WTS MN celebrated its 40th Anniversary! Hosted at the SRF building on July 28th, our chapter celebrated being one of the oldest chapters in the organization! The program included interactive conversations, toasts from members throughout the years - including a message from Sherri Alston, a WTS MN founding member - and lots of

Programs

photos and socializing. The room was filled with an energetic group of members and guests who are sure to live out WTS MN's legacy into the future.

AUGUST 2022 | MSES & WTS MN JOINT NETWORKING EVENT

The weather was perfect for the August networking event, as we teamed up with MSES at Utepils Brewery in Minneapolis. The crew spent the evening socializing with friends and colleagues over tasty beverages. It was a well-attended event to round out the summer programs. Looking forward to continuing this joint event next year!

SEPTEMBER 2022 | WTS BOARD RECRUITMENT EVENT

WTS members and friends were invited to join the September WTS Board meeting either in person or virtually to sit in and learn exactly what is discussed at monthly board meetings! Everyone was then invited to Dual Citizen Brewery for beverages and snacks to round out the recruitment event and continue discussing and answering questions about joining the WTS Board.

OCTOBER 2022 | JOINT WTS/CTS STUDENT NETWORKING EVENT, FEATURING UNIVERSITY AVE & 4TH ST REDESIGN PROJECT

For our October Program, WTS joined forces with the University of Minnesota's Center for Transportation Studies (CTS) to host a Student Networking Event and technical presentation highlighting the University Avenue and 4th Street Redesign Project through campus. The event was hosted in the Civil Engineering building and welcomed many students and professionals to network and exchange ideas for improving walking and biking on campus. The presentation was led by Kelly Agosto of Hennepin County as well as Nick Turner, Scott Poska, and Eric Plemel of Alliant Engineering. Thank you to our presenters and those who attended! The Programs Committee looks forward to continuing student engagement in 2023.

DECEMBER 2022 | HOLIDAY PARTY

The 2022 WTS MN Holiday Party was held on December 8th at 413 Wacouta Event Center and was an enjoyable evening with guests enjoying hors d'oeuvres, the 50/50 raffle, and bidding on silent auction items. With over 150 registrants this year, the annual party has returned to its pre-pandemic size! The party's silent auction and 50/50 raffle raised over \$5,500 for the WTS Foundation, which will fund scholarships and our TYOU program.

Recognition Awards

WTS Minnesota's Recognition Awards program provides an opportunity to recognize excellence in our field and raise the profile of WTS in Minnesota.



EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR

Rani Engineering

Rani Engineering has a strong history in transportation engineering and has long championed diversity and equal opportunity. At Rani, the team demands behaviors and values which treat one another with dignity, respect, and fairness. Annually we continue to exceed our diversity goals for both women and people of color. Two years ago, we created an internal employee group focused on inclusivity. The group is made up of many different walks of life at different stages of their careers. It is attended by our HR Director and sponsored by our President/CEO, who also frequently participates in group meetings. Participation for the leadership of Rani Engineering strongly communicates to our employees how much Rani values diversity and an approach of intentional action to achieve it.

INNOVATIVE TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS AWARD

I-35W & Lake Street Transit Station, Christina Morrison

Christina Morrison is a Principal Project Coordinator for Metro Transit. Christina has a degree in Geography and Urban Studies from Macalester College and has worked on transit policy and projects for the past 17 years. Formerly a Saint Paul city planner, she collaborated on intensive planning around the METRO Green Line light rail project, including streetscape design, station area planning, parking management, bicycle and pedestrian systems, and construction mitigation. Christina then served as the METRO Orange Line project manager for Metro Transit for seven years, taking the project from scoping through environmental work, and into design and construction. As a daily transit rider, Christina brings an affinity for functional design and people-focused projects.

Recognition Awards

MEMBER OF THE YEAR

Emma Lucken

Emma is a PhD Candidate in transportation engineering at UC Berkeley. Her dissertation focuses on the equity, accessibility, and environmental impacts of Mobility-on-Demand services offered by public transportation agencies. She has received the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship, three FHWA Dwight D. Eisenhower Transportation (DDETFP) Graduate Fellowships and DDETFP's Top PhD Student 2022, and WTS International sponsorship to attend the Eno Future Leaders Development Conference. Emma graduated *summa cum laude* from Harvard College with a B.A. in Environmental Science and Public Policy. She has worked as a transportation analyst for the Volpe National Transportation Systems Center, as a construction liaison for the Minnesota Department of Transportation, and as a shared mobility intern for the Strategic Initiatives Department at Twin Cities Metro Transit.

ROSA PARKS DIVERSITY LEADERSHIP AWARD

Liz Morice

I am honored and humbled to accept this award named for such an important civil rights leader. Her civil disobedience took courage, and the support of many individuals working together within the NAACP. As transportation professionals, it is also an important reminder of how our industry can both perpetuate inequity and be part of the solution. In the last few years, I have learned so much from leading the WTS Diversity and Inclusion Committee. Due to this group's thoughtful efforts, and support from the WTS MN Board, we were able to accomplish a great deal together. I look forward to another year of growth and the opportunity to help improve standards in our industry and all the ways our work in transportation shapes the world. My greatest hope for WTS Minnesota is that we can continue to act on the inequity and unfairness we see and experience as individuals and support each other to make steps towards change. Where we all start on that journey may be different and the purpose of working together in an organization is so that we can learn from each other and give each other the energy and encouragement to continue regardless.

WOMAN OF THE YEAR

Ann Johnson Stewart

Ann Johnson Stewart is a civil engineer, small-business owner, and Minnesota State Senator. First elected in 2020, she represents the western Minneapolis suburbs of Minnetonka, Plymouth, and Woodland and serves on the Transportation, Jobs and Capital Investment Committees. Johnson Stewart earned a bachelor's degree in environmental and civil engineering from the University of Wisconsin-Platteville and a master's degree in civil engineering from the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities. After spending the early years of her career working for HNTB and Braun Intertec, she started her own construction inspection and materials testing business, Professional Engineering Services, and grew it to employ over 30 people. She recently sold

Recognition Awards

the business but continues to work as a civil engineer. Johnson Stewart teaches undergraduate and professional courses at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities when the Senate is not in session.

HONORABLE RAY LAHOOD AWARD

Scott McBride

Scott has been an active member of WTS for over 20 years. In that time, he has assisted on two updates of the WTS MN Mission and been an active member of the WTS MN Advisory Board. He was honored as the 2014 Member of the Year in part for helping to recruit new members to the organization. He currently serves as the Transportation Strategic Development Director for Bolton & Menk after a long career at MnDOT and in the private sector. His passion remains developing transportation plans and projects that help people, continuing to mentor others, and working toward equity in transportation.

WOMAN TO WATCH

Ashley Hudson

Since beginning her career in 2011 at Bolton & Menk, Ashley has developed a range of skills as a transportation planner. She fills multiple roles on an assortment of projects, including transportation corridor studies and designs, regional system planning, and multiuse trail studies. She uses her creativity in projects by guiding the creation of visual-heavy materials to communicate project needs, processes, anticipated impacts and benefits, recommendations, and implementation plans clearly and effectively to stakeholders and the public. As the leader of Bolton & Menk's transportation project funding team, Ashley is highly skilled in ensuring a vision gets built by developing funding packages and campaigns that utilize a wide array of competitive sources. Ashley has followed funding for many years of her career and as a member of the Minnesota Transportation Alliance, she currently serves on the Legislative Committee to help develop and promote the Legislative Agenda of the organization, including passage of specific bills. Under Ashley's leadership, our firm has helped clients secure \$258 million in transportation funding in the last ten years, leveraging \$602 million in total project costs.

WTS MN PAST PRESIDENT

Andrea Arnoldi

Andrea joined WTS when she was new to the transportation field and looking to meet others in the industry. Her involvement with WTS broadened in 2008 when she served on the programs committee, then membership director, TYOU mentor, then finally serving as President and now Past President. Andrea credits WTS to being critical to her professional development by giving her opportunities to grow her network and offering leadership opportunities that have strengthened her skillset and positioned her to take on leadership roles in her work with Kimley-Horn.

Scholarships

Each year, WTS MN awards scholarships to promising female students pursuing a career in transportation. Our chapter's scholarship program is central to our efforts to advancing women in transportation.



WTS MN PRESIDENT'S SCHOLARSHIP

Laura Melcher

Laura is pursuing her Masters Degree in Business Administration (MBA) through Saint Mary's University in Minnesota. She received her B.S. in Geology from the University of North Carolina - Wilmington and quickly pursued a career in construction upon completion of her degree. Laura has devoted her career to the construction industry, with a focus on transportation, from field work to project coordination. She recently has discovered her passion for business development and strategic positioning through proposal writing. This is what fostered her desire to pursue the MBA program and apply those lessons in her everyday work life.

WTS MN GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP

Kim Napoline

I am a graduate student at the University of Minnesota's Humphrey School of Public Affairs and Carlson School of Management. My research interests are focused on connected and automated vehicles and their impacts on equity as well as industry clusters and supply chain transportation implications. Prior to graduate school, I worked for Tesla in a sales/marketing role. Throughout graduate school, I have taken a variety of transportation related positions, such as research assistant with the Transportation Policy and Economic Competitiveness Project, research assistant for a freight data project, and planning intern at Washington County. I am so honored and humbled to have won this award from such a great organization like WTS!

Scholarships

DONNA ALLAN UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP

Katy Marciniak

I am a senior at the University of Minnesota studying civil engineering with an emphasis in transportation engineering. I have previously interned with companies that have specialized in electrical transmission and bridge and highway design. This summer, I am excited to be working in airport design. Post-graduation, I look forward to working on projects that will improve the infrastructure of my community in ways that minimize environmental impacts.

KATHERINE TURNBULL LEADERSHIP UNDEGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP

Leah Morris

Hi, my name is Leah Morris, and I am a sophomore Civil Engineering student at the University of Minnesota. Previous classes and internship experiences have developed my interests in drainage design and maintenance, as well as sustainable development for transportation projects. I look forward to learning more about how Civil Engineers work to promote environmental efforts in roadway projects.

DAN MEYERS HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP

Mary Zimmer

Hi, I am Mary Zimmer and I am a senior at Wayzata High School. I plan to attend the University of Wisconsin-Madison next year, majoring in Environmental Sciences and Sustainability through the College of Food, Agriculture, and Life Sciences. Food production and its transportation to end-users and the social and economic issues surrounding it are not new. However, today the consideration for the environmental impact of food distribution practices is different and ever more critical. I hope to help my generation create more environmentally friendly movement of food across our world. I love to play soccer, mentor younger students, and run!

Transportation YOU

The Chapter's Transportation YOU mentorship program is a national, hands-on, interactive program that offers young girls ages 13-18 an introduction to a wide variety of careers in the transportation field.

The Transportation You (TYOU) program continued its programming at Blaine High School in 2022. The programs run throughout the school year with the opportunity for one student to attend the DC Summit. The 2022 DC Summit was canceled, however, and will be revamped for 2023.

JANUARY 2022: The lesson in January was about Roads and Friction. We discussed how roads have an effect on cars due to the friction properties. We had a few videos to display how it worked as this was a virtual setting. Students participated in group discussions.

FEBRUARY 2022: We had the mentors and mentees do one-on-one meetings to talk about the year, their goals, and ways that the mentors could assist. It was a great opportunity to check-in with the students.

MARCH 2022: For March we did a virtual field trip of the Southwest Light Rail. We had guest speakers talk about their involvement on the project. The speakers were Michelle Nelson, Metro Council, and Carol Zevenbergen, SRF.

APRIL 2022: For this lesson we presented on professional development. We provided tips and tricks to think about when entering the workforce. The main point was a discussion about setting up a LinkedIn profile, things to think about, and how to present yourself in the best light. It also touched on how to present on search engines in a professional setting.

MAY 2022: This lesson was the last one for the school year. We were able to bring back Kelly from a past TYOU class and she discussed her experiences. She talked about what TYOU meant to her, how things are going in college, and how TYOU has helped her in her professional internships.

JUNE 2022: TYOU continued to plan for the upcoming school year with Blaine High School. Jenny Birkmeier could not confirm the classroom restrictions that will occur in the fall due to COVID-19. The Anoka/Hennepin school district should have a better idea by mid-August.

JULY 2022: Belick Pha, Braun Intertec, transitioned out from the role of TYOU Co-Chair after serving for one year. Melissa Duhn, Braun Intertec, started as TYOU Co-Chair for the 2021-2022 school year.

AUGUST 2022: Blaine High School announced they will be having in-person classes again. The class style will be revisited near the end of 2022.

SEPTEMBER 2022: TYOU Co-Chairs met virtually with Jenny Birkmeier with Blaine High School to discuss session formats and scheduling. For the 2022 school year, TYOU will continue with monthly programs. Blaine changed their school schedule so there was early release on Thursdays. We planned our schedule to rotate between morning and afternoon to accommodate mentor and mentees preferred times.

OCTOBER 2022: TYOU had their first program with Blaine on Thursday, October 17th from 7:00am to 8:30am. The two co-chairs were there as well as 16 students with interest in the program, with most of them being

Transportation YOU

freshman. The program was an introductory session to inform students about the mission of TYOU and the Blaine schedule.

NOVEMBER 2022: TYOU had their first field trip for the year, which was a tour of the Mall of America on November 21st. We had 12 students participate. The tour showed the various modes of transportation that are within the mall. We also visited the tunnel system and how things are connected to make the mall run smoothly. They even discussed the ways that they are trying to make the mall more sustainable with their waste and what their goals are. The students gave great feedback, and it was a successful event.

DECEMBER 2022: This month we planned for the field trip that is being put on in January.

Thank you to our Transportation YOU Mentors!

BLAINE 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR

- Andrea Arnoldi, Kimley-Horn
- Belick Pha, Braun Intertec
- Kristi Moua, HNTB
- Laura Melcher, WSB
- Melissa Duhn, Braun Intertec
- Rachel Dungca, Metro Transit
- Carri Sampson, Metro Transit
- Molly Ellis, Metro Transit
- Emily Schulz, HNTB
- Allison Luongo, Kimley-Horn
- Catie Miller, Kimley-Horn
- Ayantu Gameda, Bell Weather
- Molly Weistmantel, Stantec

BLAINE 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR

- Andrea Arnoldi, Kimley-Horn
- Belick Pha, Braun Intertec
- Kristi Moua, HNTB
- Laura Melcher, WSB
- Melissa Duhn, Braun Intertec
- Rachel Dungca, Metro Transit
- Carri Sampson, Metro Transit
- Molly Ellis, Metro Transit
- Emily Schulz, HNTB
- Allison Luongo, Kimley-Horn
- Catie Miller, Kimley-Horn
- Ayantu Gameda, Bell Weather
- Molly Weistmantel, Stantec

Mentorship

2021-2022 PROGRAM SUMMARY

The Mentoring Co-Chairs organized a mentorship program that extended from November 2021 through August 2022. We had 28 participants that were matched into 14 mentor/mentee pairs. In addition to individual meetings, group events included a virtual speed networking event, a happy hour, and a wrap-up event.

Conferences

WTS INTERNATIONAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE (MAY 18-20)

The WTS International Annual Conference was held in Seattle this year, and we had about 20 people in attendance representing the Minnesota Chapter. This may be the largest group that has attended the conference from Minnesota, and it was an amazing opportunity to learn and connect with WTS folks from around the country. Multiple people were able to attend because they received grants from our chapter. These grants are made possible because of our corporate and public sector sponsors.

CENTRAL REGION CONFERENCE

The Central Region Conference was held virtually again this year. Sessions included presentations on initiatives around the region. Minnesota presenters **Sonja Piper** and **Maria Donnelly** talked about complete streets and safe systems. Next year's conference will be in person in Chicago. Hope to see you there!

CHAPTER LEADER TRAINING

WTS MN sent three board members to Kansas City in November for Chapter Leadership training this year: **Adele Hall**, **Lisa Elliott**, and **Angie Bolstad**. The WTS International Staff and Board of Directors led the training, focusing on governance, communications, diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives, marketing, membership, chapter policies and procedures, and ways WTS International can assist chapters with all of the above.

There were also many opportunities to share information and find out what other chapters are doing. It was inspiring and energizing to meet with other chapter leaders and hear what is going on around the country.

Financial Report

INCOME	
Membership Dues	\$4,800
Monthly Programs	\$5,484
Holiday Party	\$7,320
Scholarships and Recognition Luncheon	\$1,000
Miscellaneous	\$0
Corporate/Public Partnership	\$38,000
TOTAL FOR 2022	\$56,604
DONATIONS TO SCHOLARSHIP FUND	
Scholarship Donations	\$1,500
TOTAL FOR 2022	\$1,500
EXPENSES	
Monthly Programs	\$3,400
40 th Anniversary Celebration	\$6,000
Travel/Board Member Training	\$11,700
TYOU DC Summit	\$0
Supplies/Communication	\$2,414
Membership Development	\$75
Professional Development Fees (AICP)	\$1,254
Insurance	\$1,000
Scholarships and Recognition Luncheon	\$10,000
Holiday Party	\$8,405
TYOU	\$0
Mentoring Program	\$338
Diversity & Inclusion	\$0
TOTAL FOR 2022	\$44,686

SCHOLARSHIP DONORS (INDIVIDUAL)

- Donna Allen
- Katherine Turnbull
- Wendy Modelski

Corporate Partners

All the accomplishments in this report would not be possible without our Corporate and Public Partners. WTS Minnesota's Corporate Partnership Program began in 2012 with just one firm. In 2022, we reached **26 corporate and 3 public partners** who have committed a combined **\$34,400**. Those contributions have greatly advanced the chapter's educational, scholarship, and leadership programs. WTS MN recognizes that financial backing is only possible with strong voices expressing why this is a valuable organization, so we thank the following organizations and their people for their support in 2022.

ADVOCATE LEVEL



SUPPORTER LEVEL

- American Engineering Testing, Inc.
- Bolton & Menk, Inc.
- HR Green
- Michael Baker International
- Terracon
- TKDA

SMALL BUSINESS SUPPORTER LEVEL

- LV Engineering
- Minnesota Transportation Alliance
- Pierce Pini & Associates
- Professional Engineering Services
- Rani Engineering
- Sambatek
- Stonebrooke
- Zan Associates

PUBLIC SECTOR PARTNERS

- Minnesota Department of Transportation
- Washington County
- Metro Transit



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Advancing transportation

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