



*“Changing the Mind, Body and Soul of
Clients, One “SUIT” at a time”*

Suited For Success Jacksonville, Inc.

www.suited4success.com

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ORGANIZATION OVERVIEW

SUITED FOR SUCCESS JACKSONVILLE, INC.

The Organization: MISSION

Suited For Success Jacksonville, Inc. (SFSJ) is a 501 c 3 nonprofit organization that provides interview appropriate attire, job search assistance and coaching to disadvantaged women and men in transition seeking employment. Our program motto: “Changing the Mind, Body & Soul of Clients, one Suit at a time”.

The Background

Suited For Success was formed back in 2003 with a Public Service grant for \$15,000 written by Founder, Shara Mondy, the former Vice President of the Dress For Success Northeast Florida chapter Board of Directors who originally sought out find a men’s program that provided the same supportive services for men that Dress For Success provided for women.

With no luck in her local area or the six surrounding counties, she reached out to another organization in another state that provided similar services and asked if they were interested in expanding their men’s program to Jacksonville. When she got the reply back from that agency that they were not looking to open another affiliate in the Jacksonville area, a light came on, and in that moment, Suited For Success was born. The vision was written and the journey began soon after.

There were a few small organizations that provided “free” clothing, but no program specifically addressing the issue of providing the right interview appropriate clothing necessary to make the first impression a lasting one and give the client the self confidence needed to perform well during the interview.

The Need and Target Population

Most of the populations we serve are surveyed at living below the federal poverty level with ethnicity ranging from about 60% African American, 25% Caucasian, 10% Hispanic and 5% Other. Our target clients include Veterans, Homeless, Ex-offenders, and Women from transitional programs that are in need of supportive services to assist them with obtaining and retaining employment.

New 2021 “Women’s Division” – Build HER Business

2020 was an brings a new look and life for Suited For Success with a newly formed “Women’s Division” “Suited 4 Success” which will focus specifically on women who are under-employed, seeking re-entry back into the workforce and women who are interested in becoming Entrepreneurs. As a program partner with Perfectly Suited Career Consulting, LLC, a career development and training company developing a qualified and retainable workforce of men and women.

Suited For Success does not claim to be the answer to solving the issues our targeted population faces, however, we strongly believe that permanent solutions are possible with more awareness campaign/partnerships, corporate funding along with sponsorships and mentoring programs.

Program Components

Suited For Success Program

Experts agree that our first impression (usually a visual one) is made within the first 10 seconds before the person even gets a chance to speak. By providing interview-appropriate clothing and accessories, our clients become more visually credible, thus allowing them to clear the first hurdle of securing a job. Suited For Success was ideally formed to address this dilemma for men who are seeking employment.

Suited For Success works on a referral basis, working with other nonprofits and social service agencies whose clients are working toward achieving economic self-sufficiency. Once the client has completed job readiness or vocational training program, they are then referred to Suited For Success for interview clothing. Each client works with a trained Personal Shopper to assist them in selecting their interview attire.

A complete outfit is provided at no cost to the client: a professional suit, and accessories (shoes, blouse, shirt, tie, belt as available). Upon obtaining a job and meeting a 30-day employment mark, clients may return to our clothing closet to receive two additional sets of professional/business casual attire. This component is to ensure that the client maintains their professional appearance and will not have to spend their paycheck to purchase clothing.

Since March 2003 we have built a network of over thirty agencies including Career Source the local One-Stop office that provides job assistance, workshops, resume preparation, and resources to assist our clients with supportive and re-entry services.

Suited For Success Program Clothing Partnerships

The Men's Wearhouse has been supporting Suited For Success for the past 10 years as the charity benefactor from the Men's Wearhouse National Suit Drive. Donations of men and women suits, dress shirts/blouses, ties, slacks, sweaters sport coats and accessories been crucial in helping us to keep our clothing closet full and operating.

Charitable Giving Opportunities

Suited For Success has participated in several fundraising and charity events such as: The Jacksonville Jaguars Give N Go 100 campaign which will allow donors to get the best deal on Jaguars tickets while supporting the Suited For Success program

Other corporate partner events include: One-Spark, Men's Wearhouse National Suit Drive and a new Cocktails 4 A Cause "Sip & Shop" mixer with Ann Taylor, women's clothing store in St. John's Town Center. (2021 Date coming Soon)

Matching Gift Program allows hundreds of companies to match their employees' contributions to charities through (United Way).

Founder, Shara Mondy, is an Ambassador with the Ladies of Justice, a division of Legal Shield that supports women in making sure that they are legally secure in their personal and professional lives with LegalShield, IDShield and Small Business Plans that ensure as a small business owner you are protected.



Suited For Success Celebrity Spokesperson, Actor/Author, Tommy Ford (Martin TV Show) (2004 – 2016) and Founder/SHE-EO, Shara Mondy



**MEN'S WEARHOUSE & SUITED 4 SUCCESS
NATIONAL SUIT DRIVE 2010
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA**

Suited For Success was the Charity Benefactor of the National Suit Drive in partnership with Men's Wearhouse for 10 years (Due to Covid 19 the 2020 NSD was cancelled).



Shara Mondy suiting a client from a local transition program