JACKIE FORNEY

Network Coordinator, National Women's Shelter Network, Inc.

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Miami, FL

National Women's Shelter Network

After a successful career in the corporate world, Jackie retired at a meaningful age in life and discovered a deep passion for volunteering and giving back to her community. Since mid-2023, she has been an active volunteer with the National Women's Shelter Network (NWSN), where she currently serves as the organization's Network Coordinator.

Jackie began her volunteer journey in May 2021 with Lotus House Women's Shelter — the largest women and children's homeless shelter in the country. Amid the ongoing challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic and a shortage of volunteers, Jackie rose to the occasion.

Leveraging her strength in leadership, team management, and communication, she tackled a backlog of operational work and spearheaded several process improvement initiatives. One of her proudest accomplishments was assisting in the development of the shelter's first guest resource guide, now given to every woman as she exits the shelter.

As the NWSN began to take shape, Jackie played a key role in national outreach and engagement efforts, helping to build a comprehensive database of women's shelters and safe haven programs to invite prospective members to join the newly formed network. She also contributed significantly to the planning and execution of the inaugural NWSN conference.

In her current role as the NWSN's Network Coordinator, Jackie manages and supports the organization's internal systems, and provides strategic guidance through the reporting framework she developed. Her expertise in project management methodologies helps to ensure smooth and efficient conferences.

Jackie is driven by a deep belief that volunteering is a calling greater than herself. Her unshakeable commitment to uplifting the lives of women and children experiencing homelessness reflects the profound purpose that can be found in retirement.

Find your passion, embrace it, thrive in it, and grow with it.