



SCRIPT

Women in Community Service

40th Anniversary Video and Conference
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 Producer: Joy Jensen
 Producer: Liliane Blom
 Narrator Susan Taylor, Essence Magazine
 Black set, column with crystal vase and white lilies

VIDEO	AUDIO
<p>Open: FADE UP FROM BLACK: Black set, column with crystal vase and white lilies</p>	<p><i>[CUE MUSIC]</i></p> <p>Host: Susan Taylor</p>
<p>Visuals: Susan Taylor seated</p>	<p>Susan Taylor: It's the early 60's and anything seems possible when an unlikely coalition of Protestant, Catholic, Jewish, black, white, rich and poor women establish...Women in Community Service—WICS. This extraordinary group of women with a passion to help disadvantaged young women...</p>
<p>Visuals: archival photos of Dorothy Height</p>	<p>Susan Taylor VO: ...become the voice of those who have never been heard.</p>
<p>Visuals: footage of Dorothy Height</p>	<p>Susan Taylor VO: Dorothy Height, civil right leader and President Emerita of the National Council of Negro Women remembers...</p>
<p>Interview: Dorothy Height Visuals: TEXT ON SCREEN: "Dorothy Height, Civil Rights Leader, President Emerita, National Council of Negro Women"</p>	<p>Dorothy Height: In conjunction with the National Council of Jewish Women, the National Council of Catholic Women, the Church Women United and later, the Latina women of the American G.I., Forum Women, we became Women in Community Service...</p>

<p>Visuals: CUT TO archival photos of women and John F. Kennedy</p>	<p>Susan Taylor VO: The year is 1963. President John F. Kennedy calls for women to join his newly-organized War on Poverty. It's a summons to women—from all walks of life—to rise up against poverty and domestic violence and become partners in social change.</p>
<p>Visuals: DISSOLVE TO archival footage of poverty Visuals: Job Corp photos</p>	<p>Susan Taylor VO: Following the assassination of President Kennedy, President Johnson continues to wage war on poverty by creating Job Corps, soon to become the largest youth employment training program in the country.</p>
<p>Visuals: DISSOLVE TO archival photos and footage of first head of Job Corps, Sargent Shriver</p>	<p>Susan Taylor VO: Sargent Shriver, the newly-appointed head of Job Corps, leads the crusade to prepare young Americans to join the work force. WICS, and its force of dedicated volunteers, joins the Corp. With great resolve, a plan and a prayer...</p>
<p>Visuals: CUT TO WICS employees working together Visuals: CU of manuals Visuals: CU and MS of WICS employees talking with applicants Visuals: footage of armed services</p>	<p>Susan Taylor VO: ...WICS supports the model program with powerful educational lesson plans, rigorous job training manuals, critical life-management skills training, as well as preparation for entry into the armed services.</p>
<p>Visuals: Susan Taylor Visuals: Fading in and out of photos of Mary Halloren Visuals: TEXT ON SCREEN: "Mary Halloren, Colonel, U.S. Army, Retired"</p>	<p>Susan Taylor (on camera and VO): With the WICS flame-of-resolve lit, retired U.S. Army colonel Mary Halloren becomes the first executive director of the WICS close-knit family of employees, clients, and the wonderful volunteers critical to the fledgling program.</p>
<p>Interview: Jackie Lendsey Visuals: TEXT ON SCREEN: "Jackie Lendsey, Executive Director, Women in Community Service"</p>	<p>Jackie Lendsey: WICS has a history of volunteerism; after all, we were started by volunteers. And these dedicated volunteers enabled us to reach out to communities all over the country and ensure that women and youth became productive citizens.</p>
<p>Visuals: Susan Taylor Visuals: various length shots of low-income women at home with family and in classrooms</p>	<p>Susan Taylor (on camera and VO): So WICS had its mission: find qualified young women living in poverty. Give them access to the academics and job-training skills, as well as the social, parenting and life-skills classes they needed to find and keep good jobs and become productive members of society.</p>

<p>Interview: Dorothy Height</p>	<p>Dorothy Height: ...so we went out into communities looking for girls who needed help, needed a second chance. Young girls who wanted to improve their lives.</p>
<p>Visuals: footage of families with girls and young adults. Visuals: CU MS of girls looking dejected and alone Visuals: footage of girls talking and smiling</p>	<p>Susan Taylor VO: Many young girls and teens from dysfunctional homes suffer from depression, low self-esteem and low morale. Many have little education, few job skills and dress inappropriately. Some are unquestionably headed toward a life of crime and incarceration. Some are already behind bars. Enter WICS: a chance to learn and turn their lives around.</p>
<p>Visuals: Susan Taylor</p>	<p>Susan Taylor: In 1992, WICS launched <i>Lifeskills Empowerment Program</i> for women which became a powerful vehicle for changing women’s lives. And thanks to a capacity-building grant from the Kellogg Foundation, WICS clients now include adult women in poverty and female offenders.</p>
<p>Visuals: Joan Palmateer Visuals: TEXT ON SCREEN: “Joan Palmateer, Transition Director for Women, Coffee Creek Correctional Facility, Oregon” Visuals: Young woman shaking hands with employer Visuals: Young women smiling</p>	<p>Joan Palmateer: WICS programs teach incarcerated women the skills they need to— maintain personal hygiene, interview for a job, dress properly for the interview, speak correctly and land that job. Most of these females have never been taught how to act or dress prior to incarceration. And if it weren’t for WICS, they may never have learned.</p>
<p>Visuals: CUT TO screen of young women dressing Visuals: Young women carrying books</p>	<p>Susan Taylor (on camera and VO): WICS is a grassroots organization. Dedicated, determined volunteers routinely made home visits to speak with parents to help young women build their self-esteem and a belief in themselves. The program changes lives.</p>
<p>Visuals: Bar graph animation showing increased self-esteem, motivation and confidence</p>	<p>Susan Taylor VO: According to an independent study, nearly 100% of <i>Lifeskills Empowerment Program</i> graduates experience increased self-esteem, motivation and confidence. They learn about strengths they never knew they had.</p>
<p>Interview: Marianne Racca Visuals: TEXT ON SCREEN: “Marianne Racca, Program Director, Women in Community Service”</p>	<p>Marianne Racca: These young girls generally don’t know that they have any abilities, strengths or skills so we go through a very comprehensive process to help them recognize their own</p>

	strengths and capabilities, self-esteem builds and motivation happens.
Visuals: Susan Taylor	Susan Taylor: So why do normal, ever-day people become volunteers? Sometimes it's because something traumatic has happened in their own lives.
Visuals: footage of Tracy Belcher Program graduate	Susan Taylor VO: Tracy Belcher had a gram a day cocaine habit. Several times she was arrested, strip searched and almost sent to prison.
Interview: Tracy Belcher Visuals: TEXT ON SCREEN: "Tracy Belcher, WICS Program Graduate"	Tracy Belcher: I want to convey a picture of the huge junkie that I was. I just really wish I had it on film. It was so ugly.
Visuals: family photos of Tracy as a young girl	Susan Taylor VO: Then Tracy remembers the words of singer, Patti Labelle; "The only time you run out of chances is when you quit taking them." After a full recovery, Tracy has become a WICS volunteer and mentor to dozens of women struggling for a better life.
Visuals: Susan Taylor	Susan Taylor: Connie Ellis, former inmate and client and now a dedicated WICS volunteer who knows how the program really works.
Interview: Connie Ellis Visuals: TEXT ON SCREEN: "Connie Ellis, WICS Program Graduate"	Connie Ellis: ...WICS gives offenders the skills they need to become the women they want to be. They learn who they are and how to get in touch with themselves.
Visuals: footage and photos of students in classrooms Visuals: DISSOLVE TO layered animation of Department of Veterans Affairs signage, keyboard, computer wires Visuals: medical devices like PET Scan	Susan Taylor (on camera and VO): Former clients like Connie often have a desire to give back by helping other women like themselves. They believe in sharing their own life experiences. And stay close to the young women while they participate in the <i>Lifeskills Empowerment Program</i> . They help each client write a life action plan to set goals for employment and independent living.
Interview: Marianne Racca	Susan Taylor: We provide services to 25,000 low-income women. What our clients get from our programs is a strong wrap-around services package. We're with the ladies from the point that we meet them, through each step of the program and long after they complete the course and graduate into society.

Visuals: CUT TO young women happily interacting	Susan Taylor VO: Because of all the love and understanding the young women receive, they show great enthusiasm for the WICS program.
Visuals: Susan Taylor	Susan Taylor: The success story of WICS is not just about job training and better wages. WICS is about hope. Hope to change a life in poverty and dependency to one of self-sufficiency and self-respect. Hope to change a life of crime to one full of promise and potential. Hope to turn a dead-end life into one filled with new beginning and a bright future. And that's what you—all of you at Women in Community Service—are really about!
FADE TO BLACK	