

Nina Corder – the Human Leader

Formal /Legal: Dr. Shazlina Hashim-Corder

PORTFOLIO

Nina Corder's story is rooted in one defining belief: meaningful connections between people create the collective power to redesign systems, and strengthen the infrastructure within the ecosystem that shape thriving communities.



A Story of Belonging, Systems Change, and the Power of Connection. Arriving in the United States of America from Malaysia as an *international undergraduate student* more than two decades ago, Nina experienced firsthand what it means to navigate new systems, cultures, and networks without a roadmap. That lived experience became the catalyst for a lifetime of work focused on belonging, access, and equity, not as abstract ideals, but as practical, human-centered systems that work for real people.

INTRODUCTION





ABOUT

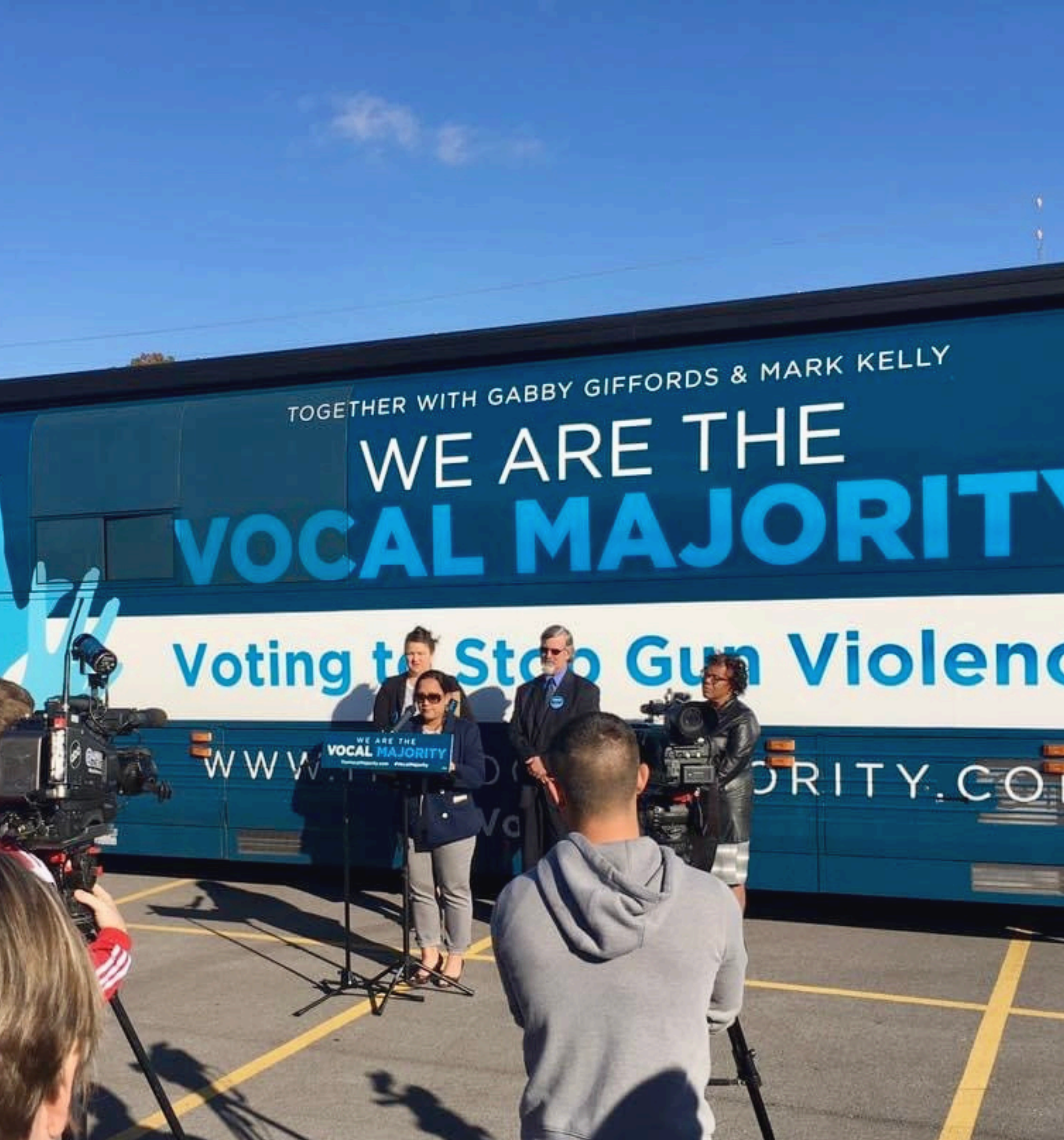
In 2013, while conducting research in organizational leadership, Nina established Women of Toledo, Ohio as a grassroots experiment in connection. What began as a small convening space evolved into a regional hub that elevates women's economic empowerment, workforce development, and leadership serving women and girls across race, income, age, and lived experience. The organization was built on a simple but disruptive insight: the greatest barrier facing individuals is not talent or ambition; it is disconnected systems.

Nina's work extends beyond nonprofit leadership into **policy, systems change, and global engagement**. Locally, she played a key role in advancing gender equity legislation in Toledo, including the adoption of Pay Equity and CEDAW, ensuring that women's lived realities are reflected in public policy.

Nationally and globally, she has served as a UN Women Global Champion for Change, a Mentor to Global Professional Fellows for the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Global Leaders Division, and a delegate to the United Nations Economic Social Council on the Status of Women Commission, bringing Toledo's story into global conversations while translating global frameworks back into local action.

At the center of Nina's work is a distinct leadership philosophy: **relational intelligence paired with execution rigor**. She leads by listening, convening, and building trust, then aligning people, data, and resources toward outcomes that last. This dual fluency has positioned her as both a **community builder** and a **systems architect in economic and workforce** comfortable in grassroots circles and global policy rooms.

Today, Nina continues to expand her vision through HerHub Global, an AI-enabled platform designed to **map opportunity**, unlock **economic and workforce mobility**, and scale women's access to income, skills, and networks worldwide. Yet even as her work reaches across continents, her leadership remains grounded in the same truth that **women do not rise alone, and they should not have to**.



Nina Corder's story extends beyond individual leadership; it reflects what becomes possible when community is designed as infrastructure, inclusion is approached as a strategy, and connection is leveraged as a catalyst for lasting systemic change.

EDUCATION

And Certifications.

- Ed.D., Northcentral University
- M.Ed. & B.A., the University of Toledo
- Certified Human Rights Advocate, the U.S. Institute of Diplomacy and Human Rights (USIDHR)
- Certified Business Advisor, GrowthWheel
- Certified Negotiation Professional (CNP™), SkillFront
- Transformative Mediator, Institute for the Study of Conflict Transformation



CERTIFIED NEGOTIATION
PROFESSIONAL (CNP™)

SKILLS

- Strategic Systems-Level Thinking
- Relational Intelligence & Trust Building
- Visionary Leadership with Execution Rigor
- Equity-Centered Decision-Making
- Policy & Civic Engagement Acumen
- Fund Development & Resource Mobilization
- Cross-Cultural Competence
- Analytical & Data-Driven Orientation
- Public Speaking & Narrative Framing
- Change Leadership & Organizational Design
- AI-Enabled Strategic Adaptability



WORK EXPERIENCE

Founder and Executive Director, Women of Toledo 2013 – Present

Growing it from a grassroots initiative into a regional hub serving over **12,000 women and youth**. She has raised more than **USD\$2.2 million** in grants and capital funds to expand its impact, launched the Mentorship Institute to support workforce development, and the Northwest Ohio Women's Business Council to strengthen the local entrepreneurial ecosystem, and helped **advance key gender-equity legislation**, including CEDAW (O-095-22) and the Pay Equity Act (O-173-19).



WORK EXPERIENCE

**Principal Owner, Lemon Lime Company
2015 – Present**

Leads the social enterprise agency in delivering **operational consulting and skills training globally**, while launching Lemon Lime Lab to create income-generating opportunities for women living in poverty across developing nations. Nina's belief is that addressing the **workforce and workplace development** will eradicate domestic and global poverty. The philosophy - "one job, one person at a time". She also founded **HerHub Global**, an AI-driven economic mobility platform that integrates network mapping, digital learning, and market access to unlock income, skills, and scalable opportunity pathways for women across global markets.



**Chief Operating Officer, SO NOW Professional Network for Women.
2013 –2016**

Provided **operational leadership** for a multi-chapter women's professional network, overseeing strategy, coordination, and growth across regional hubs. Directed execution of the flagship monthly luncheons and annual awards programs serving 300–500+ attendees, while **strengthening cross-chapter alignment to expand engagement** in Midwest areas – Sylvania, Perrysburg, Lima, and surrounding communities.



WORK EXPERIENCE

GLOBAL INVOLVEMENT

- Commission on the Status of Women, 68th, International Alliance of Women (UN Economic and Social Council – ECOSOC)
- Consultant, Human Rights, SDG and Social Progress Imperative, traveled to more than 30 countries around the world and worked/station in four different continents.
- Instructor, World Academy for the Future of Women, Global Interactions – NGO with Consultative Status with the United Nations (Katarina University, Kenya)
- Facilitator, U.S. Congressional Office for International Leadership (COIL) Open World Program (Ukraine, Moldova, Hungary)
- Global Champion for Change (UN Women – Empower Women initiative)
- Collaborator & Speaker, The Helló Margit! All-Arts Cultural Festival and Women in Change Festival (Női Váltó Fesztivál), Budapest II District Municipality (Hungary)
- Mentor, U.S. Department of State Professional Fellows Program, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Global Leaders Division (Hungary, Albania, China, Mongolia)

- **Women Making Change Honoree**, the JCPenney Corporation (2024)
- **Woman on the Rise**, the YWCA Northwest Ohio (2024)
- **Distinguished Alumni Award**, the University of Toledo, Judith Herb College of Education (2024)
- **Women Who SHINE**, the Sisters of Notre Dame of the U.S. (2023)
- Toledo **Jefferson Award** for Public Service, Washington, D.C. Representative (2021)
- Ernest M. Pon **Human Rights Award**, the National Association for Ethnic Studies (2021)

RECOGNITION & AWARDS



GOVERNMENT & CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

- **President**, American Association of University Women (AAUW), Toledo Branch.
- **Co-Chair**, Workforce Economic Development Committee, Welcome Toledo-Lucas County (Welcome TLC), supported Toledo's recognition as a **Certified Welcoming City & County**.
- **Mayoral Appointee & Commissioner Member**, City of Toledo – Human Relations Commission and Gender Equity Commission (CEDAW)
- **Member**, White House Council on Women & Girls (Obama Administration 2016)
- **Task Force Committee** on various citywide (Toledo, Ohio) initiatives advocating gender equity, including the successful passage of CEDAW (O-095-22) and the Pay Equity Act (O-173-19).



MEDIA FEATURED AS SEEN ON



- The Sojourner's Truth, **Unlocking Women's Potential**: Women of Toledo, July 18, 2024
- The Blade, **YWCA says three women leaders 'On the Rise'**, July 12, 2024
- International Women's News, Special Edition: **Poverty, Women Lead the Peace**, Voll:120 No.2, 2024
- CanvasRebel, **STORIES & INSIGHTS, Meet Nina Corder**, December 18, 2023
- Voyage Ohio, **Exploring Life & Business with Nina Corder** of Inclusive for Women, January 19, 2023
- © Apple Inc, **Creating a Better Life through a Diverse and Expansive Network** by Third Generation Networking Podcast - Debby & Greg Peters, April 2, 2022
- © Mature Living, **MProfiles: Nina Corder** by Lisa Alleman, March 31, 2022
- © Toledo City Paper, **2019 Big Ideas**
- © ToledoParent.com, **Moms Who Do It at Home** by Erin Schoen Marsh, September 21, 2020



**Women of Toledo
on media under
Corder's Leadership**



Tuesday, March 31st - 1:30 PM

WOMEN IN CAREERS

DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS
THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO

Sponsored by Career Services & The Catherine S. Eberly Center for Women
A panel discussion featuring:



Tina Roberts | Stark Enterprises
VP of Commercial Operations



Nina Corder | Women of Toledo
Founder & Director of Inclusive for Women Inc.



Sara Swisher | TRCC
VP of Talent and Workforce



Joanne Mueller | Cedar Point
Vice President of Human Resources

Register on Handshake:
<https://utoledo.joinhandshake.com/events/4727>




Introduction of Speed Mentoring & Networking

Organizer "Good Partners" Credit Union featuring with USA Mentors Nina & Erica.

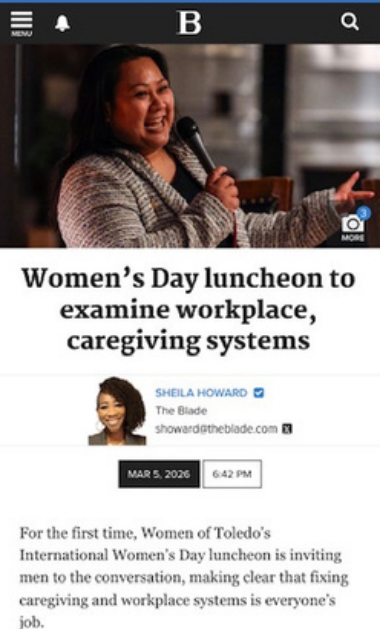


Nina Corder
Managing director at Women of Toledo
Toledo, Ohio, USA



Erica Quach
Senior program officer Professional Fellows program
Toledo, Ohio, USA

September 21, 2023
9 am at "Credit Union" CU Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia



For the first time, Women of Toledo's International Women's Day luncheon is inviting men to the conversation, making clear that fixing caregiving and workplace systems is everyone's job.



"Recharge Our Community Economy"

SEPTEMBER 23rd, 2022, 13:00, @ POLIS UNIVERSITY



NINA CORDER
Managing Director
Women of Toledo in Toledo, OH



BLANCA SURGEON
Rural Development Specialist
Rural Community Assistance Corporation in Santa Fe, NM



PROFILES
Nina Corder:
Facilitating the power of connection
By Lisa Allen

What are your dreams for the future of HerHub?
I would love to see HerHub expand to multiple cities. It would be wonderful to be able to hop on a local HerHub while traveling! We are already talking with women leaders in Detroit, so that may be our second HerHub.

Who inspires you?
Our Young Women of Toledo group of 15-24 year olds inspires me a lot and makes me realize that the world is going to be awesome!

Do you have a favorite book or author?
Susan David's Emotional Agility and anything by Brené Brown.

You seem pretty busy. How do you relax?
I love sunbathing and a good massage. I also like walking in nature.

Bonus Facts!
If I had an eighth day of the week I would...
People would be surprised to know...
Nina is not my given name.

HerHub
Women of Toledo Initiative

Making Toledo home
Nina's passion for connection began as her life took a turn while she was in college. As a UT international student from Malaysia, her plans to return home after graduation were interrupted when she met her future husband, a native Toledan, during her senior year. Nina's decision to remain in Toledo stemmed her personal search concerning...

"HerHub broadens the landscape for all women by providing a way for them to connect with women they wouldn't otherwise have the opportunity to know."

Why HerHub?
As the Managing / Program Director of Women of Toledo, Nina is expected to complete a varied list of duties, which has helped her to realize that despite her passion to serve, she has limitations. Connecting the community, Nina recognized the variety of area organizations / businesses that serve women. HerHub was developed as a way to bring those resources together in one online platform so that women can search for what they need in one place. "I am always searching for someone where I can be long," says Nina. "This was developed so that we can all find where we belong."

Why HerHub?
As the Managing / Program Director of Women of Toledo, Nina is expected to complete a varied list of duties, which has helped her to realize that despite her passion to serve, she has limitations. Connecting the community, Nina recognized the variety of area organizations / businesses that serve women. HerHub was developed as a way to bring those resources together in one online platform so that women can search for what they need in one place. "I am always searching for someone where I can be long," says Nina. "This was developed so that we can all find where we belong."

WOMEN & COVID-19

A VIRTUAL DISCUSSION WITH



Nina Corder,
Founder & Managing Director
Women of Toledo



Lisa McDuffie
President & CEO
YWCA Northwest Ohio



Wendy Pestre
CEO and President
United Way of Greater Toledo



Sharon Barnes, PhD
Assoc. Professor & Chair
Women's and Gender Studies
The University of Toledo



Aly Day, PhD
Assoc. Professor
Disability Studies,
The University of Toledo

Thursday, April 23 | 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

UT THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO Catherine S. Eberly Center for Women

NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON U.S. CHINA RELATIONS



Helló Margit!
fesztivál május 15-18.

irodalom zene WORKSHOPOK helypartnerek

MARGIT NEGYED Budapesti Önkormányzat
HUNGARIA BOR BUDAPESTI ÖNKORMÁNYZAT

Az egyik legalapvetőbb emberi szükséglet a társas kapcsolódás iránti igény

A Helló Margit! fesztivál nyitórendezvénye a május 15-i Höl Várho Fesztivál lesz, amelynek diszpenzfolyéként, az Egyesült Államokból érkező Nina Corder tart majd workshopot a hatékony networking és közösségépítés témakörében. Nina a Women of Toledo alapítója, ami nőknél nyújt segítséget és mentortámaszt. A Corder által alapított és támogatott szervezetek eddig több mint tízezer nőnek és fiatalnak segítettek karrierjük építésében. Nina 2021-ben megkapta a régió Jefferson-díját, amelyet a "közösséget amerikai Nobel-díjaként" ismernek.

Az egyik legalapvetőbb emberi szükséglet a társas kapcsolódás iránti igény. Együtt sokkal többre vagyunk képesek, és ennek eredményeként együtt, hanem közösségként is élhetünk. A befogadás és összetartás női közösségek olyan közeget biztosítanak, ahol a nők biztonságban érezhetik magukat, szabadon kifejezhetik érzelmeiket, megoszthatják véleményeiket, nyitnak és felismernek belső erőiket. Saját kutatásaink alapján a női közösségekben megosztott történetek, életgyakorlatok és tanácsok segítenek a nőknek: lelkiismereti és erkölcsi irányítást nyújtanak, mint a férfiak. Ugyanakkor Magyarországon a társadalmi szereplőfély és a nem szerepek elvárásai nehezebbé a nők számára a munka és a családi élet össze-

Mint nap – nemcsak hely, hanem globális szinten is. A személyes történetek megosztásával kialakul az egymás iránti bizalom, és nő a tudatosság. A közösségek belső szervezési alakjai ki a mentorálás kultúrája, hiszen tanácsot adunk és kerünk egymástól. Ezt a női közösségek a közös cselekvés valódi katalizátorai lehetnek – akár a csoporton belül, akár a szociális társadalmi változásokért való küzdelemben.

Milyen különbségeket lát a magyarországi és az Egyesült Államokban élő – különösen a dolgozó – nők helyzetében?

Végezetül némi kutató, hogy megértsen, melyek a főbb különbségek. Három fontos témát vizsgáltam, amelyeket általában is követelménynek tekintek a nők számára: a gyermeknevelés, a gazdasági egyenlőség és a nem szerepekkel kapcsolatos társadalmi attitűdök. Mindkét országban jellemző, hogy a nők magasabb arányban szereznek felsőfokú végzettséget, mint a férfiak. Ugyanakkor Magyarországon a társadalmi szereplőfély és a nem szerepek elvárásai nehezebbé a nők számára a munka és a családi élet össze-

hangolását. Az Egyesült Államokban a női foglalkoztatottság és a munka-megérett egyensúlyja általában előbbre tart, viszont a szülői szabadság és a gyermeknevelés terén Magyarország jóval előbbre tart, míg az USA-ban korlátozott a fizetett szabadság és kevés a megfizethető gyermeknevelési lehetőség. Magyarországon akár három éves szülői szabadságot is biztosít. A hosszú távú fizetett utazások visszatérési nehézségeit is okozhat az anyák számára a munkaerőpiac.

Mi lesz a témája a budapesti előadásának?

A közösségépítés és a kapcsolódás elősegítése. Személyes tapasztalataim és módszertanomat fogom megosztani arról, hogyan lehet ösztönözni a részvételt és az együttműködést a közösségekben. A cél olyan közeg kialakítása, amelyben a tagok valódi összetartozást és kölcsönös támogatást érezhetnek, így erősebb, előbb közösség jöhet létre. Ha ezt sikerül elérni, azaz hozzájárultunk a nők gazdasági megéretté válásához a munkahelyen, a munkaerőpiac, a közösségekben és a családban egyaránt.

Wondering where Nina has been? 



CONTACT INFO

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419.377.5457

Website



Nina Corder

THANK YOU