



Deborah L. Frett, Chief Executive Officer, BPW Foundation

Deborah Frett joined BPW Foundation as CEO in May 2005. Frett is an accomplished executive with over 30 years of experience providing strategic direction and executive management to associations, for-profit and start-up organizations. As CEO, she is a frequent speaker and panelist on the implementation of successful workplaces, providing expertise in the areas of workforce development, workplace policy and job readiness as they pertain to working women and businesses.

Frett engages in policy discussions in forums across the country and is an advocate for women veterans, green job development, and redefining the workplace to meet the needs of the 21st century. She has provided congressional testimony and served as an expert for key briefings on issues impacting working women, families and veterans. She is a creative leader and has demonstrable experience ensuring that working women are included in today's marketplace.

Under her leadership, BPW Foundation conducted the first research on the challenges facing women veterans in their transition from military to civilian careers and hosted the Inaugural Joining Forces for Women Veterans National Summit. Most recently the organization launched the Joining Forces for Women Veterans and Military Spouses Mentoring Plus®.

She is a member of the Pfizer Small Business Council, the Army Women's Foundation Planning Committee, the Inter Department Work Group on Women Veterans Employment, a founding member of SCORE's Women's Mentoring Network Advisory Council and served on the planning committee for the Department of Veterans Affairs 2011 National Training Summit on Women Veterans. In May 2013 she was one of five women to receive the "Honorary Woman Veteran" award from Women Veteran's Interactive for her work in support of women veterans and their families. As a Clinton Global Initiative (CGI) America Women and Girls' Champion (2012 and 2013), Frett helped to shape the small business working group discussions to reflect the needs of women. She was the Park University Commencement speaker in December 2013 and was honored in June 2014 for her advocacy and exemplary leadership at the first annual Women Veteran Leadership Awards Symposium, a YEU (Young Entrepreneurs of the Universe) Veteran Initiative, Wounded Lady Warriors Green Project.

Prior to BPW Foundation, Frett was an entrepreneur serving as an independent consultant and chief executive officer for DFA Project Solutions. She provided senior level management and

consultation on business strategy development, marketing, management and operations for various projects and initiatives, including women's health issues. Frett previously served as executive director for an online start-up, SeniorNavigator, a public-private partnership initiative with the Virginia Health Care, AOL Time Warner and CollisWarner Foundations. Ms. Frett began her career in association management at the American Hospital Association, Chicago, IL. During her 23 year tenure she served in a number of positions including CEO of Healthcare InfoSource, COO of Health Forum and vice president of Special Membership Services.

Frett has a bachelor's degree in Sociology from Quincy University in Quincy, IL. She has earned advanced certification in Nonprofit Management through The Nonprofit Organizations Program at Virginia Commonwealth University.