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# CRE Finance Council Women's Network Newsletter

June 2018



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## FACTS ABOUT THE CREFC WOMEN'S NETWORK

### YEAR-TO-DATE WOMEN'S NETWORK EVENTS

#### EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

CREFC Marks Women's History Month with Speed Mentoring Events

[3/22/18 Speed Mentoring Event: Los Angeles, CA](#)

4/19/18 WN Wine-Down on the Terrace: Atlanta, GA

5/1/18 Speed Mentoring Event: Dallas, TX

5/17/18 Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure Kick-Off Breakfast: McLean, VA

5/3/18 Women's Network Symposium: New York, NY

### UPCOMING EVENTS

## FACTS ABOUT THE CREFC WOMEN'S NETWORK

- **Kick-Off Date:** September 2015
- **Member Companies:** 198
- **Individual Members:** 532
- **U.S. Cities represented:** 60

#### A note from the CREFC Women's Network Leadership:

Since its inauguration in September, 2015, the Women's Network has grown to over 500 members representing 198 companies with a local presence in 60 cities.

### CREFC Marks Women's History Month with Speed Mentoring Events

By Christina Zausner, Senior Director, Head of Industry and Policy Analysis, CRE Finance Council

In **CREFC Women's Network's** third year of existence, and for the third year in a row, Women's Network leaders in various cities celebrated Women's History Month with events that brought members and non-members together for an evening of mentoring. The events arranged in New York City (hosted by Dechert), Washington, D.C. (hosted by Greenberg Traurig) and Atlanta (hosted by Carlton Fields) brought together professionals from various parts of the commercial real estate sector of all ages and backgrounds to share stories and problem-solving techniques. The New York City event organized by Dechert Partner Laura Swihart boasted attendance of nearly 100 women this year.

Attendees and organizers highlighted the usefulness, and even the inspirational quality, of these events. Susan Neuberger, a partner at Greenberg Traurig and the organizer of the D.C event, said, "I am consistently amazed and humbled by the impact the CREFC Women's Network is having on the next generation of women in our industry. One of the women who attended told me that just knowing there are so many self-assured and capable women in our industry gives her the confidence she needs to persevere."

Marci Schmerler, a shareholder at Carlton Fields in Atlanta, was thrilled again this year with the fabulous group of women participating - and noted that this year's event continued the themes of energizing inspirational connections through meaningful communications - Focusing again on the 360 mentoring experience. "It's awesome to hear how much these women have accomplished at every level of their career. I am amazed and encouraged of how much we can learn from each other and the sincere willingness to share experiences." One participant stated, "I think this event is amazing, I thank CREFC for getting such a diverse group of accomplished and interesting women together. I love too the off topic conversations and the real relationships that are formed." The event again had over 40 women participating as designated mentors and mentees and was followed by cocktails and conversation with close to 100 attendees.

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### **3/22/18 Speed Mentoring Event: Los Angeles, CA Sponsored by Paul Hastings and Partnered with ULI**

#### **CREFC Women's Group Co-Hosts Third Annual Speed Mentoring Event**

By Norma J. Williams, Esq., Williams & Associates

The Los Angeles Chapters of the CREFC Women's Group and the ULI Women's Leadership Initiative co-sponsored their third annual Speed Mentoring Event on March 22, 2018. The downtown Los Angeles evening began with a welcome reception at which attendees networked and representatives of each sponsor spoke. The reception was followed by four 15-minute roundtable sessions at which attendees had the opportunity to speak with esteemed mentors in the areas of real estate finance, law, development, capital markets and investments. Attendees were given 20 suggested "prompt" questions and the conversations then followed their own paths. Following the event, attendees were sent contact information for all mentors to facilitate further discussions.

Timed to coincide with Women's History Month, the event was beneficial to attendees at all levels of professional development. We look forward to the next event!