

Insight on Coaching – Guest Bio

Kathleen Schafer
Principal, Leadership Connection

Introduction

Kathleen Schafer is the founder of Leadership Connection, a company that helps people develop the skills needed to succeed in the political process. She has nearly 20 years experience working in the public policy and political fields bringing about change within communities, organizations and individuals. Her leadership coaching skills coupled with 12 years teaching leadership at the Graduate School of Political Management at George Washington University grounds her work in a belief of maximizing human potential by first understanding an individual's unique talents and skills and then helping them put it into action.

Experience

At Leadership Connection, Kathleen works with organizations interested in improving their relationships with the public, increasing civic participation, and enhancing their relationship with employees. Clients include local and state governments, non-profit organizations, foundations, corporations, and candidates for public office. Kathleen's previous affiliations include working with then-State Representative Debbie Stabenow (now a candidate for the U.S. Senate in Michigan); the Departments of Commerce, Transportation, and Management and Budget; co-founder, Mitchell Communications Circle; Public Sector Consultants; and the Michigan Political Leadership Program. Kathleen has also co-hosted her own nationally syndicated radio show, *For Women Only*, and is an adjunct faculty member of George Washington University's Graduate School of Political Management.

Education

- B.A. Michigan State University

Professional Affiliations, Publications and Recognition

- Chair, Doug Duncan for Governor Women's Steering Committee (2005-2006)
- Maryland's Top 100 Women Award, *The Daily Record* (2004)
- Chair, Harriet's List (2003-present)
- Chair, Maryland Commission for Women (2001-2003)
- Chair, Kathleen Kennedy Townsend for Governor Women's Steering Committee (2001-2002)
- Chair, Maryland Women's Leadership Forum (2000 – 2006)
- Co-Host of the nationally syndicated radio talk show *For Women Only* (1996-1997)
- Named a "Rising Star of American Politics" in 1996 by *Campaigns & Elections Magazine*