

Meet Hilltop Members of the *NEW* RISE Collaborative Workspace

Submitted by residents **Liz Windisch** and **Loni Peterson**

On April 17, 2019, RISE Collaborative Workspace opened its first location in Denver on the corner of Colorado and 7th Avenue in Hilltop. RISE is a female-focused coworking community that meets the unique needs of business women by enabling its members to engage with the curated community of members and advance themselves both professionally and personally through collaboration and educational programming.

RISE opened its doors in 2017 with a mission to help women succeed. The concept of RISE Collaborative Workspace was born after founder, Stacy Taubman, interviewed hundreds of other professional women — all craving community and connection. The first location in St. Louis, now has 270 members and soon that same mission will ring true for other professional women in Denver — helping them “RISE” to their potential.

Two Hilltop residents that are part of RISE Collaborative Workspace shared their stories and the impact that RISE has had on them.



Liz Windisch

“I have been a Certified Financial Planner™ for 15 years and have recently started my own practice to focus on women. As a CFP®, I am a fiduciary, which means that I am legally required to act in my client’s best interest. I focus on comprehensive financial planning, which includes goal-setting and values-identification.”

“My connection to RISE is that I saw Stacy speak at a networking event last year, and I was so impressed I asked to meet her for coffee. As soon as I heard about RISE and its mission, I immediately knew I had to be a part of it. It complements my mission

to help women, and fits with my desire to spend time in a collaborative community. And I can walk or ride my bike to the office, and come home to visit our dog at lunch! My husband and I moved to the area in February 2018 (from another part of Denver) and we absolutely love it!”

For more information about Liz’s company and services, please visit www.lizwindisch.com.



Loni Peterson

“I grew up in the dance community — ballet, tap, and jazz were my life. I began teaching at the age of 16 and became the director of a competition dance team at 18. The responsibility of director brought planning the competition season, scheduling rehearsals, selecting music and appropriate costumes, and communication with parents, all while adhering to a budget. Not only did these kids leave a lasting impact on my life, I realized that teaching, design, planning, logistics, communication, and proving a memorable experience for other people were my passions. I was an event planner.

During college, I leaned into my artistic side and majored in art history,

and also obtained a master’s degree in arts development and program management. These degrees helped me secure meaningful positions in the non-profit sector that catered to the arts and helping Denver’s youth thrive through top notch programming. My latest non-profit adventure as the event coordinator and corporate relations manager at Boys & Girls Clubs provided many experiences in event planning, as I was a part of a small team who created and executed all special events for the organization. In addition to enjoying non-profit work and planning fundraisers, I was asked to join the faculty in the School of Hospitality, Events, and Tourism at Metro State University to teach Event Project Planning and Special Event Production.

After a lifetime of being a logistics wizard in personal and professional experiences, I felt that it was time to branch out on my own and build my event planning business, LP Creative. I knew I needed to integrate myself into the events industry in Denver, and I have been greeted with nothing less than open arms and warm conversations. Seeing that my new venture would be an at home affair, I was also interested in looking into possible co-working spaces to get out of the house, interact with other entrepreneurs, and keep my inspiration sparking. Sara Butler and the RISE community was introduced to me via a colleague who completed the Impact Denver program, a leadership series offered through the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce. Trusting the referral, I decided to reach out to Sara for a tour. Upon meeting her and hearing about the RISE community, I knew I needed to be a part of this female focused circle of strong women. Not only is the space a beautiful place to get work done or connect with others, I am looking forward to the member-led professional



development opportunities that will happen each month. As an affiliate professor, I love learning and think it is so important to continue challenging yourself mentally. I have been given a wonderful welcome into the RISE community. I look forward to meeting other members, making magic happen, and watching everyone’s businesses grow!”

For more information about Loni’s company and services, please visit www.lprecreativevents.com.

For more information on RISE Collaborative Workspace, visit RISEworkspace.com.

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