

## CJN 'Women in Leadership' huge success

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An audience of mainly women mingled on the second floor of Saks Fifth Avenue, sipping wine and listening to the stories and advice of five of Northeast Ohio's most significant female leaders at "Women in Leadership: Traits of True Leadership" on Nov. 18 at Beachwood Place.



Jennifer Margolis, co-founder of Thrive Cleveland, moderated the discussion on the exceptionally frigid evening.

"I was driving here tonight thinking, it's OK that it's 15 degrees outside, because I think tonight is really about warming up our souls," said Margolis. "I promise you're going to leave warmer than you came in from this experience."

The panel featured Joy Anzalone, COO of Burton Carol Management, LLC; Katie Fiala, associate director of ORT America in Northeast Ohio; Jeanne Tobin, president of The Temple-Tifereth Israel in Beachwood and Cleveland; and Carrie Rosenfelt, vice president and community development relationship manager at Northeast Ohio Huntington National Bank.

Johnine Byrne, a visual note taker, mapped out the discussion on a large poster as it was occurring, complete with illustrations and key phrases mentioned by the panelists.

The event was produced by the Cleveland Jewish News and sponsored by Saks Fifth Avenue, Maggiano's Little Italy, Horseshoe Casino Cleveland, the DeVille Apartments in Beachwood, The Drake in Mayfield Heights and Vein Clinics of America.

The discussion ranged from turning points in their careers to the difference between women and men in the workplace.

Tobin described the "impostor syndrome" that many women experience in the workplace in which they experience doubts and anxiety about being qualified for their jobs.

"Everyone has the impostor syndrome," said Tobin. "Men have been trained not to show it, and we haven't."

The women all agreed that the best way to conquer the impostor syndrome is to tackle fears and be unafraid to make mistakes.

### Women in Business

Panelists are from left, Katie Fiala, Carrie Rosenfelt, Jeanne Tobin and Joy Anzalone.

“Sometimes I pretend I’m an actress and I’m playing a part, and it just kind of gets me through,” said Rosenfelt. “Fake it until I make it.”

Kia Crooms of Mayfield Heights said she found the topic of gender interesting.

“It’s so prevalent in the United States that men are paid more than women for equal job responsibilities,” Crooms said. “I really think that we have a natural, innate ability to multitask, to lead. Those things that just come as instinct to us that quite frankly men don’t possess. So I just applaud and embrace these women leaders.”

One question created a buzz around the room: Can women have it all? What does “having it all” even mean? The panel determined that having it all has different meanings for different people.

“You have to figure out what’s important to you,” said Fiala. “My all is different than your all.

Eleanor Goldfarb of Beachwood said this was the best advice she took away from the discussion.

“The whole concept of you can work, you can have the kids, you can have it all, but you also can sit back and reward yourself,” said Goldfarb. “You don’t have to keep going. You can say, I have it all. Let’s just relax and enjoy what we have.”

“The biggest advice that I heard tonight was to be true to yourself,” said Karen Saidel of Beachwood. “Always remember who you are, and stay with your gut and surround yourself with people that are positive and support you.”

Naomi Reich of University Heights said she was impacted by each leader’s story of a pivotal moment in terms of their careers.

“The best piece of advice that I took away from this is you never know what your pivotal moment is going to be,” said Reich. “I never know what instance may change the entire course of my life. So I want to live each day in my career, learning, listening to my boss, learning from her, and take away whatever I can from her in order to maybe make a difference in someone else’s life as she and my other mentors have made in mine.”

After the discussion, Saks put on a short fashion show spotlighting some work-appropriate couture that can easily transition into nighttime attire and gave the audience a preview of the Armani spring collection, which has yet to hit stores.

A portion of the proceeds was donated to Dress for Success Cleveland.