



# Keep Your Business Going - Even After You've Gone

**Presented By:**  
**Carmen Gagnon**  
Registered Representative  
MetLife®

When it comes to your business, hoping for the best won't ensure its future. Take Janet Stanton. She spent 30 years building a manufacturing company of purses, Stanton, Corporation. But during all that time, she didn't do any personal financial or estate planning. When she died in an accident, suddenly her empire faced an uncertain future.

What would happen to your business and your family should you become dis-

abled or die unexpectedly? Do you have key employees or family members who could step in and run the company? What about retirement? Have you planned for the succession passing of your company when you retire?

There are many ways to accomplish succession planning. Funding a buy-sell agreement with life insurance is one alternative. This means that your successor doesn't have to come up with the cash or borrow the money needed to buy out the company, the death proceeds take care of this concern. In addition, you may want to explore how unexpected disability could affect the running of your business and the need to implement a succession plan.

If you wish to pass your business on, you need to make plans in advance for that day with an honest evaluation and diligent reflection on the necessary components of a well-thought-out strategy.

Let me help you develop a strategy that meets your unique needs and situation. Call me for a free consulta-

tion at (636)736-3341). Planning today can avoid disaster in your tomorrows.

## MetLife®

1350 Timberlake Manor Parkway, Suite 230  
Chesterfield, MO 63017  
(636)736-3341  
cgagnon1@metlife.com

### About Carmen Gagnon:

For 10 years, Carmen worked in the not-for-profit youth outreach arena where she developed and produced a local and national campaign of live productions and concerts that encouraged teens to strive for success. She branched off into business ownership after starting a decorating company. This experience gave her a strong background in the issues and complexities business owners face daily. Now, as a financial services representative, she's blended all of her skills - listening, creating, organizing and implementing a course of action - to achieve financial success for her clients.

This article is for general information only and is not intended to provide specific advice or recommendations for any individual. You should consult your advisor, attorney or accountant.  
L0212G7CM(exp1207)ENT-LD

## Building Bridges...A Community Networking Event

“Walk a Mile in Someone Else's Shoes...”

Building Bridges Across Cultures and Communication Styles”

Presented by Linda Jacobsen, Global Vision Strategies, LLC.



**Linda Jacobsen**

Let's face it. All we have to do is look around to see that people are different. They are different from house to house, from community to community, and from country to country. Quite often these differences hold us back, both professionally and personally, and we don't even realize it. Mostly, we are not willing to "Walk a Mile In Someone Else's Shoes".

In April, you will have the unique opportunity to not only learn how to understand and embrace differing cultures and peoples, but you also will experience it first hand. Women from all over the Metro area will be coming together in this exciting event with the purpose of growing, learning, and connecting.

Linda Jacobsen, award-winning expert on the art of crossing cultures, will bring a global perspective to a workshop designed to explore differences and working with them to advantage. Whether you are working with a culturally diverse group of people, wanting to penetrate a new market, or just learn how to get along better with people whose lives are different from your own, the time you

spend in this workshop will change how you view the world, and all its rich diversity, forever.

Exploring global trends, the impact of cross-cultural competence, and just plain learning what makes other people tick is what this is all about. Be ready to share stories, and be changed forever by walking a mile in someone else's shoes.

Join us on Tuesday, April 15, 2008 at 5:00 p.m. for "Making Connections Networking". Our workshop will begin at 6:30p.m. The cost of the event is \$23 for members and \$30 for guests. Learn more and register at [www.ESPW.org](http://www.ESPW.org). Want to talk to someone personally? Contact Kelly Alcorn, St. Charles Chapter Connector Director, at [kellya@espw.org](mailto:kellya@espw.org).

## ESPW - Encouraging, Supporting, Promoting Women

### Who Are We?

ESPW is a professional women's organization with membership from all walks of life: entrepreneurs, small or large business owners, corporate employees, bankers, attorneys, practitioners, home-based business owners, and stay-at home moms.

### Our Mission

To give every woman the opportunity to explore her full professional and personal potential through the encouragement, support and promotion of each member. To unify the community of women with a strong sense of empowerment and focus.

**For more info on other upcoming events and to register:**  
**(314) 995-5094**  
**[www.ESPW.org](http://www.ESPW.org)**  
**[espw@espw.org](mailto:espw@espw.org)**