

The Gazette

The Basics

- The Gazette is a daily news organization in Cedar Rapids, Iowa
- Our newspaper dates back 136 years
- We are an independent, employee-owned company
- HER was launched in 2017 under the leadership of Kelly Buchanan (event and sales manager)

THE GOAL

In a smaller market, we saw an opportunity to be a leading voice in a topic of deep interest to both the public, and the advertisers and businesses in our area.

By launching a specific vertical: HER, focused on women in business, we gave ourselves a chance to brand ourselves as a thought leader in this important space.

*Kelly Buchanan



Where We Started (October 2017)

- We did what we knew
- Special Section Magazines (Explore, Hoopla, At Home)
 - A natural extension for our organization: HER
- A luncheon event.
 - Experienced with daily events (Wedding Expo, Festival of Trees, Thrive Senior Living etc.)







The Magazine

2 Times Per Year (Spring and Fall)

 Started as a free rack distribution throughout our market at high traffic locations

- 15,000 copies printed
- A number were withheld to handout at our inaugural event
- Initial Challenges:
 - High distribution expense
 - No subscriber revenue generated
 - Relied 100% on ad sales to be profitable



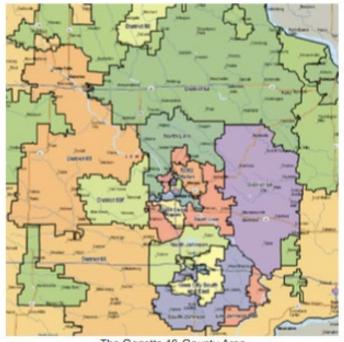


The Magazine (Pivot)

Became a premium insert in The Gazette's Sunday edition.

Positives:

- Eliminated expensive racking costs
- Immediate increase in distribution numbers
- Added value for to the Sunday product
- Included a premium upcharge on that Sunday
- Increased advertiser interest
- Magazine revenue jumped roughly 3X when we shifted distribution models.



The Gazette 16-County Area





HER Luncheon Series: Cedar Rapids & Fairfield

Attendance - Cedar Rapids 280 • Attendance - Fairfield 120





Individual ticket - \$35 per person • Table of 10 - \$350 • Table of 10 & Workshop - \$500 Sponsor Revenue: Cedar Rapids \$15,500 • Attendance Averages: 350

What Came Next?... Early 2018

- We had a successful luncheon series
 - Quick adoption from magazine advertisers to sponsor tables, and other levels.
- Magazine Distribution
 - Stable distribution model, and active base of advertisers.
- 50% participated in both

Next Hurdle

Build out our frequency of touches with the expanding audience base.







HER Women of Achievement: Call for Nominations

- December 16-February 16
- 88 nominations received
- Recognizing 15 Women
- Each winner had a profile written about them that was distributed each month in the business section of The Gazette.



Business fashion & style show Hosted by The Gazette It's easy to stay fashionable yet professional, in the business world. Dress for success at the 1st Annual HER Style

event. Featuring a luncheon, unique style show and event boutique shopping.

TICKETS STARTING AT \$35

RESERVE YOUR SEATS TODAY!

Purchase tickets online at: herstyle eventbrite.com

Presented by:

F&M BANK

HER Style and HER Voice

Intimate gathering in a country club setting for 150.



Speaker and networking series for University of Iowa business students.





HER@WORK Newsletter

- Every event added to an ever-growing list of emails.
- Converted this list into a monthly touch-point with all HER participants called the HER@WORK newsletter.
- Display sponsorship ads were sold to existing sponsors as a premium to be included in the newsletter.
- Sold on a flat rate. Not relying on opens or list size.
- Do you want to be a part of the digital touch point of HER? Of course you do.
- A mixture of article content, event announcement, recognitions, and promotion of upcoming HER events or magazines.



Averaging 30 – 40% Open Rate



What's Next?

- Expanding the reach of HER.
 - Partnerships with markets to the south of Iowa (Fairfield, Mt. Pleasant, Washington)
 - Starting small with a luncheon.
- Additional media partnership with NRG Media in Waterloo, Iowa.
 - They provide access to their advertiser base.
 - They advertise on their media to the Waterloo market.
 - We sell and run the event and revenue share.



