

★ Dames Bond opening affiliate number 003

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Dames Bond LLC is expanding outside Ohio, physically and online.

The women's networking group is setting up an affiliate in Nashville, Tenn., headed by former Columbus marketing executive [Phyllis Nichols](#) and co-director [Celeste Raines](#). It's expected to be up and running in January.

"(Nichols) left Columbus with a good deal of knowledge about Dames Bond, how we operate, our events, what we offer, etc.," [Mary Relotto](#), who founded the organization in 2006, wrote in an email. "She called a few months ago and asked if we were ready to expand because Nashville needed an organization like Dames Bond for the women there."

Dames Bond also opened an affiliate in June in northwest Ohio led by [Joy Skarupa](#), who owns a bookkeeping business in Sandusky called RoseLine LLC.

To reach more cities, the organization has set up a new website, [DamesBondNationwide.com](#), where women without access to a chapter can connect and use the organization's networking and business-to-business marketing services.

It's also setting up a nonprofit, dubbed [BondAid](#), to help women get access to education, resources and funding for starting and running small businesses. The first recipient will be another nonprofit, Columbus' [New Directions Career Center](#), which helps people get training and advice for finding work.

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