

Get organized to streamline homes and businesses

by **Katie Holland**
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When clients look around their homes and offices and see nothing but clutter, Donna Lindley sees possibilities. As a professional organizer—yes, there really is such a thing—and owner of Organize Your World, Lindley specializes in streamlining any room or work area to reduce stress in the lives of her customers.

“As a parent of two small kids, I’ve seen the benefits of being organized,” Lindley said. “You see the impact it can have on people’s personal lives so they can have less stress and enjoy life.”

Lindley and her associate, Liz Timmerman, will organize just about anything, but some of the most popular spaces she tackles are basements, garages and home offices. She also works on kitchens, closets and

laundry rooms.

Since Lindley worked for a consulting company before starting Organize Your World, she has seen the benefits of organizing businesses as well. She will arrange supply rooms and files so that everything is stored logically and efficiently and offers workshops to educate employees on how to best organize their workspaces and manage their time.

Lindley’s process for working with clients is—you guessed it—well organized. She first talks through priorities with the client to decide where they need help most. Analysis of the root problem helps her to design



Donna Lindley, owner of Organize Your World

the best solution.

“We really look at their situation and try to personalize it to them,” she said. “You can’t have a cookie-cutter solution.”

Once the initial consultation has taken place, it is up to the customer how

much they would like Lindley to be involved. She charges by the hour, and will offer as much or as little support as her clients want from preliminary consultation to developing a plan of action to hands-on implementation of that plan.

One thing Lindley will not do is go in and organize someone’s belongings

without their input.

“They need to be an integral part of the decision-making process,” Lindley said.

Part of the streamlining process is always getting rid of things that clients no longer need or want in their home or

business. Lindley will help sort out what will stay and what will go. She also helps find worthy places to donate the items that are weeded out like the Salvation Army.

After that, the next steps depend on the specific needs of the customers. Lindley wants to make sure that the space is functional for the lifestyle of her clients.

Some of Lindley’s most frequently used tools are plastic storage bins. Brightly colored and stackable, they come in all shapes and sizes and can be labeled easily to store all kinds of items. She also finds that people often have plenty of storage containers that they are not putting to use. Lindley always uses what is available first and works to fit in the customer’s budget.

Once her work is finished, Lindley hopes that her customers will be able to keep themselves organized, so she

does her best to educate clients on organization techniques.

Another service offered by Organize Your World is home staging—the process of preparing a home to be sold. Since many houses can appear cluttered to potential buyers, Lindley offers an unbiased opinion and tips on making a home look more spacious and open.

“I’m seeing their home for the first time just as a perspective buyer would,” Lindley said. “First impressions are huge.”

According to Lindley, there are many quick fixes that can change a potential buyer’s first impression. Most often, these changes include moving furniture around and removing items that make a room feel cluttered.

For people who need a little outside input to get their home or business organized, Organize Your World provides a completely confidential, non-judgmental assessment and practical solutions to get clients out of their clutter and back to the things they really want to be doing.

For more information, call (248) 726-7096 or visit www.organizeyourworld.net.