

Scholarship unlocks sisterhood support through Behind Closed Doors for SA-based law firm Kelly & Co's EA Amanda Powers

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Adelaide Airport executive GM Sue Doyle, Kelly & Co executive assistant Amanda Powers and Behind Closed Doors founder Donny Walford, Picture: Nick Clayton

LEGAL firm Kelly & Co's inaugural executive assistant Amanda Powers has begun her personal journey to further her career with a key win.

She trumped 27 candidates yesterday to win the first national Executive Assistant Scholarship offered by networking group Behind Closed Doors in partnership with HR organisation Talent2.

The scholarship will give Ms Powers access to 10 networking sessions with BCD's EA group.

"I want to open up to what is possible in my current role and networking in a challenging, encouraging and confidential environment is an exciting step," she said.

Ms Powers will also have access to BCD mentors, including Adelaide Airport executive general manager Sue Doyle, who started her 18-year career with collapsed airline Ansett Australia as a 16-year-old secretary.

She joined Adelaide Airport after the collapse of Ansett.

"I went from being an EA to general manager within a different work environment. There was no equal pay or parental leave or flexibility . . . it's all about setting goals and high standards and fierce loyalty," she said.

"Executive assistants have the potential to be wonderful ambassadors for their company."

Adelaide-based Behind Closed Doors is an invitation-only networking group exclusively for executive women and business owners to discuss business and support each other professionally.

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