

## Interior Design Blog

### [Dress for Success renovation with less](#)

March 17, 2010



Dress for Success, a worldwide non-profit organization that provides interview suits and career development to low-income women in more than 75 cities, decided to expand its Charlotte, North Carolina operation to a 5,000sqf warehouse. Though as you can imagine, a warehouse environment doesn't exactly inspire or motivate putting one's best foot forward--even with a new pair of heels. Cynthia Urbanik of interior design company [CU Interiors](#) has transformed the space into a "boutique and career transformation centre." Working pro-bono, and on a very tight budget, Urbanik reached out to friends, colleagues and community members to solicit for donated time, resources and materials.



With free or heavily discounted carpet, drapery, dressing room curtains, signage, and upholstering services--not to mention a bit of scavenging for items like recycled breakroom cabinets from an adjacent vacant suite--this wasn't an average commission.

"My design for the boutique was continuously evolving based on donations," says Urbanik. "However people really seemed to understand that we were looking for items that were special and unique. The women at this boutique deserve to walk through the door and feel a sense of dignity and pride. I believe we accomplished that."



Posted by Nicole Robinson on March 17, 2010 10:34 AM

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#### Comments

I really enjoyed reading this article. It is amazing what collaboration and teamwork can do. I love the use of color and textures in this space!

Posted by Emily on March 17, 2010 7:56 PM