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## **2023 Women in Construction: Rachel Lindstrom, Lee Kennedy Co.**

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Rachel Lindstrom  
Project Manager

Lee Kennedy Co.

What was your greatest professional achievement or most notable project in the last 12 months? I had the privilege of managing a project for the Gavin Foundation this past year. The project consisted of renovating a vacant, former convent into the Foundation's first treatment facility exclusively for women. Being part of this project felt particularly special to me; knowing that when we walked away women in need would have a newly restored space to recover and heal. Through the project's unique challenges, I was rewarded with many learning experiences that I will carry through my career. All team members and stakeholders were deeply invested in this project, which was truly heartwarming to witness. In the final stages of construction, the Women's Group of Lee Kennedy organized a donation drive to provide essential items for the women to have and use during their stays at Eileen's House. The amount of participation from the entire LKCo family was amazing! I was proud to present the owner with a massive collection of donated items as the finishing touch to a successful project.

What tips or advice would you offer to other women who are considering entering the construction industry? To women interested in joining the construction industry I would say there's nothing you can't do if you genuinely want to do it. Do not exclude yourself. It is understandable to be intimidated by a new environment, especially one that you feel could lack representation. Don't let that stop you. If you aren't sure where to get started, I recommend finding a mentor. Having a person that you trust as a resource to guide and support you through the early stages of your career is immensely valuable. As you become more familiar with the industry you will be inspired by just how many women have achieved successful and fulfilling careers by following through on their goals.

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