



National Resource List **Business Advice for** **Marginalized Entrepreneurs** **and/or Survivor Leaders**

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Background

This National Resource List contains a list of professional development programs and economic empowerment services available to leaders who identify as members of marginalized communities and/or survivors of human trafficking and who are seeking to create or sustain a business.

At this time, this list only includes organizations serving leaders across the United States. There are many more organizations serving individuals within their own regions or communities that are not included in this list.

This list is in no way intended to be exhaustive of the services available. As such, this list will be updated as Shobana Powell Consulting learns about new or existing resources in the community.

Although these organizations may provide other services, this list is intended to offer a high-level overview of programs specifically designed for those who are seeking to create or sustain nonprofits, independent consulting, and/or other small businesses.

Disclaimer

This Resource List includes information about each organization including their program overview, cost, survivor recommendation*, types of businesses served, target clients, links to apply, and additional information.

All information listed is available on each respective organization's website, except the survivor recommendations*.

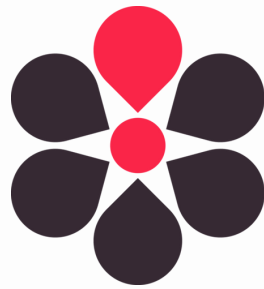
*Survivor Recommendations: The survivor recommendations provided for each organization indicate feedback Shobana Powell Consulting has received from survivors across the United States about these services.

The various survivor recommendation ratings include "yes", "pending review", and "not yet". They indicate that at this time, Shobana Powell Consulting either knows a survivor who has participated in these services and recommends them ("yes"), knows a survivor who is enrolling in services and can provide feedback ("pending review"), or does not yet know a survivor who has participated in these services ("not yet"). We also note if an organization is survivor-led, meaning a Survivor Leader is in the Executive Director/CEO role.

Please note that these recommendations do not reflect the opinions of all survivors. We acknowledge that survivors are individuals who will have differing experiences, especially based on how organizations serve their specific cultural and systemic needs.

Section I: **Programs for All Marginalized Entrepreneurs**

1



Start Small Think Big

Overview

Free legal, marketing and financial assistance to small business owners in marginalized communities

Cost

Free

Survivor Recommended

Pending Review

Businesses Served

For-profit small businesses

Target Clients

Small business owners in marginalized communities

[Link to Apply](#)

Additional Information

Clients must be small business owners from marginalized communities, including:

- Communities of color, women, LGBTQIA+ communities, immigrant communities, veterans, people with disabilities, formerly incarcerated individuals, people with low incomes (under 750% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines), household has \$100K or less in assets

Clients must be currently operating and selling good/services and have:

- At least \$500 of recurring sales within past 3 months
- No more than \$1 million in annual business revenue



FOR THE LIFE OF YOUR BUSINESS

Overview

Free or low cost workshops, mentors, and advisors for small business owners and entrepreneurs nationally

Cost

Free or low cost

Survivor Recommended

Yes (Survivor of DV)

Businesses Served

Nonprofit and for profit

Target Clients

All entrepreneurs

[Link to Apply](#)

Additional Information

- Available to for-profit and nonprofit endeavors
- Mentors and advisors are volunteers and business experts
- Do not specifically specialize in serving gender-based violence survivors or marginalized communities
- Online resources and workshops available to businesses in any location
- Various SCORE chapters around the United States



Daniel F. Pepitone

ATTORNEY

Overview

Legal consultation for the self-employed & small businesses with contracts, copyright and trademark issues, disability benefits & more

Cost

Low cost

Survivor Recommended

Pending Review

Businesses Served

Nonprofit and for profit

Target Clients

Persons with disabilities

[Link to Apply](#)

Additional Information

- Specializes in disability and public benefits for marginalized entrepreneurs in NYC
- History of working with LGBTQ+ and HIV+ folks
- Mindful towards privilege, power dynamics, systems, and the needs of marginalized communities
- Works with a range of types of businesses including: nonprofits, LLCs, S and C corporations, sole proprietorships (i.e. self-employed, independent contractors)

Section 2:

Programs for Survivors of Trafficking & Commercial Sexual Exploitation



Overview: You Are More Than, Inc.

Free classes on financial wellness & entrepreneurship & cash grants for survivor-led small businesses & education for survivors of trafficking & commercial sexual exploitation (CSE)

Cost

Free

Survivor Recommended

Yes
(Survivor-Led)

Businesses Served

Any survivor-led work

Target Clients

LGBTQ+ / BIPOC survivors of trafficking & CSE

[Link to Apply](#)

Additional Information

- Cash grants for survivor-led businesses and education are flexible and low barrier
- Services only available to survivors of trafficking/CSE
- Survivor-led organization tailored to addressing the systemic barriers & cultural needs of BIPOC & LGBTQ+ survivors of trafficking
- Services are available to survivors anywhere in the United States
- Multiple emotional wellness programs available in addition to financial & educational wellness listed here



ELEVATE ACADEMY

ESTABLISHED 2014

Overview

Free online school for professional development for survivors of human trafficking & commercial sexual exploitation (CSE), some individual workshops may be available to the public for a registration fee

Cost

Free

Survivor Recommended

Yes
(Survivor-Led)

Businesses Served

Any survivor-led work

Target Clients

Survivors of exploitation

[Link to Apply](#)

Additional Information

- Survivor-led organization
- Eligibility:
 - School is open to survivors of exploitation only
 - Individual workshops may become available to the public (see website)
- Secure online learning courses (i.e. Finding Your Specialty, So You Want to Be a Speaker?, Becoming a Published Author, Crash Course in Nonprofits & Business Management)
- Life & professional development coaching
- Online cohort groups with other survivors of exploitation



If you know of any additional resources that would be appropriate for future editions of this National Resource List, please email us at

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