# Webinar Series: Don't Knock the Hustle: Investing in Survivor Entrepreneurship



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#### Thank You to The Allstate Foundation

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## Community conversations facilitated the creation of DKTH

- Marginalized women felt their creativity was being sidelined.
- Survivors were in the "revolving door" of employment.





## DKTH invests in the often overlooked everyday entrepreneurship of survivors

 The wealthy are often praised for risk-taking, but the poor are often chastised for doing the same thing.





## Types of Entrepreneurship

- Childcare/Eldercare
- Beauty and Wellness
- Cooking/Restaurants
- Web Design
- The Arts





#### **Supportive Statistics**

- Average Income = \$15.79/hour
- Black women are 42% of new business owners, 3x their population size
- Small businesses keep 1/3 more money in the community





## The Importance of Match Savings

- Invests in their success
- We have a \$100K match fund provided by Allstate and Google.





#### Implementing Match Savings

- We intentionally do not over-define entrepreneurship.
- Easy two-step process for enrolment.
- Do not require excessive personal information.
  - SSN
  - Proof of Abuse





#### Administering a Match Program

- Survivors show savings over their named period of time.
- Reimburse or directly purchase items for business.
- Continue to promote businesses of survivors





## Intentional Outreach of Match Program

- Coalition Members
- Community Leaders
- Informal Word-of-Mouth
- Related Organizations
  - Formerly Incarcerated
  - Immigrant/Refugee





#### Lessons

- Don't Micromanage Their Bank Accounts
- Important to be flexible with forms of matching
- Working closely with financial and administrative coordinators
- Working with Grantors to trust survivors





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