

Supporting Self-Employment for Entrepreneurs with Disabilities: Family Perspectives



**National Community of
Practice (CoP)
Webinar Series**

February 13, 2024

**LEWIN GROUP**

**TASH**

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TASH under the Administration for Community Living
(ACL), Administration on Disabilities (AoD)
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Thank You for Joining us for Today's National Community of Practice (CoP) Webinar

Our program will begin
promptly at 3:00 PM ET.

Until then, please sit back and
enjoy the music!

Maximizing Your Webinar Participation: Zoom Tips

- **Audio Settings:** You can change your [audio settings](#). You can also click the upward arrow (^) next to the microphone icon at the lower left of the Zoom window to change your speaker.
- **Accessibility:** Captioning and ASL interpretation are available during today's event.
- **Questions:** If you have a question for today's presenters, please type it in the Q&A box at any time during the presentation. Open the Q&A window, type in your question, and then press "send." We will respond to questions as time allows through the Q&A pod or live, during the Q&A portion of this event.

Agenda

- Welcome
- Speaker Introductions
- Introduction to Self-Employment and Rhode Island's Self-Employment Overview
- Panel Presentation: Family Member Perspectives
- Question & Answer (Q&A) Session
- Closing

Speaker Introductions



Sue Babin

Special Projects Coordinator
Rhode Island Developmental
Disabilities Council (RIDDC)



Iraida Williams

Mother of Alton Stuckey
(Alton Stuckey owns Alton
Stuckey Art, Portraits, and More)



Sue Baron

Mother of Bryan Baron
(Bryan Baron owns
Double-B Photography)



Karen Rasnick

Mother of Rachel Rasnick
(Rachel Rasnick owns
Rachel Rasnick Art)



Supporting Self-Employment for Entrepreneurs with Disabilities: Family Perspectives

Rhode Island's Small Business Incubator Initiative



RI's Self-Employment (SE) Overview

- Working in traditional jobs may not be the best option for everyone
- Some people apply for jobs but do not get the position or even an interview sometimes, which is very discouraging for them
- Sometimes barriers such as transportation prevent people from obtaining jobs they want
- Self-employment can match a person's interests, skills & dreams with opportunities to launch/grow their own small business
- Person makes the choice to work at something really meaningful to them and spend time working on something that is their passion
- Self-employment demonstrates the value/contributions people can make to improve their financial futures and also their local economy

Why?

Why
Not?

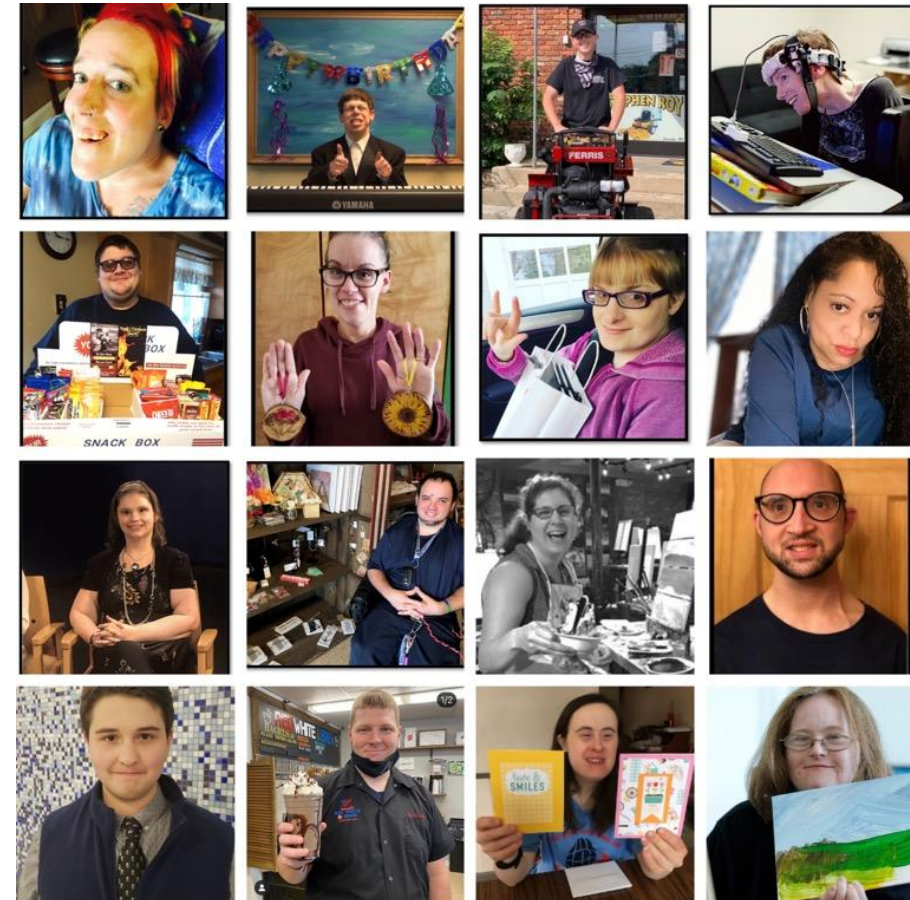
Benefits of Self-Employment

- People work in a job they really LOVE and control themselves,
- Opportunities to network, meet people, interact with customers and improve social skills,
- YOU set your own business hours vs. time set by someone else,
- YOU decide on your place of employment...work where you want,
- YOU decide on how much you want your business to grow and what support you need, and
- You gain an increased self-esteem... people are really proud to be the “BOSS” and a small business owner.



Entrepreneurial Education

- Entrepreneurial Education teaches each person to learn important life skills whether they start their own business or not:
 - Working with a team
 - Speaking in public
 - Problem solving
 - Thinking creatively
 - Demonstrating higher self-esteem and more confidence
 - Learning financial literacy
 - Gaining more control over your life and future



Seven Key Components



Panel Presentation

Family Member Perspectives

- Description of the Businesses
- WHY Self-Employment?
- Supports
- Positive Changes from Business Ownership
- Advice for Families/Staff



Bryan Baron, Photographer



Let's Meet Bryan Baron,
Business Owner,
"Double B Photography"

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/524391751417627/>

Instagram: @doublebphotography_ri



Bryan's Business Products



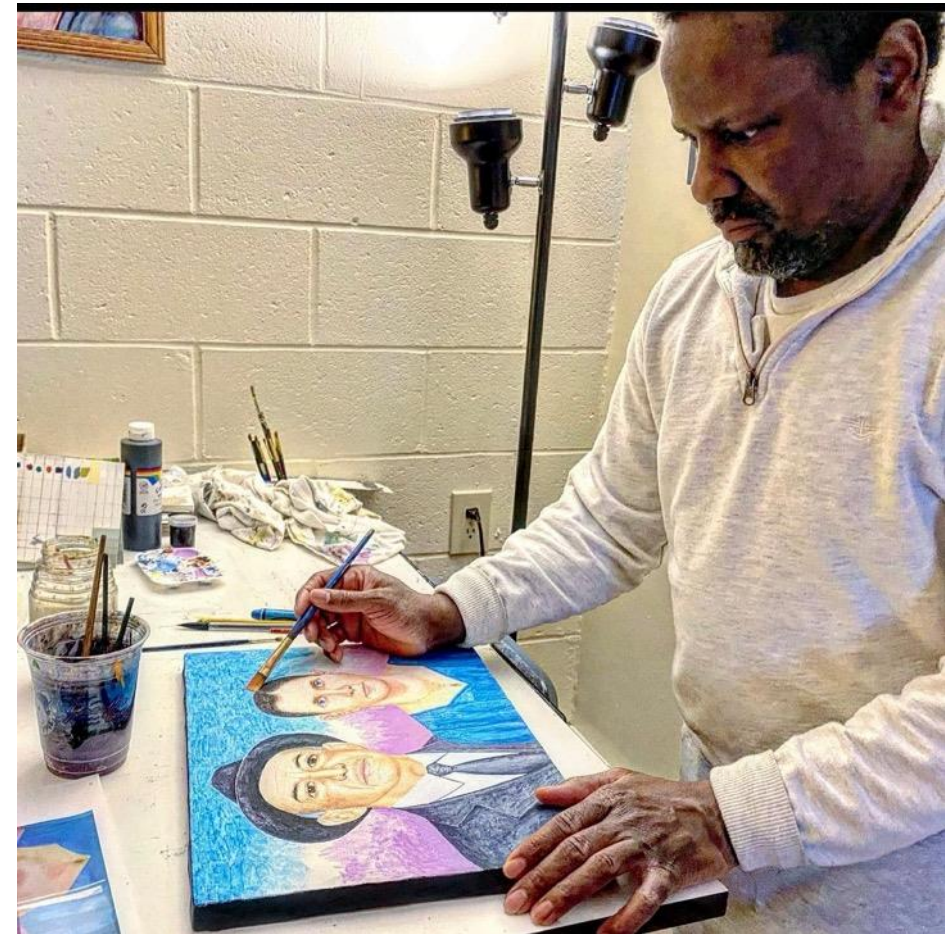
Alton Stuckey, Artist

Let's Meet Alton Stuckey

Business Owner,

“Alton Stuckey Portraits and More”

<https://www.instagram.com/altonstuckeyart/>



Alton's Portraits



Newport Art Exhibit, January-March 2024

Alton Stuckey: Jazz Portraits



- Founded in 1912, the Newport Art Museum is one of the oldest continuously operating and highly regarded art museums and schools of its kind in the country.
- “Alton Stuckey is a self-taught, Providence-based artist who specializes in portraits. His positive and uplifting works celebrate the diversity of his community, and reflect his concern for social issues. After his invitation to exhibit in Newport in a Museum School Mini Exhibition, Stuckey chose to create an all-new series of portraits of Black musicians who have performed at the Newport Jazz Festival.”

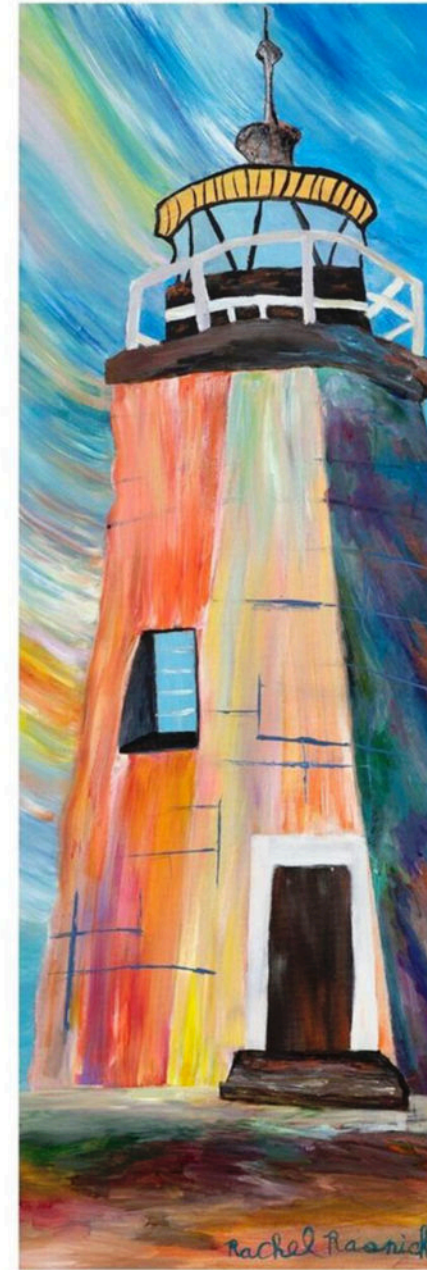
Rachel Rasnick, Artist



**Let's Meet Rachel Rasnick
Business Owner,
"Rachel Rasnick Art"**
<https://www.rachelrasnick.com>



Rachel's Art



Family Support & Advice



Q&A Session

- Let's hear from you!
- Please type a question in the Q&A pod and we will do our best to answer.



Rhode Island Contact Information

Sue Babin

Special Projects Coordinator

RI Developmental Disabilities Council (RIDDC)

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401-523-2300



DETAC Self-Employment Resources

- [Self-Employment: The Spirit Of Individual Enterprise, Part I](#)
- [Self-Employment: The Spirit Of Individual Enterprise, Part II](#)
- [Creating A Program To Foster Self-Employment](#)
- [DETAC Self-Employment Brief](#)

Upcoming Webinar

Strategies to Support People with Developmental Disabilities and Brain Injury to Achieve Employment Goals Through Small Business Ownership

Tuesday, March 12th, 2024

[Register Here](#)

DETAC Offers Free Technical Assistance!

- Submit your request to the: [On-demand TA request page](#)
- Reach out by emailing: AoDEmploymentTA@gmail.com



Reach out!

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thanks for
stopping by!