



Abel, 22

Abel is an Ethiopian immigrant. He is forthcoming with surface issues but has walls up with deeper things. He has a hard time admitting he needs help and does not trust others easily. He is ambitious and focused. Though he has setbacks, he is determined to reach his goals.

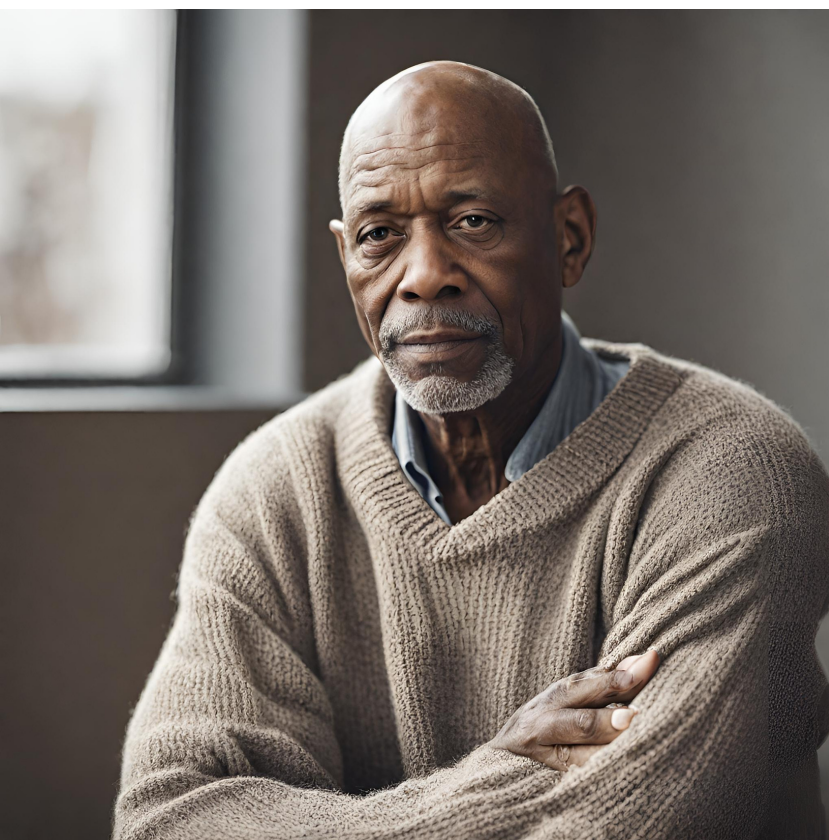
- ☐ From Ethiopia
- ☐ Plays and loves soccer
- ☐ Fluent in Amharic and English
- ☐ Currently works 2 jobs
- ☐ Lives with Uncle and Aunt; siblings are coming next year
- ☐ Has very narrow view of work; does not see arts as viable
- ☐ Has permanent resident status
- ☐ Responsible and accountable
- ☐ Had to drop out of college because of money. Was pursuing BS in Biology
- ☐ Has had trouble integrating socially since coming to USA
- ☐ Needs to pivot to make money; interested in IT
- ☐ Needs help managing and saving money



Brianna, 19

Brianna was brought to the AJC by her grandmother and she is annoyed by this. She does have goals, but does not share readily because of others' assumptions about her. Brianna had an IEP in high school but performed well. She wants to eventually be a PA, but wants to start as a CNA.

- ☐ Grew up in Hyattsville
- ☐ Raised by parents and grandmother
- ☐ Graduated high school last year and was active on the dance team
- ☐ Wants to be a CNA but needs help with the process
- ☐ Currently works at Chipotle
- ☐ Misses dance and most teammates went to college
- ☐ Volunteers with dance ministry at church
- ☐ Was in a volatile relationship with ex
- ☐ Recreational marijuana user
- ☐ Has severe seafood allergy that has put her in hospital
- ☐ Family lives on Dad's income - Mom is disabled. Grandma no longer works
- ☐ Has \$5000 in savings and is saving for license and car



Charles, 63

Charles is reluctantly returning to work after retiring. He loves what he does but is tired of working. His wife recently passed from cancer and his oldest son was severely injured in an accident. He has taken in his son and granddaughter. He needs to work to support them.

- ☐ Retired car salesman
- ☐ Is experiencing heavy grief and can appear angry
- ☐ Energetic and assertive; normally very social
- ☐ Stopped attending church he and his wife belonged to
- ☐ Motorcycle enthusiast; belongs to a club
- ☐ Recently switched to vegetarian diet to combat health issues
- ☐ Very reluctant to return to work
- ☐ Unsure of work interests
- ☐ Is a capable handyman
- ☐ Has large family but only a few live near him; most are 4+ hours away
- ☐ Relatively tech savvy. Has set up all devices in his home.
- ☐ Not keen on returning to school or training



Diego, 30

Diego is a dedicated husband father of three under four years old. He has an HVAC certification and has a job. Wants to go into leadership and eventually become a contractor. Needs to improve written communication skills and Microsoft Excel skills.

- ☐ Moved here from PA for work
- ☐ Conversational Spanish; does not write in Spanish
- ☐ Was average high school student and went straight to trade school after HS
- ☐ Wife works part-time and is very supportive
- ☐ Wife's mother helps with childcare
- ☐ Has two cars, but one will need to be replaced very soon
- ☐ Wants to start business with best friend
- ☐ Currently works 2 jobs
- ☐ Daughters are 4, 2 and 5 months
- ☐ Currently renting and repairing credit in preparation for home ownership
- ☐ Has an intense fear of heights
- ☐ Is on medication for generalized anxiety disorder



Emeka, 42

Emeka is a first generation Nigeria American. He was born here, but his parents emigrated here. His parents wanted him to be a doctor or engineer, but Emeka struggled academically. He opted instead for the arts. He's had a locally successful comedy career, but needs more steady income.

- ☐ Nigerian American
- ☐ Toured local comedy circuit for 15 years
- ☐ Has held various jobs in warehousing but wants to be in transportation
- ☐ Very social, confident and friendly
- ☐ Has never had academic success and is nervous about any school
- ☐ Is divorced and has one child, 18
- ☐ Has live-in girlfriend of 2 years, Faith
- ☐ Currently works 2 jobs
- ☐ Income is inconsistent, causing tension with Faith
- ☐ Often misses holidays, birthdays, etc. due to comedy causing conflict w/ parents
- ☐ Has not kept one job longer than 2 years since high school
- ☐ Works out consistently and is an avid weightlifter



Faith, 39

Faith is an American of Nigerian descent. Her family has been in the US for several generations. She is ambitious, intelligent and driven. She was recently laid off due to budget cuts and is taking this as an opportunity to shift into work she's really passionate about. She needs help with the transition.

- ☐ Has live-in boyfriend, Emeka
- ☐ Speaks English and French
- ☐ Has MS in Mechanical Engineering and worked for engineering firm
- ☐ Laid off from firm and is questioning career path
- ☐ Has \$50K in savings and owns home
- ☐ Passionate about fashion & accessory design, specifically purses
- ☐ Parents do not support her passion
- ☐ Travels internationally twice per year
- ☐ Twin sister has lupus and two children; Faith provides financial support
- ☐ Has two patents pending
- ☐ Volunteers at local animal rescue and fosters dogs
- ☐ Loves to run



Gia, 27

Gia is originally from South Carolina and moved to the DMV for college at Howard University. They stayed after graduation and began working in the federal government. They have worked for the Department of State for 4 years in Human Resources while pursuing a Master's in HR.

- ☐ Is the youngest of 6
- ☐ First and only college graduate in the family
- ☐ Sends money back to their mom in South Carolina
- ☐ Father is deceased and was a military vet; passed of heart disease
- ☐ Diagnosed with heart condition; has a medical service dog that goes everywhere with them
- ☐ Wants to get SHRM cert
- ☐ Stayed in DC because of strong LGBTQ community
- ☐ Active socially and volunteers in community
- ☐ Identifies as non-binary; uses they/them; has experienced workplace discrimination
- ☐ Lives in large rented home with 3 roommates
- ☐ No longer plays sports because of diagnosis
- ☐ Sees mental health therapist to deal with diagnosis-related depression



Helen, 57

Helen has no other reason for seeking employment services other than the fact that she is bored. She is finally an empty nester and was a stay-at home mom for over 30 years. Her husband spends his time fishing and volunteering. Now that her home is empty, she wants something to do.

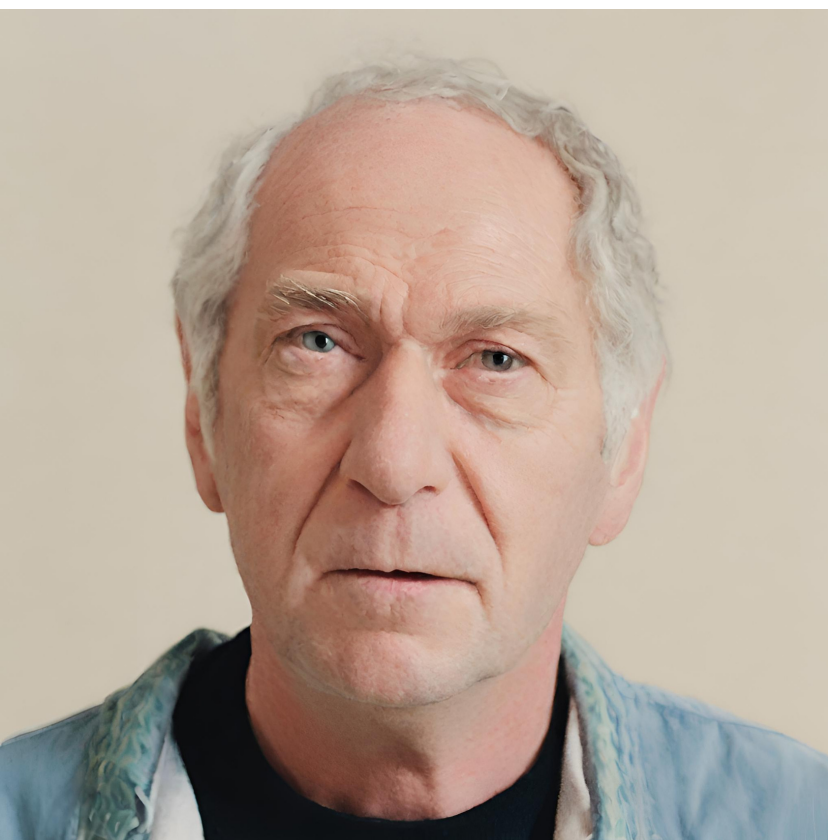
- ☐ Homemaker and master baker
- ☐ Has four children: 33, 30, 28 and 23
- ☐ Is grandmother of 4 year old twins whom she kept until pre-school
- ☐ Youngest child just moved out and twins started school
- ☐ She's decided to start a career. Family is mildly supportive
- ☐ Family thinks this is a mid-life crisis and wants her to relax.
- ☐ Wants to work in social work
- ☐ Has a BS in Social Work that she never used
- ☐ Former president of kids' school's PTSA for 12 years
- ☐ Helped oldest child through painkiller addiction and recovery
- ☐ Each of her children has been diagnosed with either learning disability or medical condition
- ☐ Managed appointments, surgeries, medications, etc



Isabel, 46

Isabel recently relocated to the United States from Chile. Her credentials are not recognized here. At home, she is a doctor. Here, she has several courses and exams to pass in order to practice. Isabel came to live with her sister, who is ill. She is currently working at her brother-in-law's restaurant as a server.

- ☐ From Chile
- ☐ Fluent in Spanish; conversational in English
- ☐ Lives with sister, brother-in-law and their 3 children: 17, 14, 11
- ☐ Sister was diagnosed with terminal cancer and given 3 years
- ☐ Parents and younger sister still live in Chile; they are saving to come visit
- ☐ Her sister and brother-in-law need help with the restaurant and 3 kids
- ☐ Has \$13K of credit card debt
- ☐ Sister has over \$300K in medical debt and could lose house and restaurant
- ☐ Has been hospitalized for stress related illness
- ☐ Is perfecting her English to score better on exams
- ☐ Wants to practice medicine in the US and serve immigrant communities
- ☐ Serves tables and sings in restaurant for tips



Jacob, 71

Jacob is a life-long learner who just isn't ready to retire. He has been in tech for many years but wants to move to a role that is less demanding and competitive. Jacob is known in his neighborhood as the "grouchy old man," because he isn't the warmest person. He also hates when kids play on his lawn.

- ☐ Literature enthusiast
- ☐ Participates in local Shakespeare theater and war reenactments
- ☐ Is a docent at Mt. Vernon and other local, historical sites.
- ☐ Has no living relatives and considers reenactment buddies his family
- ☐ Worked for IBM for 40 years and refuses to retire
- ☐ Has been asked to retire and is being forcibly reassigned; wants to regain agency
- ☐ Feels pushed out and disregarded
- ☐ Comes across as surly and negative towards young people
- ☐ Invested very wisely and is moderately wealthy; does not need to work
- ☐ Member of Kennedy Center and supporter of the Arts
- ☐ Member of National Zoo and supporter of animals
- ☐ Swims daily and golfs on Sundays



Kerry, 47

Kerry has recently relocated from another state under witness protection. She is fleeing an abusive relationship. She lives under a new identity and has no contact with her former life. She was referred to the AJC by a case worker. She has never gone to college but has worked in retail management in the past.

- ☐ Been in the DMV for two months
- ☐ Survivor of Domestic Abuse and in recovery
- ☐ Witnessed multiple violent crimes in federal case and was relocated for her own protection
- ☐ Is completely starting over and has little to nothing
- ☐ Never allowed to drive; needs to go to driving school; has no car
- ☐ Other than local support groups, has no support family or friends in this area
- ☐ Is not connected to medical care yet
- ☐ In the past 20 years, has not held a job
- ☐ Worked in retail management since high school before meeting ex
- ☐ Determined to build a new life for herself
- ☐ Put a child up for adoption 20 years ago and wants to find and reconnect
- ☐ Is currently receiving funding for basic expenses from witness protection



Leena, 29

Leena enrolled in the United States army directly out of high school. She was deployed on two 12-month tours of duty overseas during her service. Leena experienced a physical injury and severe trauma while service and was medically discharged. She is not handling her separation well as she envisioned life-long service.

- ☐ Did two tours in Iraq
- ☐ After returning from 2nd tour, was medically discharged
- ☐ Sustained 50% vision loss in right eye and 60% hearing loss in right ear
- ☐ Actively involved in church and has strong faith
- ☐ Diagnosed with PTSD, panic disorder, generalized anxiety disorder
- ☐ Recently engaged. Fiance is still enlisted and currently deployed
- ☐ Adjusting to transition and trying to get benefits
- ☐ Want to use VA benefits to get degree in Theology
- ☐ Needs work now that will keep her busy and not trigger her
- ☐ Is a skilled martial artist and boxer
- ☐ Currently in home-buying process. Wants to choose home before fiance returns
- ☐ Has two dogs: two German Shepherds named



Mahdi, 23

Mahdi's father gave him an ultimatum. He had one more year to pursue his music career and then, he had to get a full-time job. The year ended two weeks ago. Mahdi had moderate local success as a rapper and desperately wants to continue, but now must either move out or get a job.

- ☐ Rapper named MicDrop
- ☐ Puts all income back into music career. Has about \$1K in savings; spends on career
- ☐ Put a fully furnished studio in father's basement with earnings from performing
- ☐ Produces for other local artists
- ☐ Is a much better singer and producer than rapper, but insists on rapping
- ☐ Has great respect for his dad and wants to make him proud
- ☐ His father wants him to go into sales or finance like him
- ☐ Was in an entrepreneurship program in high school
- ☐ When not performing or making music, is at the gym getting "swole"
- ☐ Has built strong relationships with local radio personnel and staff
- ☐ Has positive relationships with several local bar & club owners
- ☐ Is considering DJing as well



Nasir, 20

Nasir is a social sciences student at Prince George's Community College with aspirations of transferring to George Washington University as a political science major. Nasir is very stoic, serious and focused. He was raised by parents who are both very conscious, Afro-centric, and political. They are both civil rights attorneys.

- ☐ Was named after the rapper, Nas.
- ☐ Parents are both from Brooklyn, NY, where he lived until age 10.
- ☐ Heavily influenced by parents' politics and ideologies
- ☐ Is eldest of three and chose community college to stay close to family
- ☐ Passionate about economic empowerment
- ☐ Diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder Level 1 but rarely discloses
- ☐ Has tendency to hyper focus on topics of interest
- ☐ Loves anime: Naruto, Dragonball Z and My Hero Academia
- ☐ Confident and articulate but socially hesitant; still very popular
- ☐ Family is wealthy
- ☐ Has license and drives; has own car
- ☐ Identifies as asexual; finds dating "pointless"; his mother still hopes he'll find "a nice girl"



Ondre, 29

Ondre is an energetic, funny, outgoing man who happens to have a physical disability. Ondre was in a tragic car accident at age 12 resulting in spinal cord injury. He was out of school for one year and had to endure multiple surgeries and several months-long hospital stays.

- ☐ Injured in car accident at 12
- ☐ Is currently renting and living alone
- ☐ Preparing to propose to girlfriend of 6 years. Bought the ring already.
- ☐ Wants to propose on vacation in Greece
- ☐ Wants part-time job to save additional money for wedding, home, honeymoon, etc.
- ☐ Currently works in IT and wants additional security certifications
- ☐ Avid bowler
- ☐ Dreams of owning fully accessible home
- ☐ Only conflict with girlfriend - she wants children and he is still unsure
- ☐ Persevered past injury and setbacks to earn bachelors and master's degrees
- ☐ Has seen every episode of Game of Thrones twice
- ☐ Has "joint custody" agreement with sister to keep his nephew one weekend a month



Pamela, 58

Pamela has regrets in life. She regrets not asking Blair Underwood on a date when she had the chance. She regrets never seeing Luther Vandross in concert and she regrets not moving to Costa Rica to live in a spiritual commune. She is not going to have anymore regrets. So, she quit her job and is starting over!

- ☐ Has worked in DC Government for 28 years
- ☐ Retired early job to pursue passion for Hospitality
- ☐ Her mother recently passed away and left her her very large home
- ☐ Pamela wants to create a Bed and Breakfast/ Healing Retreat space
- ☐ Wants to gain hospitality experience working in hotels
- ☐ Does not cook well, but is extremely outgoing and warm
- ☐ Owns home and will use mom's home for the business
- ☐ Widowed; Has two adult sons
- ☐ Has boyfriend of 10 years and no plans to marry; enjoys their "arrangement"
- ☐ Very spiritual and into women's spiritual health
- ☐ Owns many plants, has large crystals in her home
- ☐ Into naturopathic healing; herbs and meditation



Quinta, 32

Quinta has a child-like innocence. She is sweet, nurturing, soft spoken and mild mannered. Entering her home is like entering a wonderland of fantasy and whimsy. From her disposition, you would think she didn't have a care in the world.

- ☐ Published fiction author
- ☐ Has written 12 fantasy books in a series
- ☐ Lives with her sister and two cats - Flora and Fauna
- ☐ Their home is a fantasy wonderland decorated to mimic a fairy village
- ☐ Her books are moderately successful, but she is self-published and in debt
- ☐ Wants to use writing ability to generate consistent income
- ☐ Also runs an online fantasy community
- ☐ Has a college degree in Creative Writing
- ☐ Friends describe her as sweet, but scatterbrained, inconsistent and forgetful
- ☐ Volunteers with a literacy program at local elementary school
- ☐ Also needs job for consistent medical insurance
- ☐ Has always had vision problems and needs consistent care



Ron, 40

Ron is trying to stay optimistic, but it's difficult. He served a 15 year prison sentence for a violent crime and was released 6 months ago. Ron is extremely guarded. He had high hopes for life after release and was disappointed to experience rejection and roadblocks at every turn.

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Re-entering after 15 years | <input type="checkbox"/> Lives with parents |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Convicted of violent felony | <input type="checkbox"/> Does not have license but is comfortable with public transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Had minor construction crew experience prior to sentence | <input type="checkbox"/> Needs therapy but is not trusting of medical professionals |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Does not want to return to construction | <input type="checkbox"/> Diagnosed with Oppositional Defiance Disorder and Bipolar 1 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Does have family support from parents but not from his child's mother | <input type="checkbox"/> Wants to work in social work as a peer recovery support specialist |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Has not seen his now 17-year old son since he was imprisoned | <input type="checkbox"/> Struggles to take medication consistently |



Sana, 42

Sana is an Indian American who lived most of her life in Texas. She is a media specialist who relocated to the DMV to run social media and communications for one of the congressmen from her state. She was let go after a media scandal that she didn't manage well and is now looking for other employment.

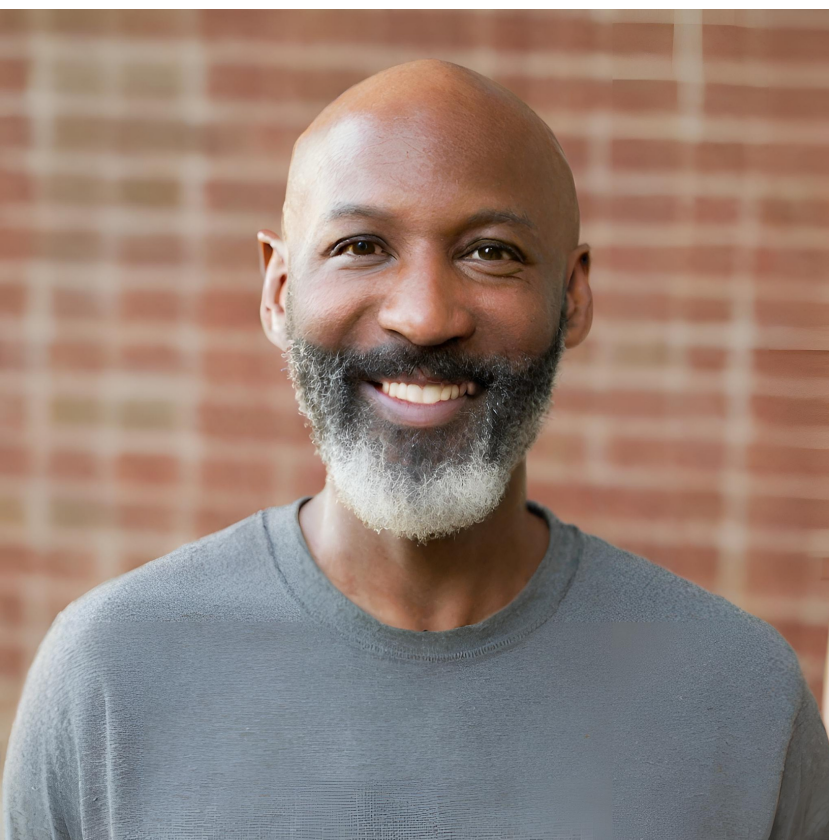
- ☐ Works in communications
- ☐ Specializes in social media marketing and campaigns
- ☐ Created successful campaigns for several local Texas celebrities and businesses
- ☐ Is experiencing depression and embarrassment after being fired
- ☐ Is still close friends with ex-husband who came to stay with her temporarily after firing
- ☐ Ex-husband is returning to Texas soon
- ☐ Obsessed with Peloton and rides with Ally Love
- ☐ Because work was so busy, she hasn't built community in the DMV
- ☐ Her parents are connecting her with distant relatives and friends
- ☐ Does need to find work soon; does not have large savings
- ☐ Wants to try working in non-profits
- ☐ Does not have a car here; used Metro exclusively



Timothy, 34

Timothy is a wild guy! He moved back home after living in Vegas for 12 years. His dad is sick and his mother needs help taking care of him. While in Vegas, Timothy became a very popular Poker dealer and supervisor. He moonlights as a singer in a 90s R&B cover band. He lived a full-time party life and is in culture shock now that he's home.

- ☐ Moved home from Vegas
- ☐ Came to help mom take care of sick dad
- ☐ Certified poker dealer and supervisor; has experience teaching Casino courses
- ☐ Both parents are senior citizens and mom has a disability
- ☐ Dad has to be picked up and needs help with mobility after stroke
- ☐ Timothy was the only of four children who could move home to help
- ☐ Has a sizable savings
- ☐ Is used to sleeping all day and working from 7pm to 4am
- ☐ Drank regularly in Vegas but has been completely sober in his parents' home
- ☐ Parents are extremely conservative Muslims
- ☐ They have already set him up on dates twice since he's been home. He does not want to marry. He cried for several days after seeing his father's condition



Ulysses, 54

Ulysses and his wife lost their small business due to COVID. They ran a popular local spa for 15 years and had to shut down when the pandemic halted business for months. They are now both seeking new careers; they wanted to reopen, but were too devastated. They decided to move on.

- ☐ Ran You Time Spa for 15 years
- ☐ Has an MBA in Accounting
- ☐ Wife has multiple massage therapy certifications
- ☐ Business was based in Upper Marlboro
- ☐ Closing the business devastated their finances; took a 2nd mortgage for debt consolidation
- ☐ Wants to return to corporate America and work in finance
- ☐ Previously worked at Bank of America in corporate finance
- ☐ Father of two: 26 and 24
- ☐ Dedicated deacon at his church; oversees men's ministry
- ☐ Member of a local hiking group
- ☐ Leads wellness retreats for men in DMV
- ☐ Passionate about wellness; reversed hypertension diagnosis with lifestyle change



Victor, 48

Victor is experiencing deep grief over the loss of his only son, Victor Jr., whom he called Vicky. When Vicky died by suicide two years ago, Victor's world stopped. He immediately went into deep depression and could barely function. He worked a high-stress job in parole supervision and quit without notice. Victor needs to work but is still barely motivated to do anything.

- ☐ Victor's son, Vicky, died by suicide two years ago.
- ☐ He is devastated and was diagnosed with clinical depression.
- ☐ Victor's girlfriend had him put on a 72-hour watch and has had him receiving consistent services since.
- ☐ Victor's family and friends rallied around him.
- ☐ Victor's therapist suggested going back to work to occupy his time. Victor cannot return to parole supervision; too stressful and triggering
- ☐ Victor and his son loved gardening together
- ☐ Victor
- ☐ Victor is very knowledgeable about plants, flowers, and cannabis
- ☐ Since Vicky's passing, has not been able to keep commitments
- ☐ Has not been to family or holiday events since
- ☐ Victor's former coworkers consistently check on him



Will, 22

Will made some mistakes early in life and is ready to put them in his past. In high school, he got involved with selling marijuana and armed robbery. He spent two years in prison and has been out for one year.

- ☐ Reentered one year ago
- ☐ Spend three years in prison for armed robbery and drugs
- ☐ Has estranged relationship with his mother and was not allowed to return home
- ☐ Wants to change his life but is low on hope due to lack of family support
- ☐ Did not graduate from high school, but did achieve GED in prison
- ☐ Needs to pivot to make money; interested in IT
- ☐ Currently lives with father who was largely absent during his childhood
- ☐ Busser at a restaurant
- ☐ Is in a men's support group at his father's church; required by dad
- ☐ Wants to one day learn carpentry and make furniture
- ☐ Is an artist; has four notebooks of artwork from his time in prison
- ☐ Does not have transportation; takes bus



Ximena, 30

Ximena has always been an overachiever. She graduated high school early, with multiple construction certifications and continued with an apprenticeship in a local union. She bought her first home at 23 and has near perfect credit. Then, two years ago, life happened. Ximena suffered an unexpected health crisis that has affected all of her perfectly laid plans.

- ☐ Overachiever & perfectionist
- ☐ Graduated high school early in CTE program
- ☐ Has multiple certifications: electrical, heavy equipment operator, etc.
- ☐ Dreamed of being in construction like her father and uncles
- ☐ Diagnosed with epilepsy after having seizure on the job
- ☐ Devastated that it's no longer safe to continue in construction
- ☐ Is fluent in English, Spanish and Portuguese
- ☐ Often translated for colleagues at work
- ☐ Owned her own home by 23
- ☐ Has a savings of \$35K and near perfect credit
- ☐ Is not clear on next steps but is determined to make a good pivot
- ☐ Seizure happened one year ago and she has not worked since



Yesenia, 28

Yesenia returned to work this year after taking five years off to be a stay-at-home mom. Her two children are both in preschool now, so she went back to the restaurant industry. Before becoming a mother, she was going into management. Now, she wants to go for her real dream: becoming a chef!

- ☐ Returning to work after five years as a stay-at-home mom
- ☐ Is an amateur chef with no training but has competed on a reality TV show
- ☐ Husband owns a successful contracting company
- ☐ Was previously in restaurant management
- ☐ Wants to become a chef but needs training
- ☐ Very lively, energetic, warm and professional
- ☐ Savings was diminished due to necessary home repairs
- ☐ Home was damaged in storm; tree fell on the roof
- ☐ Does not want to work more than 20 minutes from children's school
- ☐ Volunteers often with children's school
- ☐ Placed 4th on the TV show and is motivated to pursue her dream
- ☐ Husband is fully supportive



Zaara, 43

Zaara has been a motivational speaker for many years. Like many others, her business suffered during the pandemic. In 2018, she made \$250K on speaking engagements alone. In 2020 she made \$55K from speaking. Her speaking business still gets contracts and profit but has not returned to its previous success. She is looking to add skills and expertise.

- ☐ Married mother of two: 13 and 11.
- ☐ Motivational speaker for women and mothers
- ☐ Business made over \$250K annually pre-pandemic. Has not returned to that since.
- ☐ Husband is an attorney in real estate law.
- ☐ Does not have to work but wants to motivate women to be their best selves
- ☐ Is considering pursuing coaching certifications
- ☐ Believes that coaching is the right pivot for her business
- ☐ Has been a yoga and fitness instructor in the past
- ☐ Has become overwhelmed lately with demands of kids' schedules
- ☐ Husband has decided to run for public office; has put strain on family schedule
- ☐ Has a slight coffee addiction to keep up with schedule demands
- ☐ Is considering hiring an assistant