

Micro Business of the Year 2021 – Leverette Consulting Group, LLC

Tamiko Leverette's relationship with Goodwill of North Georgia began in 2007, when she attended the MicroMAX entrepreneurship program with a desire to start her own business. She initially struggled with developing a clearly defined business plan, and when the class ended, she realized that becoming a business owner was more complex than she originally thought.

Tamiko returned to Goodwill to finish her plan and receive individualized business coaching. After that, several doors opened. She was selected to produce a weekly community television show, *Dreams are Not for Profit*, where she shares valuable information about the nonprofit sector. She also attended Toastmasters to hone her public speaking skills.

Tamiko launched Leverette Consulting Group, LLC (LCG) to help organizations better serve their communities, enhance their best practices, and remain sustainable. LCG delivers training seminars, executive coaching, and customized project assistance such as tax-exempt filing, new organization setup, board management, and government contracting certification. In 2015, LCG was nationally certified as a government contractor in training, project management, and administrative support services.

Along the way, Tamiko has won several awards, including selection as one of the national Top Ten Business Women of the American Business Women's Association (ABWA) in 2013. Her community service involves annually reviewing grant applications for United Way of Metropolitan Atlanta and Fulton County Health & Human Services, and teaching technology classes with senior citizens. In Fall 2020, she enrolled at Troy University to pursue her Ph.D. in global leadership.

She credits Goodwill with helping her understand the value of making a dollar and teaching her financial literacy skills which put her on the path to becoming debt-free. She shares that her most rewarding experience has been the opportunity to come back and partner with Goodwill for over 10 years as an instructor and business coach for the GoodBIZ program. "Goodwill changed my life. I constantly promote its services everywhere I go and include my testimonial whenever I give a speech. It is an honor to refer people to the program and help their lives become enriched."

Tamiko's success and dedication to community service, coupled with her continued support of Goodwill and its programs, make Leverette Consulting Group, LLC, the ideal recipient of the 2021 Micro Business of the Year award.