

## BBOP EMPOWERS ENTREPRENEURIAL WOMEN OF COLOR TO THRIVE IN BUSINESS THROUGH:

### BBOP BUSINESS ACADEMY

- **BUILD:** Access capital, IT networks, and expert guidance.
- **GROW:** Gain mentorship, networking, and financial resources.
- **SCALE:** Master strategic planning, tech, and funding.

### BBOP CENTER MEMBERSHIP:

- Co-working spaces, childcare, and mail services.
- Legal support, mentorship, and workshops.
- Networking and business resources.
- And MORE



I feel so fortunate to be part of BBOP and to take advantage of all the information they offer. Many times, we're unaware of these resources, but thanks to BBOP, I'm about to open my own store.

**Lorena Avila | Lorena's Fashion**

Thanks to generous supporters like Bank of America, the BBOP Center is empowering entrepreneurs like Lorena

## STORIES OF STRENGTH

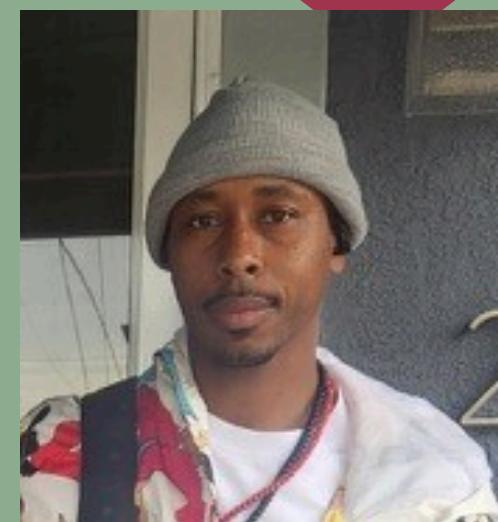
### Dante

Dante, a 42-year-old man from South Central Los Angeles, is proving that life after incarceration can be a story of transformation and impact. After serving 17 years in San Quentin Rehabilitation Center, he was released under California's P.C. 1170(d) resentencing law. With no supervision upon release, he was ineligible for reentry programs funded by parole or probation. Despite this, Brighter Futures, Time for Change Foundation's home for men recovering from incarceration and homelessness, welcomed him with open arms. Today, Dante is finding the stability and support he needs

to rebuild his life. During his time at San Quentin, Dante discovered his purpose as an advocate and storyteller. His documentary, *Unhoused and Unseen*, earned recognition as a top-three at the San Quentin Film Festival for its raw and compelling storytelling. Now, as he rebuilds his life at Brighter Futures, Dante is committed to continuing his advocacy. He's determined to amplify the voices of incarcerated individuals, ensuring their humanity is recognized and their stories are heard. With the support of Brighter Futures, he is taking meaningful steps toward self-sufficiency, proving that transformation is possible when opportunities and support align.

### IN THIS ISSUE

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# Kimauni

Growing up, I was sheltered from the realities of adulthood. I wasn't taught how to navigate life on my own, which left me feeling like I always needed someone else to care for me. I relied on a man who I thought would take care of everything for me.

At 18, I went from being a high school graduate living with my sister to a college dropout, pregnant and living under my boyfriend's mother's roof. Fear and inexperience held me back. For the next nine years, I gave up my dreams and independence to meet every demand of my children's father. I quit school, never got a job, didn't learn to drive, and lived without a bank account. I wasn't just afraid—I was constantly made to believe that I couldn't or shouldn't take control of my own life.



From 2016 to 2023, I stayed in a toxic relationship filled with verbal, physical, and emotional abuse. I was trapped in a cycle of fear and manipulation, compounded by substance use. I tried to numb the pain, but it only deepened my struggles. Then, on October 18, 2023, everything changed. That day marked the last time I endured a physical altercation. It also marked the beginning of my journey with Christ. Building a relationship with God gave me strength and a renewed sense of purpose.

One of the hardest moments for me was leaving my kids with their dad for a few days because I had nowhere to take them. That was my turning point—I realized I needed to become self-sufficient to end the cycles of instability for my children.

At Time for Change Foundation, I found the support I desperately needed to rebuild my life. I attended domestic violence classes that gave me the tools to set boundaries and check in with my feelings. I learned to respond to situations thoughtfully instead of reacting impulsively. Checking my emotions first became my new habit, and I discovered that I didn't have to depend on my emotions to make decisions.

Through TFCF, I found my first job ever. That part-time position soon became full-time, and with steady income, I was able to get my own apartment! I also broke free from co-dependence and began leaning on my support system instead of looking for escape in drugs and alcohol.

For the first time, I began to see life differently. My mindset shifted, and I embraced healthier ways to cope and grow. I've gained confidence, and I'm no longer afraid to speak up or reach out for help.

Today, I'm proud to say I'm building a stable, independent life for myself and my children. I've worked hard to overcome my struggles and solve my own problems instead of staying in a victim mentality.

Programs like those funded by the Blue Shield Foundation made it possible for me to break the cycle of violence that had held me back. Now, I'm creating a future of resilience and hope for my family, ensuring my children are breaking the cycles of violence and poverty and have a chance to live thriving lives.

*"For the first time, I began to see life differently."*

# Sarina

For Sarina, life once felt like an unending storm. Struggles mounted, and amidst the chaos, she faced the devastating reality of losing custody of her beloved son, Ethan. Her spiral left her feeling isolated and uncertain, but deep within, her love for Ethan burned brightly. That love became the spark she needed to fight to regain custody of her son and provide a better future for them.

Determined to rewrite her story, Sarina found her way to TFCF, ready to embrace the support and resources we offer. With unwavering resolve, she committed herself to the process of change, fueled by the dream of providing a brighter future for her son.

While the process wasn't easy, Sarina has blossomed into a confident and empowered woman, embodying the very essence of resilience.

Through support from grant partners like San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, TFCF has enabled Sarina to access critical resources, allowing her to prioritize her mental health, explore job opportunities, and build a stable, nurturing life for herself and Ethan.

Today, Sarina is embracing a new chapter, working toward a future filled with hope and stability. She has maintained her sobriety, is now 7 months clean, and has regained full custody of Ethan on August 20, 2024!



## MEET OUR NEW BOARD MEMBERS!

### Julie Janesin



**Background:** Expert in disaster preparedness, response, and recovery.

#### Why do you serve on the board?

I met Kim Carter 16 years ago and was inspired by her dedication to empowering women to become self-sufficient. Every year, Kim, Vanessa, TFCF, and BBOP continue to thrive through love and faith and I love that I get to be a part of that!

### James Calderilla



**Background:** Retired law enforcement officer, real estate agent, and entrepreneur.

#### Why do you serve on the board?

I absolutely enjoy seeing the clients transform from hopelessness to success! Staff at TFCF have become the model for this transformation, by providing the support and much-needed resources to help the hopeless find hope!

### Benjamin Shuler



**Background:** Expert in homelessness, community support, and 12-step recovery.

#### Why do you serve on the board?

I'm passionate about supporting communities and giving second chances to help others thrive. It takes a village to help people succeed and I love helping others better themselves.

### Elvia Rodriguez



**Background:** Successful entrepreneur who built her business from scratch.

#### Why do you serve on the board?

Being on the board of Time for Change Foundation is a deeply fulfilling experience for me. Witnessing firsthand the challenges faced by our community has fueled my passion for making a difference and I love being able to give back to the community I came from.

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OR CURRENT RESIDENT



Your gift, their new beginning!

TAX RELIEF FOR STOCKS AND SECURITIES AVAILABLE



Scan the QR  
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or visit:  
[bit.ly/2025-tfcf-gala](https://bit.ly/2025-tfcf-gala)



YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO  
TIME FOR CHANGE FOUNDATION'S  
*23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Awards Gala*  
“UNWAVERING: IGNITING  
CHANGE, INSPIRING HOPE”

April 11, 2025 | 6pm  
DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel  
222 N. Vineyard Ave  
Ontario, CA 91764

TIME FOR CHANGE FOUNDATION

