Transforming Lives Through Entrepreneurship

Renaissance Entrepreneurship Center works at the intersection of racial, economic and social justice. We believe that through small business ownership, individuals who face systemic barriers to economic opportunity due to gender, sexual orientation, race, income level, immigration status, or former incarceration can achieve economic mobility, create better futures for themselves and their families, and play a pivotal role in building local economic prosperity. Renaissance clients are:

1,500+ individuals
76% women
74% people of color
87% lower income
73% idea stage
9% LGBTQ

In 2017 Renaissance interviewed randomly selected clients who received intensive training and consulting services in 2015 about changes in their business status and income, one year after receiving services.

Our Impact

One year after receiving services, Renaissance clients:

Start and grow small businesses
95% of business owners remain in business
49% of pre-business clients launch successfully in just one year

Build strong communities through job creation
69% of businesses have employees
On average, each business supports 4 jobs
Average employee hourly wage $23.6/hour

Increase economic mobility and financial self-sufficiency
Average Business Revenues are $91,685
82% of owners met their income goals
Household incomes increase by 17%

Are empowered and confident
We believe in the ability and potential of women and minority business owners

Transform their passions into profits
Through their motivation and determination and Renaissance’s business training, resources and ongoing support

Are happy with Renaissance and our services
93% of respondents said that Renaissance completely or mostly met their expectations

About the survey
Renaissance conducts a Client Outcomes Survey annually to learn about our clients’ experiences, changes in their businesses and incomes one year after receiving services from us, and ways we can further assist them and their businesses. We conduct the survey in collaboration with the Aspen Institute’s entrepreneurTracker, a national evaluation program for the microenterprise industry. Renaissance has been one of the first and long participating organizations in this national evaluation process to monitor and optimize our organization impact and build national awareness of the field.