

WHO IS TWO WINGS?

Two Wings was born out of a need in our community for supportive services to accompany trafficking survivors after they'd been rescued and provided an opportunity to heal. Los Angeles is home to multiple shelters and drop-in centers, but outside of what Two Wings offers, there are no comprehensive employment services for trafficking survivors.

In 2012 we began offering educational workshops directly to shelters. But it soon became apparent that for our participants to receive the best possible support and highest quality experience, they'd need to come to a separate facility for classes. We believed that a bigger buy-in would create better outcomes. This generated the creation of a 12-week, 4 times per week, Career Development Academy – and the results have been incredible. We found that participants needed that extra push to put forth more effort in their training, and since the first cohort graduated, we've seen attendance rates rise to 95%, with 80% of our clients becoming successfully employed or pursuing higher education.

We have found that one of the elements that make our programming successful is our unique integration of Occupational Therapy into the educational process. Two Wings participants apply knowledge from job training classes into their real-world daily routine through an innovative, client-centered and trauma-informed, holistic approach.

And we don't stop at supporting our participants in obtaining a job or pursuing higher education. Through our corporate training program, we educate employers on how to effectively work with employees returning to the workplace after experiencing trauma. To date, we've trained over 30 companies in a comprehensive training seminar designed by survivors, a psychologist, and an HR Director. Our goal at Two Wings is to continue to provide this training so that we can expand the network of trauma-informed workplaces.

This year has offered us the opportunity to take a step back and evaluate our programs, while at the same time using a little ingenuity to adapt to the challenging times we are all experiencing. And as we've moved to a hybrid of in-person and online classes, we've actually created a program that can be efficiently exported. We've now begun conversations with organizations outside of Los Angeles to examine how Two Wings could expand to these new territories, and we're excited to start bringing our successful model to survivors far beyond our home base.

Watch Tyesa's Testimony

At Two Wings, we've always believed that for our program's success depends on a symbiotic relationship with our clients: they bring the courage, and we provide the hope they need to soar.

We are honored to come alongside women like Tyesa, and to have the best view as she takes off and SOARS towards her dreams.

