DIVAS WHO WIN FREEDOM CENTER · ATHENS, GEORGIA · DIVASWHOWIN.ORG
645 HAWTHORNE AVENUE · 706-850-5945 · PROGRAMS@DIVASWHOWIN.ORG

DIVAS WHO WIN
FREEDOM CENTER

IMPACT REPORT

2025

487	26,167	39	10
UNIQUE WOMEN SERVED	TOTAL CONTACTS MADE	SHE WORKS GRADUATES	FOUNDATION PARTNERS

> ***"We didn't build programs for survivors. We built the pathways we needed ourselves — for every woman who comes after us."***
>
> CHANDA SANTANA · FOUNDER & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

A MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDER

This was the year *of open doors.*

To every woman who walked through our doors in 2025:

You came. That took everything. And we were ready for you.

This was the year of open doors. Not metaphorical ones. Real doors at **645** Hawthorne Avenue, held open by women who had once stood where you stand — women who chose to stay and build what they needed instead of waiting.

487 of you walked through in **2025**. You brought your whole lives. Justice involvement. Housing instability. Histories of violence. Survival. We did not ask you to leave any of that at the door. We built the door wide enough for all of it.

26,167 times someone from this organization showed up for you. A peer check-in. A recovery group. A SHE Works session where you learned your story is not a liability — it is your credential.

39 women graduated. **39** women told by systems and circumstance they were too much and not enough.
We know differently. We always have.

Freedom Forge is coming. The Boutique is growing.
Genesis is proof. We are not a program. We are a promise.
In **2025,** we kept it.

In purpose and in power,

Chanda Santana

Founder & Executive Director · Divas Who Win Freedom Center



CHANDA SANTANA
FOUNDER & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
DIVAS WHO WIN FREEDOM CENTER

THE MISSION PERSONIFIED · FEATURED STORY 2025

Genesis

is why we do this.



Nine years ago, Genesis was rescued by the FBI.
She arrived at this work through her own survival.
What happened to her is what we exist to prevent.
What she became is what we exist to produce.

Today she is 4 years employed with Divas Who Win Freedom Center.
She did not just find her footing here.
She built the programs she once needed — for the women and girls who stand exactly where she once stood.

She carries every room she enters with the authority of someone who has already survived what she is now helping others through. That is not resilience. That is leadership.

Genesis is the full-circle proof of this mission: vulnerability transformed into restoration, restoration transformed into purpose, purpose transformed into a platform.

- Youth Prevention & Awareness Coordinator
- Program Coordinator
- Peer Navigator — Georgia Opioid Abatement Trust
- 4 Years Employed · Founder, Survivor's Crown™

LAUNCHED 2024 · NATIONAL PLATFORM

Survivor's Crown™

From rescued — to restored — to leading nationally.

Survivor's Crown is what happens when a woman stops surviving and starts leading. Genesis built this platform from her own story — carrying trauma-informed, survivor-centered training to organizations across the country.

SPEAKING · TRAINING · ADVOCACY

survivorscrown.com

Bookings & training inquiries:
programs@divaswhowin.org

Genesis speaks to nonprofits, law enforcement, educators, and community organizations on survivor-centered practice.

SHE WORKS — SISTERHOOD EXCELLENCE WORKFORCE PROGRAM

78% Completion Rate.

That number is evidence — not a statistic.

50	39	78%
ENROLLED	GRADUATED	COMPLETION RATE



SHE WORKS GRADUATING COHORT · 2025 · 645 HAWTHORNE AVENUE · ATHENS, GEORGIA

SHE Works is a **25**-hour trauma-informed workforce development program.
50 women enrolled in **2025**. **39** graduated — a **78%** completion rate
for a population simultaneously navigating housing instability,
justice involvement, and trauma recovery.
Every graduate leaves with a named employer contact,
a professional headshot, and a defined next step.
No one graduates into silence.

01
Orientation & Stabilization
Every barrier identified.
Participant known by name.

02
25-Hour Training
Learning to Work It Out.
Emotional regulation.

03
Headshots + Interviews
Professional photo.
Live employer practice.

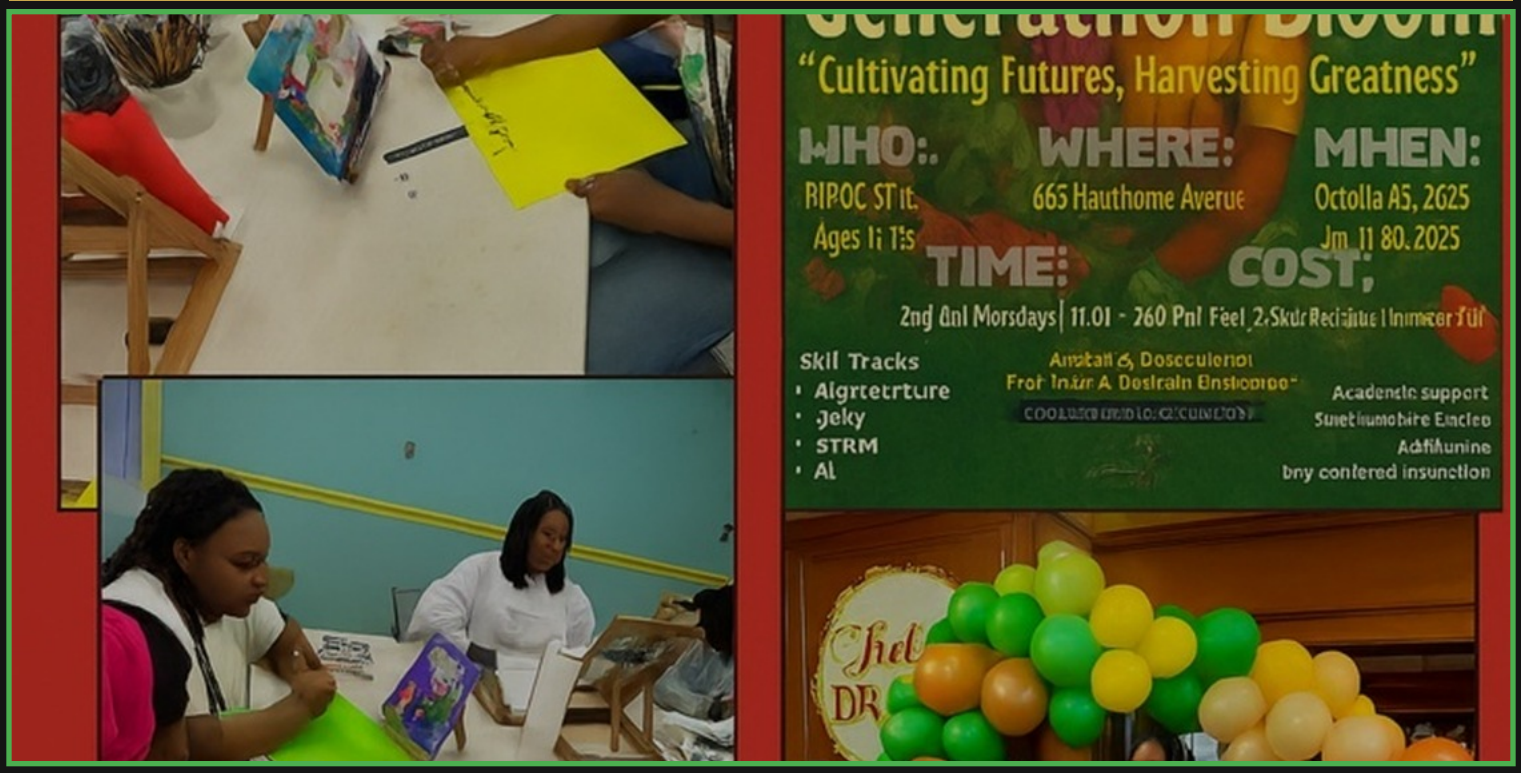
04
Graduation + Placement
Cap and tassel.
Named employer contact.

05
30-Day Follow-Up
2-week and 30-day checks.
No one left behind.

YOUTH PROGRAMMING · SCHOOL DAYZ ACADEMY · GET LIT GIRLZ

The next generation

is already here.



SCHOOL DAYZ ACADEMY · GENERATION BLOOM · 2025 · ATHENS, GEORGIA

GET LIT GIRLZ

687 creative engagement sessions in **2025**.
Art as healing. Art as processing.
Art as the language of things that
do not yet have words.

Because some stories need a brush
before they find a voice.

SCHOOL DAYZ ACADEMY

Generation Bloom — Cultivating Futures,
Harvesting Greatness.

STEM, art, and academic enrichment
for BIPOC girls ages **11** to **18**.
Every **2**nd and **4**th Monday.
Free · Open enrollment · Athens, GA.

Genesis leads this work.
She builds the program she needed — for every girl who stands where she once stood.

THE WOMEN WE SERVE

Every number is a *real person.*

Out of 457 women surveyed across our programs in 2025. More than 70% identified as survivors of domestic violence and sexual violence. These are not categories. These are the simultaneous realities women navigate when they walk through our doors.

70%+

SURVIVORS OF DV & SEXUAL VIOLENCE

More than 7 in 10 of the women we serve carry histories of domestic violence and sexual violence. Our programs are built specifically with their reality in mind.

Of 487 unique individuals served · 2025

68%

RETURNING CITIZENS

309 of 457 surveyed. Women whose justice involvement creates screening barriers at the exact moment they are most motivated to rebuild. We see past the checkbox.

309 of 457 surveyed · 2025

48%

EXPERIENCING HOUSING INSTABILITY

219 of 457 surveyed were unhoused or unstably housed. Nearly half arrived navigating workforce development alongside an immediate survival need.

219 of 457 surveyed · 2025

30%

SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

135 of 457 surveyed. A population whose workforce barriers compound rapidly. Our trauma-informed model is built for this intersection — not around it.

135 of 457 surveyed · 2025

OUR FULL REACH — 2025

26,167 moments of *presence.*

Total ARSC contacts across all programs. 487 unique women. An average of **54 meaningful interactions per person** — peer check-ins, group sessions, support activities. That is what sustained, recovery-informed care looks like.

WHO WE SERVED — POPULATION BREAKDOWN

Of 457 surveyed participants, 2025

PROGRAM ENGAGEMENT BY VOLUME

All program lines, 2025

14,188
PEER CHECK-INS

6,000
RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUP ENGAGEMENTS

5,357
SOCIAL SUPPORT ACTIVITIES

ALL PROGRAMS — 2025

Every program is a different door to the *same destination.*

💼

SHE WORKS

39

Graduates from our 25-hour trauma-informed workforce development training. 78% of enrolled women completed.

🌱

WOAD PROGRAM

142

Active participants. 82 newly enrolled in 2025. 15 graduates who completed the full arc of peer-led recovery and employment.

🏛️

DIVAS ON THE INSIDE

59

Women served inside correctional facilities — meeting incarcerated women with dignity and community before they come home.

👗

COURAGE CLOSET

243

Women received professional clothing and personal care. 11,281 garments donated. Dignity is not a luxury — it is a foundation.

🎨

ARTISTIC SUPPORT

687

Creative engagement sessions — art as healing, art as processing, art as the language of things that do not yet have words.

🤝

RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUPS

6,000

Recovery group engagements — community-based, peer-led, built on the truth that recovery is never a solo journey.

COURAGE CLOSET

Dignity starts with how you show up.

Courage Closet provides survivors with professional clothing and the experience of being dressed for the life they are building — not the one they left behind. In 2025, 243 women walked through that door. What they found was more than a wardrobe.

11,281
GARMENTS DONATED IN 2025

243
WOMEN SERVED

46
AVG. PIECES PER VISIT

54

AVERAGE TOUCHPOINTS PER PERSON · 2025

26,167 total contacts. 487 unique women. That averages to **54 meaningful interactions per person** across our programs in 2025. Not a referral, not a pamphlet — fifty-four moments of peer check-in, group support, skill-building, and community presence for every woman who came to us. That is what sustained recovery-informed care looks like at scale.

> *"Employment is not just income for a domestic violence survivor. It is the mechanism by which safety becomes permanent. When a woman can pay her own rent, she never has to go back."*

CHANDA SANTANA · EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR · DIVAS WHO WIN FREEDOM CENTER

LOOKING AHEAD 01

SHE Works at Six Cohorts

Scaling from three confirmed 2026 cohorts to six annual cohorts — serving 60 women per year through the full SHE Works pipeline. Three cohorts are pending funding. One grant changes the trajectory.

LOOKING AHEAD 02

Freedom Forge

A planned 100-unit tiny home micro-community built specifically for women like ours. Modeled after Community First! Village in Austin. Phase 1 groundbreaking targeted for 2029. Capital campaign soft launch: January 2027.

LOOKING AHEAD 03

Youth Programming Expansion

Beginning to Work It Out curriculum launching for young women 16–24. Genesis leads this work. The next generation of Divas is already here — we are building the program to meet them exactly where they are.

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"Building pathways we needed ourselves."

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