

CHECK OUT THIS

SUCCESS

STORY!



Sherry Wynn, **Just Fix This Mess®**, Inc.



Sherry Wynn, Owner



Seven years ago, Sherry Wynn's life was on a downward trajectory. Chronic pain from a back injury impaired her ability to work a job that had become physically taxing—debt mounted from missed work and medical bills. Eviction loomed. Depressed, hopeless, and experiencing PTSD, a concerned friend described Sherry as “at the end of her rope.”

Sometimes, though, when we least expect it, we meet someone who pulls us up.

Enters Linda, the Florida VR counselor assigned to help Sherry find alternative employment. As Linda guided Sherry through an extensive discussion about her skills, interests, and work history, a consistent theme emerged: organization. Linda believed that Sherry's particular

passion and skill for organizing could be developed into a business. This would give Sherry greater flexibility to both work and manage her medical concerns.

When Linda pitched the idea of self-employment, Sherry was dubious. Sherry didn't see organizing as a skill, let alone a source of income; it was something she had developed in order to survive and function. Secondly, Sherry's medical struggles and former productivity had drained her self-confidence and faith in a better life. However, Linda continued to encourage Sherry to see the vision of self-employment and explained the resources that could be used to help her.

Florida VR partners with Certified Business and Technical Assistance Consultants to help individuals explore business ideas and craft business plans. Linda contacted several CBTACs, and Sherry chose to meet with Monica at CBTAC.

Sherry Wynn, Just Fix This Mess®, Inc. Continued

After Sherry, Monica, and Linda settled on a (mostly) virtual business structure, Monica guided Sherry through the Florida VR self-employment benchmarks to flesh out a unique and viable business plan.

Sherry describes the self-employment benchmarks as challenging but crucial to the development of her business. As Sherry worked through the benchmarks - Monica and Linda encouraging her every step of the way - Sherry realized that her skills were unique, valued, and marketable and that she could indeed manage her own business.

With an inspired business name and a VR-approved business plan in place, Sherry began marketing Just Fix This Mess®, Inc. in earnest. She joined local business groups and the Chamber of Commerce and placed ads in newspapers and newsletters. Proudly wearing her business logo, she presented her services to the SBDC, banks, law firms, accounting firms, and more with enthusiasm born of a newfound sense of purpose.

Today, Sherry assists and coaches individuals, families, and businesses to successfully manage their paper, digital, and financial assets. Sherry attends conferences and earns certifications in a professional organization and daily money management, continually educating herself on her niche to grow her business and meet her customer's changing needs. As Linda predicted, as a business owner, Sherry can adjust her work schedule and business to address her medical needs proactively instead of urgently.

Years ago, when Sherry made an appointment with Florida VR, the idea of self-employment was unfathomable. Now, she is a vendor for VR and speaks at conferences, paying forward her knowledge and experience to others just starting on the path of self-employment.

As Sherry's professional dreams manifested, her life blossomed in equal measure. She is now happily married and a homeowner. In her home, on her office wall, she proudly displays her certifications, associations, and the accreditation from the Better Business Bureau.