

m/Pact Statement

FINANCIAL SUCCESS STORIES FROM OUR COMMUNITY

ANGELA SASSEVILLE

Angela Sasseville is an entrepreneur and the owner of Flourish Counseling and Coaching. Her business excels at providing a safe place for people to be vulnerable and discuss pressing personal issues. After 10 years in operation, Angela credits her business' ability to grow to 6 employees this year to the work she started in 2009 through *mpowered's* Debt Management and Financial Coaching programs. In a classic case of role reversal, she needed a safe place to be vulnerable and seek assistance with a personal issue: her family's financial situation.

Things started getting difficult in the early 2000s when Angela and her husband went through a total of 3 layoffs between them. They had some savings, but after tapping all of those funds they found themselves dependent on credit cards to live. As Angela puts it, "Credit cards were our financial security blanket." After one of the layoffs, Angela went back to school to get the credentials she needed to become a licensed therapist. The Sassevilles were also raising a toddler, adding to the strain of time, energy, and money. With all of this going on, Angela's brother suddenly passed away and everything seemed to be in upheaval. As Angela put it, "Life became about survival, financial literacy definitely wasn't a priority." Before they realized it, their combined debt had ballooned to tens of thousands of dollars.

In 2009, Angela found *mpowered* and started her path to becoming debt free. She was able to set financial goals around growing her business, investing in a new home, and getting serious about saving for her daughter's college education. When Angela applied the same financial principles she uses at home to her business, she saw incredible results. In 2015, Flourish Coaching and Counseling was able to purchase a

building in Denver with the help of Colorado Lending Source. Flourish Counseling and Coaching is now poised for future growth because of the space and its amazing location on West 38th Ave. in Denver. Angela reports that her life in general is less stressful and "there's a lot more security and peace of mind now that the debt burden is gone." "As a therapist and a life coach, I know that we all have our own blind spots. Until we identify them and realize we can do something about them, we will continue to have blind spots." In this case, Angela's identification and realization about her debt weighing her down has paved the way to her business' success.



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