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**Empowered Network Recognized as a 2026 Hilton Global Foundation Grantee for Workforce Development, Receives \$500,000 Grant to Advance Economic Mobility & Prevent Revictimization for Survivors of Human Trafficking**

*Funding will support Empowered Network's Empowerment Plan program, paving paths to financial independence for survivors*

NEW LONDON, CT / USA — FEBRUARY 10, 2026 — EMPOWERED NETWORK (EN), a national nonprofit that collaborates with trafficking survivors to achieve financial resilience for generational change, today announced it has been selected as a 2026 Hilton Global Foundation (HGF) grantee, receiving \$500,000 from HGF and Hilton to support trafficking survivors in achieving their economic independence by providing advocacy, financing education, uncovering career paths and removing long-term housing barriers.

The Hilton Global Foundation awards annual grants to nonprofit organizations that strengthen travel destinations, expand economic opportunity and advance Hilton's [Travel with Purpose](#) 2030 Goals by supporting programs focused on destination sustainability, workforce development and community resilience.

"Financial independence is the key to ending cycles of generational exploitation," said Abby Fabiaschi, co-founder & director partnerships, Empowered Network. "By investing in *beyond the crisis* education and career development, Hilton is helping survivors achieve enduring independence and protect their children."

Empowered Network was selected for its demonstrated impact and thought leadership in advancing career development, promoting economic mobility and building community resilience within the survivor community. With support from the Hilton Global Foundation, the organization will increase referral partners and expand program capacity, enabling broader access to Empowered Network's Empowerment Plan program that increases annual wages by an average of \$12,000+ in one year (from \$25,055 to \$38,172).

"Today's announcement highlights the exponential power of partnership," said Katherine Lugar, executive vice president, corporate affairs, Hilton and president, Hilton Global Foundation. "Together with this year's Hilton Global Foundation grantees, we are delivering impact far beyond what any one organization could do alone. The work of these phenomenal organizations will expand access to learning and career opportunities, combat human trafficking and ultimately, help to build brighter futures and stronger communities."

Learn more at [www.EmpoweredNetwork.com](http://www.EmpoweredNetwork.com)

**About Hilton Global Foundation**

The Hilton Global Foundation is Hilton's primary philanthropic arm, supporting the company's Travel with Purpose strategy to drive positive impact and deliver lasting value to the people, hotels and communities where we all live, work and stay. Through grants and partnerships, the Foundation invests in programs that advance destination stewardship, foster career development and strengthen community resilience. Since 2019, it has contributed more than \$25 million to organizations around the world and positively impacted millions of lives.

Learn more at [hiltonglobalfoundation.hilton.com](http://hiltonglobalfoundation.hilton.com).

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