

Trent Griffin-Braaf is a distinguished entrepreneur, visionary leader, and accomplished board director in transportation and work force development. He is the founder of GB Logistics and Tech Valley Shuttle, with a remarkable track record in passenger transportation, trucking, and logistics. Trent is recognized for his ability to drive sales and innovation. He's learned to identify and harness business potential, elevating team members from entry-level positions to C-suite roles. He has been named one of Forbes' Next 1000 entrepreneurs and the 2023 Small Businessperson of the Year for upstate NY by the Small Business Administration.

Early Life and Challenges: Trent's journey to success is marked by resilience and determination. After a regrettable decision as a teenager involving narcotics sales post-high school, he served a 12-year prison sentence, facing felony discrimination upon release. Despite these challenges, Trent leveraged opportunities in the hotel industry, rapidly advancing from a part-time houseperson to General Manager within six years.

Career Achievements: In 2016, Trent founded Tech Valley Shuttle, transforming a hotel shuttle service into a community transportation provider aimed at combating poverty through innovative solutions. During the global pandemic, he launched GB Logistics, securing a contract with Amazon for last-mile delivery until 2023. His companies prioritize inclusivity, employing 100% underserved individuals, including 80% with justice involvement and 20% with disabilities. Under Trent's leadership, Tech Valley Shuttle became the first black-owned business recognized as one of the best places to work by the Albany Business Review.

Community Impact and Recognition: Trent's pioneering efforts have set a precedent for employers to become preferred employers for ex-offenders. He curates and facilitates the Roadmap to Success program, which empowers justice-involved individuals to achieve socioeconomic mobility. His accolades include being named one of the "40 under 40" and receiving the Stellar Business Award, Nipsey Hussle Award, and Power 50 recognition. His work has been featured in the New York Times, Bloomberg Businessweek, and Bloomberg Radio, among others.



Business Consulting and Speaking Engagements: As an accomplished business consultant, Trent offers expertise in workforce development, transportation solutions, policy work, and diversity, equity, and inclusion practices. He has consulted for some of the largest organizations including Mark Zuckerberg's (FWD.US) to help them engage the business community to bring about policy change. Trent is also a sought-after speaker, known for his engaging and motivational presentations. He has delivered keynotes at various conferences, for multiple businesses, sports teams, non-profits including the NYS Boys & Girls Club youth of the year ceremony, and colleges and schools where he recently inspired over 3,000 attendees with his story of resilience and success for the 2024 graduating class.

Future Goals: Trent aims to expand his organization's footprint across New York State and franchise nationwide, addressing systemic transportation barriers. He remains committed to helping other organizations nationwide become preferred employers for ex-offenders and marginalized populations.

Awards and Publications:

- SBA Small Businessperson of the Year 2023
- Forbes Next 1000
- Best Places to Work
- Featured in NY Times, Bloomberg, SHRM, Business Review, NY Post, HR Morning
- News coverage on WTEN News 10 Albany, Spectrum News 1 Albany, WNYT 13, and WRGB News 6 Albany

Trent Griffin-Braaf is a true exemplar of resilience, innovation, and social impact in the business world, continuously striving to create opportunities and drive positive change.