



Female Entrepreneur Award Winner

2018 Dr. Paul E. Garfinkel Awards for Entrepreneurial Achievement



www.djelanguage.com

Djessika Emunganya is the owner of Kingston based **DJE Language Academy and Translation Services Inc.** DJE Language Academy and Translation Services is a private language school that offers language training and translation services to the provincial and federal governments as well as to the corporate sector and individuals.

Background, Skills and Experience: In 2005 Djessika arrived in Canada from the Democratic Republic of Congo with her 5-year-old daughter and she was 7 months pregnant with her second child. She quickly earned a BA in Translation from York University and began working as a Translator at SDL Linguistics. In 2010 she served as a language instructor at St Anne's University in Halifax and later as a Pedagogical advisor in both PEI and Kingston.

What are you most proud of about your business? "Helping people to get a second language, English or French as knowing a second language helps to get a better job"

Doing Business with Rise: In 2016, Djessika received a low-interest loan from Rise to purchase items to open a private language school.

How Has Rise Helped You? "Rise lent me some money so that I could open my school. The loan helped me to open my language School and to bid on a contract with the Government. And I got the contract!"

What's Next? "I would like to have more contracts with the Government. The Ministry I'm working with right now is fully satisfied with our job. I just got a second contract with Government, but I need to grow my school and to do that I need to find a money-lender. I would like to grow my business faster because there are jobs for us right now."

Rise Asset Development is a registered **charity** that provides low interest small business loans, training and mentorship to men and women with a history of mental health and addiction challenges.

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