

## INTRODUCTION

- ❖ My name is Connie Sparks and I am 48 years old.
- ❖ I own my company Wade Co. Capital
- ❖ What my company does:
  - Help entrepreneur's unpack their ideas.
  - Find capital for business owner's.
  - Train business owner's to be better business manager's.
- ❖ My role at Wade Co. Capital is Founder & CEO
  - Every day I work with business owners who need help growing their business and find lenders that will help finance their projects or growth needs.

# I was born in California and raised in Los Angeles

#### MY EARLY YEARS











## A Little About My Family

 I have four daughters and four grandchildren. We do a lot of things together, very supportive of each other, and we like to have fun and vacation time.

## MY FAMILY

Tonishia & her children, Marvaughn & MaKayla, Kenyahta, Connikia







## MY HIGH SCHOOL



## Washington Generals



As a HS student I was very shy.

Here is a picture of me in HS



Things that I really liked in High School were:

- Music Class
- Home Economics
- Cheerleading
- Dance
- Hanging with friends



Things that felt difficult or challenging for me while I was in High School were:

- History
- Math
- Challenges with learning and retaining information.
- I was picked on because of my size.
- Jealousy from other girls because of my skin color.

How I overcame my challenges in High School:

 Classes and retention: worked with tutors and teachers.

 Picked on and Jealousy: adopted by a student and teacher.



## Jobs I worked while I was in High School were:

• 1st job: Answering Service

• 2<sup>nd</sup> job: McDonalds

• 3<sup>rd</sup> job: Seamstress





#### **GETTING IN TO COLLEGE**

The top few things I did to ensure I got into college were:

- Maintained an acceptable grade point average.
- Stayed out of trouble.
- Participated in college fairs.
- Wrote essays for scholarships.
- Created a plan of action for the job and career I wanted

I attended Compton College, in Compton, CA, College of the Canyons

in Santa Clarita, CA and Under Grad school in Burbank, CA





## Things I enjoyed in College:

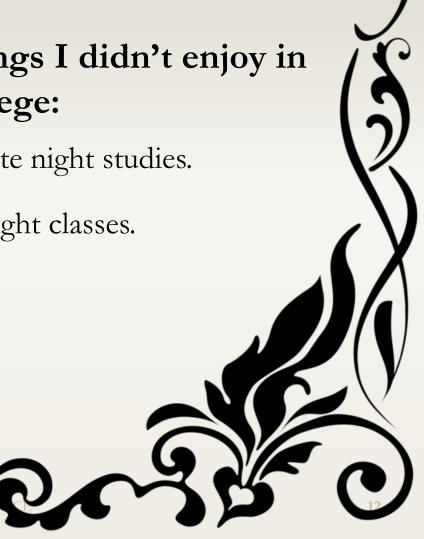
\*Learning new information.

❖ Working with other students.

Things I didn't enjoy in College:

\*Late night studies.

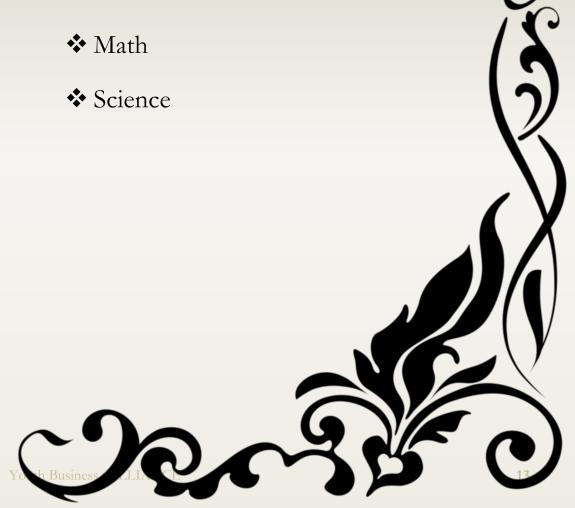
❖ Night classes.



#### Favorite classes

- History
- Business
- **❖** Golf
- Music
- Health
- Psychology
- Philosophy
- **❖** Business Law
- Sociology

#### Least favorite classes



Jobs I worked while I was in College were:

- Stay at home mom.
- Started first business working from home: Designer/Seamstress
- Worked for local school district as a Personnel Clerk.

Things that felt difficult or challenging for me while I was in College were:

- Single parent raising four small children.
- My mom helped out when she could until kids were in Jr. High.
- Working and going to school.



## GETTING A JOB AFTER COLLEGE

The top few things I did to ensure I got a good job after college were:

• I read and learned a lot about the industry I had an interest in.

• Surrounded myself around successful people who would share information with me and make introductions to decision makers.

• Learned how to network with people.

• Joined Toastmasters



## THIS IS MY COMPANY



#### Every day at my company:

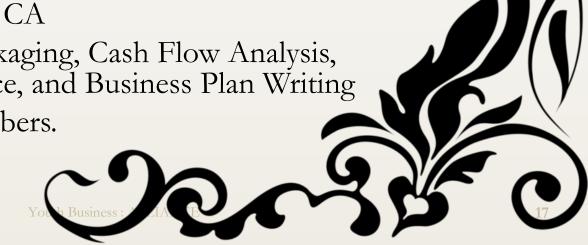
• We work diligently with lending institutions, and utilize our relationships to get businesses the funding they need to grow and support their business.

• I established my company in 1999 as Wade Institute.

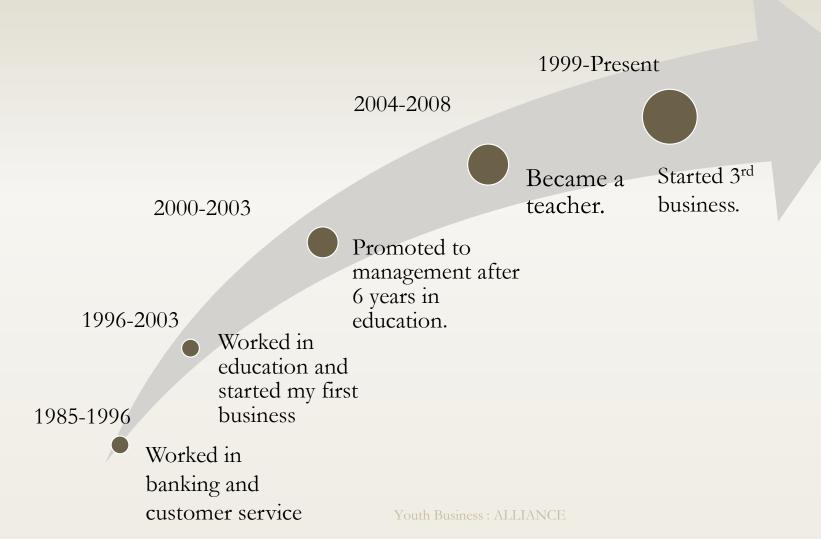
• Located in Castaic, CA

• We offer Loan Packaging, Cash Flow Analysis, Technical Assistance, and Business Plan Writing

• I have 3 team members.



## MY CAREER PATH



#### MY CAREER

## The first job I had after college was:

• Security Pacific Bank

## The worst thing that I have ever had happen to me was:

- Working with a co-worker/friend on a project
  - She stole my ideas and presented it as hers

Lessoned Learned: Keep my ideas to myself

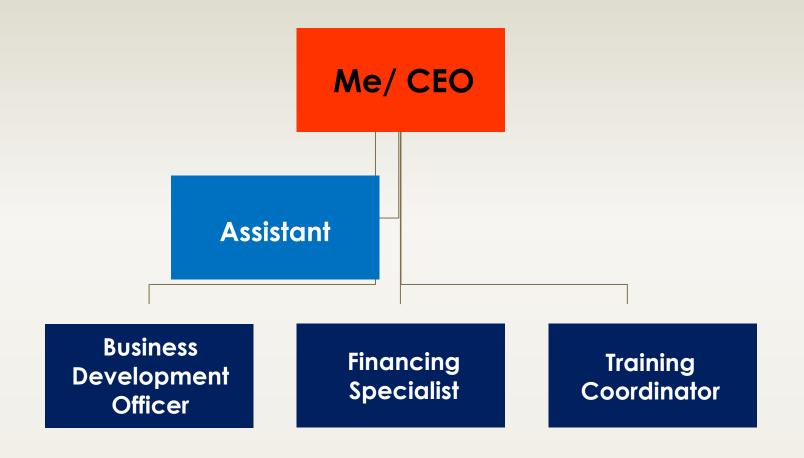
## MY CAREER

## Challenges I have had to overcome throughout my career are:

- Learning how to manage people according to their personality
- Patience
- Listening to people
- Think before speaking
- Making split decisions
- Be mindful of other's feelings



#### MY ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE



## MORE THAN JUST WORK

#### When I am not at work I like to:

- Golf
- Travel
- Reading
- Attend Jazz Concerts
- Going to the movies
- Spending time with grandchildren

## DO IT ALL OVER AGAIN?

If I could talk to my high school self, what would I say?

- Take school more serious.
- Focus on school, not boys.
- Listen to teachers who care about me and my future.
- Create a life plan and follow it.

