



JANE VERON, CO-FOUNDER & CEO, THE ACCELERATION PROJECT (TAP)

Jane Veron is co-founder and CEO of The Acceleration Project (TAP), a nonprofit that empowers small business owners and accelerates their growth. TAP provides bespoke advisory services to small business owners across the country, generating a ripple effect that unlocks pathways to wealth creation and economic mobility. In the private sector, she held roles such as, marketing executive at Amex and strategy consultant at Bain. Her public service includes elected office as Mayor of Scarsdale, New York, and service on the US Small Business Administration's Investment Capital Advisory Committee. She was named to City and State New York's Nonprofit Trailblazers list, featured in The Wall Street Journal, and profiled in a Joanne Lipman book. She earned degrees from Yale (BA) and Harvard (MBA).

WHO INFLUENCED YOU THE MOST?

My parents influenced me most. They raised me to believe there were no limits, encouraged curiosity, education, and ambition. I was also deeply inspired by Frances Hesselbein of the Girl Scouts, whose leadership and innovative model showed the power of leveraging volunteers to create outsized impact. She reinforced for me that great leadership elevates others and makes more possible. That perspective continues to shape how I lead, mentor, and create opportunities for those around me.

WHAT DOES WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT MEAN TO YOU?

Women empowerment means believing in someone's potential, helping her identify her unique strengths, and giving her the confidence and skills to grow. It is about opening doors, offering support, and then trusting women to chart their own path, make strong decisions, and learn as they go.

HOW ARE YOU SUPPORTING THE NEXT GENERATION OF FEMALE LEADERS?

I support the next generation of female leaders by helping women turn ideas into action. Every day, I work alongside female small business owners as they build companies, create economic independence, and model leadership for their families. I am especially moved when their daughters witness that journey firsthand. Seeing women lead with resilience, focus, and purpose helps the next generation believe they can do the same.

WHAT IS THE BEST ADVICE YOU HAVE EVER RECEIVED?

The best piece of advice I have ever received is often attributed to Maya Angelou "People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel." In a world overloaded with information and activity, I try to remember that what matters most is how people feel in your presence.