



Maureen Nugent

Beadoire Glass

GOVERNMENT SAVINGS ESTIMATE*

\$24,409

JobSeeker or pension

\$244,295

Lifetime savings (NVP)



Woman on PPS or JobSeeker



Economic participation /job pathway

Making business possible /self-employment



Job creation

Start generating an income via micro business



Job & income sustained

Sustain income



Welfare & other dependence reduced/eliminated

Increase income and improve financial independence

ECONOMIC SECURITY TIMELINE

Situational circumstance

Maureen is a woman over 50 years old and a devoted mother to her son who lives with a disability. In order to be able to provide her son with the support and care that he needed, Maureen has been self-employed since he was born, running successful face-to-face ceramics and glass beadmaking businesses for 27 years. However, due to COVID lockdowns, Maureen had to make the decision to close her businesses, leaving her with no income and reliant on JobSeeker government income support.

Barriers to mainstream employment

Like many mothers caring for children with disabilities, Maureen needed to be home in those early years, to support her son who lives with a disability and therefore full-time work was not an option. Having to close her business due to COVID, and rely on JobSeeker, Maureen was required to look for work. However, being a woman of almost retirement age who had been self-employed for many years, this was not feasible, and Maureen resorted to trying to build an online business.

Support accessed through Global Sisters

Having always run face-to-face businesses, Maureen was not familiar with ecommerce, social media and 'modern' business practices and knew she had a lot to learn to make an online business successful. It was at this time that Maureen found and joined Global Sisters.

Maureen participated in Global Sisters Sister School where she updated her business knowledge, including important elements such as sustainable business practices, planet friendly packaging and up to date marketing and branding trends.

Maureen also joined Global Sisters Marketplace which provided her with an online selling platform, free brand promotion and customer traffic to her online store. Maureen also actively participates in the online Global Sisters community, learning from the Global Sisters team, coaches and other Sisters.

Key milestones achieved

Maureen's ecommerce business began making regular sales and turning a profit. Maureen was able to transition off JobSeeker payments as she now makes enough from her business to support herself and her family.

Current circumstance

Maureen's business is going from strength to strength, it is making an increasing profit and providing her with a strong income. Maureen's pivot to ecommerce and her actions in putting her learnings from Global Sisters into practice, means that she can continue to be self-employed. Maureen's son is now an adult, has attended University and is full-time employed. Maureen attributes self-employment, and her ability to be home with her son in those early years to provide the early interventions required, as key factors to his success today.

Future forecast

Maureen is now of retirement age and could receive the age pension but has chosen to continue to run her own business and make her own income.



"When COVID hit I had to shut down my studio and I felt a bit lost. I was really concerned about income, with my husband on the pension, so I went onto JobSeeker. I then found Global Sisters and decided to refresh my business knowledge and find a new direction. My business is now making a good income. I am eligible for the pension but the sense of purpose, the personal reward that comes from making and selling a product that is financially rewarding is the catalyst I need to continue to strive for success. I tell all of my customers, thank you for supporting my small business and the amazing work of Global Sisters."

*Based on estimated welfare savings, does not include family tax benefit, child care subsidy, increase in taxes paid.