Tell us about your business. What inspired you to get into it, what you self/service you offer, what makes your business stand out and how it impacts you, your community or the environment.

My sister and co-founder, Betty, and I grew up in a small family and I went on to serve as a Captain in the US Army. We realized that we could create stylish bags and accessories that would empower veterans, improve employment, strengthen their family understanding, and reduce suicide. Through our quick loan system, Sword & Plough has supported more than 50 veteran businesses and manufactured over 100,000 lbs of military surplus, and donated 10% of profits to veteran organizations each year.

How would you use the FedEx Small Business Grant money to make a significant impact on your business?

The FedEx Grant is an immediate injection of cash and flow. We immediately hired a military veteran with logistics experience onto our team to fill the position of Assistant Operations Manager. By hiring a veteran into this position, Sword & Plough could expand its production and increase supply chain management. We would use the FedEx Grant to support our veteran material总体规划 to help expand our veteran ambassador program, which is primarily made up of veterans and military spouses.