

## THE WOMAN IGNITE FOUNDATION LAUNCHES EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMME TO SUPPORT WOMEN AT-RISK

**Kingston, Jamaica (17 October 2024)** – The Woman Ignite Foundation (WIF) has officially launched its flagship programme, the **Women at Risk (WAR) Initiative**, a groundbreaking project designed to empower at-risk women between the ages of 18 and 50. The initiative focuses on personal, professional, and spiritual development, helping women reintegrate into society and achieve their long-term goals. Launched on Sunday, October 13, 2024, at **Church on the Rock** in Kingston, this marks a significant milestone in WIF's mission to empower women in vulnerable communities. Guided by the biblical principles in Mark 8:36 and 3 John 1:2, the initiative is dedicated to supporting women who have faced trauma, incarceration, abuse, teenage pregnancy, or human trafficking, helping them achieve educational and employment goals.

The **Women at Risk (WAR) Initiative** originated from the **Woman Ignite Success Summit**, which began in 2022 during the COVID-19 pandemic, bringing together women worldwide with a shared focus on empowerment and accelerated success. Now fully launched, the initiative is poised to provide comprehensive support, mentorship, and resources to help at-risk women reintegrate into society and achieve lifelong dreams. The Foundation's mission is to mentor up to 25 women annually through a holistic 12-month programme, offering services such as counselling (group and individual therapy), academic support, business development, skills training, life coaching, internships, prayer, deliverance and stipends for basic necessities. The programme also aims to provide temporary shelter and workplace mentorship where necessary.

At the launch, **Keneshia Nooks-Blake**, Founder of the Woman Ignite Foundation, expressed her gratitude for the overwhelming support:

*"I am deeply grateful for the unwavering support of my spiritual covering and husband, **Dailion Blake**, and my co-founder, **Kady-ann Wint**. Heartfelt thanks to our Programme Coordinators, **Dainty-ann Barrett Smith** and **Shelliece Brown**, our Attorney and Legal Advisor, **Dameta Franklin**, and Minister **Rachel Delhall** for leading the spiritual support team. I also want to sincerely thank all of our donors, volunteers, and future partners—none of this would be possible without you. Together we are changing the lives and direction of promising women in our country."*

The Foundation's first-year achievements include strategic partnerships with **Pursued International**, **The Women's Centre**, and the **Ministry of National Security**, providing computer training, coaching, and mentorship to young girls transitioning from state care. Donations of nearly **USD \$8,000** raised at this year's **Woman Ignite Success Summit**, boosted by a **USD \$5,000** seed donation, have enabled WIF to kickstart the WAR Initiative's pilot phase and offer support to a total of 20 beneficiaries.

The Foundation is supported by key partners, including **Church on the Rock Kingston** led by Apostle Franz and Pastor Dianne Fletcher, **Pursued International**, the **Ministry of National Security**, **HEART/NSTA Trust**, and **One Integrated Group (ONEGROUP)**. The programme also benefits from the expertise of a distinguished team of LIFE coaches and trainers, including **Bishop Dr. Carla Dunbar**, **Rev Dr. Denise Shaw McKain**, **Chantaeu Munroe**, **Dr. Sara Lawrence Lewis**, **Shamere McKenzie**, **Krystal Tomlinson**, and **Natalie Taylor**.

-more-

Mrs. Nooks-Blake reaffirmed the Foundation's mission:

*"Our mission is clear: we are committed to mentoring and uplifting 25 women each year, guiding them through personal and professional development. Our goal is to equip these women with the tools and resources they need to successfully restore their foundations, reignite their dreams, and access new opportunities for personal growth."*

The **Woman Ignite Foundation** remains steadfast in its commitment to transforming the lives of women across Jamaica through the **Women at Risk (WAR) Initiative**. The programme will guide participants through six phases including needs assessment, personal empowerment, workforce training, social engagement, internships, and a final graduation marking their success. To learn more about the WAR Initiative or to donate, visit [womanigniteja.com](http://womanigniteja.com) or [spurropen.com/WISSGIVING](http://spurropen.com/WISSGIVING).

###