I AM A GIRL

PARTNERS Guide to Impact

2017 - 2018

BARBADOS

Partner Issue

T AM A GIRL BARBADOS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 03 Dear Friends
- 05 The 'Why'!!!
- 06 Our Impact
- 07 Programme Guide
- 10 Project Guide
- 11 Become A Partner
- **12** Waiting To Thank You!



PARTNER ISSUE

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By Alian Ollivierre Founder and Director

"DON'T WAIT FOR CHANGE, CREATE IT..."



YLAI Certificate Signed By President Barack Obama

DEARFRIENDS,

As we move towards many more years of existence I AM A GIRL BARBADOS is swiftly progressing. With an enthusiastic volunteer base, and a consistent increase of our menteeship pool, of girls ages 5 to 18, we are deepening our roots within underserved communities across Barbados.

We are extremely fortunate, not only to have been recognized in London, England, within just our 1st year of existence, for the impact we have been generating, but also to have been supported by many amazing partners [Social, In-Kind, Monetary] locally, regionally, and internationally, who, like us, are dedicated to addressing the needs of the youth.

Additionally, being selected as one of the Professional Fellows for the Inaugural President Obama's Young Leaders of the Americas Iniaitive in 2016, based on the work of I AM A GIRL BARBADOS, has demonstrated we are definitely doing something right.

I stand proud, as Founder, to share with you our desire to continue our work towards a more sustainable level of growth for girls, a more comprehensive formula for community spirit enhancement, a prioneer for creative techniques to assist the mental health challenges of youth within the Caribbean, and an empowerment boost that will ensure long standing progress occurs in Barbados.

This work would not be possible without the many individuals who have believed in our mission so much that they have given their time, money and energy to the community's growth, and I take this time to say thank you for supporting my vision thus far.

I look forward to yet another impactful year of forging relationships with our existing and new partners, building an everlasting sisterhood among the girls, challenging their thinking, sensitizing our society about the emotional and mental challenges plaguing our girls, changing lives, providing opportunities for many, and motivating the leaders inside them all.



sisterhood



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT | MENTORSHIP | CAPACITY BUILDING | ADVOCACY

From age 5 and beyond...



...girls "at risk" are going through various issues, whether at home, in their communities and/or at school; i.e. broken homes, sex trafficking, rejection from family, neglect, violence and abuse, rape, seeking out acceptance in unhealthy relationships and friendships, and the lack of positive role models in the family or surrounding environments. They do not typically have the guidance and support they need to adequately function, plus the community spirit in Barbados is completely lost. This influences the likelihood of them engaging in anti-social behaviour; i.e. truancy, low academic achievement, drug and alcohol abuse, self harm, depression along low self esteem, suicidal thoughts, underage sex, and involvement in crime. If left unaddressed, the likelihood is high of the girls entering the juvenile justice system, mental illness institutions, rehab or falling victim to child/teen pregnancy.

MISSION

To inspire, empower, and provide opportunities for young girls to lead, and create positive change.

VISION

To develop a positive shift in community spirit, and built an everlasting sisterhood among girls of every variety of background, locally and regionally.







GENERATION Y

THIS IS OUR FLAGSHIP PROGRAMME WHICH CONSISTS **OF**....

...aiding the girls (mentees) and their families to function effectively as a unit with a structured support system in place. It is built on the premise that early intervention is key to helping youth develop more positive behaviours and attitudes for self and others.

We provide a safe space, while allowing for mentorship to be at the core of the services offered, and build the girls' capacity as leaders, where they eventually become peer mentors, partners within community development, and comprehensive citizens of Barbados.

Our techniques are formulated around dramatherapy, and emphasis is placed on our philosophy, 'Reach One, Teach One', where in true community spirit for every one girl we reach they in turn must guide another.

GIRLS CLUB This element allows us to regularly check in with the girls, apply our mentorship model consistently, both directly and peer to peer, aid in their development through capacity building, and contribute to their academic success.

EASTER RETREAT This element is a four (4) day sleep

in activity, which allows for a more close knit process to occur, and greater bonds to be built. It is used as a means to challenge the minds of our mentees within an isolated and creative space.

SUMMER CAMP

This element is a daily activity for a select amount of weeks during summer, annually, where greater time is spent practicing solutions and social necessities require to comprehensively grow for self and community.







THE I AM A GIRL BARBADOS COMMUNITY WON THE INAUGURAL 'WITH AND FOR GIRLS' 2015 AWARD IN LONDON, ENGLAND, WHICH AIDED IN PROPELLING OUR MANDATE.

The core of our success was based around the formula below, where we are the only entity within Barbados and throughout CARICOM territories providing Dramatherapy, Creative Expression, and Cognitve Behavioural Therapy mechanisms, on a mainstream scale and community level, towards comprehensive youth development.

We provide a rare opportunity for our mentees and their families to be exposed to transformative techniques used internationally, through our partners; in addition to creating a space where our members and volunteers, once engrained in the Community, have an opportunity to learn, from the expertise of a UK therapeutic practitioner, supportive and valuable tools for usage within our holistic mentorship model.

Additionally, as part of our community structure, our mentees are involved in all decision making processes, as it relates to both our Flagship Programme, and the Community as a whole. At any stage from planning to execution the girls may contribute their thoughts, ideas and concerns, which are automatically transmitted to any changes needed. Hence, we are not only doing work for them but also with them.



08



"I HAVE BEEN A MENTEE FOR 1 YEAR AND BECAUSE OF I AM A GIRL I LOOK AT MY ATTITUDE DIFFERENTLY. MY ANGER IS LESS, AND I ACT MORE FROM LOVE."

"BEING IN I AM A GIRL HAS TAUGHT ME HOW TO HAVE A SISTERHOOD WITH OTHER GIRLS. I DO NOT TRUST EASILY SO IN THE PAST I WOULD JUST NOT CARE."

"THE COUNSELLORS HAVE HELPED ME TO REALISE THAT IT IS BEST TO SURROUND YOURSELF WITH POSITIVE PEOPLE, AND STEALING IS NOT WORTH IT."

"I HAVE LEARNED TO LET NEGATIVITY ROLL OFF MY SHOULDERS. AT TIMES GIRLS GET TOO CAUGHT UP OVER WHAT PEOPLE SAY ABOUT THEM WHEN IT'S NOT TRUE."

"I HAVE ONLY BEEN TO SUMMER CAMP 2016 BUT I LEARNED THAT YOU SHOULD KNOW YOUR WORTH, NOT TO LET PEOPLE MANIPULATE YOU, AND EVERYTHING DOES NOT NEED A RESPONSE."



SMART, RESILIENT & STRONG

PROJECT GUIDE

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...is a project aimed at engaging both girls and boys to cast a positive vision for themselves, and their country, for the next fifty (50) years, and develop actionable goals that can be achieved during that time for future success. It will be executed as a series of workshops, seminars, and conference style elements that will empower, inspire, sensitise, and build capacity around varying issues surrounding their societal growth.

Our vision is to repeat these elements, in intervals, and maintain contact, guidance and accountability with each generation between now and 2066. We would incorporate champions to the cause, and aim to include inspirational figures, some of which will be real life examples of what can be possible even if there are challenges in their lives, and moments that they feel to give up. We want to show them that they too can achieve greatness for themselves, and our country, no matter what they may be facing daily.



Members of the I Am A Girl Barbados 'Champions of Impact' enable our community to increase the number of girls served, who will be exposed to numerous opportunities for development of their strengths, to break current social barriers, achieve their full potential, be supported through mentorship, and give back to others, as they are helped along the way.

THANK YOU!!!



BEHIND HER SMILE



IS A GIRL with fears, challenges, ideas, strengths, and many dreams...

WAITING FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

www.iamagirlbarbados.com