



Overview

Women of Distinction Inc. (“WOD”) based in Georgia started its work in the underserved communities of Atlanta and its suburbs in 2005. This laid the foundation for the organization becoming incorporated as a 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Organization on December 27th, 2010. The mission: WOD strive to empower women and their families to achieve their full potential.

Women of Distinction In doing so, WOD provides opportunities for women and their families by facilitating access to community resources such as healthcare, education, mentorship, and other tools for success.

Four established programs help the organization achieve its goals:

1. **Mentorship (Youth Programs):** A Youth Program includes educational programs such as Coding, mentorship (which includes presentation skills, dressing for success, educational scholarships and more).
2. **Health:** An annual Health and Wellness Fair which provides health education, health screening and resources at no cost to recipients
3. **Veterans:** Our “Combat Boots to Stilettos” program supports female veterans transitioning from military to civilian life, and
4. **International:** Young African Leaders Initiative (“YALI”) in which WOD partner with Clark Atlanta University. WOD Created a Leadership Program title: Transfer of Knowledge. A new group of young adults from Africa visits the United States annually (June timeframe). They attend 2 events with WOD – Empowerment Luncheon whereas they have an opportunity to be introduced and network with a wide-array of professionals. The second event is a “Fireside Chat” whereas top-tier executives in Georgia gather to share knowledge which includes Best-Practices in managing a productive and successful business which includes tools for YALI to take back to African and share the knowledge gained with other young African Leaders.

Youth Program

WOD has approximately 138 mentees. WOD Started mentoring the young ladies in middle school (8th Grade) and they are now upcoming seniors (12th) in high school. The program created and established is called: A Circle of Women. Additionally, WOD remain in contact scholarship recipients to support their success as they further their higher education.

Annual Health Fair

According to the Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (OASH) Approximately “1 in 10 people in the United States don’t have health insurance... and may not be able to afford the health care services and medications they need.” As a result vital preventive screenings are missed resulting in increased healthcare cost. The brainchild of founder and CEO Alfreda Stukes, our annual health fair has established partnerships with Healthcare organization to



provide screenings, information and resources for some of the major chronic conditions that plague underserved communities. These include: hypertension, diabetes, sickle cell disease and HIV/AIDS screening.

Combat Boots to Stilettos Initiative

The mission of the Combat Boots to Stilettos Initiative is to provide a sisterhood in which female veterans can effectively transition from military to civilian life through mentorship. Our goal is to offer the life skills needed to navigate and successfully overcome the challenges of moving from surviving military life to thriving in the civilian world.

Young African Leadership Initiative (YALI)

YALI is a program under the United States Department of State. It was begun in 2010 by President Barack Obama. Clark Atlanta University (CAU) is a host of this annual initiative.

HOW THE CONNECTION STARTED: A Director, at Clark Atlanta University (CAU) contacted WOD Founder and requested support in creating Leadership initiatives. WOD Founder, created a program call: **A Fireside Chat ~ “transfer of knowledge.”** The International Program was piloted four (4) years ago. It has been noted that WOD International Leadership Initiative: **A Fireside Chat ~ “transfer of knowledge”** continues to be very successfully and one of the top programs that YALI has enjoyed. The Fireside Chat includes an open dialogue and Q&A with Top-tier Executives in Georgia that includes Best Practices that the citizens from Africa can take back to their countries and use as a guide/reference in addition to sharing with other young leaders in Africa.

Specialty Outreaches: In addition to these programs, WOD does specialty outreach throughout the year. They include:

- “*Mother's Day Visits*” to mothers and their children living in shelters. Gifts baskets are assembled by WOD members and distributed to the mothers in the shelters.
- In December we hold an *Annual Healthy Breakfast with Santa Claus* and distribute new toys to children from the inner city who may not otherwise receive gifts at Christmas.
- Our annual *Empowerment Luncheon* is our signature fundraising event held in June of each year. Funds raised provide scholarships to young ladies in pursuit of higher educational excellence. The Luncheon also serves as a forum in which we honor exemplary female leaders both locally and nationally for their achievements. This provides exposure and examples to our scholarship recipients of females in our communities that are making a difference.

For additional information, we invite you to visit our website for more information or contact us at www.wodatlanta.org.