

# **PDDBM Revolutionizes Equity & Empowerment for African American Communities**

## **Press Release**

For Immediate Release

### **Title: PDDBM Revolutionizes Equity & Empowerment for African American Communities**

Vancouver, WA - January 8, 2024 - Please Don't Die Black Men (PDDBM), a groundbreaking nonprofit organization, spearheads a transformative movement, advocating equity and empowerment within African American communities across America, grounded in the personal story of its Chairwoman and President, Ruby N Lewis.

PDDBM emerged from Ruby N Lewis's personal journey, witnessing her daughter's heartbreaking struggle with microaggressions, implicit bias, and systemic racism within Vancouver's public school districts. Despite the adversity faced, Ruby N Lewis channeled her passion for social justice into

creating impactful initiatives that address critical societal challenges.

"PDDDBM is more than an organization; it's a beacon of hope, equity, and inspiration," shares Ruby N Lewis. "Having experienced the devastating impact of systemic racism on my daughter, PDDDBM is my commitment to ensuring no child endures such injustice."

PDDDBM's multifaceted programs include educational opportunities, cultural events, scholarships, and skill-building initiatives like the Start-to-Finish Short Film Program, Fashion Design Program, and Journalism initiative (PROUD magazine). These initiatives empower African American youth with skills, opportunities, and platforms to thrive.

The organization's annual Black History Month Fashion Show celebrates African American impact in US fashion, spotlighting historical contributions while addressing systemic challenges faced by young African Americans. Additionally, PDDDBM hosts an immersive Kwanzaa event, a celebration of African culture and traditions.

"Our events aim to instill pride, amplify voices, and advocate for equity," states Ruby N Lewis. "PDDDBM's commitment lies in empowering future generations, offering free training in critical fields and combating systemic barriers hindering African American progress."

The absence of funding and support poses a critical challenge to sustaining these vital programs, threatening essential services provided to African American youth. PDDDBM appeals to local vendors, volunteers, sponsors, donors, fashion designers, and media outlets to rally behind their cause and support their mission.

"The impact of these programs on African American youth is immeasurable. Their success relies on the support of our community," emphasizes Ruby N

Lewis. "We urge individuals and organizations to stand with us in empowering these young individuals and fostering a brighter future."

PDDBM's funding needs, intertwined with impactful storytelling, echo narratives of resilience, hope, and aspiration for African American youth. Each program and event is deeply rooted in real experiences, fostering the promise of a better future. Seeking support from media, newspapers, and TV stations, the organization aims to amplify its mission, instigating positive change and fostering equity within African American communities.

**Noteworthy Facts:**

- According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Suicide ranks as the #10 cause of death in the entire state of WA, while the Pacific Northwest Suicide Prevention Resource Center highlights it as the #2 cause of death for 10-24-year-olds.

For inquiries, interviews, or further information, contact:

Ruby N Lewis

Chairwoman and President, PDDBM

Contact Information: (360) 241-4479 or [ceochair@pddb.org](mailto:ceochair@pddb.org)

Website: [www.pddb.org](http://www.pddb.org)

Join PDDBM in their mission to foster equity, empowerment, and inspiration within African American communities nationwide.

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