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Calling Young People to Level Up: City of Refuge Worship Center Conference Billed as Event Unlike Anything Else in Territory

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ST. CROIX — A group of twelve millennials and Apostle Mona Barnes of the City of Refuge Worship Center are calling upon the public—especially young people—to the Level Up Conference, themed “Becoming the Best You”. The conference will take place on Friday, July 2 at City of Refuge Worship Center.

Registration and brunch are from 10:00-11:30 am. The main event will take place from noon to 8:00 pm.

“The young people in my ministry are passionate about their generation and what it’s going to look like for them 10, 15, 20 years from now,” pastor Barnes expressed. “They were the

masterminds behind this conference, and they put forth every effort in every detail to make sure it'll be encouraging for fellow millennials."

Rishaun Burke, a member of City of Refuge ministry and owner of Wire Armor, LLC shared with The Consortium that this event will be "an experience that will change your life and mindset." He continued, "You will get an experience like you never had on island before."

Attendees can expect talks from panelists, upscale dining, networking opportunities, and entertainment with a wide range of music genres.

Spokespersons and panelists will include songwriter and producer Theron Thomas, singer and producer AJ Ventura, chef Julius Jackson, and main guest speaker Pastor Tye Tribbett, a Grammy Award-winning gospel recording artist.

The speakers at the conference will show that "there's another way besides the drugs and the killing—what we're seeing in our community," shared pastor Barnes. Her calling, she shared, is to prepare the next generation of leaders, teaching them to allow their gift to make room for them.

"All the guests that will be on the panel will be sharing their own story from where they came from to where they're at now and what [it took] for them to be successful today," Mr. Burke stated.

Guest speaker and Congresswoman Stacey E. Plaskett shared in a statement to VIC, "Young people have a tremendous amount to grapple with and overcome. They face the significant dilemmas of a sometimes exaggerated sense of their own importance and self-indulgence, yet they are remarkably bold, innovative, and daring."

The congresswoman said that she will relay the struggles and triumphs she faced to inspire and motivate young people. "It is my hope and continual prayer that they will have the grace, grit and perseverance to face and overcome the challenges that our world hurls at them and eventually become and demonstrate the very best of all of us," Ms. Plaskett said.

The conference is not just open to young people, so everyone ages 16 and up are welcome to register at www.crwcv.org. The cost of attendance is a \$100. "It may seem like a lot but think about all the value you will be getting out of the conference," Mr. Burke said.

If interested in sponsoring an attendee or in need of sponsorship to attend, contact 340-244- 5110 or 340-244-3515. The max occupancy is 200 people due to Covid-19 mandates. Masks and social distancing are mandatory.

City of Refuge Worship Center is located at 303 Barren Spot, Christiansted, VI 00820.