



**Akelia A. Lawrence, MSW**

### **BIOGRAPHY**

Jamaica Impact, Inc. (JAMPACT) is an organization with immense community service potential, much of which is yet to be tapped. Akelia Lawrence envisions JAMPACT being a leading community building organization, which will be recognized as such in the Jamaican community and globally. Akelia believes that JAMPACT's future should yield an organization that is durable, relevant and provides quality life-changing services to the Jamaican people.

As the presidential candidate, Akelia is ready to secure that future for JAMPACT, regardless of the challenges that are sure to come. Below is a brief outline of her background, vision and objectives for JAMPACT and Jamaicans by extension.

### **Education**

- Bachelor of Arts – Economics, Stony Brook University
- Masters of Social Welfare, Stony Brook University

### **Relevant Experience**

- JAMPACT Secretary within administrative year 2005-6, and from September-December 2006.
- Current JAMPACT Vice President. In this capacity Akelia facilitated, with other team members, the restructuring of JAMPACT's advisory board; conducted community outreach; is currently coordinating this year's major fundraiser (fashion show/party); amongst other activities.
- Professional Social Worker since July 2005. Akelia is currently working with Catholic Guardian Society and Home Bureau as a Social Work Supervisor. This includes supervising a staff of social workers and therapists servicing foster care youth.

Her involvements also include work with other community service groups/organizations in varying capacities such as the Southeast Queens Neighborhood Network, and Malika Kambe Umfazi Sorority, Inc.

*JAMPACT Board Elections 2008*  
*Akelia Lawrence for President*  
*Camile Beckford for Vice President*

**Vision**

Jamaica Impact, Inc. (JAMPACT) will be one of the leading community building organizations servicing Jamaicans in Jamaica and across the world. Additionally, through partnerships and collaborative efforts with other organizations and members of the community, JAMPACT will contribute to the prosperous enhancement of the lives of Jamaican people, and by extension humanity, through social welfare programs.

**Immediate Objectives**

Declare Administrative Year 2008/9 as a JAMPACT Year in Review, where resources will be directed towards:

- Firmly establishing and improving JAMPACT's reputation as a credible and needed community building organization.
- Reviewing the organization's structure, including the Constitution, and implementing revamping activities following a strategic planning process.
- Executing limited activities through the Administrative Year 2008/9, so as to facilitate long term planning. Particular focus will be on the 10<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary Celebration.

Akelia is undoubtedly qualified by way of training and experience in the not-for-profit industry, along with her ongoing leadership experience with JAMPACT. Additionally, she is very passionate and dedicated to the work of JAMPACT, as it looks to serve the not so privileged members of Jamaican community and address key social issues. Akelia is rightly positioned to lead the organization to the next level of service, and clearly understands how to efficiently and effectively marshal **'our collective energies, intelligence and resources'** for the betterment of Jamaicans.