

October/November 2015

Integrity Women In Business Center, Inc. 501(c)3



Integrity Women In Business Center Inc.'s mission is to inspire economic development in the Territory of the Virgin Islands. Our programs provide management and technical assistance to VI residents, especially women who are economically or socially disadvantaged. Our innovative and multilingual training and counseling programs are geared to help our diverse population get out into the ever changing, competitive workforce or start and grow sustainable small businesses.

Points of Interest/Events

- Celebrating the Women of our Community
- **Networking Events**
- Sponsorship Opportunities
- 2015 VI Women's Lead-HERship Symposium and the LeadHERship Cruise
- Our new FB Fan Page is up and running "Like Us" -2015 VI Women's Lead-**HERship Symposium**



Congrats!

To the VI Women's LeadHership Symposium Honorees

> As well as the Organizing **Committee**

And All of the Sponsors

And

Volunteers

You Rock!!!

Integrity Women In Business Center, Inc., (IWBC) hosted the 2015 VI Women's Lead-HERship Symposium on November 11th through November 14th, 2015. The launch of the Symposium commenced on the Island of St. Thomas where over 50 women converged for a celebration of Veteran's and a Power Luncheon. Integrity Women In **Business Center's President** Abbelle Bakr, partnered with Sharon Frame (former CNN anchor, author and coach) and her LeadHERship Cruise members to offer a dynamic afternoon of discussions on power leadership, wealth building and the millionaire mindset. The speakers included Sharon Frame, Millicent St. Clair, Mary H. Parker, Sonia Booker, Regina Mixon Bates, Terrill Dinkens and Charmaine Ward; and what a power fest it was. Virgin Island's very own Brigadier General Deborah Howell and Mona Barnes, Director of VIETMA were honored at this event.

The Symposium spanned all three islands and offered four events to also include a luncheon at the Governor's House at the Battery on St. John, where Pamela Richards Samuel and Angela D. Coleman (of the Sisterhood Agenda) were

were honored. "It is so important to make connections and build relationships for the work that we do. It is important to **Integrity Women In Business** Center Inc., to know and connect with the people that we serve, and this is why, although challenging we decided to hold events on all three islands", says Abbelle Bakr.

On the big island, St. Croix the Symposium continued with a reception at Hotel on the Cay and climaxed on Saturday, November 14th at the Renaissance Carambola Beach Resort with the Master Mind Conference themed "Chosen to Lead". Many women and also some men of St. Croix turned out to support the Honorees at this event that included: Delegate to Congress, Stacev Plaskett, Senator Nelly O' Reilly, Dr. Kisha Christian, Virginia J. Clairmont, Khunuma Simmonds Essanason, Anestine Etienne, Yoki Hanley, Dr. Chenzira Davis Kahina, Clema Lewis, Attorney Lee Rohn, Joanna Samuel, Sana Joseph Smith and Melanie Johannes Titre. The honorees we commended for their dedication to community and their display of leadHERship. The honorees gracefully accepted and spoke from the heart, many times leaving the audience in tears.

more than just workshops and

and discussions, but a time of sisterhood, synergy, healing and a charge going forward, said Abbelle Bakr. Abbelle Bakr presented on the organization's mission, its accomplishments and the launch of its 2016 campaign "Support A Sista" (S.A.S). The charge to the women in the room is that they take the positive energy from the Symposium and extend it onward to the Community. "Support A Sista" is a movement and the embodiment of love and not control, understanding and not judgement, showing your sista what to do through role modeling and not telling her what to do, not isolating her, not putting her in a box and forgiving. "This movement that has started locally will grow globally, as we intend to partner with other organizations worldwide", says Abbelle Bakr.

The Guest Speaker, Patricia T. Morris. PhD., of Women Thrive Worldwide (a new partner of IWBC) was unable to make the affair due to travel issues, but skyped into the conference and spoke on what she sees globally. "Although disparaged, exploited and disenfranchised women run the world", Ms. Morris stated. Women in leadership roles have evolved from the kitchen table, to the Board The Conference turned out to be room table and now to their own Conference table as Entre-

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Make an appointment with one of our Small Business Coaches.

See us at www.ibcvi.com / our non profit foundation or call us ... 340-778-4228



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- preneurs. "Women must be recognized for their LeadHERship roles and the major contributions they make to societies World Wide", says Marsha Cole (local business owner). Other presenters included: Rita A Bakr (United Nations) Chena Davis, Stenneth Daria, Khnuma Simmonds Essanason, Jaynae Edney and Ben Cerilli, Jr. (owner of Chenay Bay Beach Resort and Representative of Independence Bank). Mr. Ben Cerilli, Jr. pledged his partnership to IWBC and his support of the Women of the Virgin Islands via his lending programs at Independence Bank.

Integrity Women In Business Center, Inc. is proud and grateful of the community response and support of their mission and belief that when Women Succeed, Communities Benefit. The many Sponsors of these events included: IBCVI & Co, Hotel on the Cay, Virgin Islands Daily News, JKC Communications, VI Lottery, XO Bistro, Chenay Bay Beach Resort, Independence Bank, The Marriot Frenchman's Reef, Yoki Hanley of Itiba Products, VI Department of Tourism, The Governor's House at the Battery, St. John, Seaborne Airlines and West Indies Corporation.

Special thanks to: BAJO EL SOL GALLERY, ISLAND STYLE WEDDINGS, PINK PAPAYA, CORAL BAY GARDEN CENTER and SALLY'S COUTURE- Scavenger Hunt Participants

"We are looking forward to a successful 2016 as we promote our S.A.S campaign and we are planning for next year's Epic event", Abbelle Bakr.

To learn more about Integrity Women In Business Center, Inc. see us at www.ibcvi.com / our nonprofit foundation or events, also like 2015 VI Women's Symposium on facebook for pic and videos of event.