

# Young Women's Christian Association



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## PRESS RELEASE

The Young Women's Christian Association – Belize (YWCA), today launched its new publication, **Women Empowered to Lead Change: The Story of the Young Women's Christian Association in Belize**. Written by Mr Lawrence Vernon on behalf of the YWCA, the book chronicles sixty-five years (65) of the organisation's life from its inception in 1956 to 2020.

The YWCA Belize is the oldest women's organisation in Belize. At the time of its birth in 1956, the organisation was committed to making opportunities available for the spiritual, intellectual and physical development of women and girls in Belize. As observed by former President of the organisation, Dr Sheree Smiling Craig, in the foreword to the book "YWCA Belize is steadfast in its commitment to community well-being and empowering women. In our 65 years of service, we have accomplished remarkable feats – building infrastructure, providing education, advocating for human rights, and creating pathways for young women." The Book tells these stories.

Joining the YWCA at the presentation of the book and offering remarks were Hon. Dolores Balderamos – Garcia, Minister of Human Development, Families, and Indigenous Peoples' Affairs, and Mr. Yasser Musa, Advisor to the National Institute of Culture and History (NICH) who represented Hon Francis Fonseca, Minister of Education, Culture, Science and Technology, whose Ministries made possible the publication of the Book. Author of the book, Mr Lawrence Vernon, and former Vice President of the YWCA, Ms Sheryl Terry on behalf of former President Dr Craig also spoke at the event.

Get to know the story of the YWCA Belize! Get your copy of the book from the YWCA Belize, St Thomas St & Freetown Road for only \$25.00.

Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> April 2024, Belize City  
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"Providing opportunities for mental, physical, social and spiritual development for all  
with emphasis on women and youth"