

# UNified Ambassadors Programme



**F<sup>⇒</sup>ORWARD**



## About FORWARD

We are the pioneering organisation, led by and for African women working to end multiple forms of violence against women and girls (VAWG) in the UK and Africa.

Our vision is for African women & girls everywhere to live in dignity, thrive, and enjoy optimum well-being.

Our organisational pillars are Partnerships, Prevention, Protection, and Provisioning of specialist support services.

# What is the UNIfied Ambassadors Programme

## Elevate Young Women of Black and Ethnic Minorities

To nurture young women from Black and Minoritized backgrounds, empowering them to become resilient leaders and drive positive change within their universities.

## Address Intersectional Challenges

The Ambassador programme with FORWARD will address gender and intersectional issues, focusing on combating Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG).

## Build Agency and Amplify Gender Justice

UNIfied aims to support young women's agency, amplify their voices, and empower them as activists to build a community dedicated to end gender inequality and VAWG.



# What is expected of UNIfied Ambassadors

## Inform FORWARD's Work

The Ambassadors will inform and shape advocacy efforts addressing violence against women and girls on university campuses.

## Undertake advocacy action

Ambassadors will undertake advocacy and raise awareness through campaigns and events to educate students about sexual and gender-based violence.

## Promote Solidarity

Ambassadors encourage conversations about the importance of cooperation and solidarity in fostering systemic change.

## Mobilise your community

Ambassadors bring together women from black and ethnic minoritised backgrounds to advocate for social change on FORWARD's issues within university campuses.

## Lived experiences of Women of Colour

# The need for the UNified Programme

**EQUALITY, FREEDOM & JUSTICE FOR ALL**  
**ACTIVISM LED BY YOUNG WOMEN**  
**ETHNIC MINORITY VOICES**  
**ORGANISATIONS**  
**INT'L DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN**  
**VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS**  
**LISTEN TO SURVIVORS**  
**SISTERHOOD**  
**NO to Sexual violence**  
**#ORANGE THE WORLD**  
**LEGISLATION**  
**END PUBLIC HARASSMENT**  
**COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS**  
**INTERSECTIONALITY**  
**UNIVERSITIES & COLLEGES**  
**NUMBERS ARE TOO HIGH**  
**25 NOVEMBER**  
**#NO EXCUSE**  
**EXPRESS YOURSELF**

**ATTACK ON WOMEN'S FREEDOM**  
**REPRESSIVE TOWARDS WOMEN**  
**CONTROL**  
**LIMIT THE WOMAN'S SEXUAL DESIRES**  
**DONE WITHOUT WOMEN'S CONSENT**  
**REINFORCE GENDER IMBALANCES**  
**Societal impact**  
**VIOLATION OF A WOMAN'S RIGHTS AS A HUMAN BEING**  
**A FORM OF CONTROL**  
**TAKE AWAY THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN**  
**CONTROL OF WOMEN'S BODIES**  
**PATRIARCHAL VIOLENCE**  
**OVERRULING WOMEN AS PEOPLE**  
**TAKE A WOMAN'S CHOICE AWAY FROM HER**  
**UNFAIR**  
**A MEANS OF CONTROL**

# Addressing gender & racial inequality

## Normalised Sexual Violence

Sexual harassment and violence are embedded and ingrained in campus life.

*“Once I left university, I realised how much of it was normalised”*

## Underreporting

University support services are inadequate for Black and ethnic women who have been sexually assaulted.

## Consent is blurred

Notions such as women are “pleasure chasers” and “what were you wearing?” form the basis of unwanted sexual attention and not seen as victims.

## Disproportionate Impact

Fresher’s week was commonly reported as a time when sexual violence or extreme forms including drugging occur. This impacted adversely on wellbeing.



# Ambassadors' requirement

## Show Up

Our ambassadors should show up and be passionate about activism for the rights & dignity of women and girls to be free from abuse and harm.

## Commitment

Ambassadors commit to a full year in the programme, attending regular meetings and events.

## Teamwork

They understand the power of teamwork and equal opportunity in effecting change.

## Creative

They develop new and creative ideas to strengthen the campaign on violence against women and girls.



# FORWARD's commitment & support

## Feminist Leadership Training

Ambassadors undergo intersectional feminist leadership training to develop effective campaigns against gender-based violence.

## Ongoing Support

Ambassadors receive support from FORWARD staff and mentors and have opportunities to connect with like-minded peers.

## Skills Development

Key skills enhanced include leadership, team-building, community advocacy, and increased knowledge on violence against women and girls.

# Why Join the UNIfied Programme

## Personal Growth

Develop confidence in addressing sensitive issues and enhancing your leadership abilities and competencies.

## Impactful Leadership

Lead campaigns on your campus to raise awareness and drive change on issues like sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV).

## Skills for Change

Access feminist leadership training and hands-on experience in advocacy and community engagement.

## Ongoing Support

Receive guidance from FORWARD's team and access volunteering and internship opportunities.

## Build a Network

Connect with like-minded peers and mentors, expanding your circle of influence and support.

## Make a Difference

Contribute to ending violence against women and girls while promoting rights and dignity in your community.



## Our UNIfied Ambassadors profile

### **Passionate about gender justice and social change**

The UNIfied Ambassadors must commit to tackling gender justice from an intersectional lens and support FORWARD's mission and vision.

### **Young Women**

The UNIfied Ambassador Programme is for young women from Black and Minoritized communities who want to tackle gender and racial inequality.

### **Study in UK University**

Ambassadors must be studying in a UK university

## How to join UNIfied Ambassador's Programme

### **Are you Interested in the UNIFied Programme?**

Contact us for more information

### **How to Apply**

Fill out the Application form and attach your CV to:

**[youth@forwarduk.org.uk](mailto:youth@forwarduk.org.uk)**



You don't need to be an expert to join UNIFied Ambassador's Programme, we want passion and interest

**THANK YOU**

FORWARD (Foundation for Women's Health Research and Development) is the African women-led organisation working to end violence against women and girls. From female genital mutilation and child marriage to domestic and sexual violence, we tackle abuse and discrimination – enabling African women and girls to achieve the dignity and equality that they deserve.

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