

# Touching the Souls of People Everywhere: Felicia Young Ministries

By Brandale Mills, Contributing Writer



Felicia Young

"In the middle of my mess, I needed a change; I needed a life change." Felicia Young, mother of NFL superstar and Houston native, Vincent Young, knew she needed to change her life in order to accept God's calling for her ministry.

"I didn't want to be greatly blessed but still in my mess," Young said. "He told me that if I told what he did for me and where he brought me from, that He'd touch and save every soul [I spoke to]."

Young said God delivered her from years of drug and alcohol abuse and told her she would receive great blessings through her son, Vincent. Motivated to help women who have experienced similar tribulations, Young prepared herself and her ministry to witness to people all over.

"I called on the name of the Lord and asked him to take the taste [of drugs] out of my life, the urge out of stomach. [I asked him to] change my entire life so I could be who He wanted

me to be in order to accept His abundance," Young said.

Ten years after her deliverance, Young created Felicia Young Ministries to help "meet the social, charitable and educational needs of the nations." Through her work with the Vincent Young Foundation, Young realized many of the young children had a void in their daily lives.

"They're teaching athletics, academics and all that, but we still need to get back to the basics. They seem to be passing up what we need to do and that is Jesus Christ," she said.

The Felicia Young Ministries has four immediate visions:

**Community Gospelfest** – Ministry to the community through music, skits and activities, uplifting and preaching the word of God.

**Soul Winning Conferences** – Conferences designed to inspire and uplift.

**Prison Ministry** – Delivering God's word to those during difficult times in their imprisonment.

**Women Transitional Homes** – Women released from prison often come from homes where they suffered abuse or have experienced drug abuse. In order to break the cycle, these homes will help facilitate their entrance into society.

Young said there have been positive



changes within her ministry and she's been fortunate to have the opportunity to witness to all types of people.

"Prayer has showed me that people have been delivered, people are coming to Christ and people are learning what their purpose is [through my ministry]. Learning that, this [following Christ] is not something you do today, but it is a lifestyle," Young said.

Felicia Young Ministries is preparing to host its first conference Mother's Day weekend beginning May 6th. The Enrichment Mother's Day Conference will be a day of events full of motivational speakers and life applicable seminars. Themed "Standing on the Promises of God," the conference hopes to empower and enrich mothers one another in their walk with God. The day following the conference, Felicia Young Ministries partnered with Extraordinary Events will host a fundraising gala honoring women within the Houston community. All proceeds of the gala will go to the Gulf Coast Community Service Association, a non-profit strengthening the educational, social and

economic well-being of individuals and families.

For more information or to purchase tickets visit [www.feliciayoungministries.com](http://www.feliciayoungministries.com) or [www.extraordinaryeventandcatering.com](http://www.extraordinaryeventandcatering.com).



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## Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church Gear up for Fundraising Fashion Show



Wheeler Avenue Inner City Visions, Inc. and The Women's Guild of Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church will present the 47th Annual Fashion Show & IMPACT Awards Luncheon on Saturday, April 9, 2011 at 11:30 a.m. at the Hilton Americas Houston Hotel, 1600 Lamar Street, in downtown Houston.

The theme for this year's event is "The Family, The Village, The Av-

enue." This year's honorees to receive the IMPACT Award will include: Alaina King Benford, Genora Boykins, Naomi Hines, Charlene Hunter James, and Sandra Organ Solis. The luncheon will consist of an afternoon of entertainment and fine dancing, concluding with an exciting fashion show presented by Dillard's Post Oak Galleria in Houston. The spring fashions will be modeled by adult and youth members of Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church.

The Women's Guild is an all-female auxiliary of Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church which was founded in 1963 in the home of then member, Jewel Sloan. The Guild has set the precedent for implementing fashion shows and luncheons with a distinctive reputation for hosting exquisite shows adaptable for diverse wardrobes. Grounded in fellowship and service to the Wheeler Avenue family and Houston community, The Guild is heralded as the forerunner of

Christian-oriented luncheon and fashion show fundraisers, hosting its first fashion show and luncheon fundraiser in the spring 1964.

Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church is led by Dr. Marcus D. Cosby, Senior Pastor and Rev. William "Bill" A. Lawson, Pastor Emeritus.

Tickets for the fashion show/luncheon on April 9th are \$50 per person or a table of ten for \$500. All proceeds benefit the Educational Assistance Fund to award scholarships to deserving high school graduates within the Wheeler Avenue family and Houston community. For tickets, please contact The Chronicles Bookstore on the campus of Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church, 3826 Wheeler Avenue, (713) 579-2753.