



*Minister LaKisha N. Williams*

**Minister LaKisha N. Williams** is the Youth & Young Adult Minister of the Antioch Baptist Church in Harlem where the Reverend Shon T. Adkins is Pastor. She is also the Youth Minister for Women of Virtue, Honor & Purpose Ministries as well as its Public Relations Executive. She is the Policy and Advocacy Manager at Goddard Riverside Options Center and the Project Manager of #DegreesNYC, a collective action initiative that focuses on postsecondary equity.

She is the former Director of the Youth & Student Movement of Reverend Al Sharpton's Harlem-based National Action Network. In addition, she served as Editor-in-Chief of the NAN NEWSLETTER, the Official Newsletter of the National Action Network, through which she has authored numerous articles chronicling the work of Rev. Sharpton's national organization.

Minister Williams graduated cum laude from William Smith College, where she majored in Religious Studies and Sociology. She received her Masters of Divinity Degree from Union Theological Seminary. She was a writer-researcher for The Malcolm X Project, a multi-media collaborative with Columbia University, the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, and the Harlem Community. She has also co-written three documentary films.

Minister Williams appeared on PBS as a panelist for Professor Henry Louis Gates' series, "The African Americans: Many Rivers to Cross." She also traveled to Costa Rica with Pastor Donna Schambach and The Schambach Foundation. Most recently, she has served as a mediator for the Joint Remedial Process on Stop, Question and Frisk reform in New York City.

Minister Williams' work proposes to educate, empower and enhance the consciousness and quality of life of marginalized communities through its youth and women. Her ministry proclaims the very heart of the Gospel message with clarity and boldness. And

with this as her charge, she travels the country speaking and ministering to the masses in various capacities including at youth & women's retreats and conferences, rallies and on college campuses. Her primary commitment is to those on the fringes of society—those whom Jesus referred to as “the least of these.” Through her scholarship and conscious commitment to struggle, Minister Williams continues the Afrocentric, Womanist and Liberation traditions with sustained indignation and toward a better and more just world.