

YKIA WILLIAMS

FOUNDER, HER SKIN FOUNDATION



Mrs. Ykia Williams is the founder and executive director of HER SKIN FOUNDATION, a nonprofit organization committed to empowering minority women and children with skin conditions through community events, support groups, programs, and other resources. Raised in Waco, Tx, Ykia graduated High school and completed the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation's requirements to receive both cosmetology operator and instructor's licenses.

Ykia worked closely with the community as a cosmetology instructor at Nuvani Institute in Austin, Tx. There she established relationships with high school counselors, started an in-school outreach for teens and young adults looking to make a change in their lives, and assisted many of those she encountered to pathways of success. Advocating for those who could not advocate for themselves

has always been in heart.

At the age of eight, Ykia developed keloid scarring after wounds from chicken pox. Over time, the scarring began to worsen, causing her torment, including bouts with low self-esteem, low self-worth, and physical challenges such as not being able to bend down or walk without pain. After having surgery on a rather large keloid in 2016 and going through several painful shots to lessen the risk of growth, Ykia realized that there was no 100% cure for her disease. In 2018, Ykia, made the decision to start a nonprofit for women and that deal with keloid skin and other skin diseases. While not all diseases are created equal, she understands the mental toll that they have on those affected.

In September 2019, the nonprofit received its 501(c)3 status. Ykia's goal is to ensure that people with skin conditions receive proper research for melanated skin, proper treatment, resources, and empowerment. She believes that through empowerment people will be equipped to live a healthier quality of life.