



NAIDA RUTHERFORD

SPEAKER | AUTHOR | CORONER

Naida Rutherford, aged out of foster care and became homeless 2 days after graduating high school. She stayed with various friends and eventually was able to go to college on an academic and athletic scholarship. She worked six jobs to provide for herself while trying to maintain her scholarships, and was often without the things she needed.

Naida vowed to herself that no other student like her would have the same financial struggle while in school. She has graciously donated toiletries, over \$50k in clothing and shoes to the midlands community in the last year and much more over the last decade. The scholarships awarded through her foundation, the Styled by Naida Foundation, have been given directly to students in an effort to reduce financial strain that may distract students from completing their education.

Naida became a nurse practitioner that provided medical care in a variety of settings including correctional facilities. And most recently, she fused her love of community, healthcare and advocacy by winning a historic election. She became the first woman, first person of color and first medical professional to be elected to The Richland County Coroner's Office in the 173 since its establishment. As a hobby, Mrs. Rutherford authored The Naida Method, a guide for everyday women searching for their individual style. She believes that presenting your best self, regardless of profession is one of the first keys to success.

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