

## Wendy Evangeline Ryan Biography



Wendy Evangeline Ryan is a missionary and the Founder of Evangeline Ministries, a Life Skills Program for HIV positive and other disadvantaged women in the township of Masiphumelele, Cape Town, South Africa. Wendy has devoted the last 35 years of her life to service in church work as a journalist and speaker.

In 2006, Wendy was called to South Africa to work with women who expected to die from AIDS. With the onset of antiretroviral drugs and cleaner living conditions provided through US Federal Government funding, they weren't dying but they were living without hope. Evangeline Ministries under Wendy's leadership and hard work, teaches Basic Sewing, Computer and English Skills as well as Bible lessons, to a capacity 48 students annually in two six month semesters. Upon successful completion of their course, Evangeline Graduates are each given a new sewing machine and a Bible as well as certificates of their achievements.

Wendy was born in Trinidad and Tobago, West Indies and came to the United States in 1972 after a seven year career in radio broadcasting in Trinidad. Wendy was a primary news reader and produced and hosted both a children's and

woman's program.

In 1973, Wendy enrolled in Eastern College and in 1977 graduated cum laude with a degree in English Literature and Communications.

Wendy was recruited by the American Baptist Churches (ABC) USA to work in their Division of Communications to write for the denominational magazine and produce voice tapes and videos for their programs. She served with the ABC for nine years, first as a Director of Communications in the ABC Board of Education and then as Director of Public Relations in the Board of International Ministries. During her time in the ABC Wendy was known for her excellent writing skills and for introducing new approaches to engaging churches in the work of the Mission Board. Wendy also travelled worldwide to report on the mission work of the ABC and was a speaker nationwide for the denomination. In between her work with the ABC Board of Education and the Board of International Ministries, Wendy served for one year as Director of Public Relations of Eastern College and Seminary.

In 1988, Wendy accepted an invitation to work as the Director of Communications for the Baptist World Alliance (BWA). In this position, Wendy directed global communications and travelled worldwide to report on the ministry of Baptists who belonged to the BWA. This included both innovative print, and visual communications, still used by the BWA. Wendy directed the global press rooms for the BWA Congresses in Seoul, Korea; Buenos Aires, Argentina, Melbourne, Australia and Birmingham, England. She also directed global press rooms for the BWA Youth Congress in Harare, Zimbabwe, Hong Kong and Texas, USA.

Wendy served on the Board of **Tony Campolo's EAPE from XX-YY.**

Wendy resides in Cape Town South Africa and is the daughter of Eulah and Norris Ryan (deceased), devoted sister to four siblings and the loving aunt of seven.

**Wendy E. Ryan**

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*"Every path He leads us on is fragrant with His loving kindness and truth." (Psalm 25:8-10 LB)*