

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**DANA DAKIN OF WOMENSTRUST TO SPEAK AT AUDACIA CONFERENCE  
IN NEW YORK SEPTEMBER 26-27**

NEW LONDON, NH --- Dana Dakin, founder of WomensTrust, will be a featured speaker at AUDACIA's invitation-only international conference to be held September 26-27 in New York City. AUDACIA, a global forum promoting "education for every girl every where," will showcase the latest research findings and best practices concerning gender equality and education, social change, economic development, and violence prevention.

Dakin's talk is part of a program that will be co-presented by leaders and managers of organizations utilizing the best practices for using communications and providing girls with quality education. Dakin joins a celebrated list of speakers, including Archbishop Emeritus Desmond M. Tutu and Mrs. Nomalizo Leah Tutu, AUDACIA's honorary chairpersons, film producer Abigail Disney, ABC News anchor Katie Couric, and head of the Oprah Winfrey Academy Anne van Zyl among others.

"Within communities mired in poverty, girls face formidable hurdles along their educational pathway. In eight years, WomensTrust has sponsored a series of innovations that turn girls into their own advocates and parents into proud partners for reaching goals. By hiring committed local directors who set standards, fill in gaps, and offer basic enrichment training and tools, WomensTrust has gone beyond standalone scholarship aid to create a simple integrated system for keeping girls in school," says Dakin.

WomensTrust (womenstrust.org) is a nonprofit organization that empowers women and girls in Ghana, West Africa, through microenterprise, education, and healthcare, and inspires others to do the same elsewhere.