



## Filmmaker and Advocate Hosts Red Carpet Event bringing the spotlight on Kansas City's Homeless



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: For actress turned filmmaker Anita Cordell, making a difference in someone's life, is what matters most. And making a difference, she certainly is. On September 20th, 2017, she saw her vision— bringing hope to the homeless, become a reality. The actress says "Just a few short weeks ago I was attending a filmmaking festival and learned about an opportunity to host a red carpet event for the movie **Same Kind Of Different As Me**. I truly felt that I was supposed to help make it happen. And now, here we are on the other side of this amazing event! We were able to do what started with just a *spark* of an idea."

Coordinating a team of 50 volunteers, Cordell put together a special afternoon and evening for over 75 homeless and displaced individuals, from the greater Kansas City area. Utilizing social media, she gathered a force of like minded people...barbers, stylists and makeup artists, faith based teams, that provided meals and toiletries, changes of clothing and even showers. As the day progressed a meal was served, haircuts were given, and hugs and smiles were shared. All of the participants were the guests of honor at the Pre-Release Red Carpet Event of the Film.

Standing behind a cause that will bring aid to those in need, and a smile to someone's face, is nothing new to Anita. As an actress in multiple regional commercials, as well as being active in the INDIE film industry, it was only

natural for her to combine her passions for film and advocacy. The Kansas City native says, "A few years ago my husband and I were going through the process of becoming foster care parents. As we became prepared and informed, I began to more fully understand the difficulties of not only children in the foster care system, but also, the homeless in our community...many of whom fall prey to those in the sex trafficking industry. It became my goal to inform and educate people with the ***I Will Rise Project***. The logical next step was to utilize my experience as a film actress, and move into the area of producing and directing films that matter, in a whole new way." With the development of ***River Productions***, Anita produced and directed two award winning short films. Both *House Mother* (2015), which the actress also starred in, and *A Dangerous Profession* (2017) are being used to bring awareness of the sex trade industry.

By supporting Ron Hall's movie, **Same Kind Of Different As Me**, Anita continues to shine the light on the homeless condition, with funds from the ticket sales of the event going to the SKODAM Foundation. All in all this was a perfect cause for the actress on a mission. Ultimately Anita's hope is that in coordinating this event, others will be inspired to become change agents in their own communities.

#### **About Anita Cordell:**

Anita Cordell is an award-winning actress, producer and director based in Kansas City. To date, Anita has over 50 IMDB credited films and 100 regional commercials on her resume. Anita has been involved with the Kansas City Women in Film since 2014 where she has had the privilege of serving as VP and as a board member. For more information about Anita Cordell, please feel free to visit:

Anita's website: <http://anita-cordell.com>

Anita's Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/actressanita/>

Anita Cordell on IMDb: [http://www.imdb.com/name/nm2718789/?ref=nv\\_sr\\_1](http://www.imdb.com/name/nm2718789/?ref=nv_sr_1)

#### **About the I Will Rise Project:**

The **I Will Rise** Project was founded by Anita Cordell to help educate and bring awareness to the devastation caused by the commercial sex/sex trade industry. The **I Will Rise** Project was key in helping to make the Red Carpet Pre-Release Event of the "Same Kind of Different as Me" happen. For more information about the ***I Will Rise*** Project:

<https://www.facebook.com/IWillRiseProject/>

#### **About River Productions:**

Wanting to produce films that will make a difference, Anita Cordell formed **River Productions, LLC**. To date, the company has produced several award-winning shorts, with their first feature now in pre-production. For more information on **River Productions**:

<https://www.facebook.com/RiverProductions/>

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