**#iwill** AMBASSADORS 2015

## ARIANE TAKYI



Name: Ariane Takyi Age: 19 Where I Live: Hampshire

Being involved in social action has opened my eyes to issues – in my community and nationally – that I just wasn't aware of before.

It was during NCS that I first learnt about the impact social action can have on a community. In the final part of the programme I took the lead role in organising our group's social action, on bridging the gap between generations. I knew from then on I wanted to engage with social change, be it on a small or large scale.

Since then, I've always made it my priority to help others and engage more young people in the work I do. I became a Team V leader, giving me the opportunity to recruit volunteers on a whole range of projects. One of the campaigns we chose was on food poverty in the UK – we organised a Christmas meal for those who were homeless and young people who were vulnerable.

It was really important to me that the volunteers I recruited were from a diverse range of backgrounds, as I feel passionately about helping break down the barriers for young people on the BAME (Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic) spectrum to engage actively in change making. I want everyone to have the chance to build their confidence, communication and leadership skills through social action, just like I did.

## **Organisations I've Participated With**

- vInspired (TeamV)
- NCS
- O2 Think Big
- Fixers UK



British Youth Council

- UK Young Ambassadors
- GVN Young Ambassadors
- Greens of Colour (Caucus of Green

Party) Young Greens

**#iwill** actively campaign to get more BAME young people to get themselves involved with campaigns around BAME and community issues.