

A group of women are gathered in a circle on a red carpeted floor. Some women have their backs to the camera, while others are facing it. They are wearing various colorful clothing, including a bright yellow top and a red top. The scene appears to be a social gathering or a community event. In the background, there is a large screen or wall with some text and logos, including "WEL" and "RAINBOW".

RAINBOW OF

MOTHERS

A DOCUSERIES



EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

AND

CREATOR

LEZLEY MCSPADDEN-HEAD

THE DOCUSERIES

Think CNN's show ***W. Kamau Bell's United Shades of America*** meets ***This is Life with Lisa Ling***, add a dash of Iyanla Vanzant's ***Iyanla, Fix My Life***.

RAINBOW OF MOTHERS isn't your typical investigative docuseries or campy reality show. This is real talk, real life, and these are the real stories from the real mothers who know the journey and only they can tell it.

Lezley McSpadden is no famous personality or world renown journalist, she is just an everyday mother still on her quest for answers, justice, and peace. Lezley is now navigating raising her three surviving children, marriage, and trying to find emotional and economic stability, and make sense of the madness.

Each season we meet a core group of 4 mothers in different cities across the country who just like Lezley, are on that same path. They are each coping with the societal and psychological impact after this type of loss.



Lezley's story is the thread and connective tissue. As we get to know her and more about her son and his case, we see her travel around the country, go into the respective city/town of each of her fellow Rainbow Mother. Her arrival sets up the story of each mother, who they are, what happened to their child, and we delve into their personal situations prior, during, and after their child's death.

Since Lezley has walked in these women's shoes as a mother who lost a child, she can have real conversations and get these parents, families, and friends to open up in ways no else can.

There will be a combo of traditional sit-down interviews that dial in the right information to connect all the dots of the story. But Lezley will also be our voiceover/narrator, as the consistent nucleus and voice for these mothers. The camera will capture intimate, raw, and real moments between Lezley and the feature mother(s), as well as rare glimpses into their lives at home, with family, and in the community.

For the first time, viewers get an up close and personal look at how a mother copes with devastating loss of a child. These women have now joined an exclusive club that no one wants to be a member of.

Viewers will be introduced to these real life mothers of sons and daughters who have been killed in some of the biggest and most controversial cases that have rocked contemporary society and media; cases that have sparked a national dialogue and debate about our policing system, racial profiling, human rights, and economic disparity in our communities around the country.

But we will also meet mothers of sons and daughters who have been lost in the same manner whose cases may have never gotten media attention.

“I HAVE THINGS TO DO... I HAVE TO KEEP GOING”





THIS IS



NECESSARY

Lezley McSpadden, is the mother of unarmed 18 year old Michael Brown, who on August 9, 2014 was gunned down in broad daylight, in the middle of Canfield Drive by a Ferguson police officer. Images of his body lying in the street for over four hours went viral, and sparked protests all over the country, eventually gaining international attention and support.

Since the tragic shooting of Michael, his death has become the catalyst for systemic change in our society and is a driving force in what has become a modern-day Civil Rights Movement. His death spawned activist groups like Black Lives Matter and motivated students across the country to stand up and speak out on college and university campuses.

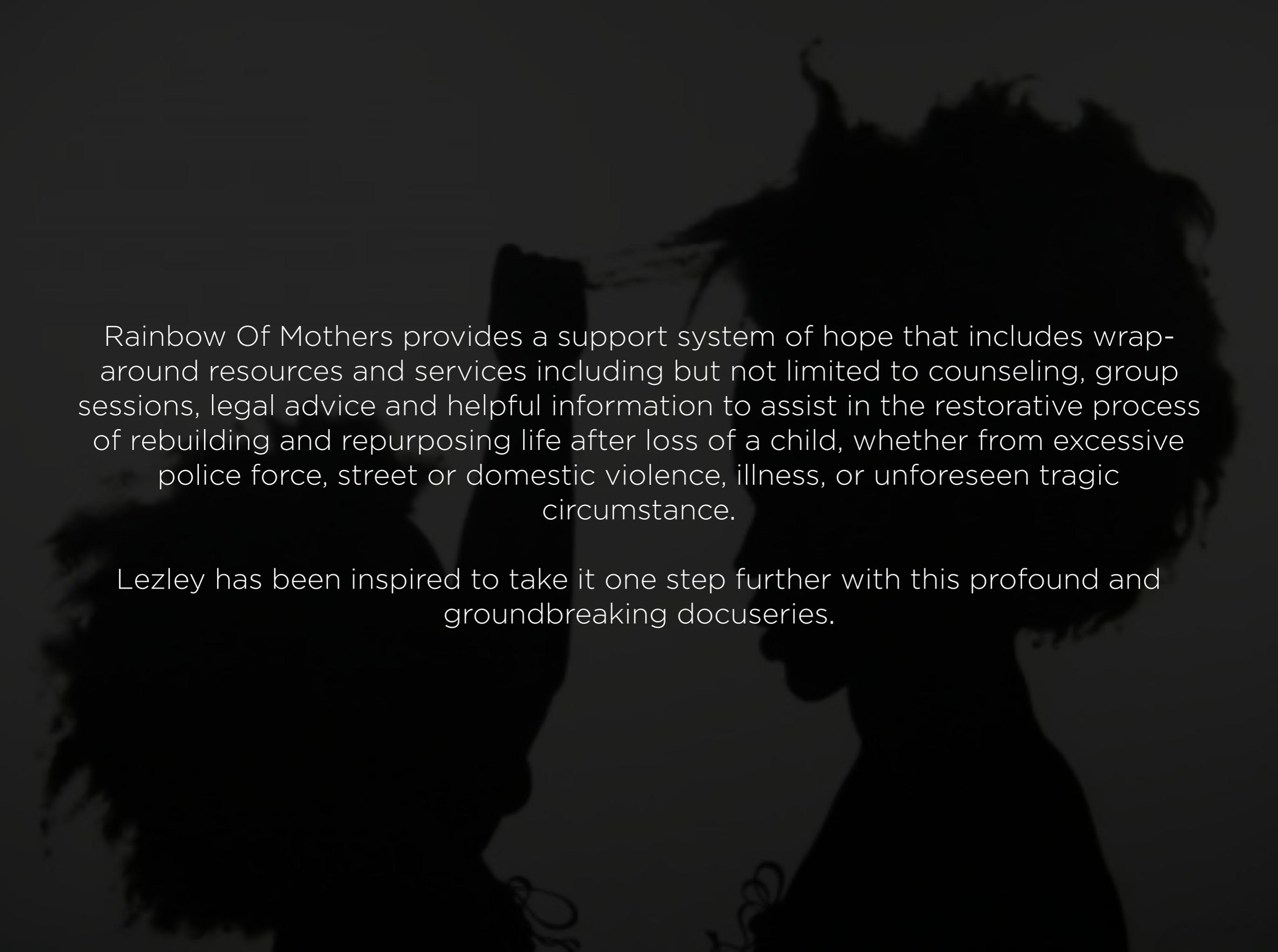
Lezley decided to turn her pain into power, started the Michael O.D. Brown We Love Our Sons & Daughters Foundation; co-wrote and published a book; appeared in Beyonce's groundbreaking video "Lemonade" in solidarity with other mothers; used her own money to help other mothers like her get access to therapists; got her GED; and even ran for Ferguson City Council. Even with all she has worked to push through, the road ahead is long and fraught with pitfalls and obstacles, and she still struggles day to day. In 2020 she still stands at the intersection of FEAR, ANGER, PAIN, and HOPE. But what she refuses to do is give up...

For Mike Mike, her other 3 children, and for mothers like her. . .



LEZLEY CREATED **THE RAINBOW OF MOTHERS**
A PROGRAM WITHIN HER SON'S FOUNDATION . . .





Rainbow Of Mothers provides a support system of hope that includes wrap-around resources and services including but not limited to counseling, group sessions, legal advice and helpful information to assist in the restorative process of rebuilding and repurposing life after loss of a child, whether from excessive police force, street or domestic violence, illness, or unforeseen tragic circumstance.

Lezley has been inspired to take it one step further with this profound and groundbreaking docuseries.



“I FEEL STRESSED AND OVERWHELMED”



RAINBOW OF MOTHERS is a real, raw, and heartfelt series and peels back the layers of pain, exposing audiences to the drama of these women fighting for justice; each mothers' day to day struggle to keep her sanity; rebuilding self and family, and in the end their efforts to heal and find hope again.

All currently living through this unimaginable experience, but at various stages of loss and their legal battles. We hear their pain and frustration, as they fight for justice, communicating with lawyers, public officials, and interacting with people in their communities – supporters and non-supporters.

We witness them trying to support their families financially, spiritually, and emotionally, and move on so that they can be effective for their other surviving children. We also hear and see their joy and pride as they interact with their surviving children, spouses, or significant others, friends, and family.

*“MY HEART AND MY MIND ARE HAVING
THIS FIGHT WITH MY BODY”*



A RAINBOW MOTHER'S EVERYDAY HUSTLE & STRUGGLE

- trying to work a regular job
- inability to work a regular job in light of public persona
- effects of your marriage, dating life or co-parenting situation
- financial situation
- being in the public eye
- mental adjustment
- dealing with family and friendships
- connecting with other parents with the same loss
- frustrations and challenges with the legal system



ALL RAINBOW MOTHERS MATTER

No mother should ever have to bury her child. But it's the reality that so many mothers are living with today. From St. Louis to New York, Oakland to Los Angeles, North Carolina to Chicago, New Orleans to Portland; Atlanta to Seattle...and countless other cities.

With the recent killings of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and Ahmaud Aubrey and the re-igniting of protest and global unrest...it's clear there is an urgency for these mothers to take center stage and share their stories.

RAINBOW OF MOTHERS is a riveting eye-opener that will awaken the consciousness of America, while it pulls audiences into the emotional rollercoaster these fearless mothers live on a daily basis. While most cases like Lezley's reflect the disparities in black and brown communities, Lezley will seek out mothers of ALL racial and cultural backgrounds, who have been affected and afflicted in the same manner she has.

We will also meet many of the RAINBOW OF FATHERS who remain committed to the fight for justice for their lost sons or daughters. These men also stand in solidarity with the mothers of their children whether they are in the same households or no.

Through their tenacity, unity, and sheer will, Lezley, along with the docuseries diverse cast of RAINBOW MOTHERS featured, are the voices of the voiceless. Many of these women, by default have become activists, teachers, and leaders, who are working hard to find themselves again. At the same time they are pushing to bring awareness to the unjust laws and actions in the communities they live in. They each remain hopeful that justice will prevail, and they refuse to be silenced or let their children be forgotten.

Mothers like Lezley will finally have their say...their voices will be heard...they will tell their stories...they will heal together...they will support each other...they will learn from each other...they will rebuild together.

A photograph of four hands of different skin tones clasped together in a circle, symbolizing teamwork and support. The image is dimly lit, with the hands appearing as dark shapes against a slightly lighter background. The text "I CAN'T DO IT ALONE" is overlaid in the center in a white, italicized font.

"I CAN'T DO IT ALONE"



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