

## SPEAKER INFORMATION

**Justin Wren**

Founder

Fight for the Forgotten

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Bullied as a child, Justin Wren responded by transforming himself into a champion mixed martial arts fighter. Despite his success, he questioned the significance of his athletic accomplishments, asking “Is this it? Is this as good as it gets?” As he fought his way to the top and battled multiple injuries that accompanied the profession, he became addicted to painkillers, battled depression, and attempted suicide.

A chance collection of circumstances led Wren to live among impoverished and marginalized Pygmy people in the rainforest. This transformative experience led to his founding of the non-profit Fight for the Forgotten.

Since 2013, his organization has provided more than 52,000 indigenous people with access to clean drinking water and replanted thousands of trees. Fight for the Forgotten also acquired more than 3,000 acres of land in the name of the Pygmy tribe and helped 1,800 people out of slavery and into freedom. Current projects include housing, education, healthcare and sustainable livelihoods through community empowerment.

Known as “the Big Pygmy” – the name his tribal family in the Congo gave him – Justin wrote the book, “Fight for the Forgotten: How a Mixed Martial Artist Stopped Fighting for Himself and Started Fighting for Others.”

He shares his remarkable story on stages across the country and around the world teaching others the tools, tactics and techniques on navigating adversity, finding purpose, and making a meaningful impact in business and life.