

May 2022 Edition

The Advance

The Voice and Resource for Advancing Black Health Equity in California

"The Advance" is a quarterly newsletter that is published by the California Black Health Network (CBHN) providing news, information, and resources that aim to improve outcomes and create a more equitable future and "health story" for all Black Californians.



www.cablackhealthnetwork.org

Message from the Executive Director: Rhonda Smith

It's hard to believe that May is already here and that 2022 is nearly half over. Time flies!

As I reflect on the time over the past few months, so much has happened. Of most significance is the confirmation of Ketanji Brown Jackson as the first Black female Supreme Court Justice. While this is a sign of progress, we still have more work to do to achieve a more just and equitable existence for everyone here in the U.S., especially as it relates to our health and well-being.

[Click Here to read more](#)



Reports & Research

The State of Black Mental Health

The past four years have added new dimensions to racial trauma and stress resulting from the isolation and grief associated with COVID-19 and its disproportionate impact on the Black population. This, coupled with the collective social distress spurred by violence against Black Americans, and the political volatility in the United States, has heightened the need for greater attention to Black mental health. As a result, many individuals seek help to address their mental health, however, help-seeking actions are often thwarted by the historical and inherent mistrust of the healthcare system and lack of access to culturally appropriate mental health resources.

So, what's the solution? This CBHN Perspectives report attempts to answer the questions "What is the state of Black mental health in California?" and "What steps can we take to address the mental health crisis happening before us?" The following data reflects on the state of Black health before the pandemic. However, Lecia Harrison, Executive Director of Be Smooth, helps us answer these questions as we explore what California is doing to increase Black mental health awareness and access to culturally appropriate resources.

A SERIES OF REPORTS

PERSPECTIVES

**STATE OF
BLACK HEALTH**



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*Click Here to read the
Perspectives Report:*

*The State of Black Mental Health
in California*

Statewide Research and Reports

Below is an updated list of research and reports centered on health equity and Black health in 2022:

- [**In Their Own Words: Black Californians on Racism and Health Care**](#): The California Health Care Foundation commissioned interviews with 100 Black Californians to understand their views on health and well-being and their perceptions of discrimination and bias in the health care system.
- [**A Toolkit to Advance Racial Health Equity in Primary Care Improvement**](#): The California Health Care Foundation made this toolkit to offer concrete, practical approaches and resources to help health care organizations to increase quality improvement efforts that center racial health equity.
- [**Key Facts on Health and Health Care by Race and Ethnicity**](#): KFF findings that highlight the most recent reports on health disparities in the Black community.
- [**The Intellectual Roots Of Current Knowledge On Racism And Health: Relevance To Policy And The National Equity Discourse**](#): A resource that highlights how the health of populations is deeply affected by large political and institutional effects.

Policy and Advocacy



CBHN, along with other key partners, is a co-sponsor of the California Health Equity and Racial Justice Fund (HE&RJF), a bold, innovative proposal to provide resources directly to community-based organizations, including clinics, and tribal organizations (CBOs) to identify the most pressing health and racial justice issues in their communities and develop solutions to address them. HE&RJF funded initiatives will: 1) reduce health and social inequities that impact communities of color and other historically marginalized communities and 2) transform community conditions and institutional government systems to promote racial justice.

In another year of historic budget surplus, in addition to the funding for health departments in the Governor's January 2022 budget proposal, co-sponsors support an ongoing commitment of at least \$100 million to the Health Equity and Racial Justice Fund to support CBOs as part of a comprehensive approach to improving the health and well-being of our communities.

On April 22, 2022, a series of justice rallies were held in Sacramento, Los Angeles, Fresno, Oakland, and San Diego. To learn more about the HERJ Fund, visit the official website.

**Health Equity and Racial Justice Fund Rally,
Los Angeles**

Photo Credit: Morgan White

[*Learn more*](#)

Events

Candid Conversation with CBHN

California Black Health Network (CBHN) is introducing a new platform to exchange ideas and information with key community stakeholders. CBHN hosted the first session on March 29 and will continue to host listening sessions, having conversations, sharing information with members, stakeholders and residents to receive input on the future goals of the organization. CBHN will be using this space to discuss shared experiences and produce specific action items based on the conversations shared.

[Learn more](#)

Health Equity Calendar

May 2022

- May 5
 - Big Day of Giving: Thank you to all who supported CBHN during the 2022 Big Day of Giving. You can still donate and support us today on our [website](#)!
- May 17 - 19
 - Black Health Agenda - San Joaquin County Collective Impact Meetings
- May 19
 - World Clinical Trial Day Event Featuring Jeri Lacks and David Lacks of the Henrietta Lacks Family
- May 25
 - Senior Health and Fitness Day Event with AARP

[Click here to stay up to date on CBHN events](#)

CBHN 2022 Health Equity Calendar
REWRITING OUR HEALTH HISTORY IN CA



May is

MENTAL HEALTH MONTH | PHYSICAL FITNESS & SPORTS MONTH | LUPUS AWARENESS MONTH
HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE EDUCATION MONTH | STROKE AWARENESS MONTH

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WELLNESS WEDNESDAY	HEALTH HERO THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SELF-CARE SATURDAY
	2 MELANOMA MONDAY	3 WORLD ASTHMA DAY		5 BIG DAY OF GIVING 2022	6 NATIONAL NURSES WEEK	
CALIFORNIA BLACK HEALTH EQUITY AND ADVOCACY WEEK						
8 WORLD RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT DAY	9	10 WORLD LUPUS DAY	11	12 DR. ROBINSON FOUNT	13	14
NATIONAL NURSES WEEK						
NATIONAL WOMEN'S HEALTH WEEK						
15	16	17	18	19 DR. LYNNE RICHARDSON	20 WORLD AUTOIMMUNE ARTHRITIS DAY	
21	22	23	24	25 AFRICA DAY	26 SONYA YOUNG ADAM	27 NATIONAL SENIOR HEALTH & FITNESS DAY
28	29	30 MEMORIAL DAY	31 WORLD NO TOBACCO DAY	1	2	3
4						

May is National Mental Health Awareness Month and, this year, CBHN is championing getting active and practicing self-care: #MindfulnessInMay and #MoveInMay. In conjunction with our [Health4Life Initiative](#), we are highlighting the tremendous advantages of being proactive about our health and having an active lifestyle. It supports our goal to eliminate health disparities for Black Californians through disease prevention, early detection, and individual empowerment.

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Member Spotlight



Toni McNeil

CBHN celebrates Toni McNeil of Faith in the Valley as our May 2022 member spotlight. Toni McNeil is a full-time Community Organizer with Faith in the Valley of San Joaquin County. She works with various clergy, congregations, community residents, and concrete members surrounding Restorative Justice Issues. Ms. McNeil has been a passionate and involved partner in developing the Black Health Agenda in San Joaquin County, a program that identifies and solves key issues concerning Black Health disparities.

[Watch the full interview here](#)

Meet the Board

Abner Mason, CBHN Board Member

Abner Mason is a leader in driving health equity. Abner is dedicated to creating a more just, equitable, and effective healthcare system. As the founder and CEO of SameSky Health, he leads a team of diverse professionals who strive every day to improve outcomes and lower costs on behalf of health plans. SameSky Health is a post-Series B venture backed company with leading investors including 7wire ventures, Tufts Health Plan, Magnetic Ventures, Salesforce Ventures, and DaVita Venture Group.

Abner has spent decades working to reduce barriers to care faced by underserved people nationally and internationally, from the federal to the local level.

[Read full profile](#)



CALIFORNIA
BLACK HEALTH NETWORK

The Black Health Network

Thank you to our current Black Health Network member organizations!

**Note: Individuals are represented by their organization.*

- A&O Consulting
- A4medicine
- AARP California
- African American Chamber of Commerce of San Joaquin County (AACCoFSJ)
- African-American Community Health Group
- Alameda Health Consortium (AHC)
- American Heart Association (AMA)
- Aspiranet
- Auburn Urogynecology
- Axis Advocacy
- Axis Advocacy
- Black Health Justice Initiative
- Black Patients Matter (BPM)
- Black Trans Lives Matter
- Black Women Birthing Justice (BWBJ)
- Blue Shield of California
- Blue Shield of California
- The Black Wellness Collaborative (B-Well Collab)
- California Pan-Ethnic Health Network (CPEHN)
- California Black Women's Health Project (CABWHP)
- California Department of Public Health
- California Health Care Foundation (CHCF)
- California Health Collaborative
- Caring Across Generations
- CDC Foundation
- Celebrate Life Cancer Ministry
- Christ Tabernacle Church
- Chroma Health Solutions
- Cancer Legal Resource Center
- Community Health Partnership (CHP)
- Community Intelligence
- CryCi the Doula
- Deloitte
- Delta Sigma Theta
- Diversified Therapy Los Angeles
- El Sol Neighborhood Educational Center (ElSolNEC)
- Essential Access Health
- First 5 San Bernardino
- Flourishing Families, Inc.
- GoodRx
- Harmonious Community Solutions
- Health Plan of San Joaquin (HPSJ)
- Global Communities Healthy Start San Diego
- HERStory, Inc
- Inland Empire Concerned African American Churches (IECAAC)
- Imani Consultants PhD, LLC
- Indigodoc, Inc
- It's Essential, LLC
- Jali Enterprises
- Kaiser Permanente
- La Familia Counseling Center, Inc (SacLFCC)
- Laserfiche
- Latino Coalition for a Healthy California (LCHC)
- Lawlen Insurance Solutions
- Leap of Faith Family to Family Support
- LivingLoved Pathways to Holistic Healing
- Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
- Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE)
- Mary Magdalene Community Services
- Maternal Mental Health NOW
- National Pharmaceutical Association (NPhA)
- NCH Healthcare System
- Nextaff Inc.
- Northlake Staffing Solutions
- Office of Dr. Ayesha Hunter, LMFT
- ONTRACK Program Resources
- Orange County Health Care Agency (Mental Health & Recovery Services)
- Overland, Pacific and Cutler, LLC (OPC)
- Palama Muziq Inc.
- Palm Baby Doula



CALIFORNIA
BLACK HEALTH NETWORK

The Black Health Network Cont.

- Parenting For Liberation
- Project Concern International (PCI)
- Peach Tree Healthcare
- Peer Voices of Orange County (PVOC)
- Planned Parenthood of the Pacific Southwest
- Poindexter Consulting Group, LLC
- Providence medical group.. Napa
- Public Health Advocates
- Queen Afua Wellness Institute
- Rady Children's Hospital
- Ravenswood Family Health Network
- Riverside Community Health Foundation (RCHF)
- Riverside County
- Riverside University Health System (RUHS) Women's Health Clinic
- Roots Community Health Center
- RPM
- Riverside University Health System - Public Health: Black Infant Health
- Sacramento County Division of Public Health
- Sacramento Maternal Mental Health Collaborative (SMMHC)
- San Francisco Department of Public Health (SFDPH)
- San Joaquin County Public Health Services
- Santa Clara County Public Health Department
- School Health Clinics of Santa Clara County
- Self Employed
- SISTAHFRIENDS Women's Counseling and Eldercare Management
- Sow A Seed Community Foundation
- Special Needs Network, Inc (SNN)
- State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD) North Valley Hills Office
- Sterlin Wellness Rx
- Tarzana Treatment Centers College (TTCC)
- The Amelia Ann Adams Whole Life Center (AAAWLC)
- The California Endowment
- The Indi Women's Club, LLC
- The Urban Blackwell
- Therapeutic Play Foundation
- TRIANGLE PLUS 1 LLC
- Tuk Tuk Box LLC
- UC Davis
- UC Davis Alzheimer's Research Center
- UC Davis Health
- UC Irvine
- UCSF Black Women's Health & Livelihood Initiative (BWHLI)
- University of California, Berkeley
- Urban Health Group, Inc. (UHG)
- USI Insurance Services
- Valley Ministries MCC
- Village Keepers, Inc.
- Washington Hospital Healthcare System
- West Oakland Health Council (WOHC)
- Women's Cancer Resource Center (WCRC)
- Word + Deed Community Aligned Birthwork
- Yes2Kollege Educational Resources, Inc.

*Become a Member of the
Black Health Network!*



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