

San Bernardino County African American Health Issues

Board of Supervisor's Meeting – August 26, 2008

Dr. V. Diane Woods, Assist Research Psychologist, UCR; and Founding CEO/President AAHI-SBC; resident of SBC, zip 92423

Good Morning Mr. Biane & BOS, thank you for allowing me to speak.

For the record, on August 12, 2008, I delivered to you in close session 5 envelopes with information from the NACCHO about public health core competencies for practice, CDC-10 Essential Services of Public Health, and expressed concerns about the DOH along with key community leaders from IECAAC, WAG, Nubian HIV/AIDS Coalition & CA Congress on Racial Equality. The concerns were: (1) discriminatory hiring practices related to the Director for the DOH, and the Assistant Director not meeting minimum requirements for those positions according to standards of public health practices; and the confirmation of a Medical Officer, who has no training and/or experience in public health; (2) Mismanagement of state and federal funds regarding mandated public health services. To date (10 business days later), I have not received a response from the BOS.

For the record, the DOH is mandated by the DHHS and the CDC to promote health and to keep the population healthy based on target specific local population data. Heart disease, cancer & stroke are the #1, #2, & #3 causes of death in SBC. Slide #1 shows heart disease deaths in SBC residents. Note the significant differences in death among Black residents and all others. This is the definition of a health disparity according to Public Law 106-525, The Minority Health & Health Disparity Research & Education Act of 2000. This data is from our County DOH data files dated back to 1990. For the past 20 years this trend remains the same.

Slide #2 shows stroke deaths. Note again the disparity between Black residents and others.

These rates are at epidemic proportions. The County receives federal and state funds to correct these problems. An investigation is needed to identify what has happened to the funds, and if the funds were used for the intended purpose of reducing this epidemic.

For the record: Mr. Biane, on August 12, 2008 at the BOS public meet-

ing, you identified that SBC has an African American 5-A-Day Campaign. My research identifies that this initiative has been in SBC for 6 years, but this program is not a County funded program. This is a state funded program. The FACT is there is only ONE African American 5-A-Day community program location in the County, at the Temple Outreach Center on Baseline Street in the City of San Bernardino. Reports from the State DOH indicate that state funds support 80% of this program and 20% comes from the Black church. Mr. Biane, 0 funds come from the County. This is not a County funded program. By the way, the program has changed its name to Champions for Change, over a year ago.

My research also indicates that our DOH's Champions for Change Program is funded 100% by state funds.

Our County has an epidemic of heart disease, cancer & stroke. There is no public County funded effort to correct this epidemic. An investigation is needed to identify why the BOS have not responded to request to invest money in the #1, #2, & #3 causes of death, and to determine if there is gross neglect, abuse, and abandonment of the African American population leaving them to suffer and die prematurely.

The IEBNA, AHA, AAHI-SBC, and other outside funders have a target specific program called Heart of Faith delivered in Black churches by Black health professionals. We invite the BOS to invest significant money in this community collaborative, and the DOH Champions for Change Initiative to bring this epidemic under control in the African American population.

Sir, this is what the DOH is mandated to do. This is one area where the County is out of compliance.

(909) 880-2600



In Denver, Microsoft Gives Media the Specialty Treatment at No Cost

Staff Reports

Denver, CO - The 2008 Democratic National Convention in Denver, Colorado is an historic event not just for the Democratic Party but for America. As an African American becomes the nominee of one of America's major parties, even more elements of history will be made behind the scenes taking American politics to a new level.

Technology today is transforming American politics and political campaigning in many ways. In a first for a political convention, gavel-to-gavel video coverage is available worldwide, live or on demand and in high definition, via the convention's official website. This all-access pass is made possible by Silverlight, Microsoft's platform for interactive Web applications and HD video.

Perhaps more telling of the company's commitment to empowering the American electorate is the provisions it has made for members of the press. Continuing with its commitment to help Americans engage in the electoral process, Microsoft is hosting a free "Specialty Media Lounge" to ensure that specialty press have a "home" at the convention.

The lounge is a place for specialty press reporters to work, eat, relax or play with some Microsoft technology at the Denver Convention Center.

Helping with these efforts is the fact that Microsoft is the "Official Software and HD Web Content Provider" for the 2008 Democratic National Convention. Yet free lounges like these can't be underscored. They are crucial to ensuring that reporters scurrying on laptops aren't filing from

bleacher seats, concrete stairwells or isolated in their hotel rooms. Something always appreciated when covering a weeklong event.

We simply see these efforts as a way to support and help expand access to our nation's democratic process during this exciting campaign season." Said Jose Pinero, Director, Diversity and Multicultural Marketing for the Microsoft Corporation. "Technology and the Internet are playing an increasingly critical role in the electoral process, and contributing to the conventions allows Microsoft to help ensure that both political parties and voters are able to take full advantage of all the benefits."

The lounge hosts 400 reporters from media outlets focusing on but not limited to African American, U.S. Hispanic, Asian, Native American, GLBT, Senior Citizens and Military audiences in the United States. Of course, the lounge is filled with plenty of items to occupy the press's time between floor speeches and delegate demonstrations. Microsoft has provided members of the press with display units with Windows Mobile, Xbox and Zune devices for reporters to play. Microsoft has also provided computers with Windows Vista Ultimate (with Multilanguage capability) and MS Office 2007 & Spanish Language Pack, a printer, and wireless connectivity are all available to help reporters cover the convention when the major action happens.

Inland Empire Advocates Protest Cuts To Low-income People with Disabilities

Staff Reports

Inland Empire advocates and consumers gather outside state legislative offices to remind them not to cut state funds for critical services to low-income people with disabilities

Consumers and advocates for the Inland Empire Community Forum, a coalition of regional social service organizations, gathered this week outside several state legislative offices and urged their representatives to stand firm against Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's deepest proposed cuts to services that help the area's neediest residents. Among those stops was the 62nd District Office of Assembly Member Wilmer Amina Carter in Rialto. Julie Williams, system change advocate for San Bernardino-based Roll-

ing Start, a nonprofit organization for people with disabilities, said that Carter and other area legislators have been supportive of their advocacy efforts in the past. "Our purpose was to remind them not to cut critical services" needed by people with disabilities, Williams said. Assembly Member Carter said, "I appreciate their continued support of our efforts to try to reach a budget compromise and their willingness to participate in the process by making their voices heard." Visit the website at www.assembly.ca.gov/62.

'Black In America' Lives On

Staff Reports



CNN 'Black In America' Documentary goes to DVD

Columbus, OH - Although the recent CNN "Black In America" series did not exactly receive rave reviews, it will be released on DVD on September 2nd. Hosted by reporter Soledad O'Brien, the documentary attempts to address the various stereotypes and challenges that African Americans face.

When originally aired, the program attracted over 2 million viewers and generated tons of dialogue on urban radio shows. It even inspired one company (Lee Moss

Media) to launch BlackInAmerica.com as a social network that allows African Americans to meet and interact with each other to share opinions, ideas, and solutions

Dante Lee, co-founder of Lee Moss Media, comments, "Many people were dissatisfied with the documentary that CNN produced. However, one thing is for sure: the program reactivated a much-needed conversation and awareness about the issues that Black America faces."

Lee adds, "I think the release of the DVD will further this even more."

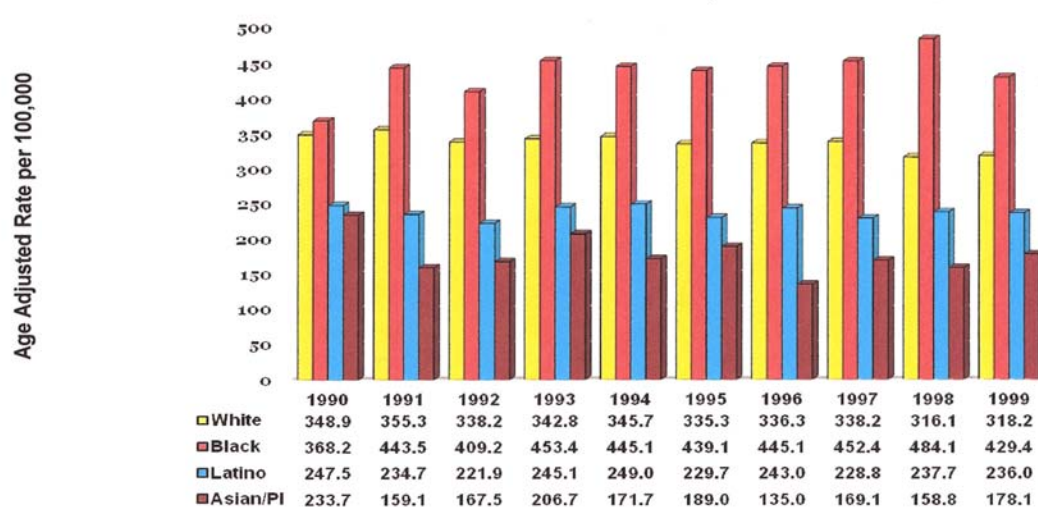
To purchase the "Black In America" series on DVD, interested ones can pre-order it on Amazon.com or download it from iTunes. Once released, it will also be available at Wal-Mart, Target, and other major retailers. The DVD will retail for about \$26.99.

To join the free social network that compliments the program, visit: www.BlackInAmerica.com

Slide 1 Heart Disease Deaths

San Bernardino County

Age-Adjusted Death Rates by Race/Ethnicity, Diseases of the Heart, 1990-1999



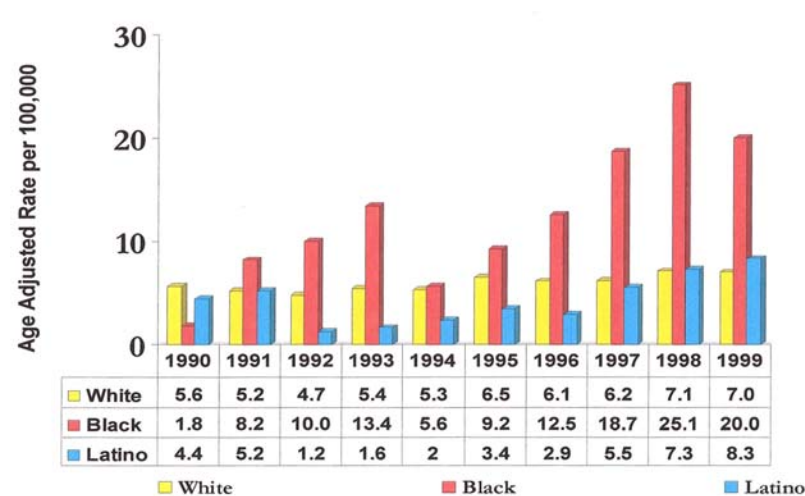
Note: Diseases of the Heart deaths among San Bernardino County Residents (ICD-9 Codes 390-398, 402, 404, 410-429; ICD-10 Codes I00-I09, I11, I13, I20-I51). Source: San Bernardino County Department of Public Health, 2004

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Slide 2 High Blood Pressure Deaths

San Bernardino County

Age-Adjusted Death Rate by Race/Ethnicity, Hypertension With or Without Renal Disease, 1990-1999



Source: San Bernardino County Department of Public Health, 2004

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Stevie Wonder and KJLH Radio Free 102.3 FM Donate \$5,000 To Help 'Reach One Million'

Staff Reports



Stevie Wonder Donates \$5,000 to Actor Isaiah Washington's 'Reach One Million Campaign' to Help Children in Sierra Leone

(HOLLYWOOD, CA) - On Thursday, August 21, during 'Stevie Wonder's Morning Thunder Thousand Dollar Thursday' radio show, heard locally in Los Angeles on Radio Free KJLH102.3 FM, Stevie Wonder donated \$5,000 to actor and philanthropist Isaiah Washington's 'Reach One Million' Campaign. The donation will be used to erect a water well in the local village of Njala Kendema in the Bo Region of Sierra Leone, West Africa where there is little access to clean drinking water and 70 percent of the country's population lives in

extreme poverty. Washington recently used the occasion of his 45th birthday to kick off the 'Reach One Million' Campaign, a national campaign spearheaded through his nonprofit organization The Gombabay Manga Foundation with the mission of raising \$250,000 to help improve the lives of one million children in Sierra Leone-one village, one region, at a time.

The campaign's official websites are www.ReachOneMillion.org and www.myspace.com/reachonemillion.



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