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December 2023 Newsletter

BABNA President Message



Dear BABNA Members,

Thank you all for the wonderful "Pass the Baton" celebration. Thanks for the pictures, the flowers, the wine and most of all your presence and support. You are awesome to BABNA and to me. You are deeply appreciated. Congratulations to Dr. Cynthia Stacy, BABNA incoming President 2024, ready to be of service. I want to share with you where I went the next day.



This is Dr. Carlessia Hussein DPH, RN, Co-Founder of BABNA. She was awarded an endowment to support her work to enrich the education of middle school Black and Brown Boys in Maryland. As BABNA President I was invited to attend. This is the BABNA legacy we are proud to be a part of. You all keep up your good work, our community deserves it.

Best wishes for a happy holiday season. It's been an honor to serve you.

Norma Faris Taylor MPH, PHN, RN

BABNA President

Founders Message



Carlessia A. Hussein, D.Ph, M.S., B.S., RN

Co-founder with Ms. Florence Stroud, M.S., B.S., RN

**Black Women Aren't Asked To Be In Clinical Trials -
Word In Black Christmas**

People of color are not represented in clinical trials and therefore are at risk

when research trial results are offered to them. The Healthcare system says 'they don't participate'. After the Tuskegee Abuse of Black Men, what intelligent person would take the chance. However, recent studies tell us that Black women are not being asked. Potentially true for other groups as well. Further, when bias is felt from the provider, individuals decline, for safety. A response much like young babies and puppies, they feel the negative 'Aura' from strangers and back away. Biased research is only useful for those whose genetic groups (not skin color) were included in the research. One's genetic profile should be the measure of importance when building a research study group, and not the skin color and facial features of the potential subject. 'Do No Harm', should always be the guiding principle in healthcare. It is not uniformly practiced.

Health Reform:

- Screen for 'Bias' and offer training for employees to recognize and manage their Bias in the workplace.
- Select recruiters familiar/representative of the study community, who will have better reception by the people.
- Unlike Tuskegee, educate outreach people about important aspects of study. The Tuskegee Black Nurse was not told that treatment was being withheld. Subjects unnecessarily died, were maimed or infected others with Syphilis.
- Leadership, examine and refresh institutional 'Values' and 'Practices' to reduce Bias. Like in families, leadership sets the tone. Be mindful that values (positive or negative) cascade down from the top, in families, organizations and all leadership settings.
- State, Federal, County, City and Tribal health leadership require "Bias Awareness and Amelioration" to qualify for funding out of the nation's expansive tax base. We all contribute although not equal, We ALL should benefit fairly. View the [Link here](#).

Humans are an important work in progress. At this Christmas Holiday, let us be more humane to our brothers and sisters and other life on planet Earth. God's design is 'diversity'. She blesses us when we embrace and share earth with all other life.

We can do this.

Take care of yourself.

Dr. Carlessia Hussein

Co-founder of the Bay Area Black Nurses Association (BABNA)

Congratulations New Officers



Congratulations to the newly elected Bay Area Black Nurses Association officers! May they bring fresh insights, dedication, and a passion for furthering the association's goals and vision as they take on their roles. Without a doubt, their contributions will have positive impact in the community. We wish them best of luck!

President Dr. Cynthia M. Stacy DNP, MSN,RN

Vice President Kim J. Scott MSN, MBA,RN

Secretary Cheryl-Lee Davis MSN,BSN,PHN,RN

Treasurer Shelitha R. Campbell DNP,MSN,RN



Legislative Committee



Mukulla Godwin, MS, BSN, RN

Hello BABNA members and friends of BABNA,

WELCOME to our fifth Legislative Committee Newsletter.

Sharing thoughts on a changing world and its impact on Health in the future, (An Excerpt from a letter to Mukulla Godwin, co-chair of BABNA's Legislative Committee from the Physicians' Organizing Committee Original title: "Join Us to Reclaim Providers' Lawful Role in Medical Decision Making").

The world is changing rapidly. As the globe warms and the ice caps melt, mosquitoes and other disease vectors are spreading diseases like malaria, dengue fever, and West Nile virus northward - all of which require a public health response. However, the ability to mount a public health response from our privatized health system is demonstrably insufficient.

The nearly 1.2 million lives lost in the U.S. due to SARS-CoV-2 virus bear testimony to this fact. Indeed, our public health system allowed one of the worst per capita death rates from COVID of any country on earth with 3,500 deaths per million.

Extreme climate events are placing further demands on our broken public health system as severe floods, extreme wildfires and hurricanes are all

becoming more frequent and more intense. But there are also tectonic geopolitical changes impacting our healthcare system.

The U.S. currently has levied economic sanctions or frozen the assets of 26 countries. This is inspiring countries to move away from the dollar and seek alternative trade and financing arrangements. Through the BRICS New Development Bank and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (with billions to loan, developing nations no longer have to agree to the “structural adjustment” mandates of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund.

The United States has not faced this kind of economic competition abroad in decades. As a result, private equity, venture capital and other investment firms are turning their focus from international opportunities to domestic ones. The biggest part of the U.S. economy is the 4.3 trillion spent annually, which they are pursuing with a vengeance!

With healthcare in their crosshairs, providers must ready themselves with organization that not only defends their rights to critical expression and action on behalf of the highest standards of care, but fights forward to expand the ethics of the profession and the reach of providers into the community. As it stands, medical input to enact solutions for everything from the effects of toxic contamination on communities to the treatment of the severely mentally ill is being sidelined, with horrific consequences.

The third leading cause of death in the U.S. is due to preventable mistakes that occur in hospitals, estimated at over 250,000 annually...due to speed ups, staff cutbacks, the closure of vital but “unprofitable” medical facilities, and the prioritization of more profitable, but riskier procedures being ordered...

To alter this trajectory of finance capital trumping medical professionals in matters of patient care will require nothing short of a revolution in healthcare!

Job Opportunities

[Child Health - Pediatric nursing, posting number R0008613](#)

[Adult/Geriatric Health/Medical-Surgical nursing, posting number R0008579](#)

[Maternal-Child Health nursing, posting number R0008580](#)

[Assistant Professor, Simulation Nursing Faculty-R0008731](#)

[Assistant Professor, Simulation Nursing Faculty-R0008732](#)

UCSF

[Unit Director, Central Telemetry and Adult Vascular Access](#)

[Registered Nurse, Pediatric Cardiac ICU](#)

[Assistant Unit Director, Pediatric Emergency Department](#)

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