

National Black Caucus of Health Workers

of the

American Public Health Association

presents the

Hildrus Augustus Poindexter Award Dinner

Living History: Honoring our Past, Uplifting our Future

November 05, 2019

BLACK CAUCUS
6:00pm

OF HEALTH WORKERS
Philadelphia Convention Center · Grand Salon G 5th Floor

CITATION

The City of Philadelphia cares deeply about the health and quality of life of all of its residents. As a global leader in healthcare, we boast a remarkable collection of world-class hospitals, medical schools, research facilities, and health care workers, and are proud of the high quality and compassionate care given to those in need in our City. The City of Philadelphia appreciates and recognizes the tremendous work of all of our health care workers and the organizations that support their efforts to continue to receive needed training and provide outstanding care to their patients.

The Black Caucus of Health Workers (BCHW) is one such distinguished organization. Established in 1968, BCHW is the first caucus of the American Public Health Association (APHA), which is the largest professional health care organization in the country. BCHW works to improve, advance, and maintain the quality of life for all African Americans, and provides an entry point for Black and African-American public health workers, both professional and paraprofessional, to the APHA.

Through its many efforts, the BCHW provides programs that explore the special nature of public health problems facing people of color in the United States, including poverty, discrimination, lack of medical and health care access, equal opportunity for work force entry and advancement, and related issues — with a special focus on narrowing mortality and morbidity rates.

On Tuesday, November 5, 2019, the organization will host its 51st Annual Hildrus A. Poindexter Award Ceremony in Philadelphia. The annual award ceremony is hosted during the APHA's 2019 Annual Conference, which is expected to draw over 13,000 public health workers from around the world to Philadelphia. This year's theme is "Eliminating Disparities and Improving the Quality of Life for People of African Descent."

It is fitting and appropriate, therefore, that the City of Philadelphia officially recognize with this Citation the

BLACK CAUCUS OF HEALTH WORKERS

and commend this outstanding organization for its many efforts to advance the careers of many health professionals in our City and beyond and for their efforts to improve the health and quality of life for many residents.


James F. Kenney

Mayor

November 5, 2019



GOODBYE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Congratulations to the Black Caucus of Health Workers (BCHW) on its 51st Birthday. We are gathered here today to celebrate the 2019 Hildrus Augustus Poindexter Award Ceremony in Philadelphia, Pa. The city known as “Brotherly Love” has such a history of activism and advocacy for people of color. The last time we hosted the BCHW conference and awards ceremony in Philadelphia was in 2009. The timing and place are significant as we commemorate the long saga of struggle and give tribute to “1619” when the first transatlantic slave trade from West Central Africa arrived 400 years ago (1619 – 2019) in Jamestown, Virginia. Although health statistics related to mortality and morbidity of Africans in America was not established, evidence from different sources estimate the death toll from the slave trade was over 60 million slaves. Thus, lies the origin of and need for professional black health care providers and caregivers.

It has been a distinct privilege to have the good fortune to serve as BCHW president for the past two years. It is an honor because BCHW was founded in 1968 by some of the most prestigious African American men and women whom you and I know/knew and highly respect. The founders are remembered as we witnessed their unwavering stance from being viewed as *invisible* to being seen and heard at the American Public Health Association annual conference in Detroit, Michigan, 1968. As a result, the BCHW was established as the first official caucus of the American Public Health Association (APHA). What an extraordinary opportunity I’ve had during my presidency to meet, visit, and relive some of those earlier experiences with few of the surviving BCHW founders. The experiences are invaluable and shall be archived forever. I humbly pay tribute to all our heroes/heroines and those who preceded me in this role.

I want to acknowledge the hard-working Governing Board Members. Special thanks to Kaitlin Grant, who worked tirelessly on membership, record keeping, coordinating committees, etc.; Veronica Collins for representing BCHW on the national level and marketing; D. J. Wells, “Renee” Rates, and Shanae Burch for enhancing social media; Dr. Jasmine Ward for oral histories/archives; Dr. Iyabo for her support and back-up; Chrisney Ball for fiduciary duties; Marcus Murray for networking; Dr. Alfreda Holloway-Beth, Bridgett Strong, and Dana Reed Wise.

We have made some significant strides, yet, there is a need for more dedication and follow through with meaningful programs. Moving forward into 2020 it is my hope that we will continue to strive for excellence in healthcare delivery and administration for people of the African Diaspora. We need to seriously re-evaluate who we are, respect and support one another as we rededicate ourselves to the legacy of our founding members fight for quality and equity.

Sincere thanks and gratitude to Dr. George Smith, BCHW program planner who organized our scientific sessions and to Dr. Caine for her continued support. I welcome and solicit your continued participation for our newly elected incoming officers. “WOW,” what a way to “wrap-up” my presidency.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barbara J. Norman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dr. Barbara J. Norman, BCHW “Proud” President
PhD, MPH, MSPS, MSN, Former Captain, U. S. Army

HELLO FROM THE PRESIDENT- ELECT



Hello BCHW members, associates, and friends,

I would like to welcome you to the 2019-2020 and 51st year of the Black Caucus of Health Workers within APHA.

I would like to thank you all for allowing me the opportunity to serve in this role. For those who may not know me, I will re-introduce myself. I am the Director of Epidemiology at Cook County Department of Public Health. I received my doctorate in Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences and Master of Science in Epidemiology, both at the University of Illinois at Chicago School of Public Health (UIC-SPH). I am also a Visiting Faculty Fellow in the Cardiovascular, Genetics, and Epidemiology program that is housed in the Department of Biostatistics at Washington University in St. Louis School of Medicine. My most recent research interests include Injury Epidemiology, Surveillance, Community-Based Participatory Research, and Prostate Cancer. I currently serve as the Chair-elect of the OHS section of the American Public Health Association, the existing President of the Young Public Health Professionals, and member of the Society of Epidemiologic Research and the International Epidemiological Association.

This year we have some new and exciting plans in the works with our wonderful executive officers, committee chairs, and committee members. This year we plan to update the bylaws, focus on influencing policy development and advocating for the health and wellbeing of people from the African diaspora by working with other caucuses and sections, and work to develop dynamic scientific programming for the annual APHA conference.

I look forward to working with you all this year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alfreda Holloway-Beth". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Alfreda Holloway-Beth, PhD, MS

BCHW President

BCHW ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Founding Members

June Jackson Christmas, MD

*Paul B. Cornely, MD, DrPH ('69)

William Darity, PhD

*E. Frank Ellis, MD, MPH ('77)

Arthur Grist, PhD

Jay Waller, DrPH

**Indicates APHA Presidency*

James Horton, MD

George I. Lythcott, MD

Joseph Patterson, PhD, MPH

*Iris Shannon, PhD, RN ('89)

*Bailus Walker, Jr., PhD., MPH ('89)

Ellis Bonnor (name not recorded)

Major Accomplishments

Since its inception, some of the major accomplishments and influences of BCHW are highlighted as:

- Met and exceeded the three specific demands presented to APHA leadership in 1968.
- Increased the number of African American members in leadership roles within APHA.
- Supported elections of more than 15 BCHW members to become president of APHA.
 - June Jackson Christmas, MD ('80); Bailus Walker, Jr, PhD, MPH ('88); Iris Shannon, PhD, RN ('89); A. Caswell Evans, Jr., DDS, MPH ('95); Carol E. Allen, PhD, Rn PHN ('00); Virginia A. Caine, MD ('04); Cheryl E. Easley, PhD, RN ('09); Linda R. Murray, MD, MPH ('11); Mel Shipp, OD, DrPH, MPH ('12); Adewale Troutman, MD MPH, MA ('13); Shiriki Kumanyika, PhD, MPH ('15); Camara P. Jones, MD, PhD, MPH ('16); and Joseph Telfair, DrPH, MPH, MSW ('17)
- Supported members as chairs and co-chairs of standing committees, special primary interest groups (SPIGs), representatives on the governing council, members on and chairs of the Executive Committee.
- Endorsed candidates who support the mission of the BCHW and present their platform to the members during the annual meeting.
- Involved in research, policy, and health career initiatives focused on African Americans and other minority groups.
- Increased the number of scientific sessions related directly and/or indirectly to African American during annual meetings.
- Instrumental in the formation for the Analysis for African American Public Health Issues.
- Support members' different professional entities and professions, such as: SAAPHI, NAHSE, NMA, NBNA, NDA, NHA, NPA, etc.
- Participate in National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month activities on a local level.
- Participated in the National Minority Quality Forum Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) Health Brain-trust.

OUR MISSION

The mission of the Black Caucus of Health Workers is to strive for the elimination of disparities and the reduction of gaps in health and health outcomes by improving the quality of life of people of African descent through advocacy, knowledge, practice, and research.

OUR GOALS

To monitor and evaluate health data and policy issues at the federal, state, and local levels.

To conduct research and implement direct service programs that seek to better understand and improve the African American community's health status.

To establish and maintain ongoing working relations with the American Public Health Association, its sections, and other affiliated groups.

To work to eliminate institutional racism in the healthcare industry and maintain the quality of life for minority groups.

To disseminate employment opportunities and to engage in professional development activities that enhances BCHW's members' skills and abilities.

To increase the number of African American students who successfully complete academic study in public health programs.

**“You May Be the First to Do Many Things,
But Make Sure You're Not the Last”**

-Shyamala Gopalan Harris

Leadership

Officers

Barbara J. Norman, PhD, MPH, MSPS
President

Alfreda Holloway Beth, PhD, MS
President Elect

Iyabo Obasanjo, PhD, DVM, MPVM
Vice President

Kaitlin Grant, MPH
Corresponding Secretary

Detmer Wells, MA
Publicity Secretary

Glahnnia Rates, MPH^(C)
Vice Publicity Secretary

Chrisney Ball
Treasurer

Dana Reed Wise, MPH, REHS, JD^(C)
Vice Treasurer

Board Members

Shanae Burch, Ed.M
Veronica Collins, BHS
Marcus Murray, MPH
Bridgett Strong, MPH
Jasmine Ward, PhD, CHES, CERT

Program

Welcome	Dr. Barbara J. Norman, President
Remarks	Kaitlin Grant, Corresponding Secretary
Selection	Black National Anthem <i>(First Verse Only)</i>
Memorial	Mildred Hunter, Active Member & Dr. Barbara J. Norman, President
Invocation	Dr. George Smith, Program Planner
- Dinner – <i>(Buffet Style)</i>	
Speaker	Dr. Terry Mason, MD, FACS: Chief Operating Officer
Awards	Awards Committee
Closing	Dr. Alfreda Holloway Beth, President-Elect
Benediction	Dana Reed Wise, Vice Treasure

Keynote Speaker

Dr. Terry Mason, MD, FACS: Chief Operating Officer

Cook County Department of Public Health.



Chief Medical Officer, Terry Mason was born on September 13, 1951, in Washington, D.C. Mason attended Loyola University in Chicago and received his B.S degree in biological science. He earned his M.D. degree from the Abraham Lincoln School of Medicine at the University of Illinois. Mason completed his residency of General Surgery at the University of Illinois Metropolitan Group Hospitals Program and his residency of urology at the Michael Reese Hospital and Medical Center.

Upon completing his residencies, Mason started his practice of urology with Dr. Harvey J. Whitfield as Terry Mason MD, SC. At Mercy Hospital and Medical Center, he developed a specialty service for male erectile dysfunction and prostate cancer. In approximately 1992, Mason became radio host of “Doctor in the House” WVON 1690 AM. The following year he founded Center for New Life, a business dedicated to integrating diet modification, and exercise to treat chronic diseases. In 2004, he launched the Restar4Health campaign. The campaign encouraged the public to stop unhealthy eating habits and to make smart food choices. In 2005, Mason became the Commissioner of Public Health for the City of Chicago. As Commissioner, he was responsible for over 1200 employees with an annual operating budget of approximately 200 million dollars. Mason has detected and managed health threats to the citizens of the City of Chicago and held over seventy-five press conferences.

In 2009, Mason retired as Commissioner of Public Health and became the System Chief Medical Officer. He served as Interim Chief Executive Officer for the Cook County Health and Hospital System from May 2011 until October 2011. He advised and led a team of medical experts on matters of public health importance. He has also served as National Chairman of Urology at the National Medical Association and the Midwest Regional Chair for Chicago’s National Black Leadership Initiative on Cancer. Mason is a member of the Cook County Physicians Association and was featured in the film “Forks over Knives” in 2001. Mason’s work has featured on My Fox Chicago and Chicago Tonight for American Heart Health Month. He has featured in Ebony Magazine and authored a book titled, Making Love Again: Renewing Intimacy and Helping Your Man Overcome Impotence. Mason currently resides in Chicago and has two adult children.

Hildrus Augustus Poindexter, MD, AM, PhD, MPH

1901-1987



Hildrus A. Poindexter, author, scholar, educator, and physician was the sixth of eleven children born to Fred and Luvenia Gilberta Poindexter, in Memphis, Tennessee on May 10, 1901. Dr. Poindexter spent his life serving others.

He graduated from Swift Memorial High School in Rogers, Tennessee where he excelled in Mathematics, Latin, Greek, Bible and baseball. He financed these studies by working in nearby coal mines.

Dr. Poindexter completed his bachelor's degree at Lincoln University in Philadelphia in 1924, graduating cum laude. Upon graduation he taught school for one year. He then attended Dartmouth Medical School for two years and received his MD degree from Harvard University in 1929.

His graduate education was carried out at Columbia University, where he received AM, PhD, and MSPH degrees aided by a Rockefeller Fellowship with special concentration and research in parasitology, immunology, rural sanitation, venereal disease control and tropical medicine. He supported his family and supplemented his fellowship with summer jobs in factories and foundries in Detroit, Michigan. He also tutored divinity students in Greek and Latin and translated the New Testament Bible from Greek to English.

In 1931, he accepted his first full-time professional appointment as Assistant Professor of Bacteriology, Preventive Medicine and Public Health in the College of Medicine at Howard University and remained there until 1943. At age 42, he joined the U.S. Army as a major in the Medical Corps. He served on the staff of General Douglas MacArthur in the Pacific as an epidemiologist, malariologist and tropical disease specialist. He was awarded four major battle stars for "courage beyond the call of duty" and the rank of Lt. Colonel

In January of 1947, Dr. Poindexter became a senior surgeon reservist in the U.S. Public Health Service and was assigned to West Africa. For the next sixteen years he traveled, worked and conferred with groups, governmental agencies and people in Africa, Asia, South America, the Caribbean, Europe and the Middle East. He was promoted to Medical Director of the Public Health Service and was reclassified from serve to regular status. He served on several official international delegations abroad as "tropical medicine specialist" and party chief. In 1963 he was presented the National Civil Service Award Citation by President John F. Kennedy. He retired from the Public Health Service after 30 years and began a new postretirement career at age 65.

Dr. Poindexter returned to Howard University as a part time professor, concentrating on three elective courses: Laboratory Diagnosis of Tropical Disease, Global Epidemiology and International Health. He also taught senior medical students' gerontology and geriatrics. Dr. Poindexter had more than 150 official publications in professional journals and books in his lifetime. His major affiliations were: The Presbyterian Church; Masonic Order; Omega Psi Phi Fraternity and many national and international medical associations and societies.

Past Recipients of the
Dr. Hildrus A. Poindexter
Distinguished Award

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1973 Wesley Mack | 1995 James Ford |
| 1974 Arthur Grist | 1996 ----- |
| 1975 William A. Darity | 1997 Diane Adams |
| 1976 Rosalyn Cain King | 1998 Iyanla Vanzant |
| 1977 E. Frank Ellis | 1999 Linda Ray Murray |
| 1978 William R. Montgomery | 2000 Shaffdeen A. Amuwo |
| 1979 June Jackson Christmas | 2001 Margaret A. Davis |
| 1980 John Hatch | 2002 ----- |
| 1981 Iris Shannon | 2003 William Jenkins |
| 1982 Dorothy W. Summer | 2004 Jamila Rashid |
| 1983 Frederick C. Green | 2005 Justin Odulana |
| 1984 Mildred K. Dickson | 2006 Virginia A. Caine |
| 1985 George L. Lythcott | 2007 David Satcher |
| 1986 ----- | 2008 Georges Benjamin |
| 1987 Theodore H. Clarke | 2009 Camara Jones |
| 1988 Bailus Walker, Jr. | 2010 Garth A. Graham |
| 1989 Joseph Patterson | 2011 Jocelyn Elders |
| George "Mickey" Leland (posth.) | 2012 Damon Arnold |
| 1990 Effie O. Ellis | 2013 Mary Hughes-Gaston |
| Lorna Scott McBarnette | 2014 Regina M. Benjamin |
| 1991 Virginia Davis-Floyd | 2015 Shirley G. Fleming |
| 1992 Deborah Prothrow-Stith | 2016 Joseph F. West |
| 1993 Edgar N. Duncan | 2017 Adewale Troutman |
| 1994 Linda A. Randolph | 2018 Dr. Gail C. Christopher |
| Ellis J. Bonner | |

Awards

Community Service Award

Kristina Knight, PhD, MPH
Kent State University

Representative Louis Stokes Legislative Service Award

Congressman Dwight Evans

3rd Congressional District - Pennsylvania

Congressman Andre Carson

7th Congressional District – Indiana

Dr. Hildrus A. Poindexter Award

Shafia Monroe, DEM, CDT, MPH

Shafia Monroe Consulting: Birthing Change

***“Success isn’t about how much money you make, it’s
about the difference you make in people’s lives”***

-Michelle Obama

Community Service Award



Kristina Knight, PhD, MPH – was the Director of Community Initiatives and Assistant Program Director for the Master of Public Health Program at Case Western Reserve University where she also held an adjunct faculty appointment in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics. Dr. Knight has served as a lead trainer for the Cuyahoga County Youth Work Institute and the national training cadre of National Health Promotion Associates where she has provided training and technical assistance to national prevention and youth development organizations. Prior to this time, she worked as a Project Director in a local health department to support the development, implementation, and evaluation of community-based substance use prevention programming.

Her areas of interest have been both education and research include community-based and participatory approaches; social determinants and health disparities; health and learning; adolescent health; and, youth development.

Currently, Dr. Knight identifies projects in the community and supports student involvement through - independent studies, directed research, and internships. The students are able to volunteer for these experiences or take them for credit. She also brings community members into the SBS 50020 Social and Behavioral Theories course and PH 30005 Social and Behavioral Theories in Public Health course. These courses are related to Youth Risk Behavioral Surveillance group - where students get training and the opportunity to be a part of the data collection team in the community.

Recent Projects - Near Peer Violence Prevention: a citywide strategic plan created by the City of Cleveland to promote wellness and resiliency among young people and communities exposed to interpersonal violence and decades of structural violence. Resilience allows individuals and the community to recover and thrive despite the prevalence of adverse conditions. It allows communities to create a healthy, sustainable paradigm to protect itself against toxic stress and other adverse experiences. This protection reinforces community healing while preventing violence and other negative health consequences. The City's strategic plan for Youth Violence, Prevention, and Opportunity rely on a public health model, which is designed to achieve healthier neighborhoods and a safer city. Cleveland is poised to create a sustainable system that promotes healthier neighborhoods and prevents youth violence, by increasing interventions and opportunities for youth. For the past two years, Kent State University has been contracted by the city of Cleveland to provide services in support of the identified plan. This has involved the development, implementation, and evaluation of a Near Peer Violence Prevention Education Program within Recreation Centers in the city of Cleveland.

Representative Louis Stokes Legislative Service Award



Congressman Dwight Evans has dedicated his life to the cause of urban renewal, working tirelessly to provide economic and educational opportunity to those who too often live in the shadows, the poor and underserved.

The congressman's commitment has resulted in the rebirth of once-blighted neighborhoods along Philadelphia's Ogontz Avenue, in West Oak Lane, an area that now serves as a magnet for working families.

In 1980, at the age of 26, Congressman Evans was first elected state representative from the 203rd Legislative District. Far from being a "go-along-get-along" legislator, over the course of 36 years in the Pennsylvania Legislature, he earned a reputation as a pragmatic leader who knows how to put public policy above politics. He made history in 1990 by becoming the first African American Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, a position he held for two decades. In that role, he was instrumental in helping communities across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania receive funding for economic development, job training, education, infrastructure and the arts.

One of Congressman Evans' proudest achievements has been his work to combat hunger and increase access to quality foods in underserved communities. During his time in the Pennsylvania Legislature, the congressman championed the Pennsylvania Fresh Food Financing Initiative, bringing nearly 100 grocery stores to underserved areas across the Commonwealth that previously had very limited access to fresh fruits and vegetables, and created more than 5,000 jobs. The Obama administration championed this approach and used the Pennsylvania initiative as a model for the nation, replicating it in several other states across the country.

Over the course of his career in public service, Congressman Evans has lectured around the country on his signature public policy initiatives. He has been the recipient of numerous awards including an honorary doctorate from Lincoln University.

In his first two years in Washington, Congressman Evans achieved successes as a member of the House Agriculture Committee working on the Farm Bill, a major bill Congress only passes every five years. He successfully pushed to keep the Farm Bill from including unnecessary and burdensome work requirements that could have denied millions of people who benefit from the SNAP food assistance program, formerly food stamps, the help they need to keep themselves and their families from going hungry. He also helped to make sure that the Farm Bill will provide at least \$40 million for agricultural scholarships for students at historically black colleges and universities around the country.

A longtime advocate for criminal justice reform, he strongly supported the First Step Act, a federal law that will make several needed reforms such as cutting back on mandatory minimum sentences; expanding "good time credits"; and creating "earned time credits" that encourage inmates to take part in rehabilitative programs for an earlier release. In the 116th Congress, he intends to go beyond the First Step Act by pressing for bail reform, and a bill to have the FBI clean up faulty criminal background records that keep people from getting jobs.

Congressman Evans is a member of the House Gun Violence Prevention Task Force. In addition to supporting existing legislation, he is working on new legislation to fight gun violence.

Congressman Evans serves as an at-large member of the executive committee of the Congressional Black Caucus and is also a member of the Congressional Progressive Caucus; Medicare for All Caucus; Task Force on Poverty, Income Inequality, and Opportunity; LGBT Equality Caucus and Expand Social Security Caucus. Congressman Evans has deep roots in District 3. One of five children, he grew up in North Philadelphia and Germantown and today lives just minutes from his alma mater, Germantown High School. A resident of the West Oak Lane neighborhood, he is a graduate of the Community College of Philadelphia and LaSalle University.

Representative Louis Stokes Legislative Service Award



Congressman Andre Carson is in his 6th full term in the U.S. House of Representatives, has established himself as an influential leader and respected public servant, fighting for good paying jobs, economic growth, and safer communities for Indiana’s working families. Congressman Carson consistently fights for the middle class, securing hundreds of millions for investments in public safety, education, infrastructure, and the creation and protection of thousands of good paying jobs. Additionally, the congressman has made accessibility a priority for his office, holding regular meetings around Indianapolis and hosting “Congress on Your Corner” events to ensure constituents have easy access to the resources and information they need. Since being elected to Congress, Congressman Carson has joined a number of caucuses, coalitions, and task forces that focus on some of the issues that he considers to be top priorities in the 7th District and around the country. Together with other like-minded members of Congress, he has worked to bring about solutions to some of the most important issues facing our city and nation. Some of his memberships include: The Congressional Black Caucus, the Progressive Caucus, the New Democrat Coalition, and the LGBT Equality Caucus. In Washington, Congressman Carson fought to pass the historic health care reform law, which provides families and businesses with better health insurance options and makes health care more affordable and accessible for tens of millions of Americans.

In the 116th Congress, Congressman Carson serves as the Chairman of Counterterrorism, Counterintelligence, and Counterproliferation Subcommittee and as a member of the Strategic Technologies and Advanced Research Subcommittee on the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence (HPSCI). With these assignments, he plays a vital role in ensuring dedicated intelligence personnel have the tools and resources needed to keep America safe and that their activities are in the best interest of its people.

Congressman Carson is also a rising member of House leadership. During the 116th Congress, Carson serves as a Senior Whip for the House Democratic Caucus. Congressman Carson has authored six bills that have been signed into law: The Service Members Mental Health Screening Act, which ensures a more holistic evaluation of mental health assessments before and after deployment; the Military Families Financial Preparedness Act, which provides service members and their spouses with financial counseling before leaving the military; the Military Suicide Reduction Act, which provides mid-deployment mental health assessments to service members deployed in combat; the Military Mental Health Empowerment Act, which seeks to end dangerous misperceptions that discourage mental health treatment by ensuring service members are aware of their privacy rights; the Kennedy-King Establishment Act, which designates Martin Luther King Park in Indianapolis as a National Commemorative Site, and adds it to the new National Civil Rights Network; and the Ariel Rios Federal Building Act.

As one of three Muslims serving in Congress, Congressman Carson is a champion for vulnerable populations and is committed to the goal of equal protection under the law. André has long been involved in the fight to achieve gender fairness, religious freedom, and LGBTQ equality.

Congressman Carson is a proud Indianapolis native, having grown up on the city’s east side. He is a graduate of Arsenal Tech High School, and he holds a bachelor’s degree in Criminal Justice Management from Concordia University-Wisconsin and a Master’s in Business Management from Indiana Wesleyan University. Before taking office, Congressman Carson served on the Indianapolis City-County Council and worked full-time in law enforcement.

Dr. Hildrus A. Poindexter Award



Shafia Monroe is a renowned midwife, a doula trainer, motivational speaker and a cultural competency trainer. Ms. Monroe has been “Birthing CHANGE,” all her life, and is a change agent. In 2012, Madame Noir, noted her “Queen Mother of a Midwife Movement,” because of her 1976 pioneer midwifery work in Boston, Massachusetts, her hometown. There she co-founded the Traditional Childbearing Group (TCBG) in 1978, a non-profit created to reduce the high infant mortality rate, in Black communities.

In 1991, she moved to Portland, Oregon and at seven months pregnant, was unable to find a midwife of color to assist her in a home birth. Realizing the lack of diversity in the midwifery, doula and birth worker profession, she founded the International Center for Traditional Childbearing (ICTC), a non-profit, to increase the number of midwives and doulas of color, to empower families, and to reduce infant and maternal mortality. Under Ms. Monroe’s leadership as CEO, ICTC created and sponsored the annual International Black Midwives and Healers Conference, bringing midwives together from around the world to find solutions to the health disparities. In 2002, she created the ICTC Full Circle Doula Training program to train people in the legacy of the African American midwife, to renew traditions for better birth outcomes, community and to create the tapestry of diversity within the birth workers profession. This groundbreaking training program continues to serve as an international model for reducing infant mortality and increasing the number of midwives and doulas of color.

Seeing economic injustice for low-income women, Ms. Monroe created and spearheaded the first legislative concept, Oregon HB 3311, to investigate the use of doulas to improve birth outcomes in vulnerable populations. Her work marked Oregon as the national model for Medicaid reimbursement for doulas and ICTC as the first Oregon Health Authority (OHA) approved doula-credentialing organization.

Shafia Monroe holds a BA in sociology and Master of Public Health and has been certified as a Midwife in by the Massachusetts Midwives Alliance, practicing as a home birth midwife since 1978. In 2014, she formed Shafia Monroe Consulting (SMC), to aid health care professional to achieve cultural competency, increase clients, and improve birth outcomes; and became the owner of Doula Ready LLC, a company that provide services to reduce perinatal stress for professional women, and reduce premature labor and improve birth outcomes.

Monroe’s groundbreaking work is recognized with numerous awards including the 2016 Life Time Achievement Award for Human Rights in Childbirth, Life Time Achievement Service Award for Community Health, the Midwife Hero Award from American College of Nurse Midwives (ACNM) Midwives of Color Committee, Women Making History in Portland Mural by Robin Corbo, The Achievement Award – 4th Annual Muslim Women’s Conference, Certificate of Recognition for Preserving the Legacy of Midwifery – National Institute of Health (NIH), 2007, Proclamation from Georgia’s State Representative Mabel “Able” for her commitment to reducing infant mortality, Wall of Tolerance Certificate from the late Rosa Parks for her commitment to peace and justice, Martin Luther King Jr. Merit Award – The Skanner Foundation, Portland, OR, Outstanding Contributions – Massachusetts Department of Public Health – Boston, MA, The Haki Madhubuti/Family Tree Award – Urban Security Patrols, Boston, Outstanding Leadership – Coalition for Better Birth Outcomes, Women Who Care – Women in Philanthropy, Boston, Unsung Hero of Community Medicine – The Boston Institute for Social Therapy.

Her extraordinary model and advocacy is being replicated throughout the nation and is featured in such literature as: *Into These Hands*, *Wisdom from Midwives*, *It Just Ain’t Fair*, by Annette Dula and Sara Goering, *Granny Midwives and Black Women Writers*, by Valerie Lee, *Sisters on a Journey: Portraits of American Midwives*, by Penfield Chester, *Our Bodies, Ourselves: A Book by and For Women*, by Boston Women’s Health Book Collective Magazine coverage: *Essence* magazine, *Heart and Soul*, *Midwifery Today*, *World Pulse Magazine*, *Sojourner* and *Mothering* magazines, and numerous college papers, and dissertations. Shafia’s experience with thousands of families from all walks of life qualifies her as an expert in the field of working with diverse populations in maternal and child health, using cultural competency for respectful care. Shafia attributes her success to her southern traditional practices, cultural competency, and her commitment to birth and reproductive justice.

LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING

Lift every voice and sing
Till earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise, High
as the listening skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us,
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun, Let us march on
till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod,
Bitter the chast'ning rod,
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
Yet with a steady beat,
Have not our weary feet
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered.
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,
Out from the gloomy past,
Till now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years,
God of our silent tears,
Thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
Thou who hast by Thy might,
Led us into the light, Keep us forever
in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee,
Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee;
Shadowed beneath Thy hand,
May we forever stand,
True to our God, True to
our native land.

-James Welden Johnson



If You Get, Give
If You Learn, Teach
-Maya Angelou

Thank you to all who participated in and attended our
symposium & scientific sessions.

We look forward to seeing you next year at APHA 2020 – San Francisco, California
Next Year's Theme: Creating the Healthiest Nation: Preventing Violence

Please visit our website at www.aphabchw.com

