PHYSICIANS

FORUM 2020

Event Program & Physicians Referral Directory



June 12, 2020

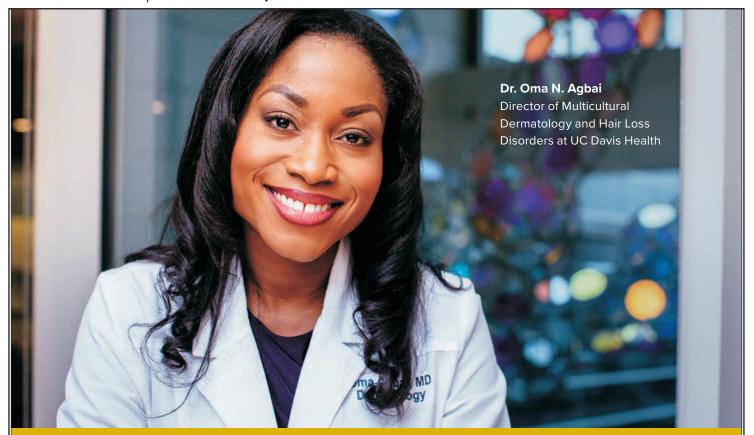
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PRESENTED BY:





Office for Health Equil Diversity and Inclusion Office for Health Equity,



Supporting physicians and healthier communities

At UC Davis Health, we take pride in the dedication and culturally relevant care that our physicians and staff provide every day — so our communities can be stronger and healthier.

THANK YOU to all physician leaders for breaking down barriers, cultivating change, and advancing health and safe health care to improve lives in new ways.

Honored to be:

- Among America's Best Employers for Diversity by Forbes Magazine
- A leader in LGBTQ Healthcare Equality by the Human Rights Campaign Foundation
- Recognized as a top hospital for diversity and inclusion by the Black Doctors Organization
- Improving health for all through the Office for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, the Center for Reducing Health Disparities and the Office for Student Resident Diversity



health.ucdavis.edu

X WEAVE[™]

WEAVE's mission is to promote safe and healthy relationships and support survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, and sex trafficking.



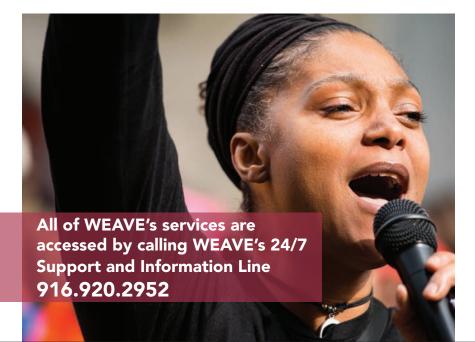
Sex trafficking is the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for the purposes of a commercial sex act. Sex trafficking is a form of modern-day slavery. Sex traffickers frequently groom victims and then use violence, threats, lies, false promises, debt bondage, or other forms of control and manipulation to prevent victims from leaving. Victims of sex trafficking can be anywhere and can operate under the guise of massage parlors, modeling agencies, strip clubs, etc.

WEAVE is proud to partner with Dignity Health's Human Trafficking Medical Safe Haven Clinic which provides a safe primary care medical environment for victims and survivors of human trafficking led by understanding physicians and medical staff extensively trained in victim-centered, trauma-informed care. WEAVE's embedded Advocate assists clients with navigating the health system, keeping their appointments, providing emotional support, and follow-up with survivors after their appointments.

Medical professionals have a unique opportunity to recognize the signs of sex trafficking, respond in a victim-centered way and refer to services.



If you would like to learn more about what you can do or to request training, go to www.weaveinc.org



WEAVE is committed to breaking the cycle of violence by educating the community to better understand the issues of domestic violence, sexual assault, and sex trafficking. WEAVE serves all genders and all ages of survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and sex trafficking. Services include individual and group therapeutic counseling, advocacy, crisis response, accompaniment to sexual assault forensic exams and law enforcement interviews, legal services, and emergency shelter.

WELCOME MESSAGE | 2020 Black Physicians Forum via Zoom/FB Live



Hendry Ton, M.D., M.S.Associate Vice Chancellor for Health Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

Clinical Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences

Office of Health Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

UC Davis Health

Dear colleagues,

Thank you for joining us for the 10th Annual Black Physician's Forum. I want to start by thanking Sac Cultural Hub, who has been a valued partner through the years, and whose leadership helps to make this Forum possible. This year's forum focuses on "The Impact of Racial Disparities in Maternal Childhood Health for African Americans." The disparities between African Americans and whites are as undeniable as they are unjust, and as preventable as they are rooted in racism. African Americans are more likely to encounter barriers to obtaining health care, and the quality of that health care is significantly lower than that of whites. Additionally, the longterm stress of racism puts Black women and infants at greater risk for life-threatening illness. These include the greater burden of preeclampsia, eclampsia, and embolism, and infant mortality compared to white people.

We recognize that there is much work that needs to be done to address the structural racism within our health care systems and in society. This requires collective and determined effort. One of the ways that UC Davis hopes to address these structural inequities is through our AIM (Anchor Institution Mission) for Community Health Initiative. We plan to leverage the health system's economic weight to address the structural factors such as poverty, unemployment and education barriers that are behind racial violence and health inequities. And, we will work to broaden our partnerships with local minority- and women-owned businesses, enhance recruitment and development of our local and diverse workforce, and bring down barriers that prevent minority communities from accessing quality education. We recognize that this work must be informed at every step by the communities most impacted and by trusted leaders and healers such as you. We look forward to the opportunity provided by this virtual forum to build understanding, solidarity, and meaningful strategies through critical discussion, shared goals, and the common conviction that Black lives matter.

Sincerely,

M2 ION ND

Hendry Ton MD MS
Associate Vice Chancellor for Health Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion
Clinical Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences
Office of Health Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion
UC Davis Health

The Impact of Racial Disparities in Maternal Childhood Health for African Americans

Friday, June 12, 2020 – 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm PST FORUM SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

Broadcasted via Zoom/Facebook Live UC Davis Health Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing Sacramento, CA 95818

| 5:30 PM | CELEBRATING 10 YEARS VIDEO MONTAGE |
|---------|------------------------------------|
| 5:35 PM | WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS |
| | Pleshette Robertson – CEO/Founder |

Dr. Renetta Garrison Tull – Vice Chancellor for Health Equity,

Diversity and Inclusion at UC Davis

Sac Cultural Hub Media Company & Foundation

Sponsor & Other Contributor Acknowledgements

5:50 PM Flojaune Cofer, PhD, MPH – Moderator

Women's Health Epidemiologist & Senior Director of Policy at Public Health Advocates

5:55 PM SPECIAL REPORT

Impact of COVID-19 on Black Mothers and Babies

Dr. Olivia Kasiyre, Sacramento County Public Health Officer

and Public Health Officer of City of Elk Grove

6:15 PM Q&A from the COMMUNITY

6:25 PM KEYNOTE PRESENTATION

Aletha Maybank, MD, MPH - Chief Health Equity Officer and

Vice President at American Medical Association

6:45 PM Q&A from the COMMUNITY

6:55 PM CONVERSATIONS ON MOTHER'S EXPERIENCES

Allyson Felix, Olympic Gold Medalist-American track and field

sprinter

Shonda Moore, Marketing Director at Fortune Schools

7:15 PM Q&A from the COMMUNITY

7:30 PM THANK YOU / CLOSING REMARKS

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The Sac Cultural Hub Media Foundation is proud to partner with co-presenting sponsor, UC Davis Health Office for Health Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, on the 10th Annual Northern California Black Physicians Forum (BPF).

Our 2020 Corporate Sponsors and Community Partners include:

One Community Health onecommunityhealth.com

Black Child Legacy Campaign www.blackchildlegacy.org

The Center at Sierra Health Foundation www.sierrahealth.org/the-center

Coleman Communications www.michaelpcoleman.com

Fortune School www.fortuneschool.us

Leatherwood Marketing

<u>leatherwoodmarketing@yahoo.com</u>

The Gospel Vine

www.thegospelvine.com

Saving Our Legacy, African Americans for Smoke Free Safe Places www.thesolproject.com

Twlia Makes It Happen! 916-259-9912

VisionStep 916- 397-4501

Neave

www.weaveinc.org

EVENT PROGRAM DESIGNED BY: Heather Nieman Tingible Design | www.tingible.com

Forum Leadership Welcome Message | 2020 Black Physicians Forum via Zoom/FB Live

Opelcame to the 10th annual Northern California Black Physicians Forum. While the influence of the COVID-19 pandemic on black communities is unfolding on the worlds public health center stage, black families must continually navigate the medical neglect and injustice that results in premature loss of life. This year, Sac Cultural Hub Media Foundation features conversations on the maternal and newborn mortality crisis as we learn about "The Impact of Racial Disparities in Maternal Childhood Health for African Americans."

Medical professionals and mothers will share their knowledge and experiences of black women striving to live and birth healthy children in the context of work, social service, and health care systems. Hear about initiatives to expand opportunities for black women to have choices about motherhood/delivery, to raise their children to be heathy and carefree, and create their own narratives around the policies and institutional practices that are needed to support them.

Partnership to change various behaviors, practices, environments, systems, institutions and policies are needed to create real change. It is our goal at the BPF to advance the dialogue on a central question to drive these efforts.

How can we improve the relationships and communication between health care providers and expectant mothers to prevent poor birth outcomes?

We welcome you to join in the discussion and find your own way of advocating for the health of black mothers and babies.

Sincerely,



Pleshette Robertson
CEO & Founder - Sac Cultural Hub
Chief Editor of THE HUB Magazine
President - Sac Cultural Hub Media Foundation



Twlia Laster
Strategic Marketing Director
Sac Cultural Hub Media Foundation
Owner - Twlia Makes It Happen!



Valarie Scruggs
Program Development Manager
Sac Cultural Hub Media Foundation
Owner - VisionStep

Forum Team Leadership | 2020 Black Physicians Forum via Zoom/FB Live



Pleshette Robertson is the CEO and Founder of Sac Cultural Hub and the Chief Editor of THE HUB Magazine. She is also the owner of PR & Associates Business Resources which is an advertisement and promotions agency specializing in providing multimedia advertising, social media marketing campaigns, e-blast ad/website production and consultation to new business and startup organizations. She also serves as the Executive Director for the Sac Cultural Hub Media Foundation and as a Covered California Certified Enrollment Counselor. She holds a B.A. in Business Administration from San Jose State University. Pleshette loves and celebrates her extended family while she is the proud mother of three daughters and also has one grandson.



Vicki Blakely holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Health Care Administration/Management where she worked for various hospitals and clinics throughout Southern and Northern California. Vicki is currently studying for her Master's Degree at Capella University. She also owns "Audacity to Promote" a company that specializes in promoting local community events. She was the promoter for the NAACP R&B Festival in 2011. Vicki joined the staff of Sac Cultural Hub in the Fall of 2009 and is the Administrative Secretary working on special grant projects and activities.



After over 20 years in broadcasting, print media, and public relations, **Michael P. Coleman** relocated from Detroit in 2010 to write the latest chapter in his career: Coleman Communications. He regularly delivers feature articles to a variety of print and online platforms, including Jet Magazine, EURweb.com, and Uptown Magazine. Coleman Communications also provides consultation on brand management, event planning & execution, and fund development/sales to corporations and small businesses. Coleman has earned a Bachelor of Arts with High Honors and Distinction in Communication from the University of Michigan, and he's working on achieving fluency in Spanish.



Twlia Laster is the owner of Twlia Makes It Happen! Consulting Service. Ms. Laster has 20 years of experience in providing consulting services to clients in need of strategic marketing, program development, public relations, event management, health education, and smoking cessation facilitation. For the past nine years Ms. Laster has served as the Strategic Marketing and Project Director for Sac Cultural Hub Media Company directly engaged in increasing overall company revenue by revamping the marketing model, developing programs, solidifying corporate and community partnerships. Additionally, Ms. Laster is the Project Director of Saving Our Legacy, African Americans for Smoke Free Safe Places – The SOL Project, and serves on several public health advisory committees throughout Northern California.



Lesley Leatherwood is the CEO of Leatherwood Marketing, and specializes in national internet marketing and print advertising. She possesses over 20 years of corporate experience, including inside and outside sales, hospitality, public relations, media buying, production assistant in television and four feature films. She is an expert with consulting on promoting, advertising, telemarketing products, events and photography. Lesley is originally from Cardiff Wales, England. Lesley has been with Sac Cultural Hub Media Company since 2008 and serves as the Community Advertising Manager.



Donna Ramos writes several multi-cultural novels simultaneously. Her journalism career as a Senior Staff Writer/Reporter for THE HUB Magazine writes multi-cultural novels and her journalism career as a Senior Staff Writer for THE HUB Magazine has yielded interviews with Maxwell, Venus and Serena Williams and HRH Sarah Ferguson Duchess of York, to name a few. As a self-published author, Ramos received acclaim from Essence Magazine and BlackbookPlus.com for her contemporary romance book "HIGH RISE". "M&M, Madness and Mayhem", the final book in her HIGH RISE Trilogy, was released in 2013.



Valarie Scruggs is the Health Equity Manager at One Community Health where she designs programs to reduce health disparities by educating the public on health insurance and managing overall health. She is also owner of VisionStep, a consultant business focused on program development and grant writing. She has 17 years of experience in program planning, securing funding, and implementing effective public health campaigns. She develops strategic alliances to conduct campaigns that increase knowledge and encourage individuals and communities to take action to reduce their risk for disease. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Social Ecology from University of California, Irvine with an emphasis in Psychology and Social Behavior. Valarie also serves as Program Development Manager for the Sac Cultural Hub Media Foundation.



WHAT TO DO IF YOU'RE EXPOSED **TO DANGEROUS**

SECONDHAND SMOKE

Visit To to learn about California

Learn about your community's

nt to report being exposed or to get assistance on an issue you're experiencing.

to let them know you want a completely smokefree community.

CIGARETTES, HOOKAHS, MARIJUANA, VAPES, CIGARILLOS

Secondhand smoke is more common than you might think. In 2017 only 10% of Californians smoked cigarettes, but over half were exposed to the secondhand harm. And cigarette smoke is just the beginning. Californians face increasing levels of secondhand smoke from vape and marijuana.

None of it is harmless.

ALL SECONDHAND SMOKE IS HARMFUL

Just because it doesn't smell like a cigarette doesn't mean it's not a health risk. There's no such thing as safe secondhand smoke.

At least 10 chemicals identified in vape aerosol are on California's Proposition 65 list of cancer-causing and reproductive toxic chemicals.

Secondhand cigarette smoke Secondhand smoke from cigarillos causes approximately 7,330 deaths contain the same toxic chemicals from lung cancer and 33,950 deaths from heart disease each year in the US.

Secondhand hookah smoke contains carbon monoxide and other toxic chemicals which can cause lung, bladder, and

Indoors - your home, apartment, condo or some workplaces. Outdoors - sidewalks, entryways, parks, trails, restaurant dining patios, festivals, concerts, or other organized events and

contains many of the same cancer-causing substances and toxic chemicals as secondhand tobacco smoke. In one study, 3 out of 4 kids whose parents smoked marijuana in the house had tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) in their bloodstream.

VULNERABLE

Children, Elderly People, and Pets

PROTECT THE

Secondhand smoke endangers the health of everyone in its reach, especially kids and pets who lack the ability to change their environments.

Middle ear infections

Respiratory infections

Babies exposed to secondhand smoke have a higher rate of SIDS (sudden infant death syndrome).

Chronic respiratory symptoms

Heart attacks

Weakened health

Pets are affected in the

Dogs show more instances of lung

Cats living in homes with smokers have about 3x the risk of developing lymphoma, a cancer with a poor prognosis for survival.

PROTECTING YOUR LOVED ONES IN PLACES & SPACES

Know Your Rights & How to Stand Up

Secondhand smoke exposure is rapidly increasing, and it's up to you to educate yourself on the policies in your community that protect your family. Cities, counties, and tribes enact their own smokefree policies. Local policies can build on statewide smokefree laws, and expand to more places and spaces to protect you and your family.

n you know what policies are in place, you can stand up protect yourself and your loved ones.



Brought to you by The SOL Project, Funded by the California Department of Public Health Tobacco Control Program, under contract #17-10978. (c) 2020

Sac Cultural Hub Media Co. & Foundation | 2020 Black Physicians Forum via Zoom/FB Live

Working to promote the healthy lifestyles of African

American and urban communities in Northern California,

Sac Cultural Hub Media Foundation (SCHMF) was created
in 2003 to develop programs which mentor young
adults, women, and underserved communities. The

Foundation has implemented programs in partnership
with corporations, businesses and individuals to
promote higher education, provide entrepreneurship
opportunities, further diversity partnerships, and improve
and encourage collaborative efforts through exceptional
signature events that include:

- Exceptional Women of Color (EWOC) Networking Brunch Conference
- Black Physicians Forum (BPF)
- Young Women's Exceptional Women of Color (Y-EWOC)
 Scholarship Competition
- Sac Hub Youth Ambassadors Program

The mission of the Sac Cultural Hub Media Foundation is to provide exciting non-traditional vehicles of engagement where businesses and non-profit organizations can market services and products and mentor and provide public service information to educate and inspire the urban community. Our primary goal is to motivate and empower African American professionals, communities of color, and youth to thrive and succeed in life.

The Sac Cultural Hub Media Foundation utilizes the Sacculturalhub. com Media Company to connect with the African American and Urban communities of Northern California. Sacculturalhub.com is known as the #1 grassroots multi-media organization in Northern California and is the most popular resource for networking of businesses, non-profit



organizations, community resources, entertainment, and individuals.

Pleshette Robertson, the CEO and Founder of Sacculturalhub. com launched the website in March 2002. The website provides an internet platform for news, multicultural events, career profiles, professional business services, community resources, educational opportunities, corporate advertising, and photo gallery of Northern California residents, visitors, and celebrities. The website currently receives over 2 million national hits each month with over 20,000 unique visitors each month

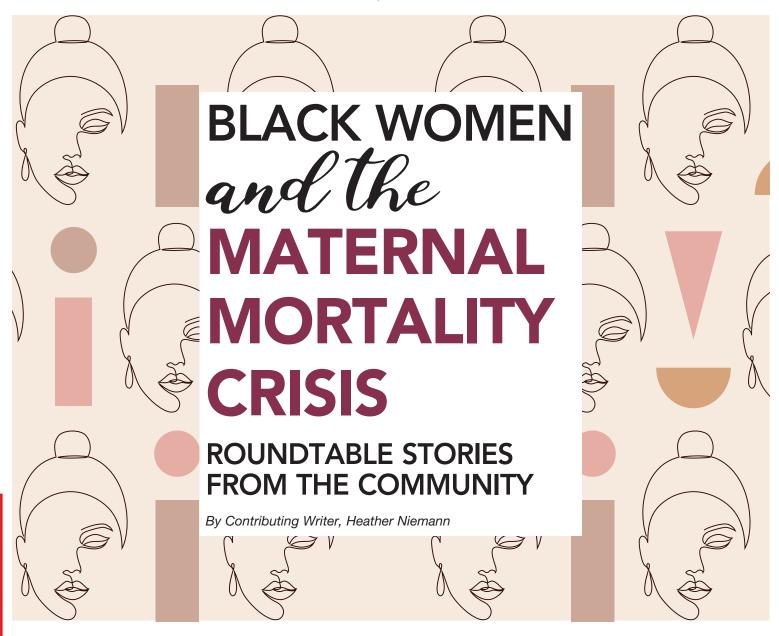
In February 2006, Ms. Robertson implemented a signature publication to complement the website. THE HUB: Urban Entertainment & Lifestyle Magazine which caters to affluent urban professionals, working class families and the underserved African American and urban communities. Its mission is to highlight individuals for their community contributions which increases enthusiasm in the community and help others to celebrate what Northern California has to offer.











In February, **U.S. Senator Kamala D. Harris (D-CA)** held a roundtable discussion (02.18.2020) in partnership with the California Breastfeeding Coalition in San Francisco to discuss the Black maternal mortality crisis and her legislation to address persistent biases and shortcomings in our nation's medical system. Also present at the roundtable was **California Surgeon General Dr. Nadine Burke Harris** and **moderator Devona Robertson, Chair of the California Breastfeeding Coalition** along with a host of health providers, community members and maternal care advocates.



uring Black history month, it is important that we not only celebrate the rich legacy of Black Americans, but also acknowledge the historic struggles within the community – many of which persist today," said Sen. Harris. "Even as advancements in medicine improve outcomes, Black women continue to face a maternal mortality crisis. Every day that we fail to confront racial disparities and injustices in America, we are failing our families and future generations."

"In our struggle, we need to remind ourselves that we are not alone," urged Senator Harris. "When we are talking about black maternal mortality, we are talking about the fact that black women die at three to four times the rate of other women in America in connection with childbirth." The issue has two parts: racial bias and unique stressors that black women in America face: housing, pay and childcare inequity. This is not just about bias among medical health professionals, but also bias in every system that exists. These various issues, when combined, contribute to the mortality rate of black women.

Senator Harris explains, "it hurts when you are not taken seriously. Especially when you know your facts, when people don't believe you and you have to prove what you know instead of people just taking you at your word. It's at the core of a system that is corrupt frankly." The community professes to be about caring for people, making them whole, and giving them care, and yet it conducts itself in quite the opposite way, which is to suggest they are not whole and undeserving of care.

Surgeon General Burke Harris shared, "just like our broader American society, our healthcare system is built on a history of racism and oppression. We can't separate that." The main reason that hospitals desegregated was due to the passage of the 1965 Medicare/Medicaid Act, which required medical facilities receiving federal dollars to integrate. What needs to happen in America today is to change hearts. Burke Harris believes the best way to do this is to change policy. "We can change policy, we can change requirements, and that changes outcomes, and hearts and minds change as a result of the different outcomes."

At the roundtable, many maternal health providers, advocates, and mothers shared their stories and how they are contributing to improve maternal care and mortality in California.

After challenges with two of her four pregnancies, Brandi, a lactation consultant at West Oakland Health Center, made it her personal mission to make it known about the health disparities of black women and children, and teaching self-advocacy. As she grew in knowledge through each pregnancy, she still experienced mistreatment. "It's so interesting that you can know so much and you can know who you are as a person, and as soon as someone comes in with more power and authority, that you think – they are a doctor in a white coat – how they can change you."

She felt pressured in how to care for her baby that were contrary to her beliefs and her knowledge, and it was difficult to stand up for herself. Through her experiences, she is motivated to equip black mothers with knowledge so they may be confident and better able to speak up and advocate for themselves and their babies.

Another lactation consultant remarked that when she started in her hospital she was the first black lactation consultant. She had to prove her knowledge; pediatricians did not trust her judgment at first. She shared, "we should not have to roll out our resumes or our credentials when we walk into a doctor's office, clinic or hospital."

Programs mentioned that will undoubtedly play a major part in educating as well as assisting Black mothers that include:

- San Francisco Collective Impact program, Expecting Justice, has created the Racial Equity 101
 Toolkit, A Series of Tools to Advance Racial Equity in the Workplace.
- Legislation California Doula Medi-Cal bill AB-2258 | Allowing Medicaid to cover doula services will
 improve outcomes for pregnant women and reduce costs. Under the bill, services from a trained,
 qualified doula would be eligible for coverage through private insurance and Medicaid, including
 the state medical assistance program, for up to \$1,500 per pregnancy. The bill, which would take
 effect July 1, 2020, would also set industry standards and create a statewide registry of doulas.
- The Black Child Legacy Campaign has established a statewide expansion projects for maternal and infant health focus on the areas of: Black mothers digital media storytelling project, Birthing While Black documentary, and community listening sessions and forums.
- Equality and equity are NOT the same thing. What works for black women is different than other races. Highland Hospital is developing a model for prenatal care developed by and for black women black doctors, midwives, social workers, nutritionists, lactation consultants. It is imperative to offer black families a program that is geared towards them.
- Supporting Our Ladies And Reducing Stress (SOLARS) to prevent preterm birth is one of the first, large-scale studies, designed by women of color, to help us understand the impact of stress, anxiety, and racism in addition to resilience and coping on preterm birth.







Maternal Care Access and Reducing Emergencies (Maternal CARE) Act

Authored by Senator Harris (reintroduced in May 2019). The act has three elements to it:

- A \$25 million grant to support medical, nursing, other training schools to implement training on implicit and explicit racial bias;
- A \$125 million pregnancy medical home pilot project to help states develop integrated care;
- And directs the national academy of medicine to study and make recommendations to incorporate bias recognition in clinical skills testing for medical schools.

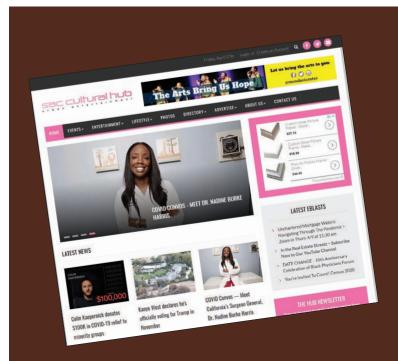
In summary, we need to do more than just raise awareness. We need to have accountability and training for our medical professionals on the specific needs of the black community. It should be enough that black women and babies are dying.

The Black Maternal Health Momnibus Act of 2020, was just introduced last month (March 2020) by U.S. Representatives Lauren Underwood (D-IL) and Alma Adams (D-NC), U.S. Senator Kamala Harris (D-CA), and members of the Black Maternal Health Caucus. The bill addresses the racial disparities in pregnancy outcomes among Black women in America, including higher rates of death and severe morbidity.

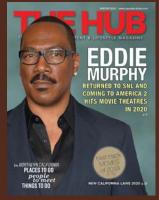
E-mail us at contact@sacculturalhub.com and visit www.blackchildlegacy.org for more information as Sac Cultural Hub Media Foundation has been working in partnership with the Black Child Legacy Campaign at The Center at Sierra Health Foundation on the statewide expansion projects for maternal and infant health.

Photo credits: Office of U.S. Senator Kamala Harris

To see all photos from the roundtable event go to: www.sacculturalhub.com/photo-galleries/photo-gallery



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AFRICAN AMERICANS AND COVID-19

Recovering from COVID-19 can be hard for adults over 65, people with diabetes, asthma, heart disease, and HIV. Staying safe is a priority.

African Americans and Latinos are at higher risk for COVID-19 if you have poor health and uncontrolled conditions.

One Community Health believes we can all take steps to keep families and neighbors from harm and pain. It's how we care for each other.

Staying home, wearing masks, washing hands and getting help when we need it saves lives.

If you have coughing, difficulty breathing, and/or fever, One Community Health will pre-screen you for COVID-19 testing on the phone. Find out if you need to come in-person to be tested. COVID-19 testing is free.

If you need help with medical care, mental health, or to get connected to resources for food, transportation or shelter to manage your health, we're here to help. Call One Community Health at 916 443-3299.

Let's be healthy together.

MATERNAL HEALTH RESOURCES

In the journey of heroism and hurdles African American women are faced with in birthing healthy children, Sac Cultural Hub Media Foundation in partnership with The Center at Sierra Health Foundation worked on identifying resources for the Black Child Legacy Campaign Statewide Expansion Projects for Maternal and Infant Health along with coordinating Community Listening Sessions/Forums and the Black Mothers Digital Media Storytelling Project.

MATRIX: Direct Service Programs for African American Pregnant Mothers https://www.shfcenter.org/assets/RAACD/BCLC.Matrix2020-WEB.pdf

Black Infant Health Program - Sacramento https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CFH/DMCAH/BIH/Pages/default.aspx

California Black Women's Health Project https://www.cabwhp.org/maternal-health.html

Black Infants & Families Los Angeles https://www.blackinfantsandfamilies.org

Senator Kamala Harris - Black Maternal Health Roundtable in San Francisco

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=37BboVebir4&t=3s

In Fresno: Black Motherhood Forum November 2019 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5VQbaAtX1PI&t=22s

Black Women in Nashville are Becoming Doulas to Combat Black Maternity and Infant Mortality

http://www.sacculturalhub.com/item/15207-black-women-in-nashville-are-becoming-doulas-to-combat-black-maternity-and-infant-mortality

Making Childbirth Safe and Not a Death Sentence for Black Women http://www.sacculturalhub.com/item/13499-making-childbirth-safe-and-not-a-death-sentence-for-black-women

Serena Williams Invests in Startup Working to End the Maternal Mortality Crisis Affecting Black Women

http://www.sacculturalhub.com/item/13142-serena-williams-invests-in-startup-working-to-end-the-maternal-mortality-crisis-affecting-black-women

Black Mothers and our COVID-19 Legacy

 $\frac{https://medium.com/@kindrafmontgomery/black-mothers-and-our-covid-\\19-legacy-539990d00753}{}$

Moderator and Keynote Presenter | 2020 Black Physicians Forum via Zoom/FB Live



MODERATOR
Flojaune Cofer,
PhD, MPH
Women's Health
Epidemiologist & Senior
Director of Policy at
Public Health Advocates

Moderator - Flojaune Cofer, PhD, MPH

Dr. Flojaune Cofer is an epidemiologist who serves as the Director of State Policy and Research for Public Health Advocates. Her professional interest is addressing emerging and persistent public health challenges through research and policy. Her work primarily focuses on metabolic disease prevention, restorative justice, and adverse childhood experiences (ACEs).

Prior to joining Public Health Advocates, she led the preconception health initiative for the California Department of Public Health. Flojaune received Bachelor's degrees in Chemistry and Women's Studies from Spelman College. Her public health training was at the University of Michigan, School of Public Health where she earned a Master's in Public Health and doctorate in epidemiology.

She is deeply committed to civic engagement and currently serves on the Board of Directors for two nonprofits and is a member of the Active Transportation Commission and the Sheriff's Community Advisory Board. For her professional contributions and community participation she was awarded the Young Professional of the Year Award by the Sacramento Urban League, the Exceptional Women of Color-EWOC Excellence Award presented by the Sac Cultural Hub Media Foundation, and the 40 Under 40 Award by the Sacramento Business Journal.



KEYNOTE PRESENTER Aletha Maybanks, MD Chief Health Equity Officer & Vice President, American Medical Association

Keynote Presenter - Aletha Maybanks, MD

Dr. Aletha Maybank, MD, MPH recently joined the American Medical Association (AMA) in April 2019 as their inaugural Chief Health Equity Officer and Vice President. Her role is to embed health equity in all the work of the AMA and to launch a Health Equity Center.

Prior to this in 2014, Dr. Maybank became an Associate Commissioner, and later a Deputy Commissioner, and launched the Center for the Health Equity, a new division in the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene geared towards strengthening and amplifying the Health Department's work in ending health inequities. Under her leadership and in a short amount of time, the health department made great strides in transforming the culture and public health practice by embedding health equity in the health department's work. This work has been recognized and adapted by other City agencies and has even captured the attention of the CDC and WHO.

Prior to this role, she was an Assistant Commissioner in the NYC Health Department over the Brooklyn District Public Health Office, a place-based approach, from April 2009 - 2014. Her Bureau set a precedence DOHMH and created a template for community-driven neighborhood planning. Dr. Maybank also successfully launched the Office of Minority Health as its Founding Director in the Suffolk County Department of Health Services in NY from 2006-2009.

She also teaches medical and public health students on topics related to health inequities, public health leadership and management, physician advocacy, and community organizing in health. Currently, Dr. Maybank serves as President of the Empire State Medical Association, the NYS affiliate of the National Medical Association. In 2012, she co-founded "We Are Doc McStuffins," a movement created by African American female physicians who were inspired by the Disney Junior character Doc McStuffins.

Dr. Maybank holds a BA from Johns Hopkins University, a MD from Temple University School of Medicine, and a MPH from Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health. She is pediatrician board certified in Preventive Medicine/Public Health.

Guest Presenters | 2020 Black Physicians Forum via Zoom/FB Live



Allyson Felix, Olympic Gold Medalist testified on Capitol Hill May 2019, not as an athlete, but as a mother and advocate for overcoming racial disparities in the nation's maternal health and mortality crisis. The six-time Olympic gold medalist sprinter and 11-time world champion appeared before the House Ways & Means Committee to share the story of the birth of her daughter, Camryn, on November 28, 2018. Having stepped on the world stage as a passionate 18 year old in her first Olympic Games, Allyson Felix, has redefined athletics as she continues to cement her iconic status on and off the track. Allyson grew up in Los Angeles, California. Her father, Paul, is an ordained minister and was an excellent sprinter as a teen. She inherited her long, lean legs from her schoolteacher mother, Marlean. Allyson's interest in the sport began watching her older brother, Wes, run. However, she did not try out for the school track team until her freshman year at Los Angeles Baptist High School in North Hills. She never expected that she would find one of her passions on that high school track, but she did and has never looked back — amassing an incredible 13 global titles, 10 United States Championships, 9 Olympic Medals, and a World Record. Her accomplishments solidify her as one of the greatest female athletes the world has seen and has garnered attention from the top media publications in the world. Features have included: Vogue, Glamour, Essence, Self, O Magazine, Sports Illustrated, and Elle.



Shonda Moore is Director of Marketing & Communications of Fortune School, a charter school management organization and graduate school. In this role, Moore is responsible for the promotion and management of Fortune School's brand, overseeing internal and external communications, state and local advocacy engagement, and managing the student lifecycle from first awareness to enrollment. Prior to this role, Moore did business as a principal consultant under the name Voice of the People where she managed a variety of campaigns from political to education recruitment and school scouting. Moore also worked as a Director of Communications and Government Affairs at Time for Change Foundation where she helped to establish the organizations brand and advocacy platform. She held fellowships with the Women's Policy Institute at the Women's Foundation of California, and the New Leaders Council. She has a Master's of Management in Public Administration from the University of Phoenix and a Bachelor's of Arts in Mass Communication from California State University, San Bernardino. Moore is an active member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., the Mahogany Festival Planning Committee, Go On Girl Book Club, and Girl Trek. She resides in Sacramento, CA with her husband with new baby son and two dogs.



Dr. Olivia Kasirye, M.D. is the Sacramento County Public Health Officer and Public Health Officer of City of Elk Grove. Dr. Kasirye has over 20 years of experience including her work as the Medical Director of the Sacramento County Child Health and Disability Prevention program and the Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health program and as the Communicable Disease Controller. Dr. Kasirye received a Medical Degree from the Makerere University Medical School in Kampala, Uganda. She also has a Master of Science degree in Epidemiology from the University of California, Davis. She is Board Certified in Public Health and General Preventative Medicine. She had been employed by El Dorado County Department of Health and Human Services as the Public Health Officer since August 2009.



Dr. Renetta Garrison Tull, Vice Chancellor for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at UC Davis. Before joining UC Davis in 2019, Dr. Tull was Associate Vice Provost for Strategic Initiatives at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC), and Professor of the Practice in UMBC's College of Engineering and IT (COEIT). Within COEIT, she served as part of the "Engagement" team, and pursues research in humanitarian engineering. Dr. Tull is Founding Director and Co-PI for the 12-institution National Science Foundation University System of Maryland's (USM) PROMISE AGEP, and Co-Director/Co-PI for the NSF USM's Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP).

Allyson Felix Just Testified on Capitol Hill About Maternal Health and Mortality



The birth of her daughter was "the two most terrifying days of my life," the gold medalist said while speaking to the House Ways and Means Committee.

BY ERIN STROUT

Allyson Felix testified on Capitol Hill on Thursday, not as an athlete, but as a mother and advocate for overcoming racial disparities in the nation's maternal health and mortality crisis.

The six-time Olympic gold medalist sprinter and 11-time world champion appeared before the House Ways & Means Committee to share the story of the birth of her daughter, Camryn, on November 28, 2018. When Felix, 33, went for a routine 32-week checkup, the doctor detected an irregularity in the baby's heartbeat and sent her to the hospital. Not long after she arrived, Felix learned she had a severe case of preeclampsia, a complication detected by high blood pressure and swelling, which could be fatal.

An emergency C-section followed and Felix said her life was at risk—as well as her infant's.

"Mothers don't die from childbirth, right? Not in 2019. Not professional athletes. Not at one of the best hospitals in the country," said Felix. "I thought maternal health was solely about fitness, resources, and care. If that was true, why was this happening to me? I was doing everything right."

While Felix and her husband, Kenneth Ferguson, spent the next month in the NICU with their daughter, they learned that the experience is not uncommon.

"There were others just like me. Black like me. Healthy like me, doing their best, just like me," she said. "And they faced death like me, too... I learned that black women are nearly four times more likely to die from childbirth than white mothers are in the United States and that we suffer severe complications twice as often."

ALLYSON FELIX | 2020 Black Physicians Forum via Zoom/FB Live



Felix said that all the ways that she prepared for pregnancy and childbirth did not take into account the different risks that black women face.

"We need to provide women of color with more support during their pregnancies," she said. "There's a level of racial bias within our healthcare system that is troubling and will be difficult to tackle, but that doesn't mean that we shouldn't."

Research shows that healthcare providers spend less time with black mothers, underestimate the pain of black patients, and dismiss complaints, she said.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, data collected on maternal health and pregnancy mortality between 2011–2015 and 2013–2017 confirmed that black and American Indian/Alaska Native women were three times as likely to die from pregnancy-related causes as white women. The research also found that most deaths, regardless of race, were preventable.

"I have decided to further lend my voice to organizations that have taken up this work," Felix said. "I hope...to be intimately involved in this work and fight to make a difference."

Felix has also said she plans to continue competing with the goal of making the 2020 Olympics, which would be her fifth Games.

REFERENCE: https://www.womensrunning.com/health/wellness/allyson-felix-maternal-health/

Flavored tobacco sales ban spurs African American family to quit smoking

For Alonda Barrie, her 73-year-old mother and 52-year-old brother, smoking menthol cigarettes is a family affair. All three have been smokers for years, and like many smokers in the African American community, they choose menthols.

Alonda Berrie, in rehab after a fall, plans to quit smoking with her family now that menthol tobacco products are no longer available in Sacramento.

Now, with the new ban on the sale of flavored tobacco products – including menthol cigarettes – in the City of Sacramento, the family is working collectively to quit.

"I don't like regular-flavored cigarettes," said Barrie, 53. "But I sometimes get out of breath. I want to quit because it will be better for me."

A patient at UC Davis Health, Alonda has been diagnosed chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, in which airflow in the lungs is obstructed, making it harder to breathe. Doctors also found a benign lesion on her lung, scaring her and giving her even more reason to quit.

City sales ban decision informed by UC Davis Health experts

The ban, which took effect Jan. 1, was adopted by the City Council after testimony from several experts, including UC Davis primary care physician and tobacco expert Elisa Tong. The council also was provided with a white paper on the subject produced by a panel of UC Davis and community health after a roundtable event at the UC Davis Comprehensive Cancer Center in March 2019.

Tong said the addition of menthol flavoring to tobacco makes smoking easier to initiate and harder to quit. She said there is a growing body of evidence that the additive may itself be carcinogenic. And even as some companies have stopped producing fruit flavored tobacco products that may appeal to children, they continue to produce and market menthol-flavored products.

"Just like a tax motivates people think about quitting, community policies can really affect individuals and families supporting each other for behavior change," said Tong, who met Barrie at the medical center and provided her tobacco cessation information to help her family quit.

Tobacco industry has longtime ties to African American organizations

Kimberly Bankston Lee is the senior program director for the Saving Our Legacy (SOL) project, which advocates for healthy, smoke-free communities for African Americans and other populations who suffer disproportionately as a result of social conditions and tobacco use. She took part in the roundtable discussion and effort to ban flavored tobacco in Sacramento.

She said the tobacco industry has long marketed menthol tobacco products to African Americans, including giving large African American organizations funding through corporate sponsorships. Low-income African American neighborhoods, too, tend to be oversaturated with tobacco stores. African American men have the highest rates of lung cancer in the U.S.

"We look at it as a social justice issue," Bankston Lee said. She noted that in 2009 the Food and Drug Administration required

tobacco companies to remove other flavors like vanilla and spice from cigarettes but allowed them to continue producing menthol products.

"Why did they exclude menthol?" she asked. "It has to do with the longstanding relationship of the African American community and the tobacco industry."

Bankston Lee is hopeful that more people, like Barrie and her family, will be motivated to quit with the new ban in place.

"Anytime we can limit the

"I don't like regular-flavored cigarettes," said Barrie, 53.

"But I sometimes get out of breath. I want to quit because it will be better for me."

reduce the ir smoking," showill have increased attempts and prevalence."

Ironically, the

availability of tobacco we reduce the incidence of smoking," she said. "We will have increased quit attempts and a decrease in prevalence."

Ironically, the tobacco industry has engaged prominent African American

leaders and groups to fight life-saving efforts to restrict the sale of mentholated tobacco products. Though their deadly products kill 45,000 Black people every year the tobacco industry cynically claims they want to protect Black people from the criminalization and police profiling/targeting that they claim will ensue if municipalities limit the availability of these addictive products.

The Berrie family is a prime example of what we should all be fighting for which is to restrict the sale of menthol cigarettes AND provide the services and support to help Black people stop smoking. Black people have been perniciously targeted by the tobacco industry for decades. Let's unite and fight to provide the extra services and attention the Black community needs and deserves to rid their communities of these products. Black people CAN ABSOLUTELY stop smoking.

Help your patients and community to quit flavored tobacco products including menthol and e-cigarette/vaping products. The California Smokers' Helpline now includes help to quit vaping (nobutts.org, novapes.org). With just verbal consent, healthcare providers and community-based organizations can have the California Smokers' Helpline call patients or clients for counseling or information on tobacco cessation. Go to nobutts.org/referral to sign up for the free web-based referral, or contact the Helpline about setting up an electronic health record referral at ckirby@ucsd.edu.

Original article written by Dorsey Griffith, UC Davis Health on January 28, 2020; additional commentary by the SOL project (thesolproject.com) and the Sacramento County Tobacco Control Coalition.

https://health.ucdavis.edu/health-news/newsroom/flavored-tobacco-salesban-spurs-african-american-family-to-quit-smoking/2020/01





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Advisory Committee | 2020 Black Physicians Forum via Zoom/FB Live



Monica Crooks, D.D.S. was raised in the USAF, where her dad served our country for 28 years and she was blessed with the opportunity to live all over the US as well as in many other countries, finishing High School in Japan and college in Scotland. Fluent only in English, Dr. Crooks can get by in Japanese, Spanish and German. Education was huge in her youth. Dr. Crooks' parents taught that education is the ticket to self-sufficiency and financial independence and she is glad that she listened. Dr. Crooks has been in private practice as a general and cosmetic dentist for 20 years here in Sacramento. Having attended UCLA School of Dentistry and completed a General Practice Residency at David Grant Medical Center, Dr. Crooks loves her profession because modern technology has given dentistry the ability to do nearly miraculous things with anyone's smile. She loves the sense of accomplishment that comes from making an unattractive smile, suddenly gorgeous. Even more, Dr. Crooks love the tears of joy and the hugs of gratitude that she gets from her happy patients!



Darryl Hunter, M.D. received his medical degree from the Uniformed Services University in 1988 and completed his radiation oncology residency at U.C. San Francisco in 1993. Dr. Hunter has served as an active duty Air Force physician for 17 years before joining Kaiser Permanente in 2005. Dr. Hunter participates in community service projects and considers it an obligation of good citizenship. He serves as a member of the Sacramento Community Cancer Coalition where 11 independent community-based organizations are committed to improving access to free cancer testing for underserved. He also serves as a member of the Sacramento Community Veterans Alliance where civic leaders, veteran service organizations and government agencies work to connect veterans to service-connected benefits. Dr. Hunter also participates in activities under the Dr Ernest and Arthella Hunter Foundation, Inc. which provides scholarships for physicians committed to improving access to cancer care for those in underserved communities.



Glenn A. Middleton, D.D.S. was born and raised in San Francisco, California. He received a B.S. in Zoology from the University of California, Davis, and then received a D.D.S. from the University of California, San Francisco. Dr. Middleton completed a post-doctorate program in prosthetics at the Stanford University Medical Center and the Veteran's Administration Hospital in Palo Alto, California. He provided care for the Head and Neck Oncology Unit and the Spinal Rehabilitation Department as well. Since 1992, he has maintained a private practice in restorative dentistry in Sacramento, California. Dr. Middleton has traveled abroad to provide dental care for the impoverished in Belize, Cuba and the Philippines. He is a member of the American Dental Association, the California Dental Association, and is the current president of the Sacramento Chapter of the National Dental Association.



William Jahmal Miller is Vice President with CommonSpirit Health's Office of Diversity, Inclusion, Equity & Belonging, responsible for health equity and inclusion initiatives. Dignity Health and Catholic Health Initiatives (CHI) have come together as CommonSpirit Health, creating a new nonprofit Catholic health system focused on advancing health for all people and serving communities in 21 states. Most recently, Miller served as the Director of Corporate Reputation & Thought Leadership with San Francisco-based Blue Shield of California. Miller is recognized as a national thought leader and an expert on issues pertaining healthcare, public health, health equity, mental health and public policy. He serves on the boards of directors for The Crocker Art Museum Association (CAMA), Valley Vision, the California Asian Chamber of Commerce, and is an active contributor to Landmark Ventures' Social Innovation Summit.

Miller is a graduate of Columbia University in New York City, with a Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree in Psychology. He also holds a Master of Health Administration (MHA) degree from the University of Southern California. In May 2016, Western University of Health Sciences conferred an Honorary Doctorate in Humane Letters (DHL) to Miller, recognizing his lifetime achievements in the field of health and human services. He has also been recognized with other industry honors, including being named a "Top 40 under 40" awardee by the Sacramento Business Journal, "Top 100 under 50" awardee by Diversity MBA, and a Modern Healthcare Up & Comers awardee.

Miller is a native of Sacramento, California and is a proud husband and father. He is an active member of his local church, and is a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. and Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity. A proud father and husband, Jahmal is the youngest of four boys and his parents have been married for over 50 years.

Advisory Board Members-At-Large | 2020 Black Physicians Forum via Zoom/FB Live



Chet P. Hewitt, is the President and CEO of Sierra Health Foundation in Sacramento, California. Since joining the foundation in 2007, Chet has focused the foundation's grantmaking on health promotion, access, and disparity interventions that target youth and other vulnerable populations. Prior to joining Sierra Health, Chet served as the director of the Alameda County Social Services Agency, associate director with the Rockefeller Foundation in New York, and as a program director at the Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice in San Francisco. In addition to his work, Chet enjoys cycling and gardening. However, his greatest joy is time spent with his wife, Laura, and their two young sons, Chet II and Stephan. William Jahmal Miller serves as the National Communications Manager with Kaiser Permanente's Program Offices - Community Benefit. Most recently served in Kaiser's Central Valley Service Area, where he was Manager for Government & Community Relations within the Public Affairs Division. Mr. Miller previously provided overall management of for Sutter Health as Manager for Strategic Marketing & Communications. Prior to that, he was the Program Manager for Sutter Children's Hospital at Sutter Medical Center, Sacramento. He is a board member of the CA Child Care Referral and Resource Network. The following are additional volunteer boards where he serves - American Diabetes Association, Safehaven Ministries, Bloodsource Advisory & Ronald McDonald House Charities. Mr. Miller recently completed an Executive Fellowship with the Nehemiah Emerging Leaders Program in conjunction with the American Leadership Forum & CORO. He completed his undergraduate work at Columbia University, and his graduate work at the University of Southern California.



Dr. Darin A. Latimore, M.D. is Deputy Dean for Diversity and Inclusion at Yale School of Medicine (YSM). He is establishing a comprehensive plan for furthering diversity, equity, and inclusion at YSM, including a robust recruitment, development, and retention program for faculty, students, and staff. Dr. Latimore is the former Associate Dean of Medical and Resident Diversity at UC Davis, where he helped to raise the diversity of qualified medical students to 43% coming from African-American, Hispanic, Native American, Asian-American and economically disadvantaged backgrounds. He is active on numerous task forces and local, state and national work groups dedicated to equity and medical education. He also maintains a clinical practice.



The Sac Cultural Hub Media Foundation is excited to provide residents and visitors of California with an updated Black Physicians Referral Directory. As you may be looking to see or connect with an African American dentist, gynecologist, primary care doctor, or other specialists, browse through the list below and online at: http://www.sacculturalhub.com/norcal-black-physicians-directory.

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