

Leadership

"Leadership should be born out of the understanding of the needs of those who would be affected by it."

~Marian Anderson

Returning Board of Directors 2017 – 2018

Dalon Taylor	President
Nakia Lee-Foon	Vice President
J.R. Dash	Treasurer
Yvette Leander	Secretary
Dr. Christopher J. Morgan	Board Member
Chantelle Bishop	Board Member

Non Returning Board of Directors

Donna Alexander	Board Member
Dave D'Oyen	Board Member

New Candidates to Board of Directors 2017 – 2018

Paul Bailey	Appointed to Board after 2016 AGM
Amoye Henry	Appointed to Board after 2016 AGM

Thank you to Fellow Community Organizations

"If we cross the river together, the alligators won't bother us"
~ African Proverb

The Black Health Alliance would like to thank our fellow community organizations that shared a cooperative spirit and worked alongside us throughout the year.

We look forward to the coming year filled with challenges and opportunities. We are confident that working in partnership we will advance the health and well-being of the Black community.



Black Health Alliance 2016-2017 Annual Report:



Working in Partnership to Advance the Health and Well-Being of the Black Community

Vision

People from the diverse Black communities in Canada experience optimal health and well-being.

Mission

To reduce the racial disparities in health outcomes and promote health and well-being for people from the diverse Black communities in Canada with emphasis on the broad determinants of health, including racism.

Greetings From President Dalon Taylor

Over the past year, BHA remains tireless in its commitment “to advance the health and well-being of the Black community.” This is an ongoing endeavour and our Board of Directors continues to rise to the occasion as we deepen our resolve to work harder. Reflection on the past year is prudent to acknowledge the strides we made, identify the areas in which we need to make changes and refine our strategic priorities to keep moving forward.



BHA was among a delegation of representatives from 27 community organizations and different regions of Canada, to hold over 50 meetings with 60 Members of Parliament (MP) from across the political spectrum on Parliament Hill. These meetings aimed to rally the backing from MPs to support legislation to acknowledge the United Nations' (UN) declaration of the International Decade for People of African Descent and raise awareness, to begin to more actively address the unique challenges faced by Black Canadians. These issues cannot be adequately addressed by general diversity and inclusion policies alone.

Our collaborative efforts continue to yield results and for the first time, five Black students were accepted in the University of Toronto's 2017 medical school program! BHA participated in the review of applications and interview process for prospective students in the program and worked closely with Ike Okofor, U of T's Service Learning & Diversity Outreach officer and the Black Physicians Association of Ontario (BPAO) to contribute to achieving this goal. This is a small but significant step and our efforts will continue.

BHA maintained partnership in the “Ko-Pamoja”: Learning together about breast and cervical cancer screening research project, along with representatives from TAIBU Community Health Centre, St. Michael's Hospital and McMaster University. This research and other collaborations are ongoing as we work to create multiple solutions to improve our health.

Our annual forum A Sound Mind II was well attended and this year we expect to gather input from the community to start building a Black Health and Well-being Strategy. Other community activities include participation in the Jamaican Canadian Association annual walkathon, Diabetes Canada's Caribbean Chapter Expo, Health Equity Research Collaborative (HERC) Stakeholder Consultation, BPAO symposium, Think Afro-Pink event at U of T and the Black Experiences in Healthcare symposium. BHA also collaborated with Tabono Institute, Zero Gun Violence Movement, African Canadian Legal Clinic and other stakeholders, to demand a response from the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health about the growing uncertainty around the future of the Substance Abuse Program for African Canadian and Caribbean Youth.

Finally, BHA received the Jackie Robinson Fortitude Award from First Fridays, in recognition of BHA's resilience for changes in healthcare. We look forward to the upcoming year with anticipation and optimism as we remain committed to Working in Partnership to Advance the Health and Well-Being of the Black Community.

Financial Well-Being

Summarized Financial Statement as of March 31, 2017

Balance Sheet (unaudited)		
ASSETS	\$2017	\$2016
Current Assets		
Cash and Bank	3,916	2,271
TOTAL ASSETS	3,916	2,271
LIABILITIES		
Current Liabilities		
Bank	-	-
Accounts Payable	30	-
TOTAL LIABILITIES	30	-
NET ASSETS – General Fund Balance	3,886	2,271
Income Statement		
REVENUE	\$2017	\$2016
Donation	329	153
Fundraising	11,035	3,290
Membership	525	780
TOTAL REVENUE	11,889	4,223
EXPENSES		
Bank Charges	78	78
AGM	387	685
Sound Mind Forum (2016)	7,913	2,787
Sound Mind Forum (2015 video pkg)	832	-
Membership Support	1,098	180
Website	-	-
Administration	154	-
TOTAL EXPENSES	10,462	3,730
Excess of Revenue over Expenses	1,427	493
Net Assets – at beginning of year	2,271	1,166
Net Assets – at end of year	3,886	2,271

The above financial statements were prepared by the Board of Directors. Complete financial statements are available upon request.

The Black Health Alliance is a registered charitable organization Reg# 81517 5674 RR0001. All tax receipts have been issued in accordance with Canada Revenue Agency.

Community Engagement



Thank you Donna Alexander and Dave D'Oyen. Your board service has been invaluable.



BHA Founder Dr. Christopher J. Morgan receives the Jackie Robinson Fortitude Award for BHA from Dewitt Lee, left and First Fridays Toronto founder Warren Salmon at the January 6 Health and Fitness meeting.



BHA Board members joined a February 6 delegation meeting MPs on Parliament Hill (see President Greetings).



BHA Board of Directors 2015-2016 left front, Yvette Leander (Secretary), Nafia Lee-Foon (Vice President), J.R. Dash (Treasurer), Dave D'Oyen, Dalon Taylor (President), Dr. Christopher J. Morgan (Founder), and Donna Alexander. Missing Chantelle Bishop.

Black Experiences in Health Care
Symposium Report

Read about the March 25 meeting BHA helped to organize. The report focuses on health inequities Black Ontarians face. Please find it here: <http://bit.ly/BEHC17>.



BHA's "Walk Good" team for the Jamaican Canadian Association's annual walkathon on the May 7.



BHA 2016 Legacy Award winner, Kathleen Nelson, second right, promotes the annual Black Diabetes Expo through Diabetes Canada's Caribbean Chapter at the April 22 event.

2017 Black Health Alliance Legacy Award Stachen Frederick (BrAIDS for AIDS)

Stachen Frederick is the Executive Director of Weston Frontlines Centre and has over 15 years' international and Canadian experience in community and program development. Her work has been recognized by Black History Ottawa, the High Commission of Trinidad and Tobago, and YMCA Canada. She also established Ottawa Young Black



In 2008, she founded BrAIDS for AIDS, a not-for-profit foundation that raises awareness of HIV/AIDS in African, Caribbean and Black communities in Canada and internationally through hair braiding. The organization also funds relevant causes in the fight against the disease.

Events like this year's BrAIDathon and Hair Styling Show in Toronto — the fifth since BrAIDS for AIDS inception — helps to promote the HIV/AIDS discussion with event proceeds supporting the foundation and its programs across the Greater Toronto Area. They include an entrepreneurship-focused hair dresser program for African, Caribbean and Black young women; a program supporting young men in the prison system and another focused on combating violence against women.

In 2017, Stachen was featured among 150 women in the *HERstory in Black* project, an extension of the How She Hustles network of over 5,000 women from diverse backgrounds. Like the project's history-making members, Stachen is helping to build more vibrant communities.

Stachen's unique blend of social work and the arts has resulted in a number of notable projects including H.I.P to be Global (Health International Perspective to be Global using HIP HOP culture), a conference session showcasing creative ways to raise awareness about international issues that incorporate youth culture and interest. As a consultant, organizations including the Jane/Finch Family and Community Centre's The Spot, the AIDS Committee of Toronto and Gateway Centre for New Canadians are among her clients.

Stachen volunteers with a number of non-profit groups. She is also a poet, dancer and travels internationally for work and pleasure.

2017 Keynote Address, Winston Husbands Strengthening Black Health and Well-being - a Strategy for Life

Winston Husbands is a Senior Scientist at the Ontario HIV Treatment Network, and an Adjunct Professor in the Faculty of Health at York University. His work draws together research, community engagement, and capacity building, mainly with Black communities in Ontario.

Starting with his initial affiliation as a volunteer and member of the Board of Directors at the Black Coalition for AIDS Prevention (1993-1995), Winston has also been affiliated with the AIDS Committee of Toronto (where he was Director of Research) and the African and Caribbean Council on HIV/AIDS in Ontario (as co-Chair and Interim Director).

Among his current projects in Ontario, Winston is developing and testing an intervention to reduce HIV-related stigma among Black churches (Black PRAISE), and examining how vulnerability and resilience to HIV are constituted among self-identified heterosexual Black men (weSpeak). These projects involve extensive collaboration among a range of community stakeholders that include researchers, service providers, people living with HIV, and community-based organizations.

Winston is also a member of Tabono Institute which is based in Toronto and promotes African-centred research, community engagement capacity building to strengthen community health and well-being. Winston completed undergraduate and graduate studies at the University of the West Indies (Mona), and completed his PhD at the University of Western Ontario.

