

THE CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS FOUNDATION'S
CENTER FOR POLICY ANALYSIS AND RESEARCH

HEALTH EQUITY SUMMIT

FEBRUARY 18, 2021



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Welcome

Welcome to the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Incorporated (CBCF) Policy for the People Virtual Health Equity Summit

In 2020, the CBCF launched the Policy for the People Series to provide critical policy updates on the most pressing issues facing the Black community in the United States in the era of combatting COVID-19. Experts, prominent thought leaders and members of the Congressional Black Caucus provided insight and analysis in areas including public health, economic mobility, employment, education and youth. This year, we are continuing the series beginning with a two-part Health Equity Summit, presented by our long-time partner Johnson & Johnson.

The first session, Understanding the Impact of the COVID-19 Vaccine on the Black Community will address common questions and concerns including vaccine eligibility and trust in the vaccine in the wake of a history of medical health disparities and discrimination for Black Americans. We welcome Rep. Robin Kelly, co-chair of the Congressional Black Caucus Healthcare Task Force as a featured speaker for this timely and lively discussion.

Session two will discuss Mental Health Realities for Black America. The combined trauma of the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic along with systemic racism and a faltering economy has created daunting challenges, disproportionately affecting the physical and mental health of Black people. Rep. Bonnie Watson Coleman, chair of Congressional Black Caucus Emergency Task Force on Black Youth Suicide and Mental Health will help to lead this essential conversation.

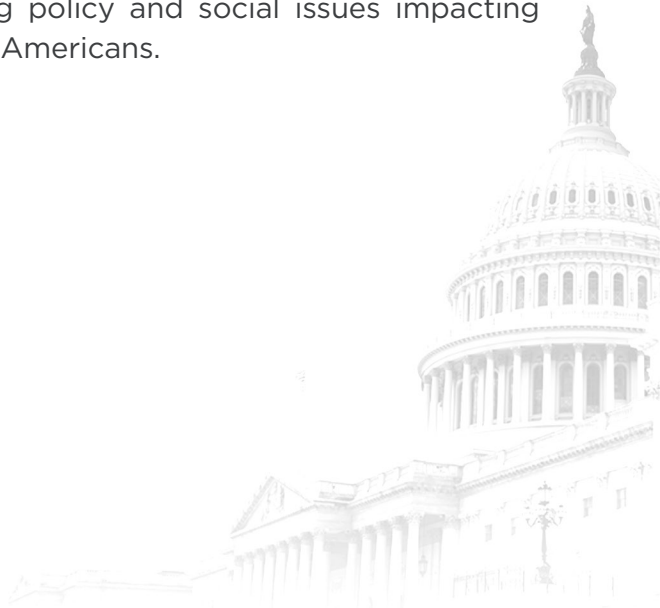
Thank you for supporting the mission of the CBCF and for contributing to these discussions crucial to the wellbeing of the global Black community. We value your engagement and we look forward to your ongoing participation in our Policy for the People series and beyond. Visit cbcfinc.org and follow @CBCFInc on [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#) for the latest information about the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Inc.

Tonya Veasey
President and CEO



POLICY
FOR **THE PEOPLE**
VIRTUAL **SUMMIT** SERIES

The 2021 Health Equity Summit provides attendees the opportunity to engage in in-depth discussion with subject-matter experts along with business leaders and members of the Congressional Black Caucus. Subjects are wide-reaching policy and social issues impacting the lives of Black Americans.



HEALTH EQUITY
SUMMIT

FEBRUARY 18, 2021

SESSION 1

UNDERSTANDING THE IMPACT OF THE COVID 19 VACCINE ON THE BLACK COMMUNITY

FEBRUARY 18, 2021 | 10 AM EST



On November 30, 2020 the Center for Disease Control reported that Black people were 3.7 times more likely to be hospitalized and faced a 2.8 higher mortality rate from COVID-19 compared to their white counterparts.

As Black people face disproportionate rates of hospitalization and death by the coronavirus, it imperative our community is prioritized as the vaccine is administered to the general public. Through in-depth discussions with healthcare professionals, health policy experts and community leaders this session will tackle important questions related to the coronavirus vaccine including: who the vaccine will protect, why should the vaccine be trusted and how will our community overcome this pandemic, while providing personal and policy recommendations to ensure our community stays protected and prepared for life after this pandemic.

PANELISTS



INTRO REMARKS

REP. ROBIN KELLY
Co-Chair, CBC Healthcare Task Force,
U.S. House of Representatives



PANELIST

QUITA BEELER HIGHSMITH, MBA
Founder and Host, Therapy for
Black Girls Vice-President and Chief
Diversity Officer, Genentech



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PANELIST

ELISEO J. PÉREZ-STABLE, M.D.
Director, National Institute on Minority
Health and Health Disparities, National
Institutes of Health



PANELIST

REED V. TUCKSON, MD, FACP
Managing Director of Tuckson
Health Connections



PANELIST

TABIA HENRY AKINTOBI, PH.D., MPH
Director of the Prevention Research
Center, Morehouse School of Medicine

SESSION 2

MENTAL HEALTH REALITIES FOR BLACK AMERICA

FEBRUARY 18, 2021 | 2 PM EST



The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic along with intense race relations and crippling economic instability has created many challenges affecting the physical and mental health for people around the nation.

For Black Americans particularly, these adversaries highlight major discrepancies and disparities among systems meant to serve and protect all people. While Black people battle disproportionate infection rates of COVID-19, our community also battles the increased triggers of stress, anxiety and depression. One week after the video of George Floyd's death went viral, data from the Census Bureau's survey showed that the percentage of Black Americans who reported signs of anxiety and depression increased substantially. This session will discuss the ways the traumatic events of 2020 have influenced how Black people take care of their mental health.

PANELISTS



INTRO REMARKS

REP. BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN
Chair, CBC Emergency Task Force on
Black Youth Suicide & Mental Health
U.S. House of Representatives



PANELIST

COURTNEY BILLINGTON
President, Neuroscience,
Janssen Pharmaceuticals



PANELIST

JOY HARDEN BRADFORD, PH.D.
Founder and Host, Therapy for
Black Girls



PANELIST

BENJAMIN CALIXTE
Co-Founder, TherapyForBlackMen.org



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Clinical Director, T2S Enterprises, LLC

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Thank you for joining us for the
Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's
Center for Policy Analysis and Research
Health Equity Summit.



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