



BPA News

Black Psychiatrists of America, Inc.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

BPA hosted an amazing event, on May 22nd at the Hawthorne Lounge during the APA annual convention in San Francisco. The evening kicked off with our BPA meeting, which had an impressive turnout of over 50 attendees. Following the meeting, we transitioned into our reception. Based on the response and the overall atmosphere, we estimate we drew a crowd of over 300 attendees. To start the evening, we introduced everyone in the room, facilitating networking, and allowing colleagues to become acquainted with one another's work and locations. This set the stage for a night filled with enjoyment, delicious food, and refreshing drinks. The meeting began at 6:30 PM, and the reception was originally scheduled from 8:30 PM to 11:30 PM. However, due to the overwhelming enjoyment experienced by all, we extended the reception by an additional hour. It was truly heartening to witness the excitement and joy shared by colleagues and friends. I was particularly impressed by the significant turnout of students, residents, and the mix of more experienced professionals who were all thoroughly enjoying themselves. We would like to extend our gratitude to Monroe & Weisbrod, a psychiatry recruitment and staffing company, for sponsoring this remarkable event.



*BPA Executive Director,
Dr. Napoleon Higgins*



The BPA Spring 2024 Conference will be held in Los Angeles, California. Stay tuned for further details

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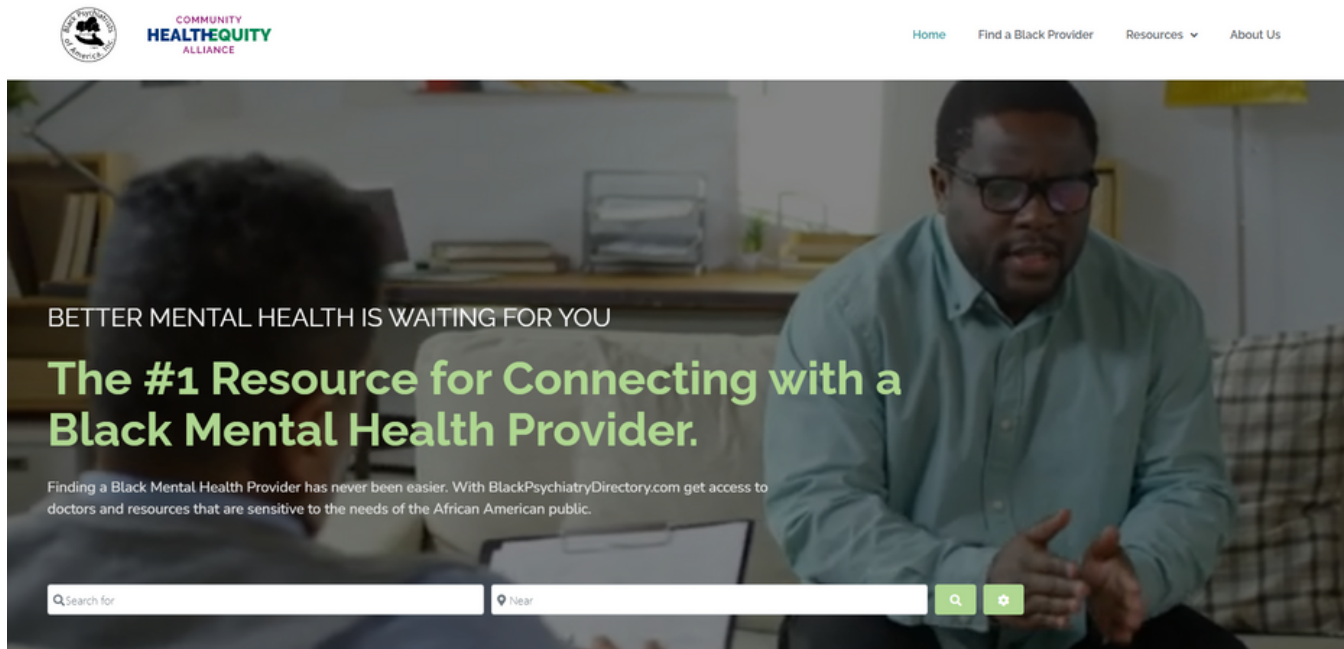
MEMBER-IN-TRAINING

Ja'Nelle Blocker M.D.

Hawthorne Lounge Event



BPA Launches New Online Directory



We are thrilled to announce our July launch of the Black Psychiatrists of America Inc. Psychiatry Directory in honor of Bebe Moore Campbell National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month. This directory is a valuable resource designed to connect individuals with qualified Black psychiatrists and mental health services across the nation.

In recognition of the urgent need for culturally responsive mental healthcare, we have compiled a comprehensive listing of Black psychiatrists and mental health professionals, with a particular focus on Houston and Harris County. This directory aims to bridge the gap in access to mental health support for minority communities and empower individuals to seek the care they deserve.

We are also excited to share that our next two targeted locations to expand the directory are Los Angeles and Atlanta. However, we don't want you to wait! If you are a Black psychiatrist or mental health service provider anywhere in the country, we invite you to [sign up now](#). Together, we can expand the reach of mental health support and create a stronger network of care for all.

Let us join hands and advocate for the importance of mental health within our communities. Together, we can make a significant impact on the lives of individuals seeking help.





CAREER BOARD LISTINGS

PSYCHIATRISTS - Remote Hybrid

We're looking for EXCEPTIONAL PSYCHIATRISTS to join our team. Ideally, our candidate is in search of an intellectually challenging and rewarding career in private practice. We offer a complete administrative and billing support package. This position is 90% telehealth (work-from-home) with an occasional hybrid option. We prefer that applicants have an interest in and understanding of the dynamics of working in multicultural mental health, culturally sensitive clinical treatment, and health equity consulting.

PSYCHIATRIST

Arlington County Department of Human Services (DHS) is hiring Psychiatrists in the Behavioral Health Division (BHD). DHS provides a broad continuum of social services, behavioral healthcare, public health, and employment programs to approximately 60,000 customers per year in an integrated, collaborative approach. Specific duties include: Performing diagnostic psychiatric evaluations; Ongoing psychiatric management, including psychopharmacologic treatment and psychotherapeutic support.

View full listings online at <https://www.blackpsychiatrists.org/career-board>

NOTICE

The Psychiatric News at the American Psychiatric Association is seeking a new Medical Editor-in-Chief to assume leadership when Jeff Bornstein, MD, steps down later this year. Members of BPA are expressly encouraged to apply. This part-time position, appointed by APA's Board of Trustees, will carry a workload averaging 15-20 hours per week.

The deadline for applications, which should include a letter of interest and a curriculum vitae, is July 19, 2023. The letter should include applicants' vision for Psychiatric News' clinical/research content and qualifications to realize this vision. Finalists will be notified by email or phone, and interviews will be scheduled thereafter.

Details about the position can be found in Psychiatric News here:

<https://psychnews.psychiatryonline.org/doi/10.1176/appi.pn.2023.05.5.50>

Dr. Iverson Bell Retires After Illustrious Career

By Nicole Washington, DO

Dr. Iverson Bell Jr. is a teacher, a former psychiatry training director, a community, and a private practice psychiatrist. He believes in using technology to provide outreach in those fields. He was the training director for psychiatry at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center and Morehouse School of Medicine and had those positions for 23 years.

Dr. Bell has been teaching, using teleconferencing to teach, and practicing telepsychiatry since 1984. He began using telepsychiatry for counseling at a college in 1999 and later at the University of Tennessee. He has also used teleconferencing technology to teach healthcare professionals in Ethiopia and Antigua. Dr. Bell has always understood the need for both diversity and promoting wellness throughout his career.



Dr. Iverson Bell

Dr. Bell completed his undergraduate degree from Morehouse College and received his medical degree from Vanderbilt University School of Medicine. He received psychiatry training at the University of Illinois, Chicago, and specialty training at Emory University in child psychiatry. He is a Distinguished Life Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association, a member of the Black Psychiatrists of America, the American Telemedicine Association, and the American Association of Directors of Psychiatry Resident Training.

On June 30, 2023, Dr. Bell retired from the University of Tennessee Health Science Center after 13 years as Training Director. After retirement, Dr. Bell will be returning to Atlanta, GA where he will continue to serve as a virtual Associate Training Director and teach virtually for the University of Tennessee.

Congrats!



Congratulations to Dr. Ja'Nelle Blocker, MD, on becoming certified in Auricular Acupuncture using the NADA Protocol, an adjunct therapy and non-verbal approach to healing. Some benefits of this intervention include: 1) reduced cravings for alcohol and drugs, including nicotine, 2) minimized withdrawal symptoms, 3) increased calmness, better sleep, and less agitation, 4) relief from stress and emotional trauma, 5) discovery of inner quiet and strength. She plans to incorporate this work into her curriculum during her Integrative Medicine Fellowship.

Dr. Danielle Hairston Receives the Solomon Carter Fuller Award and Urges Change

"She likes to get into good trouble, necessary trouble," Jonathan Shepherd, President of the American Psychiatric Association's (APA) Caucus of Black Psychiatrists said when introducing Dr. Danielle Hairston. Hairston is the 2023 recipient of the APA's Solomon Carter Fuller Award. The Solomon Carter Fuller Award—established in 1969 and named for Dr. Solomon Carter Fuller, recognized as the first Black psychiatrist in America—honors a Black citizen who has pioneered in an area that has significantly improved the quality of life for Black people. Hairston is a consultation-liaison psychiatrist, the director of psychiatry residency training at the Howard University School of Medicine, and the most recent past president of the APA Caucus of Black Psychiatrists.

During her award winning lecture, titled- Reconsidering Vicarious Racism and Trauma—it could happen to someone like me- Dr. Hairston asked the audience to consider the diagnostic criteria for traumatic disorders. Systemic and generational trauma must be included in assessments, if the goal is inclusive and equitable care. Is the trauma members of Black communities experience when they hear and read news reports about African-American victims of race-based trauma, something that should be considered in psychiatric treatment?

Hairston's presentation included a guest appearance from A.T. McWilliams, a journalist with lived experience who writes about vicarious racism. Hairston also included a quote from legend and mentor, Dr. Carl Bell. "It's not the incident that causes stress, distress or trauma; it's the helplessness in the face of the incident." Carl Bell, MD. For more information read here: https://www.psychnews.org/alert_AM2023_2c.html



Dr. Danielle Hairston and Dr. Jonathan Shepherd, award presentation from one APA Black Caucus president to another.



2023

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& SCIENTIFIC ASSEMBLY
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JULY 29–AUGUST 2

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BLACK PSYCHIATRISTS OF AMERICA, INC.

MONTHLY BPA MEETUP

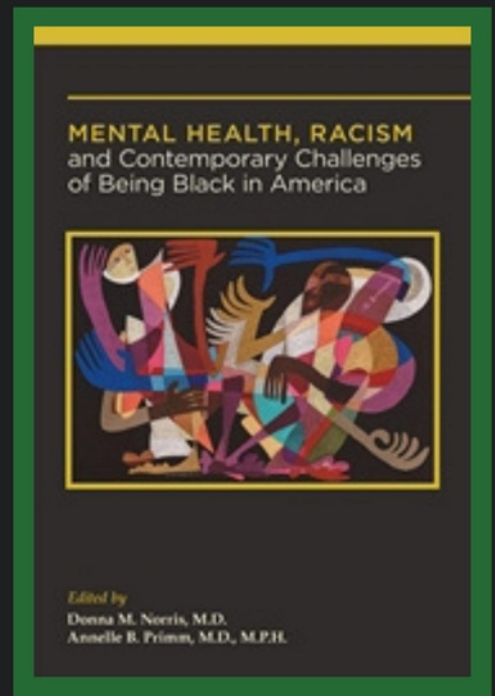
JOIN US FOR DISCUSSION AND FELLOWSHIP
TUESDAY, JULY 18, 2023, 8 PM EASTERN

TOPIC:

In honor of Bebe Moore Campbell National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month, we will be discussing the newly published book, *Mental Health, Racism, and Contemporary Challenges of Being Black in America*.

Guest Speakers:

- Dr. Annelle Primm
- Dr. Donna Norris



Congratulations

TO OUR NEWEST RESIDENTS



DR. CANDICEE CHILDS, MD, MHA, NASM-CPT, NASM-CNC
MED SCHOOL: MEDICAL COLLEGE OF GEORGIA
RESIDENCY: MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL
HOSPITAL/MCLEAN HOSPITAL (BOSTON, MA)



DR. MAURICE MORGAN, MD
MED SCHOOL: MEHARRY MEDICAL SCHOOL
RESIDENCY: HARTFORD HEALTHCARE / INSTITUTE OF
LIVING, HARTFORD, CT



DR. TANISHA ADAMS, MD, MPH, MHS
MED SCHOOL: MEHARRY MEDICAL SCHOOL
RESIDENCY: UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SOUTHWESTERN,
DALLAS, TX



DR. AARON ALEXANDER MACK, MD, MSc.
MED SCHOOL: POZNAN UNIVERSITY OF MEDICAL
SCIENCES (POLAND)
RESIDENCY: HOWARD UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL,
WASHINGTON, DC



DR. KUDIRATU ADEWUNMI, MD (DR.K)
MEDICAL SCHOOL: NEW JERSEY MEDICAL SCHOOL
RESIDENCY: HOWARD UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL,
WASHINGTON, DC



DR. THEODORE JACKSON, MD
MED SCHOOL: UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
RESIDENCY: HOWARD UNIVERSITY PSYCHIATRY,
WASHINGTON D.C

DR. BRITTANY E. SINGLETON, MD
MED SCHOOL: ROSS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
RESIDENCY: HOWARD UNIVERSITY PSYCHIATRY,
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We want to feature **YOU** in our next newsletter! Share your wins so we can celebrate you. [Submit your highlight or article](#) by October 1, 2023.

2023 Spring Conference Sponsors

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