National Suicide And The Black Church

Hope and Help Together WE Stand

Dear Participants:

Once again, we are preparing for one of the country's most significant conferences, the 11th National Suicide and the Black Church Conference, Tuesday and Wednesday, June 10-11, 2025, on the campus of Southwest Community College, 5983 Macon Cove, Memphis, Tennessee, 38134. We have hosted this Conference in Memphis, since June of 2003, after the tragic death by suicide, by a member of our congregation, on the grounds of our church. This led to our research on suicide in the Black community and to our first Conference, which has become one of the nation's leading conferences about suicide, particularly in this community. This year's conference is sure to enlighten, inspire and educate attendees as it has done in the past.

An investigative team that studied suicide in a community during the first six months of 2020 compiled data that yielded some surprising findings. Instead of a peak in suicides during the lockdown in the Spring of 2020, the investigation found that there was a decrease in suicides, compared to previous years. However, once investigators studied suicide rates by race, they found that suicides among white residents decreased by 45% during early March to early May, while suicides among Black residents increased by 94% during the same period. The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated the risk factors associated with suicidal behavior. The prioritization of its prevention is recommended, and these factors also make this Conference a necessity. The theme for this year's Conference is "Together We Stand!" We are attaching a copy of the SAVE-THE-DATE Conference Flyer, which also includes a Registration Form for your convenience and to share with others.

The Conference will include a diverse array of presentations, on subjects that are imperative, as we address suicide, help attendees recognize when intervention is needed and how to incorporate suicide prevention into general health and wellness plans. Many churches, community agencies, companies and state agencies partner with us in this effort to empower attendees from across the country. Our sponsors include the State of Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, Alliance Healthcare, local hospitals, local community organizations and many churches. We are requesting that you join our list of co-sponsors for this important event. You can do this by placing an ad in our booklet, giving a donation, or by highlighting your agency with a booth. Reserve your booth and/or ad space today.

For more information, call our office (901)370-4673 or email us at <u>info@suicideandtheblackchurch.org</u>. Scan the QR code below to register. REGISTER TODAY!!!

Thank you for your support and we look forward to seeing you at the Conference. Pastor Dianne Young,, COO and Co-Founder

- 1. Pull out your phone to scan the QR code.
- 2. You will see a landing page with all the event details and the registration form for you to fill out.
- **3.** Scroll downward to completed required information.
- 4. After filling in the required details, hit the Register/Pay button to complete registration.

3885 Tchulahoma Road Memphis, Tennessee 38118 (901) 370-4673

