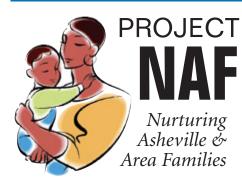
THE URBAN NEWS | www.theurbannews.com 20 • April 2021 Vol. 16 Issue 2

# Mount Zion Community Development, Inc. (MZCD)



#### PROJECT NAF COMMUNITY **ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Jacquelyn Clark: Representing Current Participants

Denise Duckett: Buncombe County HHS

Nancy Farmer: SPARC Foundation

Parris Finley:

Mountain Area Pregnancy Services

Charlene Galloway: Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church of Asheville, Inc.

Brandon Romstadt: Buncombe Health & Human Services

Royanna Williams: Business Owner, TBN Designs & Former NAF Participant

## ECHO (Enhancing Collaborative Health Options & Opportunities)

#### **National Public Health Week**

Healthiest Nation 2030

National Public Health

Strong public health infrastructure is key to a healthy economy and a healthy nation. For the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). America's premier public health protection agency, every week is public health week.

Public health is the science of protecting and improving the health of families and communities through detection and control of infectious diseases, research for disease and injury prevention, and the promotion of healthy lifestyles. Put simply, public health is concerned with protecting the health of populations. These populations can be as small as a local neighborhood, or as big as an entire country or region of the world.

From April 4-10, National Public Health Week will explore a variety of themes aimed at improving the health of our nation and the world. A few of this year's

key focus areas include:

#### Strengthen public health infrastructure and capacity. Strong and consistent funding levels are necessary for

the public health system to respond to both everyday health threats and also unexpected health emergencies.

Build a nation of safe, healthy communities. Health must be a priority in designing our communities, from healthy housing to parks and playgrounds.

Give everyone a choice of healthy food. Our food system should provide affordable food with nutritious ingredients, free from harmful contaminants.

Help all young people graduate from **high school.** Education is the leading indicator of good health, giving people access to better jobs, incomes and neighborhoods.



Dr. John H. Grant, Founding Chairman, President, CEO of Mount Zion Community Development, Inc



Belinda K. Grant, Chief Executive Officer of Mount Zion Community Development, Inc

## April is...

**Alcohol Awareness Month National Minority Health Month Every Kid Healthy Week;** 

**National Prescription Drug Take** Back Day; April 15

**April 19 - 23** 

World Day for Safety and Health at Work; April 28

#### **Hats Off to Community Health Workers!**

A community health worker (CHW) is a frontline public health worker who has a particularly good understanding of the community served. CHW's serve as liaisons between health and social services and the community to facilitate access to services and to improve the quality and cultural competence of service delivery.

**Project EMPOWER** 

**Community Advisory Council** 

Seth Bellamy: Student and Representative

for RHA Partnership for a Substance Free Youth

Johnnie Grant: The Urban News

Dr. Randall Johnson:

Asheville City Schools District

Mr. Devin Lipford: WNCAP

Rasheeda McDaniel: Buncombe County Health & Human Services

## The Partnership for Substance Free Youth in Buncombe County

The Partnership for Substance Free Youth in Buncombe County is a coalition representing Buncombe County and the greater Asheville area. The coalition is committed to keeping children away from alcohol and other drugs. As a Drug Free Communities coalition, we rep-

problems and create local solutions. Our mission is to build thriving Buncombe communities that encourage the reduction of substance abuse with a focus on reducing youth substance use within Buncombe County.

resent 12 sectors to better understand local

#### Coalition Members Recognized

- Seth Bellamy was honored at "Interrupting the Now: Reimagining the Future," CoThinkk's Virtual 5th Annual Event on November 14, 2020.
- Montana Montiel was featured in February's Community Impact NC newsletter.

### **April is Sexual Assault** Awareness Month



Raise awareness and focus on the prevention of sexual assault. According to the CDC, 1 in 3 women and 1 in 4 men

experienced sexual violence involving physical contact during their lifetimes.

Sexual violence can lead to a number of chronic health issues for survivors, including gynecological, gastrointestinal, cardiovascular and sexual health problems. Survivors of sexual violence are also likely to experience depression, anxiety, and use substances.

Our VOICE, Inc. is a non-profit crisis intervention and prevention agency located at 35 Woodfin St., Asheville, NC 28801. In the pursuit of a community that is free of sexual violence, Our VOICE serves all individuals in Buncombe County affected by sexual assault and abuse, through counseling, advocacy and education.

If you or someone you know needs help, please contact Our VOICE at (828) 252-0562, text VOICE to 85511, or visit www. ourvoicenc.org.

#### **National Infant Immunization** Week: April 26 - May 2

Each year we focus on the importance of protecting children two years and younger from vaccine-preventable diseases. For over 25 years, hundreds of communities across the U.S. have joined forces to highlight the critical role vaccination plays in protecting our children, communities, and the nation's public health.

#### **MOUNT ZION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, INC.**

#### Staff

Belinda K. Grant, Executive Director, (828) 776-1429

Vacant: Project NAF Outreach Worker Seth Bellamy: Instructional Facilitator/Teen Rep

#### **Board of Directors**

Linda Glaze: Chair, Chief Operating Officer Rev. Scott Rogers: Vice Chair Brenda Mills: Secretary Sophie Dixon: Treasurer Cynthia Yancey, MD: Fundraising Chair Michele Harper, Fundraising Co-Chair Diana Rhodes: Fundraising

Our programming is made possible through the support of our generous funders

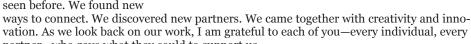








COVID-19 changed our lives—people have come together like we have never seen before. We found new



Source: CDC Foundation News, Judy Monroe, MD

## **The Power** of Together: **Your Impact**

vation. As we look back on our work, I am grateful to each of you—every individual, every partner-who gave what they could to support us.

Mount Zion Community Development • 47 Eagle St., Asheville, NC 28801 • (828) 776-1427 • www.mtzionasheville.org