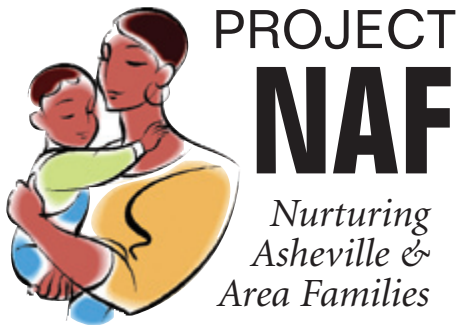


Mount Zion Community Development, Inc. (MZCD)



PROJECT NAF
Nurturing Asheville & Area Families

PROJECT NAF COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD

- Jacquelyn Clark: Representing Current Participants
- Denise Duckett: Buncombe County HHS
- Parris Finley: Mountain Area Pregnancy Services
- Ruth Franklin: First Presbyterian Church, Asheville
- 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

MESSAGE FROM SAPHIRE DE'BELLOTT



Project NAF Outreach Worker

I am excited to be back with MZCD in my new role as a Project NAF Outreach Worker (OW).

It is a wonderful experience to feel welcomed by NAF participants and to reconnect with those whom I had already met in my former role as a Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative OW. I look forward to my Project NAF Journey and in building long-lasting relationships.

Sapphire De'Bellott

ECHO (Enhancing Collaborative Health Options & Opportunities)

Freedom & Independence

The 4th of July comes to mind during the month of July. July 4th has been celebrated as the birth of American independence, with festivities ranging from fireworks, parades, picnics, concerts, and outdoor gatherings to more casual family gatherings and barbecues.

As I contemplated this month's article, the word "freedom" came to my mind, but freedom from what or freedom for whom?

Celebration and Outreach



Belinda K. Grant and son John Grant Jr. preparing HOPE bags at Juneteenth event.

On Saturday, June 19, 2021, businesses, non-profit organizations, programs, and agencies came together at Martin Luther King Park to celebrate Juneteenth.

It was a lively celebration that afforded MZCD the opportunity to share educational information about Project NAF and Project EMPOWER, and to share HOPE (Hope & Healing Opportunities with Preventive Education) bags.

It was a time of celebration and a time to reconnect with family, friends, and collaborative partnerships.

Juneteenth Holiday

President Biden signed a bill to recognize Juneteenth—the celebration to commemorate the end of chattel slavery in the United States—as a federal holiday. Federal employees observed the holiday for the first time on Friday, June 18, 2021.



"Throughout history, Juneteenth has been known by many names: Jubilee Day, Freedom Day, Liberation Day, Emancipation Day, and today, a national holiday," said Vice President Harris, the first woman, Asian-American and the first Black person to serve as vice president.

"We are gathered here in a house built by enslaved people. We are footsteps away from where President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation," she said at the White House signing ceremony. "We have come far, and we have far to go. But today is a day of celebration. It is not only a day of pride. It's also a day for us to reaffirm and rededicate ourselves to action." Source: NPR

Below: Mount Zion Community Development, Inc.'s outreach & collaboration during the Juneteenth Festival. HOPE (Hope & Healing with Preventive Education) bags were distributed.



Tribute to Elder John Reginald Hayes

Past President of the Asheville Branch NAACP
President/CEO of WRES FM 100.7



"He was always trying to figure out what could he do to make things better for the people of our community," Mt. Zion Baptist Church Senior Pastor Dr. John H Grant said of his friend of more than 30 years.

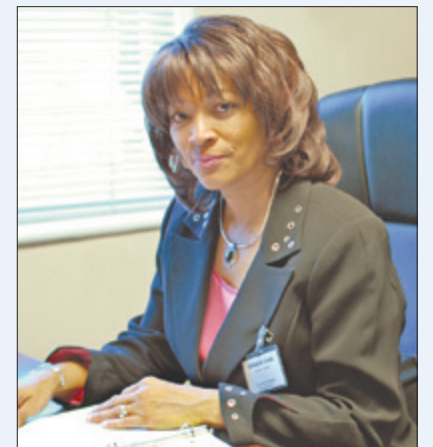
Thank you, Elder Hayes, for affording Mount Zion Community Development, Inc. the opportunity to heighten community awareness about Minority Infant Mortality, Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiatives, and COVID-19 and Healthy Living Initiatives.



Elder John Reginald Hayes



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.

July is...

- Cord Blood Awareness Month
- Group B Strep Awareness Month
- Healthy Vision Month
- Juvenile Arthritis Awareness Month
- World Hepatitis Day; July 28

MOUNT ZION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, INC.

Staff

- Belinda K. Grant: Executive Officer, (828) 776-1429
- Sapphire De'Bellott: 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

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