

# ECHO HOPE

*Enhancing Collaborative Health Options & Opportunities (through)  
Hope and Healing Opportunities with Proactive Education*



PROJECT  
**NAF**  
Nurturing  
Asheville &  
Area Families



## Happy 36th Anniversary Dr. John H. Grant

*Founding Chairman, President & CEO of  
Mount Zion Community Development, Inc.*

### MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF MZCD

#### Happy 36th Anniversary to Dr. John H. Grant, Pastor & President of Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church of Asheville, Inc.

As the Founding Chairman, President & CEO of Mount Zion Community Development, Inc., under your visionary leadership, the Mount Zion Church was cognizant of the fact that when a blighted area is restored and improved, the community benefits through the creation of new or restored homes, prospering businesses, more attractive public areas and parks, and renewal of individual and civic pride.

Blighted areas can become like prisons for those who are powerless to change their way of life. People living in deteriorated and oftentimes overcrowded conditions can become the victims of crime and disease which have serious social consequences.

**Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church of Khayelitsha, South Africa**



Before



After



Therefore, on behalf of the Board of Directors of Mount Zion Community Development, Inc., we extend our sincerest gratitude to you for your unwavering dedication and outstanding community service, which has and continues to impact our local community, state, nation, and beyond. You are deeply appreciated, and we remain forever grateful for your tireless work and lasting contributions.

## CITY OF ASHEVILLE PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Dr. Grant has faithfully served as the visionary leader, Pastor and President of Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church of Asheville, Inc., for 36 years; and

WHEREAS, under Dr. Grant's visionary leadership, services rendered by Mt. Zion Church are not merely ideals, but a foundation for many and a social justice platform that often fills the gaps in access to services and resources to meet the needs of the whole person locally, statewide, nationally and internationally; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Grant's ministry is committed to preaching, teaching, and witnessing the gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ; this commitment led to the establishment of Mount Zion Community Development, Inc. (MZCD), founded by Mt. Zion Church under his leadership, and where he served as Founding Chairman, President and CEO; and

WHEREAS, MZCD has raised and invested millions of dollars in program initiatives, too many to mention; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Grant helped organize the Eagle-Market Streets Development Corporation, serving as the Founding President, Chairman & CEO for three years and helping the corporation secure its 501(c)(3) IRS exemption status, more than a quarter of a million dollars in grant funds, gain official recognition as a development partner with the City of Asheville and hire its first full-time executive director; and

WHEREAS, in 1998, Dr. Grant helped organize Community Outreach, Incorporated, a 501 (c) 3 non-profit that rescued the YMI Cultural Center ("YMICC") from foreclosure at a cost of more than \$30,000.00; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Grant is known as a man of integrity and accountability and the recipient of many honors including Buncombe County's "100 Most Influential People," "Minority Enterprise Week Minister of the Year," "Certificates of Special Congressional Recognition" for three years, Martin Luther King, Jr. "Church of the Year" award for "reflecting the spiritual values of Dr. King's stand for social and economic justice, the empowerment of others, and the sacrifice of time and resources to benefit the impoverished and disenfranchised of our community;" and several proclamations declaring "Dr. John H. Grant Day;" and

NOW, THEREFORE, I S. Antanette Mosley, Vice-Mayor of the City of Asheville do hereby proclaim October 5, 2025 as

**DR. JOHN H. GRANT DAY**

in celebration of Dr. Grant's 36 years of service as the Pastor and President of Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church of Asheville, Inc., and as a resilient community leader, entrepreneur, and non-profit developer.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Asheville, North Carolina, to be affixed this 5<sup>th</sup> day of October 2025.

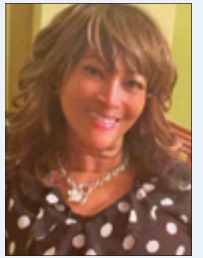


*S. Antanette Mosley*  
S. ANTANETTE MOSLEY  
VICE-MAYOR

### MOUNT ZION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, INC.



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



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



#### Staff

Belinda K. Grant  
Executive Director  
(828) 776-1428  
belindakgrant@mzcd.info

Barbara Anderson:  
Office Support/Community Connector  
Dr. Ronald Caldwell: Supervising Physician  
Sapphire De'Bellott: Project NAF  
Outreach Worker  
Mr. Henry Glaze, Transportation Coordinator  
Kontia Grant: Nurse Family Practitioner  
Ms. Rosa B. Hearst,  
in appreciation of past services

### MESSAGE FROM MZCD STAFF



Dr. Ronald Caldwell, Kontia Grant, Sapphire De'Bellott, and Barbara Anderson.

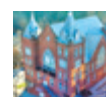
#### On behalf of the Project ECHO team, thank you Dr. John H. Grant for your visionary leader- ship in establishing Mount Zion Community Development, Inc.

Mount Zion Community Development, Inc. continues to have a positive impact in the community through the provision of services to individuals and families by addressing critical gaps in healthcare. Your dedication to making a real-world difference sets a remarkable example for us all and reinforces why we are so proud to be a part of this organization.

*Thank You!*

### OUR PARTNERS

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



**Mt. Zion  
Missionary  
Baptist Church  
of Asheville, Inc.**



First Presbyterian Church  
Asheville NC



Rotary Club  
of Asheville



ECHO  
HOPE

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Hope and Healing Opportunities with Proactive Education

Mount Zion Community  
Development, Inc.

Board of Directors

Mrs. Linda Glaze: Board Chair  
Rev. Scott Rogers: Vice Chair  
Mrs. Michelle Harper:  
Fundraising Chair & Treasurer  
Mr. Leroy Simpson: Member  
Mrs. Tracey Rice Johnson:  
Fundraising Co-Chair  
Mrs. Alberta Drane: Events Coordinator  
Mr. Henry Glaze: Transportation Coordinator

Project NAF  
Community Advisory Board

Denise Duckett: BCHHS Pregnancy Care  
Nancy Farmer: Sparc Foundation  
Charlene Galloway-Pea:  
Mt. Zion Church of Asheville: Inc.  
Anne Kouri: Mars Hill University  
Latoya McDaniel: Former Participant  
Tim Splain: Asheville City Police Department  
(Male Advocate)  
Vacant: Advent Health  
Royanna Williams: Business Owner  
& Former NAF Participant

Project EMPOWER

Education Means Power – in collaboration with  
initiatives to impact the opioid crisis.

Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Behind every act of resilience, every  
choice to stick with it, and every effort to  
care for or give, there’s a personal reason—  
a “Why.”  
This year’s Breast Cancer Awareness  
theme is “My Why.” Living Beyond Breast  
Cancer invites people from every walk of  
life—those diagnosed with breast cancer,  
families, healthcare providers, fundraisers,  
and friends—to share their “Why.”



Why Your “Why” Matters

When you share your “Why,”  
you inspire others to speak up  
and connect with a larger com-  
munity of hope and strength.  
When you give, you make  
trusted resources and com-  
passionate support possible  
for people who need it most.

Infant Loss Awareness Month

Safe Sleep ABCs



Source: CDC

October is SIDS and Pregnancy and  
Infant Loss Awareness Month, a time to  
educate the public on Sudden Infant Death  
Syndrome (SIDS), promote safe sleep prac-  
tices to reduce sleep-related infant deaths,  
and honor the memories of infants lost  
during pregnancy and early life.  
Key initiatives include the ABCs of  
Safe Sleep (Alone, Back, Crib), which  
advises placing babies on their backs to  
sleep in a crib without blankets or toys.  
Additionally, the month recognizes fami-  
lies who have experienced perinatal loss,  
offering support and a platform to share  
their stories and grief.

Mount Zion Community Development • 47 Eagle St., Asheville, NC 28801 • (828) 776-1428 • www.mtzionasheville.org

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