



FAITH HEALTH ALLIANCE

AN NMQF HEALTH CHAMPION NETWORK



2025

Faith Health Alliance

ANNUAL REPORT



NATIONAL
MINORITY QUALITY
FORUM



Center for
Sustainable Health Care
Quality and Equity



FAITH HEALTH ALLIANCE CHARACTERISTICS

MESSAGE FROM BISHOP CARTER



2025. What a year it has been. Health policy changes. Health misinformation and the resulting mistrust among people of color. Growing threats to care access and basic social determinants of health. Repudiation of health equity as a goal for our country.

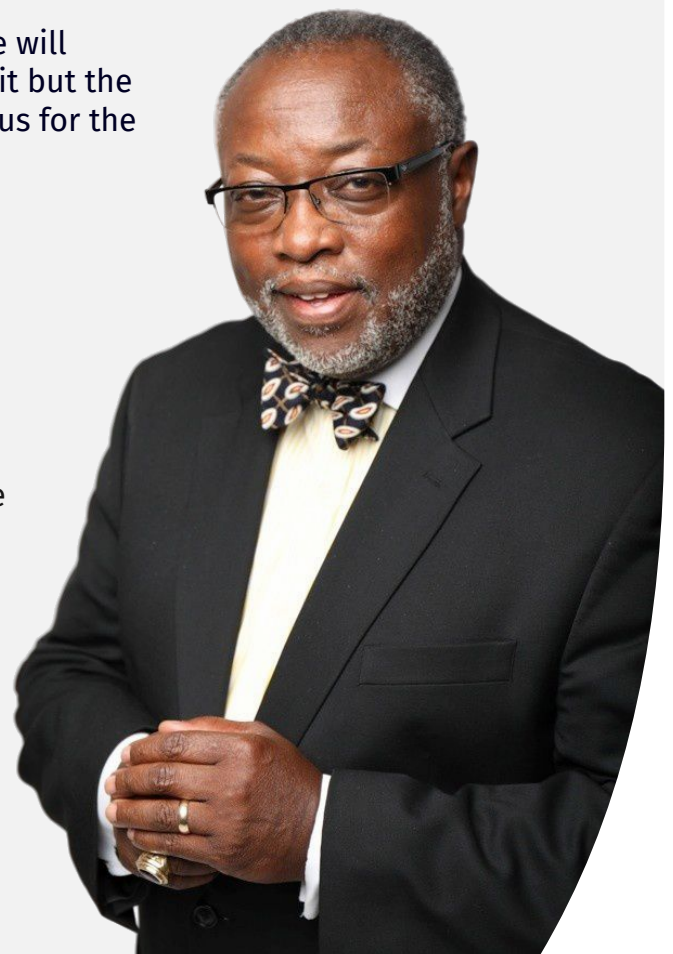
But 2025 also has been a year of continued work by the members of the Faith Health Alliance, educating their members and communities about health issues and providing linkages to care. We have seen new members join the Faith Health Alliance. This year we hosted our first advocacy training program; it was a powerful meeting that will help us make our voices heard by policymakers. We have enjoyed growth in our partners the Faith Health Alliance Advocacy Council, for which we are grateful.

The Black church and the Faith Health Alliance will never stop working to lift-up not only the spirit but the health of our families and communities. Join us for the work that will continue in 2026 and beyond.

Sincerely,

Bishop Carter

Senior Pastor, Ark Church Baltimore, MD
Founding Co-Chair of the Faith Health Alliance





FAITH HEALTH ALLIANCE MEMBERS

Bishop J.L. Carter
Ark Church
Baltimore, MD- FHA Chair



Dr. Reginald Bacchus
Friendship Baptist Church
Chicago, Illinois

Pastor Paul Booth
Legacy Pointe Church
Cincinnati, Ohio

Rev. Dr. Thurmond Bowens Jr.
Trinity Baptist Church
Columbus, South Carolina

Rev. Antoine T. Colvin
Historic Little Rock Baptist
Detroit, Michigan

Rev. Dr. William Foster
Providence Missionary Baptist Church
Chicago, Illinois

Pastor Gregg Frazier
Sweet Pilgrim of Faith Baptist Church
Gary, Indiana

Rev. Eric Goode
The People's Baptist Church
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Alejandro Guerrero
Macedonia Baptist Church
Los Angeles, California

Pastor Sedrick L. Hamner
Reset Church, Inc.
Morrow, Georgia

Pastor Craig A. Harcum
Macedonia Baptist Church
Arlington, Virginia

Rev. Dr. Hosie Hopkins
New Hope Missionary Baptist Church
Memphis, Tennessee

Pastor Gene Howard
The Purpose-Driven Church
Concord, North Carolina

Bishop Darryl Husband
Mt. Olivet Baptist Church
Richmond, Virginia

Pastor George Junior
Auxano Church
Clarksburg, West Virginia

Bishop Anthony McLain
The Sanctuary at Kingdom Square
Upper Marlboro, Maryland

Pastor Charles McNeill
Unity Baptist Church
Washington, District of Columbia

Pastor Derek Miles
Greater Friendship Baptist Church
Louisville, Kentucky

Bishop Eric Morrison
Kingdom Word Ministries
Kansas City, Missouri

Pastor Erik Nation
HOPE Center
Oakland, California

Dr. Gregory L. Pollard
The Enon Church
Atlanta, Georgia

Dr. Joe. S. Ratliff
Brentwood Baptist Church
Houston, Texas

Rev. Dr. Shane Scott
First Baptist Church Capitol Hill
Nashville, Tennessee

Rev. Dr. Daniel Simmons
Mt. Zion Baptist Church
Albany, Georgia

Bishop Leofric Thomas Sr.
Open Arms Community Church
Jacksonville, Florida

Rev. Nicole Slater
Payne Chapel African Methodist
Episcopal Church
Birmingham, Alabama

Rev. Manuel de Jesus Rodriguez
Our Lady of Sorrows Roman
Catholic Church
Queens, New York

Dr. Calvin Williams
Greater St. Stephen Full Gospel
Baptist Church
New Orleans, Louisiana

Rev. Robin Toogood II
Purity Baptist Church and Urban Center
Washington, District of Columbia



REGIONAL FAITH HEALTH ALLIANCE CHURCHES

 Rural Georgia



The Albany Coalition of Churches (ACOC) is a nonprofit organization of 40 churches based in rural Georgia, established in 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. It comprises a team of ministers, pastors, and churches collaborating to address community needs.

ACOC's Food Drive

Gave away free food boxes to families in need, ensuring that no one in our community went hungry. This initiative provided vital support to households facing food insecurity, fostering a spirit of compassion and unity.



ACOC's Community Health Events

Including Health Fairs and Vaccinations, brought critical health services directly to the community. These events promoted wellness, increased access to healthcare, and educated participants on maintaining healthy lifestyles.



REGIONAL FAITH HEALTH ALLIANCE CHURCHES



FAITH HEALTH ALLIANCE
AN NMQF HEALTH CHAMPION NETWORK

📍 Pennsylvania

Elder J. Christopher Barmore

Christian Tabernacle Church of
God in Christ
Philadelphia, PA

Elder Morris Singleton

Victory Community Baptist Church
Philadelphia, PA

Reverend Vernal Simms, Jr.

Millcreek Baptist Church
Philadelphia, PA

Bishop Williams Christmas

Shalom Baptist Church
Philadelphia, PA

Dr. Kyle Boyer

Mt. Carmel COGIC
Chesterbrook, PA

Dr. Chandra Williams

United Missionary Baptist Church
Brewerytown, PA

Reverend William J. Scott, III

House of Faith Baptist Church
Philadelphia, PA

Pastor Joshua Goodin

St. Paul Chapel Baptist Church
Philadelphia, PA

Rev. Eric Goode

The People's Baptist Church
Philadelphia, PA





REGIONAL FAITH HEALTH ALLIANCE CHURCHES

Georgia I



FAITH HEALTH ALLIANCE

AN NMQF HEALTH CHAMPION NETWORK

Dr. Gregory Pollard

Enon Church
Atlanta, GA

Pastor Le'Zaire Reese

New Calvary Baptist Church
Atlanta, GA

Bishop Gregg Fann

Liberty International Ministries
Atlanta, GA

Pastor Tamarkus Cook

Saint Smyrna Baptist Church
Newnan, GA

Pastor James Miller

Southwest Congregation Church
Atlanta, GA

Pastor Cameron Cunningham

Symrna Word of Life Baptist Church
Atlanta, GA



Georgia II

Pastor Sedrick Hamner

Reset Church
Morrow, GA

Bishop Aaron Lackey

Temple of Prayer Worship Cathedral
Fairburn, GA

Pastor Wilbur Purvis

Destiny World Church
Austell, GA

Pastor Jamie Tukes

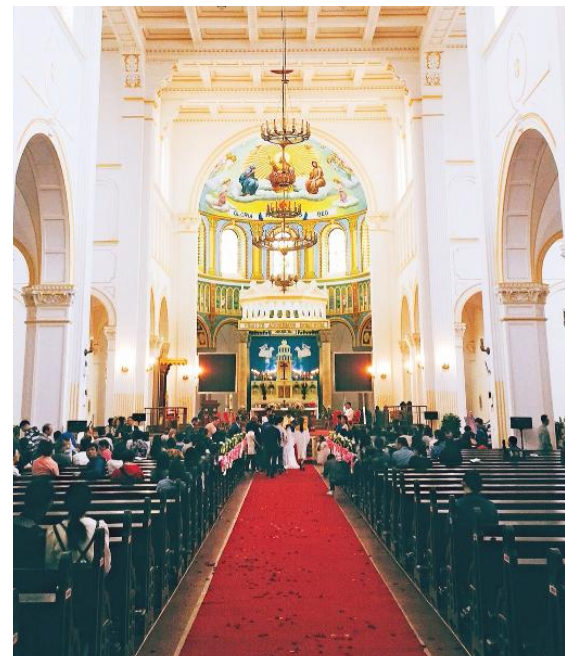
Shady Grove Baptist Church
Marietta, GA

Bishop Dexter Johnson

Higher Ground Empowerment Church
Atlanta, GA

Pastor Charles Nesbitt

Providence Baptist Church
College Park, GA





FAITH HEALTH ALLIANCE ADVOCACY COUNCIL MEMBERS

sanofi

Genentech

Walgreens

bridgebio

Lilly

 GILEAD

 Takeda



ANNUAL SURVEY

Surveyed church leaders as well as a convenience sample of congregants and community members, summer 2025.



DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

All groups: 90% plus Black/African American Age

	Church Leader Characterization of Congregation	Congregant Sample	Community Sample
<35 years of age	0%	5.3%	5.6%
35-44 years of age	6.9%	12.4%	9.0%
45-64 years of age	72.7%	42.7%	30.6%
65+ years of age	20.7%	38.7%	49.7%











Health Insurance Coverage

	Church Leader Characterization of Congregation	Congregant Sample	Community Sample
Medicare		33.8%	50.7%
Employer	89.7%	50.5%	30.7%
Medicaid		5.9%	21.0%
None	3.5%	2.5%	7.6%



HEALTH ISSUES

Church Leaders

 Diabetes prevention and management	89.66%
 Hypertension	68.97%
 Cardiovascular disease prevention and management	55.17%
 Mental health	41.38%
 Access to healthy food	41.38%
 Exercise promotion	41.38%
 Dementia	31.03%
 Obesity	24.14%
 Arthritis	24.14%
 Vaccinations	20.69%

Congregants

 Hypertension	51.41%
 Diabetes	41.07%
 Arthritis	34.17%
 Obesity	24.76%
 Asthma	15.99%
 Cardiovascular disease (e.g., heart attack, heart failure)	13.48%
 Other (please specify)	11.91%
 Mental health issues	10.97%
 None of the above	10.03%
 Dementia	8.15%



HEALTH ISSUES

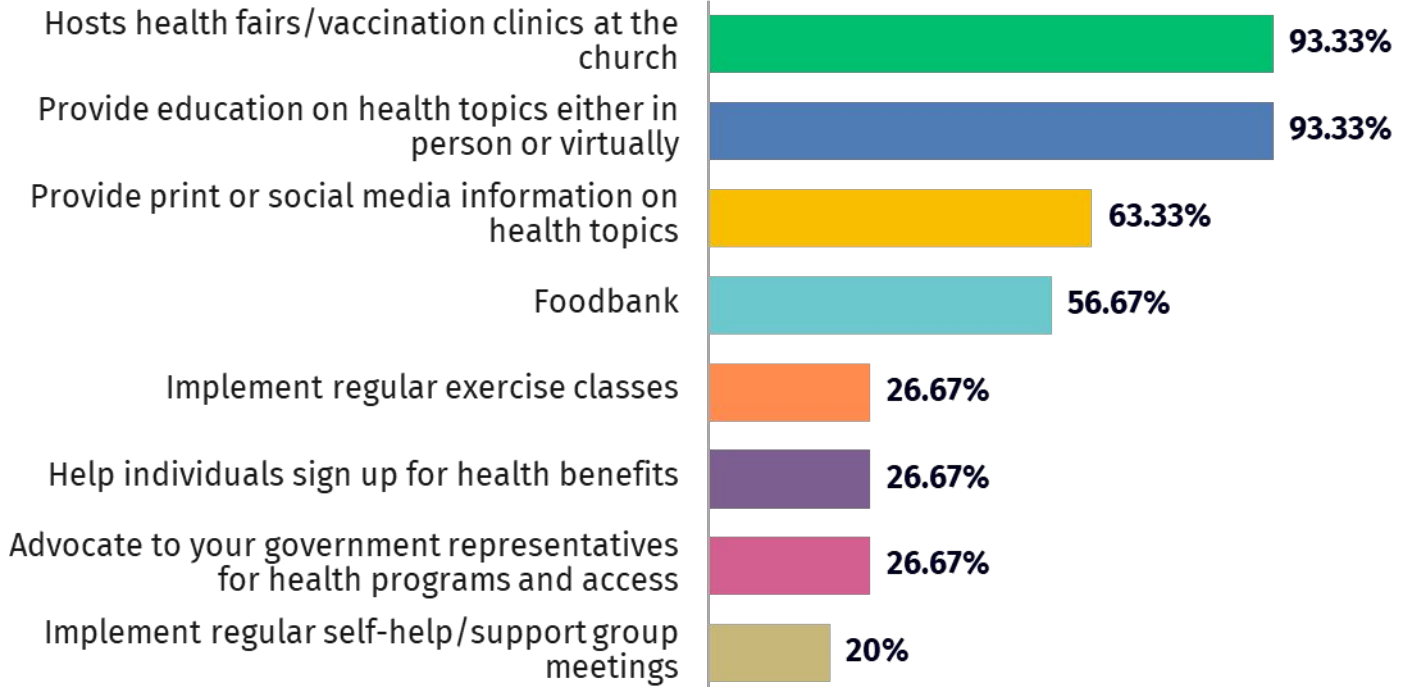
Community

 Hypertension	53.79%
 Arthritis	46.21%
 Diabetes	45.17%
 Asthma	23.45%
 Cardiovascular disease (e.g., heart attack, heart failure)	21.72%
 Obesity	21.72%
 Kidney disease	20.00%
 Mental health issues	17.93%
 Breast cancer	12.07%
 Dementia	8.28%

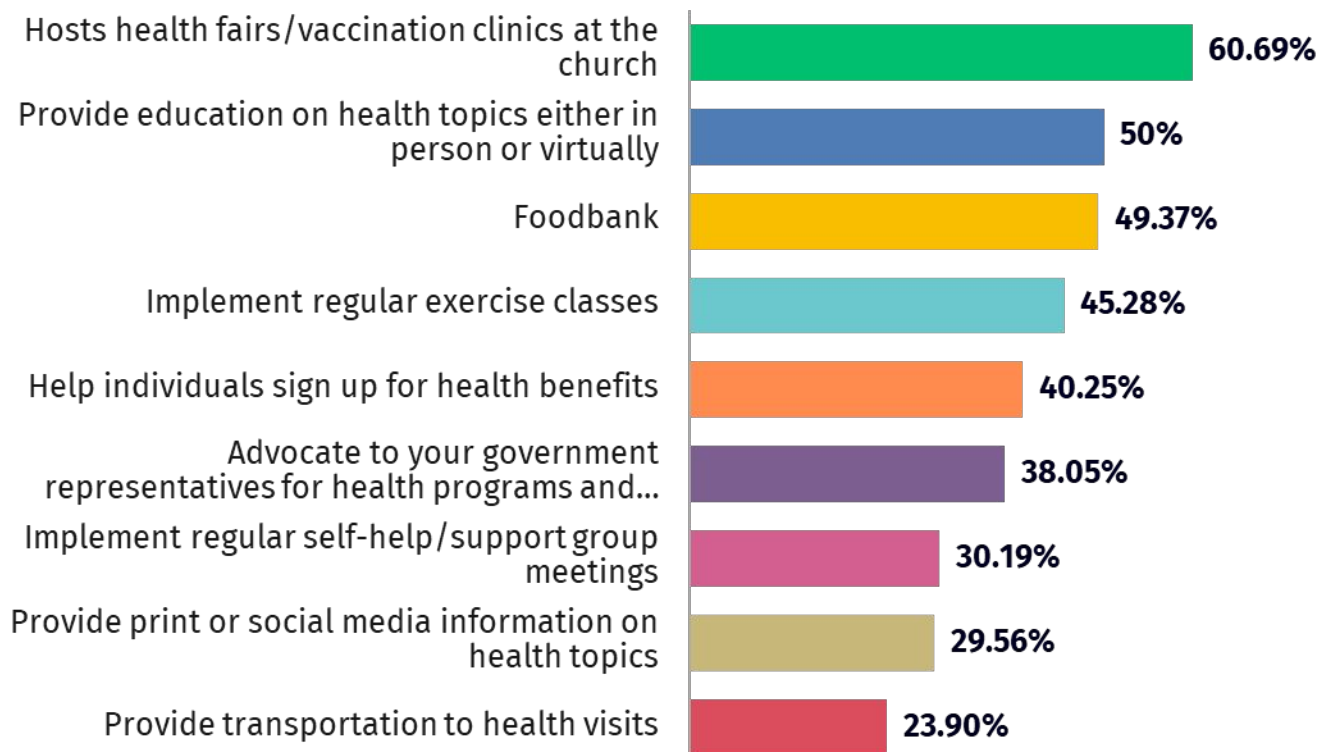


HEALTH PROGRAMS

Church Leaders



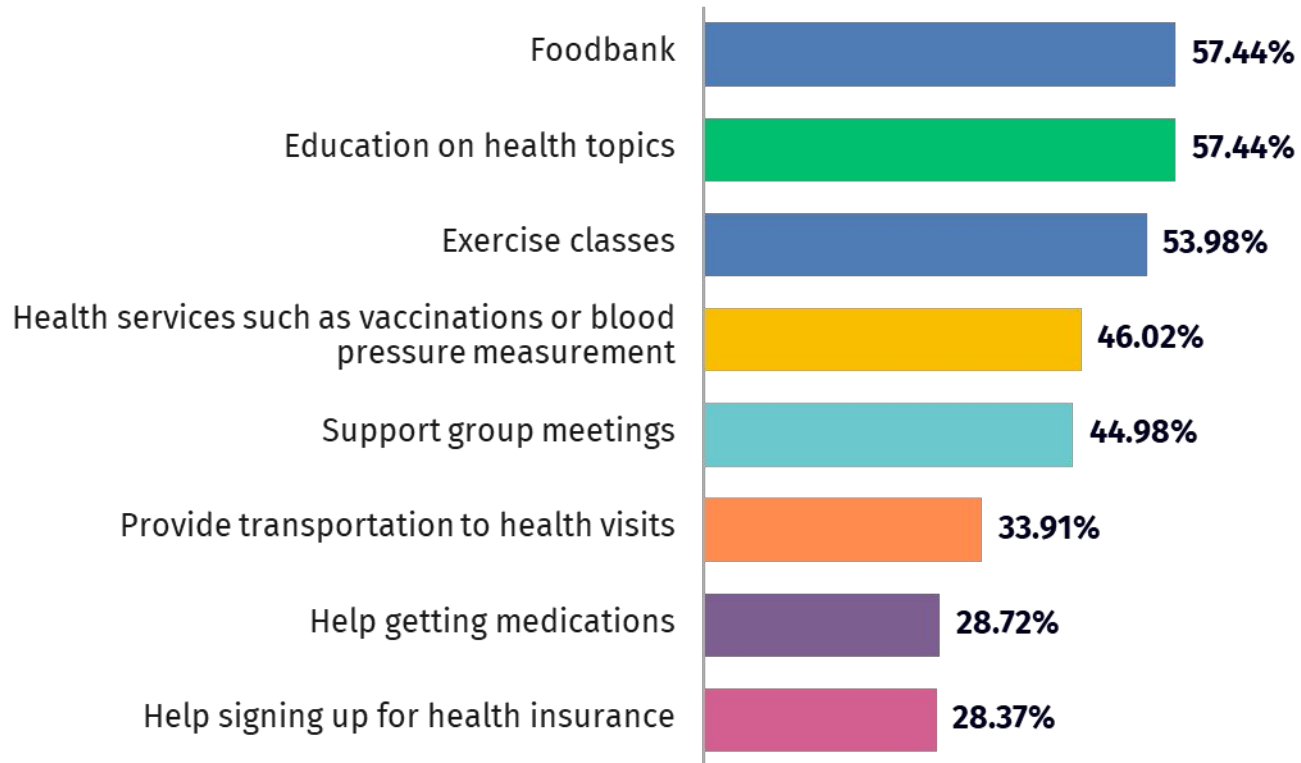
Congregants





HEALTH PROGRAMS

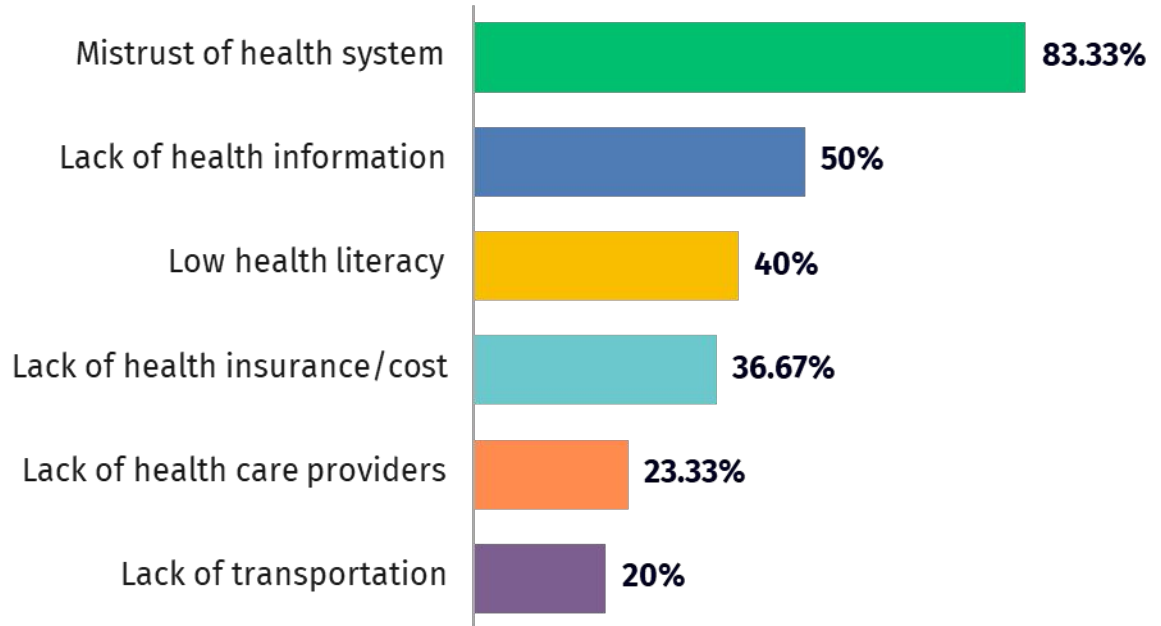
Community



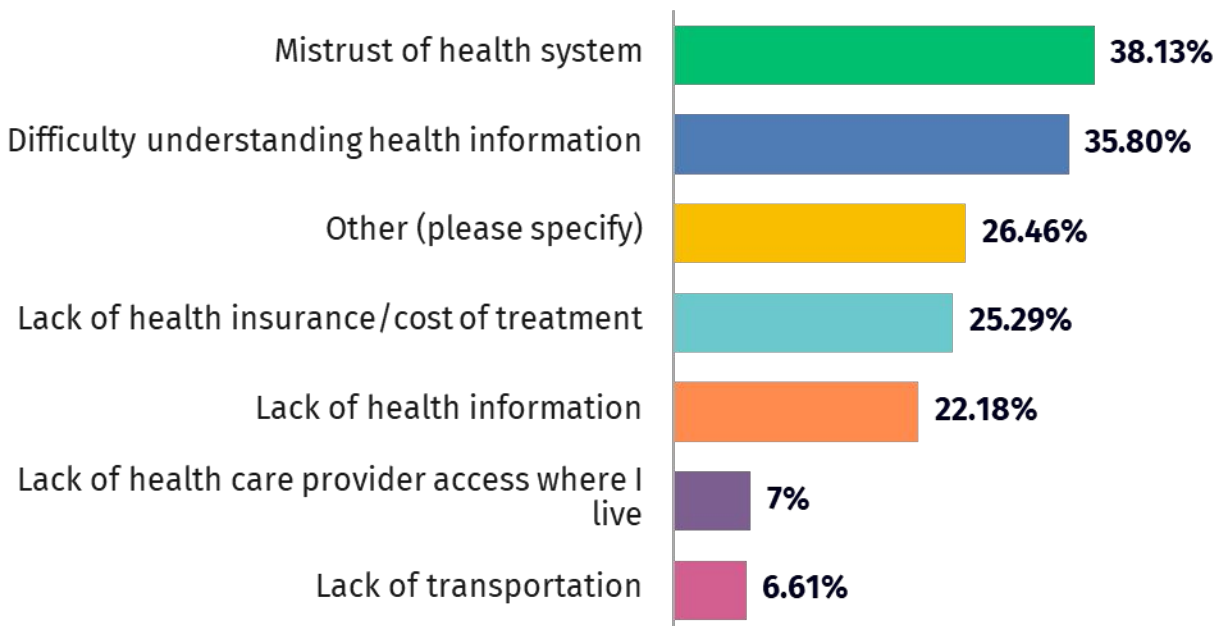


HEALTH CARE BARRIERS

Church Leaders



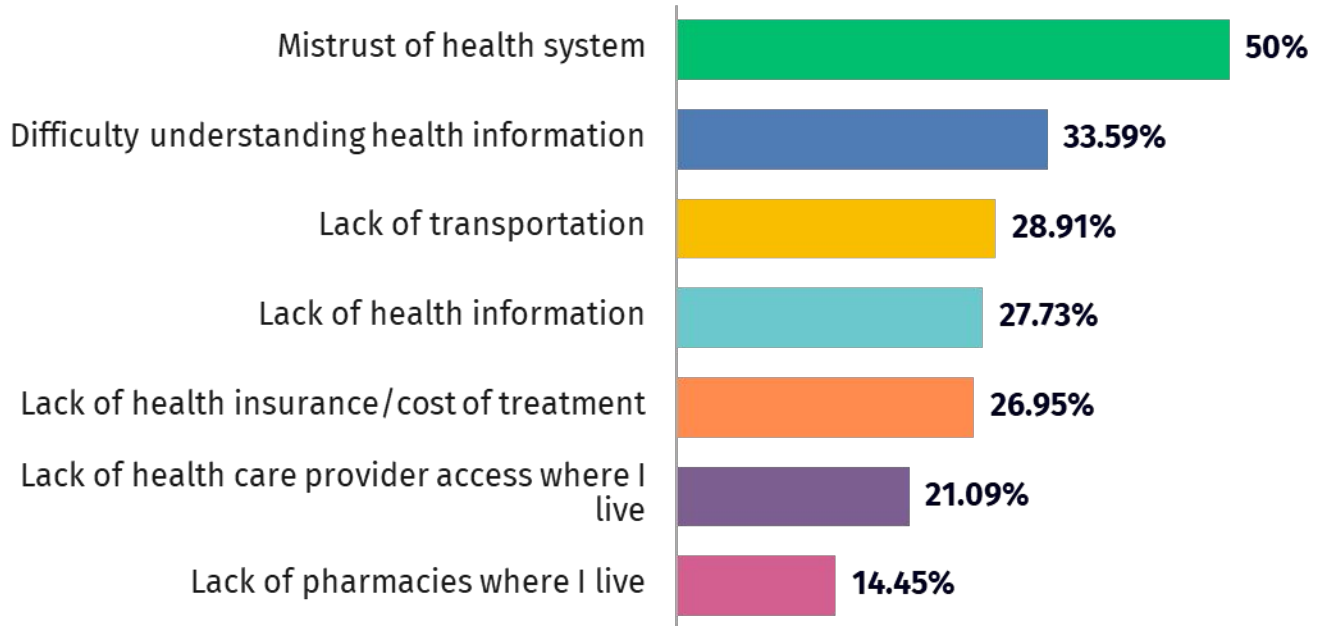
Congregants





HEALTH CARE BARRIERS

Community

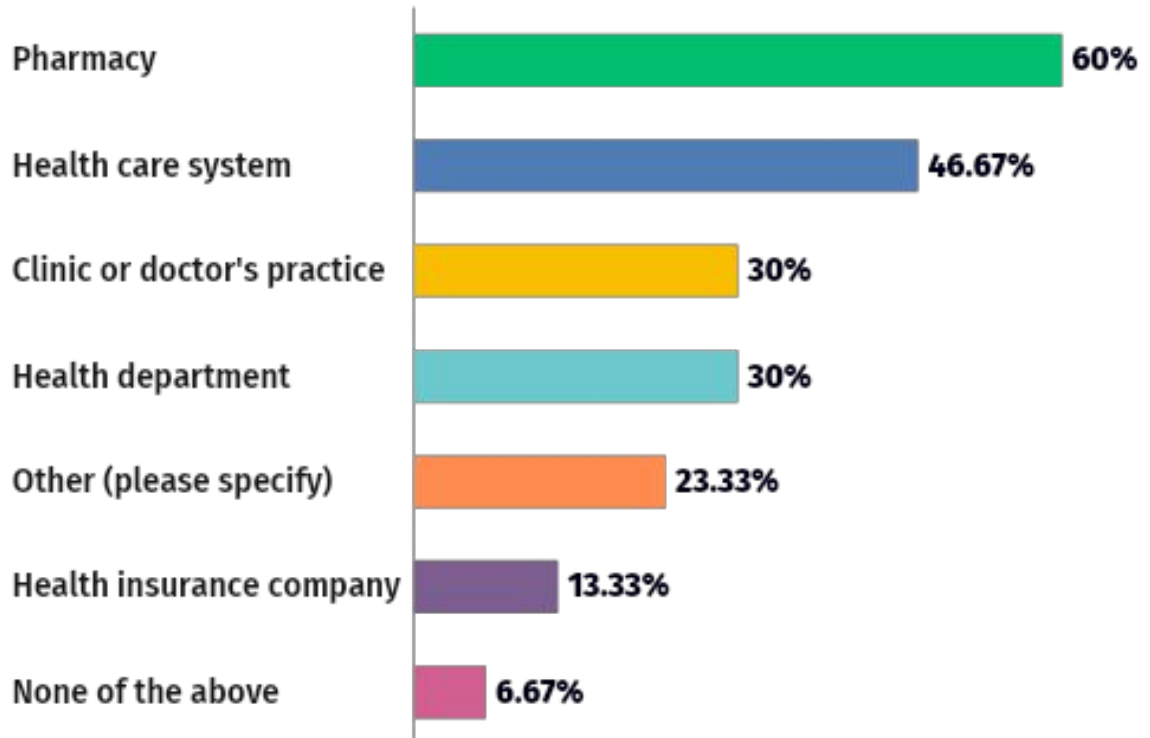




WORK WITH HEALTH ORGANIZATIONS: CHURCH LEADERS

Do you currently work with health care organizations in your community to educate members of your congregation or provide health services onsite on a regular basis? Select all that apply.

Answered: 30 Skipped: 0

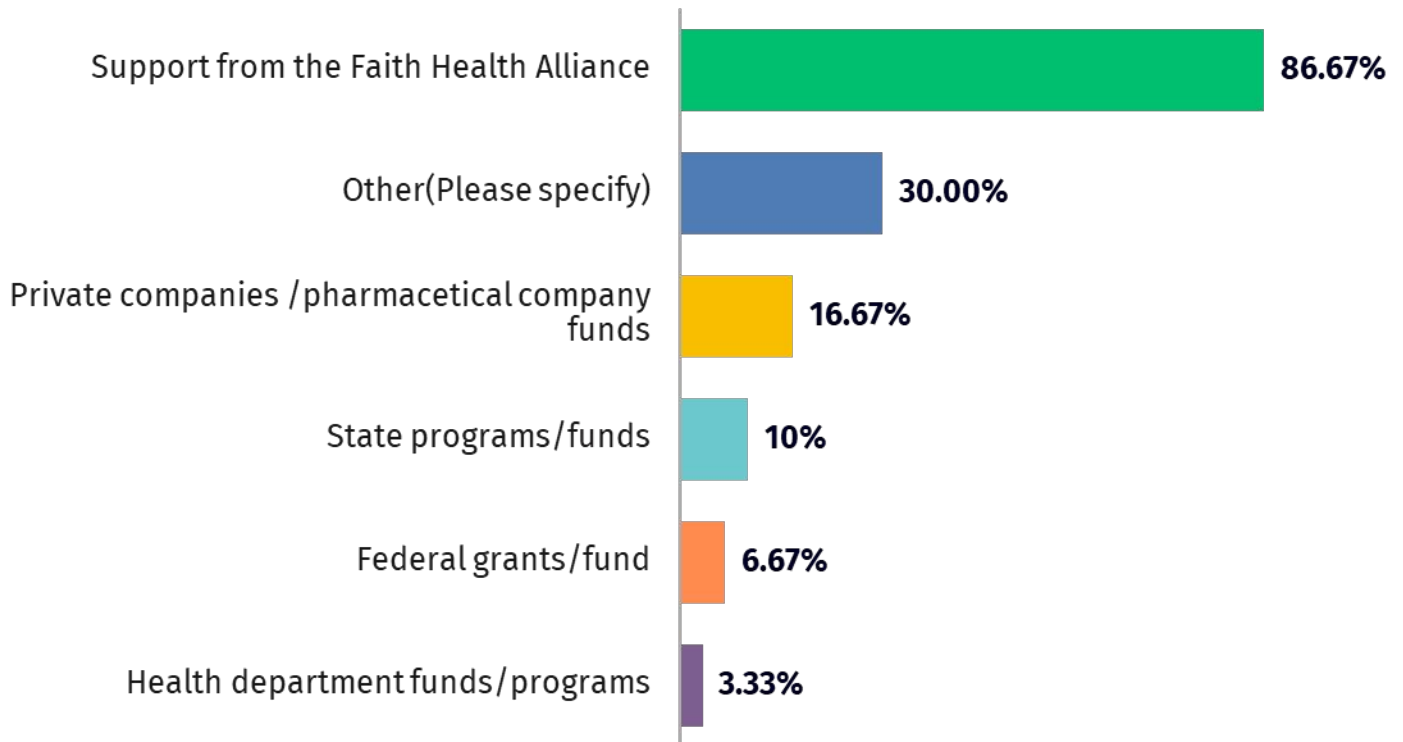




FUNDING SOURCES: CHURCH LEADERS

What funding sources support your health ministry? Check all that apply.

Answered: 30 Skipped: 0

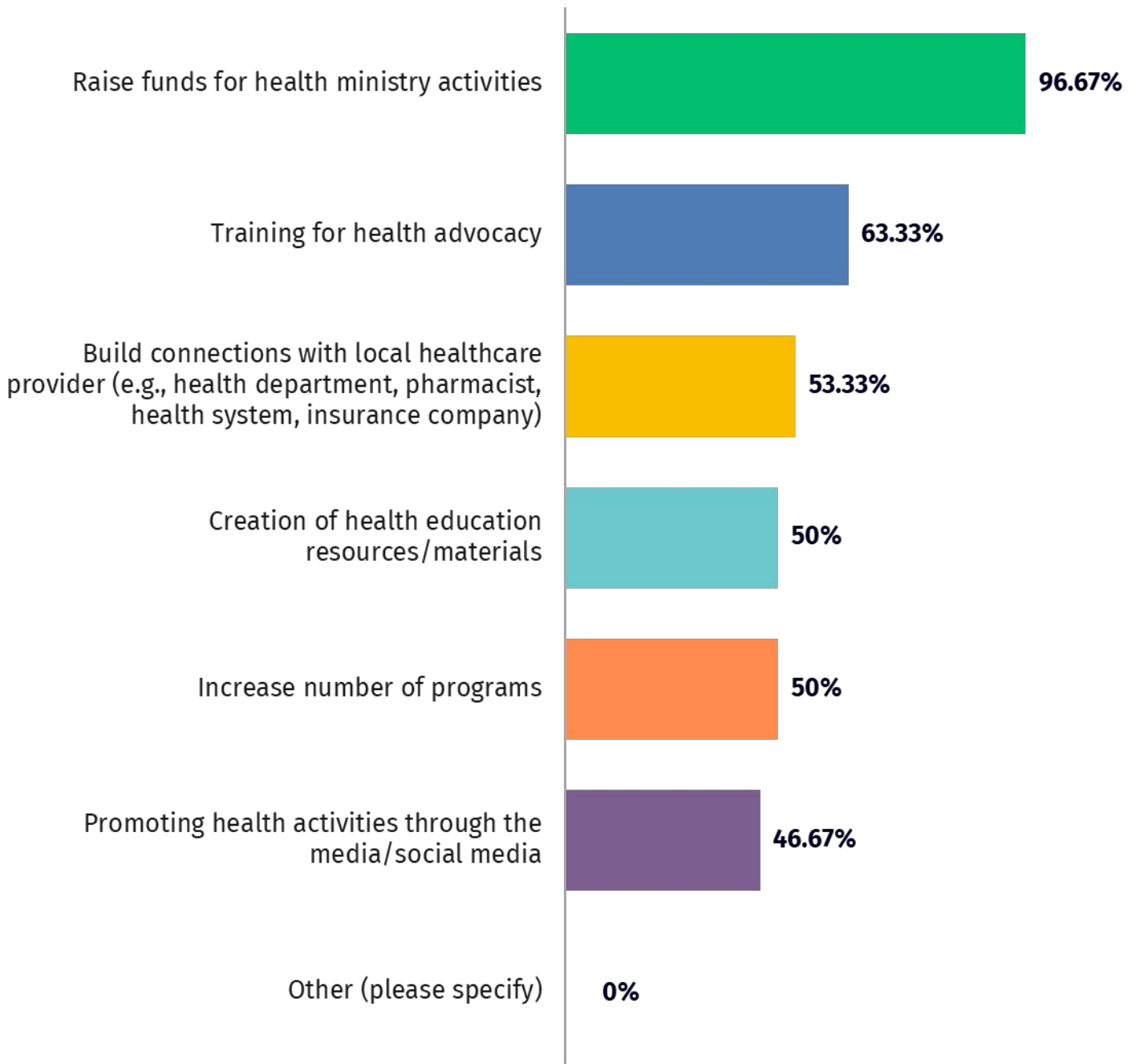




NEEDS: CHURCH LEADERS

**What need does your health ministry face at this time to better achieve your priority goals?
Check all that apply.**

Answered: 30 Skipped: 0





PROGRAM UPDATES



NMQF AND ARK CHURCH HEALTH ADVOCACY TRAINING WORKSHOP

September 24-25, 2025
The Sanctuary at Kingdom Square



NATIONAL
MINORITY QUALITY
FORUM



Center for
Sustainable Health Care
Quality and Equity



NMQF AND ARK CHURCH HEALTH ADVOCACY TRAINING WORKSHOP

September 24-25, 2025

The Sanctuary at Kingdom Square
 5300 Crain Highway Upper Marlboro, MD 20772
 Conference Center



Program Objectives:

1. Increase understanding of current issues in health policy and how health policy is made.
2. Understand the communication strategies that can be used for health policy advocacy.
3. Understand and participate in the development and implementation of advocacy plans, including vaccine access, medication costs, kidney transplantation, and diabetes/obesity.

Day 1

10:15 AM	Welcome and Introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bishop JL Carter Chair of the Faith Health Alliance Ark Church • Laura Lee Hall, PhD President Emeritus, Center for Sustainable Health Care Quality & Equity National Minority Quality Forum
10:30 AM	Introduction to Health Policy and Advocacy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moses Boyd Speaker National Minority Quality Forum
11:30 AM	Effective Communications and Advocacy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adjoa Kyerematen, MS Vice President, Center for Communications & Public Affairs National Minority Quality Forum
12:30 PM	Lunch
1:00 PM	Diabetes Advocacy Issues: From Screening to Medication and Education Access <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tom Boyer Senior Advisor, Policy and Government Affairs Diabetes Patient Advocacy Coalition



Day 1

1:45 PM	<p>Obesity, Health Equity, and Advocacy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Millicent Gorham, PhD (Hon), MBA, FAAN Chief Executive Officer Alliance for Women's Health and Prevention
2:45 PM	<p>Health Equity Advocacy: The Challenges We Face, a New Framework, and Application to the 340B Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gary Puckrein, PhD President and Chief Executive Officer National Minority Quality Forum
3:45 PM	<p>The 340B Program in Maryland - Why We Care</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bishop JL Carter Chair of the Faith Health Alliance Ark Church
4:15 PM	<p>Advocacy Plan Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chinnie Ukachukwu, MPH Senior Director, Quality Improvement & Equity National Minority Quality Forum
4:15 PM	<p>Final Discussion</p>
4:30 PM	<p>Adjournment for the Day</p>





Day 2

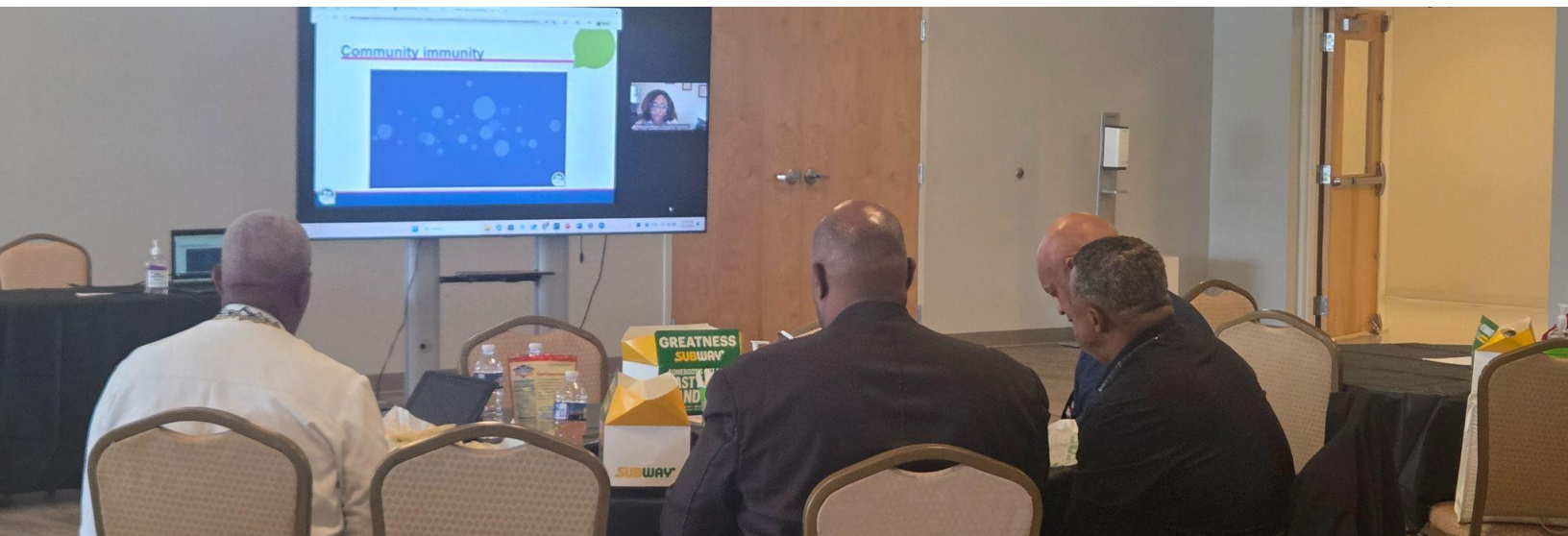
9:15 AM	<p>Welcome and Overview of Day 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laura Lee Hall, PhD President Emeritus, Center for Sustainable Health Care Quality & Equity National Minority Quality Forum
9:30 AM	<p>Vaccine Environment and Advocacy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laura Lee Hall, PhD President Emeritus, Center for Sustainable Health Care Quality & Equity National Minority Quality Forum • Abby Bownas, MA Partner NVG LLC • Julian Ritchey, MBA Vice President, Head of Public Affairs and Patient Advocacy, US Vaccines Sanofi • Iyabode (Yabo) Beysolow, MD, MPH Public Health Consultant Owner, YB Consultants, LLC Director, Health Ministry AME Zion Church
11:15 AM	<p>Kidney Disease and Transplantation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leslie Zuniga-Rivas, MPH Project Manager, Quality Improvement & Equity National Minority Quality Forum
12:30 PM	<p>Lunch with Guest Speaker</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breyana Williams, MPH, CHES Public Health Associate Voices for Vaccines
1:45 PM	<p>Where Do We Go From Here with Our Advocacy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bambi Giddist, DrPH Chief Executive Officer Structural Health Dynamics, LLC
2:45 PM	<p>Presentation of Advocacy Plans and Discussion</p>

OVERVIEW AND PURPOSE

The two-day Health Advocacy Training Workshop, hosted by the National Minority Quality Forum (NMQF) and Ark Church, convened faith leaders, health champions, public health professionals, and policy experts to strengthen community-based advocacy aimed at advancing health equity.

The workshop was designed to:

1. Increase understanding of how health policy is shaped and how advocates can influence change.
2. Equip participants with effective communication strategies for health policy advocacy.
3. Support the development of community-centered advocacy plans focused on vaccine access, diabetes and obesity, medication affordability, kidney transplantation, and chronic disease prevention.



WORKSHOP HIGHLIGHTS

Over the two days, attendees participated in dynamic sessions led by national experts in health equity and policy, including:

Bishop J.L. Carter

Laura Lee Hall, PhD

Gary Puckrein, PhD

Adjoa Kyerematen, MS

Moses Boyd

and additional leaders from partner organizations such as the Diabetes Patient Advocacy Coalition, the Alliance for Women's Health and Prevention, Sanofi, Voices for Vaccines, and Structural Health Dynamics.

Speakers provided actionable insights on advocacy across key health areas, including diabetes and obesity, kidney disease and transplantation, the 340B drug pricing program, maternal and infant vaccine access, and chronic disease prevention.



HANDS-ON ADVOCACY PLAN DEVELOPMENT

Participants engaged in small-group sessions to create community-specific advocacy plans, guided by NMQF’s Chinnie Ukachukwu, MPH and Leslie Zuniga-Rivas, MPH. These plans identified:



Priority issues within their congregations and broader communities.



Communication strategies tailored to trusted messengers.

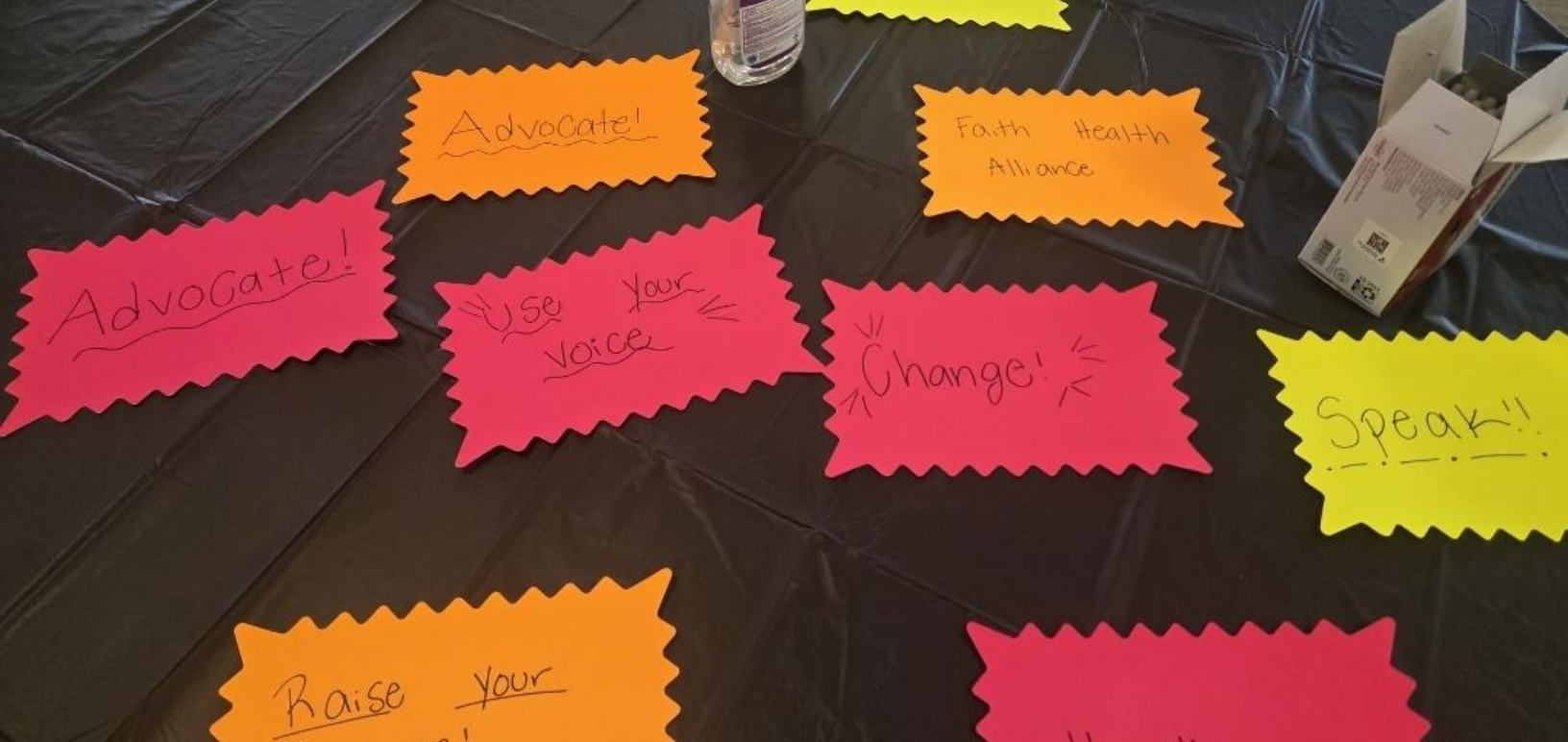


Policy barriers affecting access to care.



Immediate action steps they can take as advocates.

Many groups highlighted the need for equitable access to vaccines, chronic disease resources, affordable medications, and stronger communication between faith communities and clinical partners.



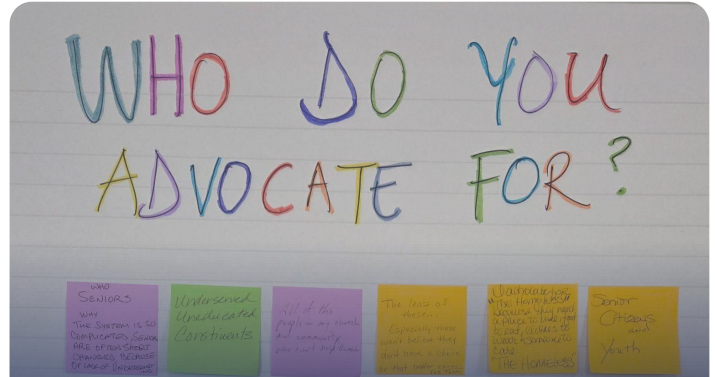


KEY TAKEAWAYS



Trusted faith leaders are essential health advocates

Their voices influence health behaviors, policy engagement, and community trust.



Advocacy requires clear, consistent communication

Participants learned to use storytelling, data, and lived experience to mobilize and persuade.



Community-driven solutions are powerful

Many advocacy plans centered on church-based education, policy awareness campaigns, and partnerships with local clinics and health systems.



Health equity must guide all efforts

From vaccine access to medication affordability, the workshop reinforced the need to address systemic barriers faced by communities of color.



TESTIMONIALS/FEEDBACK FROM ATTENDEES



“

The training was informative, enlightening, and well organized. Thank you for your part in making it happen.

Cheryl White
FHA Leader, NOLA

“

Thank you so much for such an organized, professional, and engaging training! I've learned so much and feel truly inspired. I'm excited to begin mobilizing our church members and the broader community around health disparities and other critical policy concerns. Hats off to an AMAZING team—your dedication and passion are deeply appreciated! It was also a blessing to meet so many incredible leaders within NMQF. I'm looking forward to even greater collaboration with all of you in the future.

Torrencia Shiloh
FHA Leader, Florida

“

Indeed an impactful couple of days! The team is amazing! Thank you so much for all you, Laura Lee and Bishop Carter impart in us to prepare us to make maximum impact in our communities and cities. The best is yet to come. Love you guys much!

Bishop Darryl Husband
FHA Leader, Richmond VA



TESTIMONIALS/FEEDBACK FROM ATTENDEES



The retreat was well deserved and much enjoyed!!!

Augusta Green
FHA leader, Houston TX



I would first like to thank Dr. Laura Lee, Bishop Carter, and Chinnie for your hard work and dedication to this cause. I am also deeply grateful to the three of you for welcoming me into such an AMAZING group. The training was nothing short of inspiring, and I left feeling both empowered and equipped to contribute in a meaningful way". I look forward to continuing this journey together as we make a lasting impact.

Dr. Dasha Berry
FHA Leader, Chicago IL



My vocabulary doesn't consist of the words that would allow me to express how grateful I am to God for all of you, the information the illustrations, the conversations that I had in those two days have inspired me beyond imagination. Family we must keep this leadership team in prayer so that this country, our state that we represent, our city, and community can be impacted and empowered as it has been envisioned by them.

Bishop Eric Morrison
FHA Leader, Kansas City MO



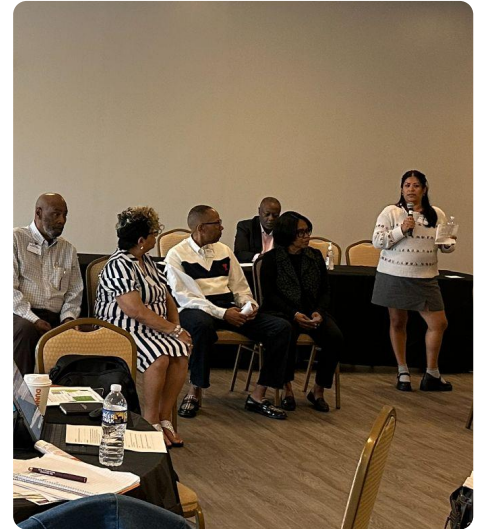


WORKSHOP – DAY 1





WORKSHOP – DAY 2





ACTIVE TOPICS AND PROJECTS

Transthyretin Amyloidosis (ATTR)

Brain health and dementia

COPD

Cancer screenings/awareness (breast, prostate)

Exercise classes

Lupus

Food Pantries

Influenza Immunization (plus COVID-19, shingles, pneumonia)

HIV/AIDS

Kidney Health

Lung Cancer

Obesity

RSV in babies

Self-help/support groups

Diabetes – Eye Health, self-management education





SPOTLIGHT- LIFTING UP OUR HEALTH TOGETHER

A Faith based Diabetes & Vaccination Initiative at Ark Church Baltimore, MD

Overview

NMQF and Ark Church partnered to deliver a 7-month diabetes self-management and vaccination program for 32 participants from the congregation and surrounding community. The initiative combined culturally grounded education, hands-on cooking demonstrations, physical activity, and coordinated vaccination access. Operating from October 2024 to April 2025, the program demonstrated the strength of faith-based health engagement in addressing chronic disease disparities.

Key Outcomes

53%

of diabetic participants improved their A1C

2%

average decline in A1C across all participants with complete data

Average weight change:

-7 lbs

(diabetics)



-4 lbs

(pre-diabetics)

2%

average decline in A1C across all participants with complete data

75%

of participants lost weight

56%

improved blood pressure, including several moving from crisis ranges to controlled levels

37

vaccinations administered through coordinated onsite events

Why It Worked

The evaluation highlighted several factors that made the program successful:



Trusted Setting

The church provided comfort, belonging, and credibility.



High Retention

Participants attended consistently across all seven sessions.



Culturally Tailored Content

Recipes, discussions, and examples reflected real community needs.



Hands-on Learning

Meal prep, group discussions, and exercise sessions supported behavior change.



Strong Team Leadership

NMQF educators, Ark Church champions, and clinical partners worked in close coordination.

Innovation Spotlight

The Program Cookbook

Sharing a Meal to Heal: Food for the Soul

One of the initiative's most celebrated outcomes was the creation of a community cookbook featuring all the healthy meals prepared during the seven program sessions. Each recipe was shared by participants or adapted from their family traditions, then enhanced using DEEP curriculum nutrition principles.

The cookbook now serves as a sustainable take-home tool that supports long-term lifestyle change and reinforces cultural pride through food.



Participant Experience

Participants reported increased confidence, stronger self-management skills, and greater trust in the program team. Many shared they felt supported not only medically, but emotionally and spiritually — mirroring the positive engagement seen in NMQF’s broader faith-based work.

Impact

The Lifting Up Our Health Together program showed how faith communities and health experts can work side by side to achieve measurable improvements in diabetes, weight, blood pressure, and vaccine uptake. It stands as a model for expanding faith-based chronic disease programs across the FHA network.





ABOUT OUR CHURCHES



ABOUT OUR CHURCHES

Ark Church

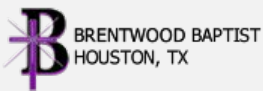
Baltimore, MD



Throughout the year, ARK Church strengthened its commitment to community wellness through education on ATTR-CM, lupus, clinical trials participation, breast cancer, kidney health, and HIV testing and prevention. In September, the church launched Year 2 of Lifting Up Our Health Together, a seven-month diabetes self-management education and vaccination program supporting both congregants and the broader community.

Brentwood Baptist Church

Houston, TX



Brentwood Baptist Church advanced a robust year of health ministry, offering breast cancer awareness activities, men's prostate health education, mental health programming, stroke prevention education, and COVID-19 and routine vaccinations. Key highlights included a yoga session for breast cancer survivors, vaccination partnerships with Walgreens at major church events, a comprehensive Mental Health Conference hosted with the Ashley Jardine Foundation, and a successful blood drive with the Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center. The church also continued its Healthy Moments Series, promoting wellness among seniors through nutrition, physical activity, and mental well-being.

Enon Church

Atlanta, GA



Enon Church advanced its commitment to community health with a dynamic RSV education campaign, delivering informative slides to its in-person congregation while simultaneously reaching its virtual audience through live-streamed content. The church also hosted vaccination events offering flu, COVID-19, shingles, Tdap, and pneumonia immunizations, ensuring broad access to essential preventive care.

First Baptist Church

Nashville, TN



First Baptist Church Capitol Hill advanced its health ministry through a series of impactful, year-round initiatives. In February, the church promoted Brain Health education to support cognitive wellness, followed by Mental Health education and outreach throughout May. A dynamic and interactive Multiple Myeloma seminar provided valuable information and engagement for congregants. During Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the church hosted weekly activities and educational sessions, while members contributed donations to cancer organizations and extended heartfelt outreach to survivors and individuals currently in treatment.



Friendship Baptist Church

Chicago, IL



Friendship Baptist Church advanced community wellness through education and outreach on ATTR-CM, diabetes prevention, breast cancer awareness, and brain health. The church also supported access to essential vaccinations, helping congregants stay informed and protected. These efforts reflect Friendship's ongoing commitment to promoting holistic health throughout the year.

Greater Friendship Baptist Church

Louisville, KY



In their first full year as members of the Faith Health Alliance, Greater Friendship Baptist Church made a strong impact through health education and outreach. The church led initiatives on HIV awareness, provided essential vaccinations, and delivered engaging RSV education for young moms, helping families stay informed and protected.

Greater St. Stephen Full Gospel Baptist Church

NOLA Louisiana



Greater St. Stephen Full Gospel Baptist Church strengthened its health ministry through education and outreach on ATTR-CM, HIV awareness, breast cancer education, and essential vaccinations. The church also promoted active living through a recent Heart and Nature Walk, engaging members in movement and heart-healthy practices.

Historic Little Rock Baptist Church

Detroit, MI



In their first full year as members of the Faith Health Alliance, Historic Little Rock Baptist Church strengthened its health ministry through education on brain health and HIV awareness, along with providing essential vaccinations. The church also actively engaged in monthly FHA meetings and activities, demonstrating strong commitment to collaborative learning and community health advancement.



Hope Center

📍 Oakland, CA



HOPE Center continued its long-standing tradition of recognizing Health Awareness Sunday every 4th Sunday, providing the congregation with consistent access to wellness information and support. Throughout the year, the church also participated in vaccination events, delivered RSV education, and engaged in additional health initiatives that strengthened preventive care and promoted overall community well-being.

Kingdom Word Ministries

📍 Kansas City, MO



Kingdom Word Ministries joined the Faith Health Alliance in May and has actively expanded its health outreach throughout the year. The church engaged in HIV education and testing through the FHA, providing vital resources to its congregation and community. They also recently hosted a Men's Health event along with a basketball tournament, further promoting wellness among men and families. As they prepare for the fall vaccination season, Kingdom Word Ministries is exploring the establishment of a monthly Health Sunday to broaden regular health activities and education, following the model of other FHA partner churches.

Macedonia Baptist Church

📍 Arlington, VA



Macedonia Baptist Church advanced community health through education on RSV, HIV, lupus, and clinical trials, while continuing to support essential vaccinations. They also partnered to provide additional education and awareness on autism, stress, and Parkinson's disease. The church is exploring a new collaboration with the Arlington Free Clinic to host a vaccine clinic focused on serving uninsured and unhoused residents in their community.

Mt. Olivet Church

📍 Richmond, VA



Mount Olivet Church has designated the fourth Sunday of every month as Health and Wellness Sunday, providing a consistent platform for education on lupus, diabetes, men's health, breastfeeding, suicide prevention, mental health, HIV, vaccines, and breast cancer. This year, the church's health and wellness lead also became a certified Community Health Worker (CHW) through the NIH/OASH-funded lupus program, further strengthening their capacity to support congregational and community health.



Mt. Zion Baptist Church

Albany, GA



Mt. Zion Baptist Church strengthened its health ministry through a range of preventive and educational activities, including vaccination clinics, HIV education and testing, prostate cancer screening, and community sessions on gut health.

New Hope Missionary Baptist Church

Memphis, TN



New Hope Missionary Baptist Church supported year-round community wellness through a wide range of health education activities, including outreach during its annual Back to-School Drive. The church promoted vaccinations, men’s health, HIV education, CPR training, eye screenings, mental health sessions, and breast cancer awareness, reinforcing its commitment to accessible, preventive, and equitable health resources for families and community members.

Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church

Corona, NY



Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church expanded its community health outreach by hosting a three-session Lupus and Alzheimer’s Disease education and clinical trials event, engaging more than 350 participants. Delivered in Spanish by medical experts, the sessions complemented the church’s ongoing vaccination activities and created a trusted space for open dialogue. Attendees gained a deeper understanding of both diseases, highlighting the importance of early detection, research participation, and equitable access to brain-health resources.

Payne Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church

Birmingham, AL



Payne Chapel continued its commitment to community health through its monthly “Wellness Check.” The Worshipping into Wellness Ministry produced bilingual (English and Spanish) educational videos that were shared during Sunday worship and on the church’s YouTube channel, helping congregants distinguish between colds, allergies, flu, COVID-19, and RSV. In addition to their vaccination emphasis, Payne Chapel actively participated in HIV education and testing, breast cancer awareness efforts, brain health initiatives, and other key health-promotion activities throughout the year.



Providence Missionary Baptist Church

Chicago, IL



Providence Missionary Baptist Church supported community wellness through year-round health education on vaccinations, diabetes prevention, and chronic disease management. The church's Annual Breast Cancer Walk drew 20+ participants from the church who raised over \$650 for breast cancer research. During Men's Week, a Men's Health Fair provided a confidential, nurse-led session on diet, exercise, and prostate health. Together, these activities reflect the church's ongoing commitment to improving the health of its congregation and community.

Purity Baptist Church and Urban Center

Washington, DC



Purity Baptist Church advanced its health ministry by hosting multiple vaccination events in partnership with Walgreens and providing targeted RSV education for mothers. The church also led HIV education and testing efforts, offering compassionate support to a newly diagnosed individual and reinforcing that HIV is no longer a death sentence. In addition, Purity Baptist delivered lupus education sessions, including a highly impactful presentation at the church's statewide convention, further strengthening awareness and engagement across its broader faith community.

Legacy Pointe Church

Cincinnati, OH



This year, Legacy Pointe Church prioritized whole-person wellness through a series of impactful health events. We hosted Get Fit Sunday, promoting physical health with an in-service exercise moment, and American Heart Sunday, offering blood pressure screenings and heart-health resources. Our Mental Health Awareness Sunday featured an expert speaker, and we continued education with Kidney Disease Awareness Sunday and Go Pink Sunday focused on breast cancer. We provided free flu shots at our Back-to-School Block Party, and through Lady Jarvis' role on the First Ladies for Health Board, we participated in our first Family Health Day, which offered cancer screenings, flu shots, and multiple health vendors for the community.

Open Arms Community Church

Jacksonville, FL



Open Arms Community Church advanced community wellness through education on prostate cancer, HIV prevention and testing, heart disease, colon cancer, and vision health, supported by in-person sessions led by Dr. Jossie, their in house clinician and Health & Wellness Ministry lead. The church also honored Breast Cancer Awareness Month with an interactive Breast Cancer Tree and hosted a major food drive serving over 700 families. These efforts underscore their strong commitment to holistic health and compassionate service.



The Sanctuary at Kingdom Square

📍 Upper Marlboro, MD



The Sanctuary at Kingdom Square delivered consistent, year round health outreach, offering weekly educational materials on lupus, flu, RSV, stroke, colorectal cancer, and more. Major activities included hosting the NMQF Community Health Mini Clinic with free bloodwork and lupus education, organizing vaccination and blood-drive events, supporting prostate and breast cancer awareness, and providing health education at large church gatherings. TSAKS also distributed 100 monthly “Free Groceries to Go” boxes and maintained a twice-monthly senior exercise program. The church remains committed to promoting wellness and supporting NMQF/FHA initiatives into 2026.

Trinity Baptist Church

📍 Columbia, SC



Trinity Baptist Church delivered comprehensive health outreach throughout the year, providing education and vaccination support for RSV, flu, COVID-19, shingles, and pneumonia, along with awareness efforts focused on colorectal cancer, kidney health, and brain health. The church offered exercise classes, weekly SoWELL (social wellness) meetings for seniors, Medicare enrollment assistance with a navigator, and HIV education and testing services. Trinity also partnered with the Alzheimer’s Association and participated in the Walk to End Alzheimer’s, advanced breast cancer awareness, and actively addressed food disparities in underserved Columbia ZIP codes 29203, 29204, and 29205—areas identified as food deserts.

Unity Baptist Church

📍 Suitland, MD

Unity Baptist Church strengthened community health efforts by hosting vaccination events and providing education on lupus and clinical trials, kidney health, breast cancer awareness, and HIV prevention. Through these initiatives, the church continued to promote early detection, informed decision-making, and equitable access to health resources for its congregation and surrounding community.



FHA ADVOCACY COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

November 20, 2025



NATIONAL
MINORITY QUALITY
FORUM



Center for
Sustainable Health Care
Quality and Equity

AD COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

The Faith Health Alliance (FHA) Advocacy Council held its final meeting of 2025 on November 20th to align on year-end priorities and set a clear path for early 2026 collaboration. The meeting opened with appreciation for members' time during a busy holiday season.

Discussion Highlights

- Discussion focused on strengthening FHA's partnerships with member organizations to advance health equity through church-based engagement, capacity-building, and coordinated advocacy.
- The group identified priority health themes for potential programming and confirmed several near-term deliverables — including structured fundraising support for churches over the next six months and a formal FHA progress update planned for early 2026.
- Participants also discussed opportunities for deeper collaboration, such as connecting with regional representatives and partnering with research teams to support community surveying.





KEY TAKEAWAYS



Six-month focus: Fundraising capacity-building for churches

SHC will prioritize fundraising support for churches over the next six months.



Continued emphasis on advocacy support

Churches expressed strong interest in advocacy training and resources. SHC has asked Ad Council members to suggest advocacy topics that would be most useful for churches to focus on.



Priority program topics identified

Potential areas for further FHA programming were identified, including development and rollout of a national health fair initiative.



Early 2026 planning & communications

SHC will explore providing an FHA advocacy update at the NMQF Summit, and plans to deliver a formal project update to Ad Council members in early 2026.



Opportunity for research collaboration

Members discussed collaborating with partner research teams on community surveys to strengthen evidence-informed programming and outreach.



PARTNER TESTIMONIAL QUOTES



We are proud to work alongside NMQF and the Faith Health Alliance in providing valuable health education around ATTR-CM and its impact in underserved and at-risk communities. Together, we are championing more equitable access to health care that helps improve patient outcomes.

Shandy Reed, M.S.Ed., CLSSGB
Director, KOL and Community Engagement, BridgeBio



The Faith Health Alliance continues to inspire and impact—improving the health of communities. It has been an honor to work alongside the amazing people in this organization.

Angie Bricco
Co-Chair, FHA Ad Council



The Faith Health Alliance has forged a public-private partnership that powerfully aligns community-rooted thought leadership with the capabilities required to advance health literacy and outcomes. This coalition is uniquely poised to address the most pressing challenges facing underserved and underrepresented communities, maintaining a keen pulse on what matters most. I have immensely valued the opportunity to learn from the pastors whose lived experience and perspectives continue to inform and strengthen the work I do at Genentech to help close gaps in health disparities and improve access to our medicines.

Alexandria Wise-Brown, Ph.D.
Sr. Medical Science Director, Genentech; FHA Ad Council Co-Chair



NMQF's Faith Health Alliance is a powerful example of how communities can come together to support, educate, and uplift their members to improve health.

Michelle Kimbrough
Executive Director, Federal Advocacy, Eli Lilly and Company



Takeda's partnership with the Faith Health Alliance is built on a shared vision for lasting change. By investing in community-led programs and strengthening local health systems, we're helping create sustainable solutions that address health disparities today while laying the foundation for healthier generations tomorrow.

Dora Green
Head of Health Access, Takeda



FAITH HEALTH ALLIANCE

AN NMQF HEALTH CHAMPION NETWORK



Thank You



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