



DC AHEC Hosts the 1st Annual "DC African Health and Empowerment Day" Health Event

The DC Area Health Education Center (DC AHEC) in partnership with the DC Mayor's Office of African Affairs (OAA) is hosting a health event to bring attention to the health, wellness, and medical needs that are unique to the African community in the District of Columbia. The unique needs of the African community must also be met if health care disparities are to be eliminated in the District of Columbia.

Washington, DC, May 11, 2008 --(PR.com)-- Washington, DC is home to more than 130,000 African-born immigrants, refugees and asylees. The rate of cancer and cancer morbidity of African residents in DC are relatively unknown. The African refugee populations are among poorest and least educated of African immigrants. As a result, they are more likely to be affected by the barriers of language and less equipped to take advantage of the social and economic opportunities available in the area. To make matters worse, there is no coordinated focus to address cancer and other health issues for this segment of the population.

The African Health and Empowerment Day is just one strategy in a larger plan to address this challenge. This event will include many different types of Free Health Screenings such as various cancers, blood pressure, cholesterol, diabetes, and HIV/AIDS. DC AHEC Community Health Navigators will be on hand to provide information about Free health care coverage options, as well as information and resources to other health care services and resources. In addition, there will be great Free giveaways, tasty local and ethnic foods, various healthcare vendors, and other entertainment.

The target population includes African immigrants and refugees who reside in the District of Columbia. This community health and wellness event builds on the efforts of DC African Cancer Awareness and Health Empowerment Project (DC ACAHEP) and its DC African Health Coalition, a sponsored project of the District of Columbia Health Education Center (DC AHEC) in partnership with the DC Mayor's Office on African Affairs (OAA).

Where: The Reeves Center, 2000 14th Street, Northwest, Washington, DC 20001

When: Saturday, May 17, 2008 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

DC AHEC's motto is, "Closing the Gap for a Stronger, Healthier Community". Through outreach and advocacy, DC AHEC responds to the call that encourages people of all races and cultures to achieve optimum health.

###



Contact Information:

District of Columbia Area Health Education Center (DC AHEC)

Kim L.E. Bell

202.574.6994

kbell@dcahec.org

www.dcahec.org

Online Version of Press Release:

You can read the online version of this press release at: <http://www.pr.com/press-release/84856>