COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER OF RICHMOND

CHCR Highlights Birth Equity for National Health Center Week 2022

Staten Island, New York – On Wednesday, August 10, 2022, the Community Health Center of Richmond, Inc. (CHCR) hosted the Staten Island Black Maternal and Infant Health Equity event to heighten awareness of this growing crisis of Black women dying in childbirth. The results and key findings from the Staten Island Infant Health Equity Action Plan was also presented. Over 70 individuals attended this event which took place at the Mt. Sinai United Christian Church, under the leadership and pastorate of Bishop Victor A. Brown, and also livestreamed on Facebook. Guest Speakers included community and public leaders, presentations delivered by public health professionals, and a resource fair

Dr. Henry Thompson, CEO CHCR stated, "It is my hope that these topics don't just result in activities and programs but that it translates into policy actions that can help move the discussion forward."

New York City Public Advocate Jumaane D. Williams delivered the keynote address and shared his personal birth equity story. Mr. Williams proclaimed that, "Black Equity is a Social Justice issue" and further shared that his Office is taking steps to address this issue by establishing the maternal health code of rights and calling on Congress to pass the Black Maternal Health Momnibus Act of 2021.

From left to right: Dr. Anthony C. Ferreri, former Regional Director, HHS Region 2; Dr. Ginny Mantello, Staten Island Borough President's Office; Dr. Henry Thompson, CHCR; Congresswoman Nicole Malliotakis; NYC Public Advocate Jumaane D. Williams; Bishop Victor A. Brown, Mt. Sinai United Christian Church; Sandra Pinnock, HHS Region 2; Dennis E. Gonzalez, HHS Region 2.

CHCR Staff accepting a Citation from NYC Public Advocate Jumaane D. Williams in recognition of National Health Center Week 2022.

Congresswoman Malliotakis also shared her previous work in addressing these disparities in maternal health through her work in the New York State Assembly, including her membership of the New York State Taskforce on Maternal Mortality and Disparate Racial Outcome, and her co-sponsorship of Congressional Bill Number H.R. 5163 Care for Her Act.

The event also included an informative panel discussion featuring: Kimberly Seals Allers, Creator, Irth App; Sharon Turnage, Infant Loss Survivor and Perinatal Health Specialist, Turnage Counseling Consulting; and Miriam Prat, Clinical Director, Project Launch, Richmond University Medical Center.

For more information about the Staten Island Infant Health Equity Action Plan, contact Ms. Constance Brown-Bellamy at phone number (202) 486-0495 or via email at brownbellconsulting@gmail.com.

About the Community Health Center of Richmond, Inc. (CHCR)
The Community Health Center of Richmond is a Federally Qualified Health Center with locations across Staten Island. We provide care for the whole community, across any culture, belief or gender. Our mission is to sustain a vibrant, healthy and strong community through affordable, culturally competent, quality primary health care. We aim to eliminate health disparities for underserved populations through accessibility. To learn more about CHCR, visit [www.chcrichmond.org.](www.chcrichmond.org)

Locations:
CHCR Port Richmond Medical Center, 235 Port Richmond Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10302
CHCR Dental & Medical Specialty Center, 439 Port Richmond Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10302
CHCR Stapleton-St. George Health Center, 135 Canal Street, Suite 300, Staten Island, NY 10304
CHCR Stapleton-St. George Health Center, 135 Canal Street, Suite 200, Staten Island, NY 10304

About National Health Center Week
National Health Center Week (August 7-13, 2022) is an annual celebration that raises awareness of the accomplishments of America's health centers. Community Health Centers serve as the beacon of strength, service, and care in their communities. To learn more about NHCW, visit [https://healthcenterweek.org/.](https://healthcenterweek.org/)

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