

PLACES OF WORSHIP ADVISORY BOARD (POWAB) ANNUAL REPORT 2016



**“Connecting People and Communities to Resources and
Supporting Whole Person Health in Mind, Body, and Spirit”**

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Community Faith Chair
Inner Light Ministries

Rev. Dana Tolliver,
Community Faith Chair
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Gertie Williams, Chair, Events Coordination & Logistics
Pat Fisher, Co-Chair, Community /Partnerships
Vernon Richardson, Co-Chair, Community /Partnerships
Barbara Chinn, Chair, Advocacy & Education
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Shakira Pollard, Co-Chair, Outreach & Engagement
Minister Robert Faison, Chaplain
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SUMMARY

As per the National AIDS Strategy, “Educating the public about HIV is not simply the job of governments or schools. Over the past three decades, communities have taken it upon themselves to educate people in their areas about how HIV is and is not transmitted, and how to successfully utilize prevention tools—using de-stigmatizing and culturally appropriate methods. Especially in places where it is not feasible for the Federal, State, Tribal, and local governments to act, it remains the role of community-based organizations, faith-based leaders, constituent organizations, national associations, trade associations, and peer networks to provide educational materials, trainings, and digital tools for their specific community’s needs”.

In the beginning of Mayor Muriel Bowser’s Administration in 2015, she launched a citywide health and wellness initiative. LaQuandra S. Nesbitt MD, MPH, Director of the Department of Health (DOH) for the District of Columbia, has as one of her strategic priorities creating a culture of health and wellness in metropolitan Washington.

The faith community is among the most important structures in the District of Columbia. It possesses tremendous legitimacy, credibility and authority for many people. District residents benefit greatly from the inspiration and guidance of the faith community, especially in fighting HIV/AIDS. Estimates are as high as one in 20 District residents are living with HIV. As outlined in the “90/90/90/50 Plan” introduced by the Mayor on World AIDS Day 2016, to end the HIV epidemic in the District by 2020 will require support and buy-in from all District residents.

In 2008, former Mayor Fenty commissioned DOH to address HIV/AIDS through innovative community and faith-based programs and partnerships. Thus, the Places of Worship Advisory Board (POWAB) was born.

Below are Pastors, Bishops, senior faith leaders who jointed our vision to Connect people and communities to resources and supporting whole person health in mind, body and spirit.



Bishop Raney Cheek, Pastor Ruth Hamilton, Pastor Willie Wilson, Reverend Dr. Frank D. Tucker
Bishop Michael V. Kelsey, International First Lady, Evangelist and Co-Pastor Susie Owens

Vision

To connect people and communities to resources and supports Whole person health in mind, body, and spirit

The vision includes promoting the following concepts:

1. Whole person health is not the absence of disease, but the full actualization of total physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual well-being.
2. Community is accepted as groups self-define it . . . whether it is a geographic location or a fellowship with others, as a result of sharing common characteristic, attitude, interest, or goal. POWAB will honor and respect how communities define themselves.
3. Stigma must always be recognized and addressed as a deterrent to wholeness.
4. Resources include not only volunteer, social capital, and in-kind support, but also cash resources, as all are necessary for POWAB to meet its objectives.

Mission

To work in partnership with the DC Department of Health to develop and nurture an interfaith network that advocates for the resources, policies, and programs that prevent and treat infectious disease, eliminate disparity, and promote whole person health.

Strategic Anchors

The strategic anchors are to be reflected in all decisions, activities, programs, and volunteers:

- Build trust and credibility.
- Only advise, commission, or direct.
- Consistently advocate and educate to achieve whole person health

POWAB membership 2014-2017

Co-Chairs

Rev. Darryl! LC Moch, Community Faith Chair,
Rev. Dana Tolliver, Community Faith Chair
Regina Jefferson DOH/HAHSTA Chair

Steering Board Leaders

Gertie Williams, Chair, Events Coordination & Logistics
Pat Fisher, Co-Chair, Community /Partnerships
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Rev. Mauuso Alfreda, Chaplain
Susan Shepard, TERRIFIC, Inc., Faith Funded Grantee



POWAB Members and Faith Leaders

POWAB Voting Membership

Ambrose Lane Jr.
Barbara Chinn
Bernadette Bailey
George Kerr
Gertie Williams
Jenifer Stewart-Ferrell
Joni Eisenberg
Kadija Ash
Lisa Jacobson
Marvee Campbell
Minister Andrea White**
Minister Robert Faison
Pat Fisher
Patrice Bailey
Raymond Bullock
Rev. Alfrda-Chi Mauusco
Rev. Dana Tolliver
Rev. Darryl! Moch
Shakira Pollard
Susan Shepard
Terrell Powell
Twana Holmes
Vernon Richardson
Wanda Deyo

POWAB Strategic Anchors 2014-2017

STRATEGIC ANCHORS

POWAB has developed the three (3) strategic anchors that will differentiate us from other organizations, inform every decision, and provide the filter or lens through which decisions must be evaluated to ensure consistency with POWAB's strategy for success. The strategic anchors are to be reflected in all decisions, activities, programs, and staffing:

- Build trust and credibility.
- Only advise, commission, or direct.
- Consistently advocate and educate to achieve whole person health

Build Trust and Credibility.

All POWAB activities must be of the highest integrity, transparent and should build confidence and trust amongst members, partners, and stakeholders. ANY activity that does not meet this standard should be avoided, revised, or eliminated as credibility and trust are essential for POWAB to be able to carry out its work for and on behalf of community, faith, and public partners.

Only Advise, Commission, or Direct.

True to its purpose, POWAB is an advisory board. Therefore, POWAB will advise on pertinent issue, commission activities to take place, and direct the activities of interns, consultants, contractors, and or partners. Any other activities will lead POWAB to drift away from its intended purposes and should be avoided. While POWAB members are free to serve, volunteer, and assist as they see fit, POWAB is firm in the belief that it is most effective as an advisory board.

Consistently Advocate and Educate to Achieve Whole Person Health

One of the primary purposes of POWAB is to work in partnership with DOH to advocate for the resources, services, information, and activities that promote whole person health. All POWAB activities should continuously strive to move the District closer to achieving whole person health. Conversely, education becomes an important component of advocacy within the faith community, amongst community-based partners, as with District agencies. POWAB will strive to educate partners and stakeholders about pertinent issues, as well as become informed about policy, programmatic, and health issues to effectively advocate.

While the strategic anchors are a reflection of the core operating values, more importantly, they guide the strategies that will ensure POWAB's success. Though not permanent, they will guide this phase of the execution of our strategies. POWAB prioritized the above anchors as instrumental in influencing the culture, activities and public image of POWAB.

Building Trust and Credibility POWAB developed a three year Strategic plan FY 2014-2017.

2014 POWAB assisted the board with developing core operating values and strategic anchors to operate efficiently. POWAB changed from HIV/AIDS focus and began to address whole person health, in the faith committees.

2015 Terrific Inc. funded for prevention services through faith based approaches targeting African American Woman Number of African American woman within faith institution educated about HIV and Health screenings 2771. Number of faith leaders reached through social media outreach 1,880.

2016 Community Day with Rising Sun Baptist Church with the partnership of POWAB offered clothes and non-perishable groceries to approximately 15 families, 70 backpacks with school supplies and health information on HIV/AIDS, cancers, smoking and dental health care and other health concerns, prevalent in our communities. Number of Faith leaders reached through social media DC Facebook we reached through video and flyers 2,489.00 people.

Accomplishments of 2016

- August 20, 2016 Collaborated with Rising Sun Baptist Church for their Annual Community Health Day. We were able to offer clothes and non-perishable groceries to 15 families, 70 backpacks with school supplies and HIV/AIDS testing to 16 the community.
- November 5, 2016 the -World Café One In the Spirit is group interaction method focused on conversations with regional faith leaders convening to discuss the faith perspective on Sexual Health, Mental Health, Chronic Disease, Social Justice. Our totals at this event were 94 attendees and 18 POWAB volunteers.
- December 3, 2016-World AIDS Day Brunch Churches on the frontline of HIV/AIDS gather to remember, celebrate, empower, and encourage those affect and infected with HIV/AIDS 70 faith leaders were in attended.
- January – December, 2016 POWAB-Distribution of POWAB materials totals (Fans, 3,500 Pens, and 5,000 new sponsorship and collaboration with AIDS Healthcare Foundation for POWAB Palm cards 200 was distributed).



World Café Conference 2016

Collaborative outreached numbers for 2016

Activities	Number of People Reached
African American women educated about HIV risk taking behavior and health screenings	2,246
African American women linked to HIV screening/POWAB/AIDS Healthcare Foundation	597
African American women screened for HIV /POWAB AIDS Healthcare Foundation	567
Identified and trained Health Coordinators within faith institutions	143
African American women linked to health screenings for additional health conditions	729
Faith institutions reached with stigma reducing information /POWAB AIDS Healthcare Foundation	1,412
Partnerships reached through social media/POWAB/ AIDS Healthcare Foundation	3619

Jennifer Ferrell-Stewart, RNC
DC Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program Project WISH
DC Department of Health, CHA

We participated in two health fairs with POWAB spreading the word about early detection of breast and cervical cancer. During the health fairs the ladies/men were taught breast self-exams, given literature and we consulted with several women who were inquiring about the need to have a mammogram/pap screening. The program’s goal is to reduce the District’s breast and cervical cancer burden through the provision of health education, technical expertise, case management, and coordination of early detection services for District residents.

Kim Greenwood, RN
Adult Immunization Coordinator

In 2016, we began a partnership with POWAB and the Dept. of Health Adult Immunization program. Our partnership served as a key outreach strategy to educate the residents of the District of Columbia about the importance of vaccine preventable diseases. We participated in two communities –based health fairs by providing educational materials and incentives with a focus on 5 majors’ vaccines: Influenza, Pneumococcal, Pertussis, Herpes Zoster and Hepatitis B. Vaccines (or immunizations) are the single most important way to protect you and your family against serious and sometimes deadly diseases. We appreciate POWAB’s partnership and hope that our collaboration will strengthen the knowledge, dispel myths and negative beliefs about adult vaccines, as well as, Increase the community demand for adults to be immunized.

Barbara Chinn
Senior Program Manger
AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF)

We have tested 57 at the various actual events, but there are some additional people who come to us in our various offices for testing as a result of being exposed to AHF through POWAB affiliation and word of mouth.

Susan Shepard
Program Manager
TERRIFIC, INC

HAHSTA funded program for African American Women Through Faith-based approaches
TERRIFIC, Inc. continues to be inclusive of all faith leaders/sites. Participation continues to grow within the community. TERRIFIC, Inc.'s capacity building in addressing HIV/ AIDS and other chronic disease among African American women and their partner's collaboration and partnerships with faith leaders, congregations and organizations is an organizational strength. TERRIFIC, Inc. health educators, peer educators, in Wards 1-8, provide face-to face counseling to individuals at risk, to faith leaders and faith institutions Implement/integrate African American women's' groups in faith based approaches, sharing and distribution of literature with FBOs regarding Prevention for African American Women Through Faith Based Conduct the approved Prevention through faith-based Approaches for African American Women curriculum.

Rev. Mauuso Alfreda-Chi
Minster Robert Faison
Places of Worship Advisory Board Chaplains

POWAB had two chaplains provided follow-up with 260 POWAB members who are sick, hospitalized or experiencing bereavement, providing inspirational messages and special prayers on a regular basis, in 2016.

**POWAB responds to Violence in communities:
Faith in Action Community Responds to Violence as a Serious Public Health Problem**

A message to the DC Department of Health from POWAB

The Places of Worship Advisory Board (POWAB) exists to address whole person health issues in the metro DC community. We believe firmly that the well-being of individuals and the community at-large is of the utmost importance and that we are compelled to insist that every effort is made to improve public health standards to ensure whole person health. To this end we concur with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) statement “Violence is a serious public health problem” and we call for the District of Columbia Health Department, the Mayor, and City Council to establish programs and designate funding to stem the tide of violence in our communities. POWAB, and its leadership, humbly stand in solidarity with the families and loved ones of those who have lost their lives violently in recent events in Baton Rouge, Minneapolis, and Dallas, as well as the many cities, across the nation that may or may not have received comparable media attention.

POWAB understands the impact of violence on our communities. For this reason we stand now and call for the urgent change needed to stem violence. Because of POWAB’s vision of supporting whole-person health in mind, body, and spirit; as faith leaders we will continue to engage our national community to encourage partnerships with local, state, regional and national agencies that seek to connect and unite the people of our nation. With this singular goal in mind, we stand as a collection of many faith traditions one in the spirit and united in hope, faith and action.

The leadership of the Places of Worship Advisory Board urges and advises the DC Department of Health and the District government to recognize violence as a public health issue and a threat to whole person health. This acknowledgment should also come with strategic plans and initiatives to address the causes for violence. Strategies should also be developed to prevent violence and to help survivors, families, and communities recover in the aftermath of violent episodes.

POWAB recommendation for HAHSTA faith based programs

What types of programs should HAHSTA develop to best serve the places of worship?

1. More inclusive interfaith connection/engagements partnerships (outreach).
2. Programs that provide Budget/funds to support POWAB activities in Faith Community.
3. Public Relations awareness campaigns to advertise POWAB Programs that build whole-person health awareness

Where should HAHSTA focus its' attention in the faith community?

1. Interfaith inclusive: Muslims, non-Christian
2. Health Ministries/Recovering prisoners
3. Concentration: Eligible metropolitan statistical areas

What are three goals that HAHSTA should have to engage the faith community?

1. Attend and have representation at all POWAB partner's events (anyone POWAB has a partnership with)
2. Engage local pastors and leaders with a plan and sustainable strategy for whole person health
3. On-going structured activities/breakfast meeting with faith leaders & DC/DOH every quarter (foster connection, support and working relationships)

