

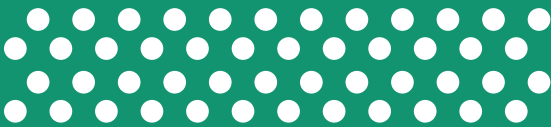
FROM ROOT CAUSES TO SOLUTIONS

BW HF 20 24



**BLACK WOMEN'S
HEALTH FORUM**

FINDINGS & NEXT STEPS



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Opening Statement

Dear Friends and Supporters,

I'm thrilled to share highlights from the Black Women's Health Forum (BWHF) with you. This event celebrates our strides in advancing maternal health and wellness for Black women. BWHF stands as a vital platform addressing our unique needs and ensuring our voices are heard.

This year, we planned for 100 attendees, expanded to 150, and welcomed nearly 200 participants! The turnout exceeded our expectations, underscoring the growing demand for our initiatives. Your feedback shows a strong desire for more, reinforcing our momentum toward longer, healthier lives.

Participants from diverse sectors—community members, nonprofits, government agencies, and healthcare professionals—shared invaluable insights. Their overwhelmingly positive feedback reflects high satisfaction with the forum's activities and its impact on maternal health awareness.

This report highlights our progress and calls for continued efforts to bridge healthcare gaps and ensure equitable access for all Black women. While celebrating our achievements, we recognize more work lies ahead.

Thank you for your steadfast support and dedication to advancing the health and wellness of Black women. BWHF continues to lead in fostering an inclusive healthcare environment. Together, we are making a difference.

Stay tuned for #BWHF2025!

Warm regards,

Carol F. Burton
CEO, Jeweld Legacy Group



Our Sponsors

None of this would be possible without the generous support of Alameda County Supervisor Keith Carson, District 5. Thank you, Keith Carson, for bolstering Black voices and prioritizing health in our community!

To our community: we thank you! A special thanks to Baywell Health (formerly West Oakland Health) for being a dedicated partner.

We are also deeply grateful to Gilead, Stanford Health, Alameda Public Health, Alameda Alliance for Health, East Bay Community Foundation, Kaiser Permanente, and California Wellness Foundation. Your financial support is crucial to advancing the health and wellness of Black women.



Title Sponsors



Bay Area Sponsors



Community Sponsors



Special Thanks to Our Partner Organizations





BWHF Overview

DATE: APRIL 18, 2024

LOCATION: OAKLAND MARRIOTT CITY CENTER

BWHF addressed health issues impacting Black women, including chronic diseases, maternal health, cancer, and mental health. Born from Making Connections 5.0, led by Alameda County Supervisor Keith Carson, the forum aims to combat health disparities and promote racial equity.

ATTENDANCE

We planned for 100 attendees, expanded to 150, and nearly 200 people showed up, demonstrating the growing importance and impact of our work.

GOAL

The goal of BWHF is to raise awareness about the resources available to Black women and help reduce disparities in accessing these services, regardless of socioeconomic status.

OBJECTIVES

- Help Bay Area Black women learn more about prevention and treatment options and why they matter.
- Discover the importance of culturally sensitive care and how it differs from standard medical approaches.
- Acknowledge the skepticism Black women and the community feel towards healthcare, and find ways to rebuild trust together.







An Intentionally-Curated Gathering Centered in Wellness for Black Women

BWHF was a curated event with dynamic speakers, deep discussions, a resource fair, and giveaways focused on Black women's wellness. It featured prayer, shared meals, music, and a lively post-forum celebration.

The venue offered rest and recharge spaces indoors and outdoors for networking and wellness activities. Nearly 190 attendees out of 260 registrations participated, achieving over a 70% attendance rate, with about 70 joining the post-forum happy hour.

It was a culturally affirming day centered on whole-person health for Black women.

Looking Ahead

You asked, we answered: #BWHF2025 is coming!

Use the QR code below to visit our website and join our mailing list. Be part of the movement toward a healthier future for Black women. Together, we can continue to make a difference and improve the health of generations of Black families to come!







Resource Fair

BWHF hosted a lively Resource Fair with government and community organizations focused on Black women's health. It was strategically set up in the reception area to catch everyone's eye. Attendees had plenty of time to check out booths with giveaways tailored just for them, sparking lots of great conversations.

Below, you'll find the awesome organizations that joined us.

Alameda Alliance for Health

Alameda County Public Health Department (ACPHD)

Family Health Services Division (FHS)

Prenatal Equity Initiative: Deliver Birth Justice Campaign

Community Health Services Division (CHS)

Care Partners Program & Nutrition Services

Division of Communicable Disease Control and Prevention (DCDCP)

Women's Sexual Health & STI Prevention

Doula Services Programs

Abundant Birth Project

IRTH App

Live Life Well Project

Black Women Speak, Inc.

Samuel Merritt Health Equity Institute

Stanford Health Care





Speakers

LISTED IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER

Carol F. Burton

Carol F. Burton is the founder of Jeweld Legacy Group (JLG), providing capacity-building services for public and private institutions. As a CEO, Nonprofit Leader, Mentor, Coach, and Strategic Advisor, Carol is dedicated to nurturing relationships and supporting the success of others. She has a strong background in leadership, facilitation, and consulting, known for translating policy into practice.

Donna White Carey, MD (Mistress of Ceremonies)

Dr. Donna White Carey is revolutionizing health through her Generational Health Network, aiming to end premature death in the Black community and Diaspora. Affectionately known as "Dr. Donna," she is a global health ambassador, dynamic public speaker, and Medical Director of Case Management at Alameda Alliance for Health. She has served internationally in Zimbabwe, Botswana, and Haiti.

Tenesha Duncan

Tenesha Duncan is a Black feminist strategist at Orchid Capital Collective, leveraging grants and investments for community-driven reproductive and economic justice. With extensive experience in reproductive health, rights, and justice, Tenesha holds an MBA from Howard University and is committed to fostering comprehensive care and organizational development.

Nada O. Hanafi, MSc, MPH

Nada Hanafi is a thought leader in Life Sciences and MedTech, advocating for health equity and diversity. As Founder of MedTech Strategy Advisors, LLC, she advises companies on regulatory strategy and product development. Nada co-founded MedTech Color to advance representation of people of color in MedTech and serves on several boards and advisory roles.



Kanika Harris, PhD, MPH

Dr. Harris directs maternal and child health at the Black Women's Health Imperative, focusing on health equity and maternal health. She is a behavioral health scientist, doula, and advocate, contributing to documentaries and serving as a maternal health equity advisor in Maryland and Washington, D.C.

Brandi Howard

Brandi Howard, President and CEO of the East Bay Community Foundation, leads efforts in philanthropy and policy change for racial equity. With over 25 years in nonprofit leadership and government sectors, Brandi is dedicated to community empowerment and innovation, teaching equity in practice at UC Berkeley.

Dantia Hudson, MPH

Dantia Hudson manages the Alameda County Health Pipeline Partnership and Health Coach Program, focusing on health equity and public health education. With a background in sociology and public health from UC Berkeley and Boston University, Dantia is committed to supporting communities with comprehensive health resources.





Speakers

CONTINUED

Stacey Hunt, MD

Dr. Hunt is a Dermatologist and President of Sinkler-Miller Medical Association, advocating for health equity and diversity. As Regional Medical Director at The Permanente Medical Group, she leads the Skin of Color Clinic and promotes equity initiatives in healthcare. Dr. Hunt holds degrees from the University of Michigan and NYU, with a Graduate Business Certificate from Stanford Business School.

Marlee-I Mystic

Marlee-I Mystic is Director of Doula Programs at SisterWeb, supporting Black and Brown families with perinatal care and wellness services. With a background in Psychology and Communication, Marlee is passionate about community empowerment and spiritual health, providing meditation, sound healing, and parenting support.

Kaiayo Shatteen

Kaiayo Shatteen is a Queer Parent and Apprentice Midwife advocating for reproductive justice and LGBTQIA2S+ equity. A midwifery student at the National Midwifery Institute, Kaiayo promotes traditional health care and supports positive birth outcomes for BIPOC communities in Oakland.

Candice Thompson, MD

Dr. Thompson is a board-certified general surgeon specializing in breast surgical oncology. As Medical Director for Stanford Cancer Institute's Office of Cancer Health Equity, she focuses on breast cancer treatment and health disparities. Dr. Thompson leads initiatives in breast health education and equity in healthcare.



Crystal Tyler, PhD, MPH (Moderator)

Dr. Tyler is CEO of the Illinois Public Health Institute, advancing public health policy and health equity. With a career spanning the CDC, University of Chicago, and Rhia Ventures, Dr. Tyler is dedicated to improving reproductive and maternal health outcomes for underserved communities.

Amanda P. Williams, MD, MPH, FACOG (Keynote)

Dr. Williams is Clinical Innovation Advisor at California Maternity Quality Care Collaborative (CMQCC) and faculty at Stanford University School of Medicine. With expertise in collaborative obstetrics and maternity care, Dr. Williams focuses on health equity and virtual prenatal care integration.





Summary of Data & Findings

Participants at BWHF were urged to share feedback using various channels to assess the forum's impact. We facilitated small group discussions to uncover key themes, used interactive polls for engagement during panels, and conducted a formal assessment to capture comprehensive participant perspectives.

Below is a summary of our key data and insights.

KEY TAKE-AWAYS

Collaboration Between Healthcare System & The Black Community

Participants emphasized collaboration between Black women and healthcare professionals to create safe spaces for healthcare discussions and improve health outcomes.

Maternal Health and Wellness for Black Women

BWHF focused on crucial topics for Black women's maternal health, highlighting culturally concordant care like doulas and midwives. They emphasized education on pregnancy-related issues such as medication safety and hypertension monitoring.

Advocacy and Empowerment

Women stressed self-advocacy and empowerment through knowledge and self-care, understanding advocacy's impact on community health and unity within the Black community.

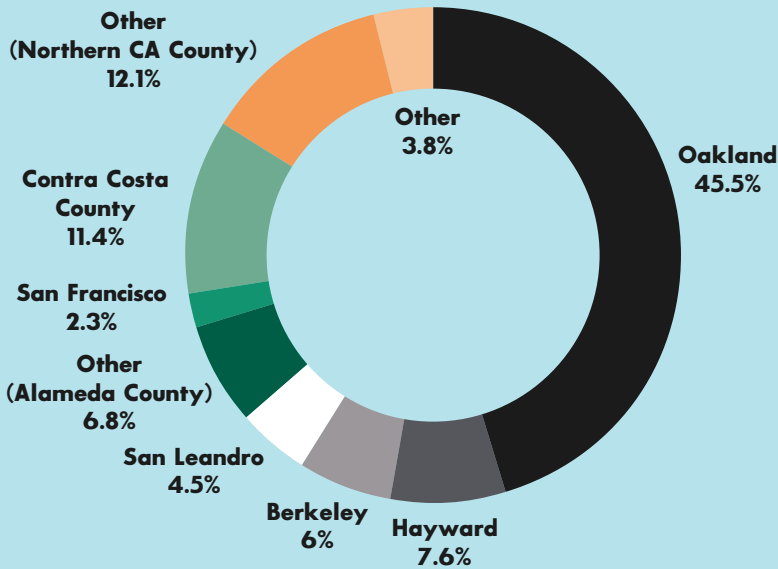
The Power of Self-Care

Participants highlighted the importance of self-care, gaining insights into wellness strategies, accessing community resources, integrating movement into routines, and viewing self-care as a generational legacy.



WHERE WERE PARTICIPANTS FROM?

Participants emphasized collaboration between Black women and healthcare professionals to create safe spaces for healthcare discussions and improve health outcomes.



REASONS FOR ATTENDING BWHF

Attendees were asked to share all of their priorities for attending BWHF. Multiple reasons could be selected.

Reason	% of Attendees
Gain knowledge and skills on Black women's health & wellness	89%
Network with Black women & community leaders	75%
Connect with resources from their community or organization	64%
Advance solutions that lead to systems change to improve Black women's health	55%
Create dynamic partnerships	48%
Connect with resources for their health & wellness	45%





"Nothing for us without us!"

Amanda P. Williams, MD, MPH, FACOG





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families to come!**

