

OAKLAND FRONTLINE HEALERS

BLACK HISTORY MONTH HONOREE

FEBRUARY 9, 2021

Oakland Frontline Healers is a collaboration of over 20 organizations and over 150 volunteers and staff serving Oakland to provide a holistic method of services to protect and support the needs of the Black community. The organization includes non-profits, grassroots volunteer organizations, churches, and community doctors, dedicated to the fight against the coronavirus; and

*A study of the Center for Disease Control and Prevention found that about 33% of COVID-19 related hospitalizations are African Americans while only accounting for 13% of the U.S. population. The **Oakland Frontline Healers** recognizes this dilemma and was inspired to act by this evidence; and*

Oakland Frontline Healers was established in April 2020 and already have made great strides in addressing the needs of our community. The Frontline Healers organizes themselves to deliver care packages consisting of food, protective gear, and other resources and educational materials directly to families, seniors, and homeless encampments. In addition, the organization provides resources to small business owners; and

Oakland Frontline Healers have established COVID-10 testing sites in the most vulnerable neighborhoods such as in North Oakland and West Oakland and East Oakland; and

Oakland Frontline Healers also advocates for the needs of the formerly incarcerated who were recently released in mass. The organization helps to ensure that they have access to personal protective equipment (PPE), housing and other needs.

*Therefore, this Board of Supervisors, County of Alameda, State of California gives full recognition to the **Oakland Frontline Healers** as the **Black History Month Honoree** in Alameda County and commends them for their passion to serve our community, particularly the African American population and for their dedication to enhance the quality of life for all residents.*

KEITH CARSON, PRESIDENT
SUPERVISOR, FIFTH DISTRICT

NATE MILEY, VICE-PRESIDENT
SUPERVISOR, FOURTH DISTRICT

DAVID HAUBERT
SUPERVISOR, FIRST DISTRICT

RICHARD VALLE
SUPERVISOR, SECOND DISTRICT

WILMA CHAN
SUPERVISOR, THIRD DISTRICT

DR. KIM RHOADS

UMOJA HEALTH

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Dr. Kim Rhoads is an Associate Professor of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Director of Office of Community Engagement and Associate Director for Community Outreach and Engagement at the Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center at University of California San Francisco (UCSF); and

*Dr. Kim Rhoads was instrumental in starting a group called **Umoja Health**, with a mission to get more Black Americans tested for the coronavirus and to present a more accurate picture of positivity rates in the Black population; and*

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention stated that Black Americans are 1.4 times more likely to catch the virus compared to their white counterparts. And according to the State of California's Public Health Department, African Americans make up approximately 4% of positive cases in California but only 6% of the total population in the State; and

*Although those statistics do not tell the full story, **Dr. Kim Rhoads** looked into the infection rates among Black Americans in Oakland and discovered that virus positivity may be lower than is being reported by public health departments and the media because a large portion of the Black population is being missed; and*

*Dr. Kim Rhoads was driven by this discovery and in September 2020 she organized community groups, public health departments, and UCSF to create a team called **Umoja Health**. Umoja in Swahili means "unity" and it is the first principle of Kwanzaa; and*

Umoja Health's goal is to get more Black and African Americans tested for the coronavirus and to use that data to present a more accurate picture of positivity rates in the community. As a result, the organization set up 8 pop-up testing sites throughout Oakland in over 2 months, in areas with greater than 40% African American population.

*Therefore, this Board of Supervisors, County of Alameda, State of California gives full recognition to **Dr. Kim Rhoads** and **Umoja Health** as the **Black History Month Honoree** in Alameda County and commends them for their passion to serve our community, particularly the African American population and for their dedication to enhance the quality of life for all residents.*

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PASTOR MICHAEL MCBRIDE

THE WAY CHRISTIAN CENTER

BLACK HISTORY MONTH HONOREE

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Pastor Michael McBride is the Lead Pastor of The Way Christian Center and Director of the Live Free Campaign; and

Pastor Michael McBride has the passion to help the most vulnerable and is an advocate for anti-violence and mass incarceration. His efforts led him to lead the Live Free Campaign with Faith in Action national network, a campaign committed to addressing gun violence and mass incarceration of young people of color. This national network turned out numerous faith congregations throughout the United States to follow his lead. As a result, under Pastor McBride's leadership, there has been 50% reductions of gun related homicides in Oakland and several other cities across the United States; and

Pastor Michael McBride has distinguished himself not only in his leadership locally, he has served on numerous national task forces with the White House and the Department of Justice focused on gun violence prevention, boys and men of color and police-community relationships, including as an Advisor on President's Obama's Faith Based Advisory Council for faith-based and neighborhood partnerships; and

Under Pastor Michael McBride's leadership, the Live Free Campaign raised funds to do "Masks For the People" – a humanitarian effort to address the lack of preventive care and resources such as face masks, personal protective equipment and hand sanitizers being made available to our loved ones that are incarcerated, recently released, elderly populations, urban neighborhoods and poor rural communities.

*Therefore, this Board of Supervisors, County of Alameda, State of California gives full recognition to **Pastor Michael McBride**, as the **Black History Month Honoree** in Alameda County and for **The Way Christian Center** and the **Live Free Campaign's** commitment and dedication to serve our community to enhance the quality of life for all residents.*

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MR. RON MUHAMMAD

DEEPLY ROOTED

BLACK HISTORY MONTH HONOREE

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Mr. Ron Muhammad is the Director of Deeply Rooted, based in West Oakland and in collaboration with We As One in Antioch, has been providing free meals to seniors as a response to the COVID-19 Shelter-in-Place order; and

Since April 2020, Deeply Rooted has been providing free hot meals three times per week to West Oakland seniors, aged 55 and older; and

Under the leadership of Mr. Ron Muhammad, Deeply Rooted's free hot meals delivery has increased from 30 recipients to an average of 180 recipients on a daily basis; and

Therefore, this Board of Supervisors, County of Alameda, State of California gives full recognition and commends Mr. Ron Muhammad as the Black History Month Honoree in Alameda County and for Deeply Rooted's commitment and dedication to serve our community to enhance the quality of life for all residents.

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