



Rev. Anthony Evans

President, National Black Church Initiative

Washington, D.C.

“Faith plays a central role in the lives of African Americans,” said Rev. Anthony Evans, president of the National Black Church Initiative (NBCI). “It is the one constant. Delivering messages in places of worship is how we can get into every single target population.”

NBCI is a group made up of 34,000 African American and Latino places of worship from across the country. All faith denominations are represented. The group is working to eliminate racial gaps in health care. It has the resources and the power to deliver health and wellness information nationwide.

“Doctors have scientific authority. We have moral authority,” said Rev. Evans. “We have developed an efficient way to deal with the health emergencies that are happening in our communities.”

NBCI was founded in 1996 in Washington, D.C., in response to the capital city’s drug problems. Today, it has five regional health commands, including Atlanta, Georgia; New York City; Chicago, Illinois; Dallas, Texas; and Oakland, California. There are 35 health panels set up across the regions. These panels determine the top health issues and ensure information gets out to the people.

“We teach the leaders of places of worship how to deliver health messages, preach about healthful lifestyles, and provide health-focused workshops and programs,” said Rev. Evans. “We are in the position to do great things in our communities. This is an opportunity to combine faith with health knowledge.”

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FAITH

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Health Tip



Make exercise fun.

In the winter months, keep your family active with ice skating, skiing or sledding.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 1863: Abraham Lincoln issues Emancipation Proclamation. New Year's Day
2 1965: Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. calls for nonviolent protests if Alabama blacks are not allowed to register and vote.	3 1624: William Tucker, first African child born in America.	4 1971: The Congressional Black Caucus organized.	5 1943: George Washington Carver, agricultural scientist and inventor, dies.	6 1831: The World Anti-Slavery Convention opens in London.	7 1890: William B. Purvis patents fountain pen.	8 1811: Charles Deslonde leads slave revolt in Louisiana.
9 1866: Fisk University founded in Nashville, Tennessee.	10 1750: James Varick, first Bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion (A.M.E.Z.) Church, born.	11 1940: Benjamin O. Davis Sr. becomes U.S. Army's first black general.	12 1948: Supreme Court rules blacks have right to study law at state institutions.	13 1990: L. Douglas Wilder inaugurated as first African American governor (Virginia) since Reconstruction.	14 1975: William T. Coleman named secretary of Transportation. Makar Sankranti	15 1929: Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., a major voice for civil rights in the 20th century, born.
16 1978: NASA names African American astronaut Maj. Frederick D. Gregory, Maj. Guion S. Bluford Jr. and Dr. Ronald E. McNair.	17 1942: Three-time heavyweight boxing champion Muhammad Ali (Cassius Clay) born. Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday Observed	18 1856: Dr. Daniel Hale Williams, pioneer heart surgeon, born.	19 1918: John H. Johnson, editor and publisher of <i>Jet</i> and <i>Ebony</i> magazines, born.	20 2009: Barack H. Obama sworn in as the 44th president of the United States of America, becoming the first African American to hold the office of U.S. commander-in-chief.	21 1870: Hiram Revels elected first black U.S. senator, replacing Jefferson Davis for the Mississippi seat.	22 2009: Susan Rice confirmed as U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, becoming the first African American woman to represent the nation before the world in this capacity.
23 1891: Dr. Daniel Hale Williams founds Provident Hospital in Chicago, the first training hospital for black doctors and nurses in the U.S.	24 1865: Congress passes 13th Amendment, which, on ratification, abolishes slavery.	25 1851: Sojourner Truth addresses first Black Women's Rights Convention, Akron, Ohio.	26 1954: Dr. Theodore K. Lawless, dermatologist, awarded the Spingarn Medal for research in skin-related diseases.	27 1961: Leontyne Price, world-renowned opera singer, makes her Metropolitan Opera debut.	28 1998: Sarah "Madam C.J." Walker, first black female millionaire, honored on U.S. postage stamp.	29 1926: Violette Neatly Anderson becomes first black woman lawyer to argue a case before the Supreme Court.
30 1844: Richard Theodore Greener, first African American to graduate from Harvard, born.	31 2006: Coretta Scott King, widow of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., who enshrined his legacy of human rights and equality, dies.					