

National Black Church Initiative

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NATIONAL BLACK CHURCH INITIATIVE MARCH TO DEMAND ACCESS TO UNIVERSAL HEALTHCARE FOR AFRICAN AMERICANS

The National Black Church Initiative (NBCI) is a faith-based coalition of 34,000 African American and Latino churches. We believe healthcare is not a privilege for the few; it is a guaranteed moral and constitutional right. On Tuesday, June 26, we will march on the steps of the United States Supreme Court to demand universal access to healthcare for African Americans. African Americans consistently poll at the bottom of all major health indicators. The death rate for Black Americans with diabetes is 40% higher than other races and cultures. Black people with diabetes experience kidney failure about four times more often than diabetic white Americans. 60.1% of African-American males are overweight and 78% of Black women lead the population in obesity and being moderately overweight. Among non-Hispanic blacks, age 20+, 4.5% of men and 3.8% of women have heart failure. Prostate cancer is the leading cancer diagnosed in men in the United States and for reasons that are unclear, incidence rates are significantly higher in African American men than in white men.

We believe that Obamacare is not a panacea, but parts of the plan should be kept and others should be discarded. We believe in a single payer approach. We demand care within one year, not within four years. And this can be easily achieved by placing the 21 percent uninsured African Americans under 65 on the Medicaid roles.

What: The National Black Church Initiative demands universal healthcare for African Americans on the basis that they are citizens and that this country owes those benefits in reference to their reparations.

When: Tuesday, June 26, 2012 @ noon

Where: On the steps of the United States Supreme Court in Washington, DC

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About NBCI

The National Black Church Initiative (NBCI) is a faith-based coalition of 34,000 African American and Latino churches. Comprised of 15 denominations and 15.7 million African Americans, the NBCI is working to eradicate racial disparities in healthcare, technology, education, housing, and the environment. NBCI's mission is to provide critical wellness information to all of its members, congregants, churches and the public. For more information, visit our website: www.naltblackchurch.com