



National Black Nurses Association, Inc.  
8630 Fenton Street, Suite 910, Silver Spring, MD 20910  
Phone: (301) 589-3200 • Fax: (301) 589-3223

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**Immediate Release**

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## **NBNA in Partnership with Pfizer Awards \$26,000 to 13 Chapters to Advance Vaccine Equity and Education**

**Silver Spring, MD – May 20, 2025**—The National Black Nurses Association (NBNA) is proud to announce the recipients of the 2025 NBNA Vaccine Awareness and Education Grant, funded by Pfizer. Thirteen NBNA chapters have each been awarded \$2,000 to implement community-based vaccine education and outreach initiatives aimed at improving education, access, and vaccine confidence in underserved populations. Applications were accepted from March 1–15, 2025 and evaluated by the **Immediate Past President and NBNA Grants Committee Chair, Dr. Martha A. Dawson, Lisa Davis, NBNA Grant Committee Member and Reviewer, and NBNA Executive Director, Tonya Jackson**. All funded programs will measure outcomes and prioritize vaccine equity through culturally responsive health education.

“This initiative equips our chapters to lead the charge against misinformation and limited access—ensuring our communities receive lifesaving, culturally informed vaccine education,” said **Executive Director, Tonya Jackson**. “Together, we continue to lead the charge in closing the gap on vaccine disparities in Black and underserved communities.”

This grant program is made possible through the generous support of Pfizer, whose commitment to advancing vaccine equity aligns with NBNA’s mission to reduce health disparities and strengthen public health in communities of color.

### **Awarded Chapters and Programs:**

- **West Alabama Black Nurses Association**  
Chapter President: Dr. Betty A. Key  
Grant Manager: Alicia Logan  
*Program: Acknowledge, Educate, Vaccinate: The AEV Project*  
*Focus: Workshops addressing vaccine acceptance in rural, underrepresented areas.*
- **Alliance of Black Nurses Association of Illinois**  
Chapter President: Beatrice Mbaocha  
*Program: Alliance Angels for Vaccine Equity*  
*Focus: Expanding awareness and vaccine access in underserved communities of color.*
- **Birmingham Black Nurses Association, Inc.**  
Chapter President: Theresa Rodgers  
Chapter Grant Contact: Jennifer Coleman  
*Program: Promoting Vaccine Education and Awareness in the Community*  
*Focus: Preventive vaccine education for children and older adults.*
- **Capitol City Black Nurses Association**  
Chapter President: Sheree Criner  
Chapter Grant Contact: Charde Vance  
*Program: Knowledge is Protection: Immunity Awareness Drive*  
*Focus: Addressing knowledge gaps in underserved communities.*



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- **Central Carolina Black Nurses Council, Inc.**
  - Chapter President: Kiana Cooper
  - Chapter Grant Contact: Katrice Hester
  - Program: V.I.B.E. – Vaccines, Immunity, Belief, and Empowerment*
  - Focus: Promoting vaccine confidence through culturally relevant education.*
- **First Coast Black Nurses Association**
  - Chapter President: Chelsa Fore
  - Program: Disparities and Vaccine Education*
  - Focus: Advocating for vaccine understanding in Jacksonville, FL.*
- **Greater Flint Black Nurses' Association**
  - Chapter President: Juanita Wells
  - Program: Community Immunization Awareness*
  - Focus: Educating chapter nurses and local community groups.*
- **New York Black Nurses Association**
  - Chapter President: Theresa Lundy
  - Chapter Grant Contact: Joelle Jean
  - Program: Fighting Disinformation: Vaccine Awareness for Seniors*
  - Focus: Enhancing vaccine access and education for underserved seniors.*
- **Piedmont Black Nurses Association**
  - Chapter President: Sonia Hart
  - Program: Let's Immunize NC*
  - Focus: Culturally competent outreach to address vaccine hesitancy.*
- **Southeastern Louisiana Black Nurses Association**
  - Chapter President: Rachel Weary
  - Program: Louisiana Immunization Listening Project*
  - Focus: Raising awareness about vaccination risks and benefits.*
- **Southern Nevada Black Nurses Association**
  - Chapter President: Angela (Angel) Brock
  - Chapter Grant Contact: Tracey Johnson – Glover
  - Program: STI & HPV Awareness Health Fair*
  - Focus: Community vaccine awareness in partnership with Chi Eta Phi.*
- **South Jersey Chapter of NBNA**
  - Chapter President: Cheryl Harris
  - Chapter Grant Contact: Shahera Washington
  - Program: Inner City Charter School V*
  - Focus: School-based vaccination outreach in urban communities.*
- **Tri County Black Nurses of Charleston, SC**
  - Chapter President: Vanessa Gant-Clark
  - Chapter Grant Contact: Mia Barron
  - Program: Shielding Health: Community-Based Immunization Program*
  - Focus: Addressing vaccine barriers for chronically ill, underserved residents.*

NBNA congratulates each chapter on its award and looks forward to the positive impact these programs will bring to communities across the country. With Pfizer's support, we reaffirm our shared commitment to advancing public health and eliminating vaccine disparities.



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**About the National Black Nurses Association:**

The National Black Nurses Association (NBNA) was founded in 1971 with a mission to provide a forum for Black nurses to advocate for the improvement of health and healthcare delivery for African Americans and other people of color. NBNA is committed to increasing the number of African Americans in the nursing profession and to enhancing the educational, professional, and leadership opportunities for Black nurses.