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COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

The newsletter of the Black Nurses Rock Foundation



Providing Healing, Promoting Hope

**Celebrate Women's History
Month by delivering healing
and hope in the community**

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Women's History Month: Providing Healing, Promoting Hope

The 2022 Women's History theme, "Providing Healing, Promoting Hope," is both a tribute to the ceaseless work of caregivers and frontline workers during this ongoing pandemic and also a recognition of the thousands of ways that women of all cultures have provided both healing and hope throughout history.

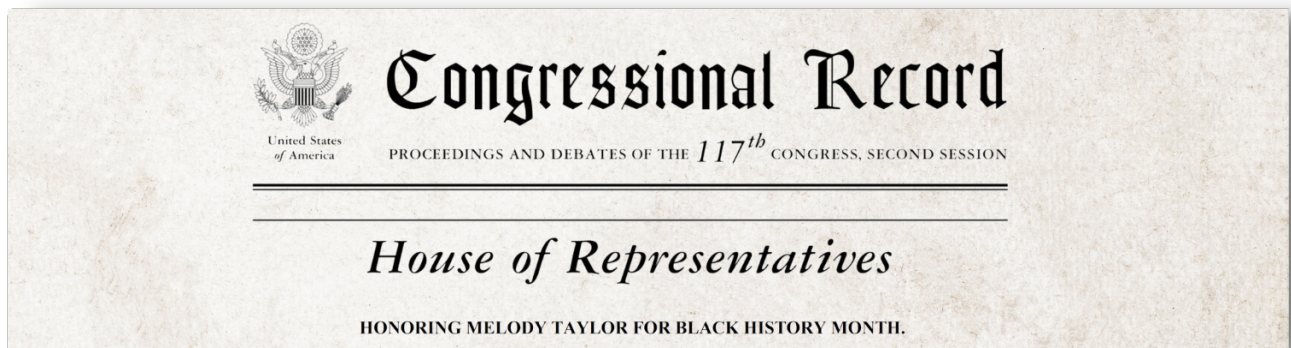
Women as healers harken back to ancient times. Healing is the personal experience of transcending suffering and transforming it to wholeness. The gift of hope spreads light to the lives of others and reflects a belief in the unlimited possibilities of this and future generations. Together, healing and hope are essential fuels for our dreams and our recovery.

This year, in particular, we are reminded of the importance of healers and caregivers who are helping to promote and sustain hope for the future. The NWHHA encourages communities throughout the country to honor local women who bring and have historically brought these priceless gifts to their families, workplaces, and neighborhoods, sometimes at great sacrifice. These are the women who, as counselors and clerics, artists and teachers, doctors, nurses, mothers, and grandmothers listen, ease suffering, restore dignity, and make decisions for our general as well as our personal welfare.

Women have long advocated for compassionate treatments and new directions in public health and in women's mental and physical health. Women have also historically led the way in mending divisions, healing wounds, and finding peaceful solutions. This timeless work, in so many ways and in addition to so many other tasks, has helped countless individuals in our communities recover and follow their dreams.

The 2022 theme proudly honors those who, in both public and private life, provide healing and promote hope for the betterment of all.

MELODY TAYLOR HONORED WITH CONGRESSIONAL RECORD



Congratulations Melody Taylor, our National Director for Chapter Development! Melody received an invitation from Florida Congressman Darren Soto (D-FL-09) and was honored to join a list of notable African American community leaders within Central Florida. Her biography was read by Congressman Soto via the Zoom presentation, and she was awarded recognition for the notable work she has done to improve healthcare disparities. Read the text of the Congressional Record below:

"Melody Taylor is a board-certified registered nurse with years of experience in the healthcare industry. She has earned a Master of Science in Nursing Leadership and Management. She is currently pursuing a doctoral degree in nursing. Melody serves as a nurse leader at Orlando Health.

Ms. Taylor is recognized as a dedicated community and nurse advocate, having led many initiatives empowering low-income families to succeed and advancing the field of nursing. From 2007 to 2014, she engaged with the City of Orlando Office of Community Affairs to improve social determinants of health in at-risk populations. During that time, she became a volunteer on the citizen's review panel for the City of Orlando. Her leadership was the key driver in mobilizing low-income families to mainstream society along with the collaborations of non-profit, faith-based, business, and governmental entities.



MELODY TAYLOR HONORED WITH CONGRESSIONAL RECORD



Ms. Taylor is a founding member and president of Black Nurses Rock Orlando. She is also a board member for the Black Nurses Rock Foundation, where she has served as the director of chapter development for 23 chapters across the United States. Ms. Taylor was recognized as the Black Nurses Rock Foundation Leader of the Year in 2018.

Community advocacy has always been a priority for Melody. She will continue to empower and inspire innovative leaders to advance in the field of nursing and promote preventative health to decrease health care disparities in vulnerable communities. Melody is the middle child of five children and mother to a handsome son named John and a beautiful daughter named Katia. She has six beautiful grandchildren: Drevion, Keonte, Sincere, Harmonie, Jayla, and Jaliyah. Melody will continue her volunteer service to build a better community for the citizens living in Central Florida and advance the field of nursing across the globe."

HON. DARREN SOTO
MEMBER OF CONGRESS



Orlando Updates

Black Nurses Rock Orlando is on the move in 2022! These first 2 months set the pace for 2022 as we improved healthcare disparities in the communities we serve. Although Orlando is considered home for most of our members, we also have members residing in the surrounding areas of Lake, Seminole, Brevard, and Osceola counties. This provides us an even broader spectrum to impact lives with healthcare education.

Jan. 8th, our Educational Chairpersons Taiche Griffin, ARNP and Katina Wilson, ARNP were the health facilitators at Love Christian Fellowship Church in Orlando where the topics were breast and cervical cancer, diabetes, and hypertension. The information was well received.

On Jan. 17th, we served as the healthcare vendor at the City of Clermont's Waterfront Park Dr ML King Day event. Members Ruby Alvarez, Alversia Williams, Latanya Lewis, Kathy Hunter, Sherikey Mobley, Misha Carson, and Melody Taylor made this another successful event with Oncology education on breast and prostate cancers, heart disease, hypertension, and diabetes. Literature on burn safety and falls prevention was distributed as falls is the number one risk factor for injury in the home.

Our 1st Membership Meeting for 2022 was well attended on Jan. 22nd. We welcomed 4 new members who joined the national and local BNRO chapter. In the words of Dr ML King, Jr., "Everybody can be great...because anybody can serve," and serving our communities is what we do with willing hearts.



Orlando Updates (cont.)

We resumed our Evans High School Student Mentorship Program on Tues., February 8th with members Kathy Hunter and Angela Brooks as mentees. 2 February was Heart Health Awareness Month. Our education focused on this topic with a breakdown on modifiable risk factors for Heart Disease. Changing the behaviors we can control will decrease the incidence of heart attacks, stroke, and heart disease as a whole.

On Sat., Feb 26th, we participated in the "Getting to the Heart of the Matter" Go Red Heart Health forum presented by Gamma Phi Delta Sorority, Inc's -Alpha Phi Chapter. The location was Mt Sinai Baptist Church in Orlando. The presentations with discussions were filled with information and well received.

As February came to a close, we hosted our first 2022 Simply Speaking CME Educational Dinner. This took place on Wed., February 23rd at Flemings Steakhouse in Dr Phillips. The discussion topic: Current and Emerging Perspectives in Chronic Immune Thrombocytopenia (ITP) with Michael Jaglal, MD presenter was informational and registered attendees earned CEU credits.



Member Spotlight

Member since 2018
Orlando, FL

Vickie
Cobb-
Lucien

We congratulate and spotlight our member, Vickie Cobb-Lucien, ARNP! Vickie opened Embrace Healthcare in Jan and will service the Orlando and surrounding areas. This facility provides medical care with certified HIV testing and counseling on site.