

*Annual
Report 2008 - 2009*



Black Health Alliance

BHIA



*Working in Partnership to Advance the Health and
Well-Being of the Black Community*

A Year of Growth & Accomplishments

www.blackhealthalliance.ca



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Well-Being of the Black Community*

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Vision

People from the diverse Black communities in Canada experience optimal health and well-being.

Mission

To reduce the racial disparities in health outcomes and promote health and well-being for people from the diverse Black communities in Canada with emphasis on the broad determinants of health, including racism.

From the President

Dr. Christopher J. Morgan, BSc., DC, FCCSS(C)
President



A year of growth and accomplishments. That's how I would best describe 2008 – 2009 for the Black Health Alliance (BHA). During this period BHA underwent a capacity building process which enabled us to: significantly enhance our organizational capacity, re-define, sharpen and focus our vision and strategic directions, be innovative in community engagement strategies,

grow our volunteer and membership base, better position the organization as a key stakeholder and partner in building a healthier and more vibrant community.

This annual report reflects our 2008 - 2009 journey. I would like to thank my fellow Board members, our BHA coordinator, our membership and supporters for their hard work, commitment and for sharing the experience with us.

Together, we will influence lifestyles to encourage healthy living through effective health promotion strategies, community capacity building, relevant research and education, and continued work with government and health agencies

As always, Peace & Unity

Thank You to Our Funders

Funders for the period April 01-2008 to March 31, 2009 include the Ontario Trillium Foundation and the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care.



Thank You to Our Fundraising Supporters

- The Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario
- TAIBU Community Health Centre
- Brampton Neighbourhood Community Resource Centre
- Black Coalition for AIDS Prevention, Africans in Partnership Against AIDS
- The African and Caribbean Council on HIV/AIDS in Ontario
- Foresters
- Domus Architects

Community Engagement

BHA event photos and participant responses to what did you find inspiring about the event?



Let's Talk About Speakers Series

"I really appreciated the interrelatedness of the topic sections as determinants of health... racism, poverty, education, literacy..."

and

"Frank and open discussion about AIDS, sex and sexuality and "uncomfortable" topics that must be discussed"



The African Heart Beasts Dinner & Forum

"The possibility of mobilizing the community..."
and

"The diversity of people"



Financial Well-Being

SUMMARIZED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT MARCH 31, 2009

	2009	2008
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash	\$ 19,801	\$ 54,417
Accounts receivable	10,000	9,975
	29,801	64,392
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	20,241	20,337
Deferred revenue	4,992	42,055
	25,233	62,392
NET ASSETS		
Operating fund	4,568	2,000
	29,801	64,392

SUMMARIZED STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENSES - OPERATING FUND YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2009

Revenues		
Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care grants	201,729	158,279
The Ontario Trillium Foundation grant	92,830	2,179
Fund-raising	14,170	-
	308,729	160,458
Expenses		
Salaries and benefits	72,095	70,556
Professional fees	88,086	79,162
Fundraising	11,725	-
Pre-operative capital expenses - TAIBU CHC	105,652	-
Administrative	28,603	10,740
	306,161	160,458
Excess of revenues over expenses for the year	\$ 2,568	\$ -

Complete audited financial statements are available upon request.

Direction

“Once the destination has been determined, you can create the road map to get there.” BHA Board Member

The Black Health Alliance (BHA) is a non-profit, community-based corporation consisting of community organizations, health and social service professionals, and community members working in partnership to advance the health and well-being of the Black community.

In fall of 2008, BHA embarked on a strategic planning process which culminated in the development of our strategic directions. Our strategic directions outline our key areas of commitment and where we will focus our human and financial resources over the next three years. They represent areas where we can best focus our efforts in reducing racial disparities within the diverse Black communities in Canada. Our Strategic Directions, not in priority order, are as follows:

Ensure Our Sustainability

We will strengthen and build relationships, collaborations and partnerships with individuals and organizations that share our vision. We will identify, actively pursue and establish ongoing funding to support our daily operations. We will nurture positive relationships with existing and new funders and donors. We will collaborate with others who support our vision in an effort to raise monetary and other resources to support our activities. We will engage the membership in our pursuit to increase our financial resources.

Enhance the Response to Racial Disparities and Health Inequities

We will undertake efforts and use various communication vehicles to inform key stakeholders of issues related to racial disparities and health inequities. We will promote who we are and what we do to a wide range of stakeholders. We will establish ourselves as a key resource around issues related to the health of the Black community. We will participate in and/or lead efforts and activities to achieve our mission and realize our vision, including influencing public policy. We will strengthen and build relationships, collaborations and partnerships with individuals and organizations that share our vision.

Effectively Engage Our Membership

We will engage our membership to actively participate in the work and life of the BHA. We will foster better communication and coordination among our membership. We will increase and diversify our membership through outreach and marketing of the BHA. We will facilitate educational opportunities to enhance the knowledge base of our membership and other key stakeholders.

Strengthen Our Research Capacity

We will pursue leadership and innovation in community-based, culturally competent health research. We will develop strong partnerships and collaborations with researchers, research bodies and related institutions. We will undertake initiatives to inform and attract health and social researchers. We will conduct and advocate for effective, participatory research with practical outcomes that can be translated into real life changes. We will measure and document our results. We will engage the community as a source and recipient of information and knowledge, and support the efforts of others to do the same.

Leadership

“To be a great leader one must first be able to serve.”
BHA Board Member

Returning Board of Directors 2009 – 2010

Dr. Christopher J. Morgan	President and Board Chair
Dwight Townsend	Vice President
Donna Alexander	Treasurer
Heather Thomas	Board Member
Lillie Johnson	Board Member
Sandra Newton	Board Member

Non Returning Board of Directors 2008 – 2009

Floydeen Charles-Fridal	Secretary
Kathleen Nelson	Board Member
Victor Beausoleil	Board Member

Candidates for New Board of Directors 2009 – 2011

J.R. Dash	Board Member
Naim Egal	Board Member

Financial Well-Being

BLACK HEALTH ALLIANCE

AUDITORS' REPORT

The accompanying summarized balance sheet and statements of revenues and expenses are derived from the complete financial statements of Black Health Alliance as of March 31, 2009 and for the year then ended. In our auditors' report on the complete financial statements dated July 28, 2009, we expressed a qualified opinion because we were unable to satisfy ourselves concerning the completeness of revenue from donations and fund-raising. The fair summarization of the complete financial statements is the responsibility of management. Our responsibility, in accordance with the applicable Assurance Guideline of The Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants, is to report on the summarized financial statements.

In our opinion, the accompanying summarized financial statements fairly summarize, in all material respects, the related complete financial statements in accordance with the criteria described in the Guideline referred to above.

The summarized financial statements do not contain all disclosures required by Canadian generally accepted accounting principles. Readers are cautioned that these statements may be not appropriate for their purposes. For more information on the Alliance's financial position, results of operations and cash flows, reference should be made to the related complete financial statements.

Toronto, Ontario
July 28, 2009



CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
Licensed Public Accountants

A Year of Growth and Accomplishments



TCAFE

**Taste of the
Caribbean and
Africa Food Expo**

A Year of Growth and Accomplishments



Something Old

2008 marked the 9th Annual Taste of the Caribbean and Africa Food Expo (TCAFE), a Celebration of Our Food, Health and Culture. Dynamic cooking demonstrations, critical and relevant health information on such topics as diabetes, prostate cancer and substance abuse, blood pressure and blood sugar screening and of course nutritious and great tasting food made the 9th Annual TCAFE another successful event.

Something New

In April 2009 BHA launched its Let's Talk About Speaker's Series, a forum for candid and serious dialogue on important and sometimes sensitive issues (HIV/AIDS and stigma in the Black community; the impact of poverty, education, illiteracy and racism on health) which impact members of the community personally and collectively. The Speaker's Series brings together experts, people with lived experiences and community members for an informative and thought-provoking experience.

On November 11, 2005, The Honourable George Smitherman, Ontario Minister of Health and Long-Term Care announced a new community health centre for Malvern! The Black Health Alliance had submitted the proposal for the centre and now had the privilege and responsibility to undertake its establishment. This announcement meant that members of the Malvern community would soon benefit from a community health centre that would provide comprehensive, interdisciplinary, primary health care services from an anti-racist, anti-oppression framework.

In 2008, nearing the completion of the Community Engagement Project several milestones were achieved. The approval of TAIBU's priority populations including a complementary aim of developing specialized health and social services for the Black community, which will result in best practices to be used in other settings serving racialized and minoritized populations; hiring of its first executive director, Liben Gebremikael; establishment of TAIBU's first Board of Directors; securing TAIBU's temporary space at 1371 Neilson Road; and the hiring of office administrator, Donna Fancy-lye and health promoter Rose-Ann Bailey.

Let's Talk About...



"Be In Good Health"

A Year of Growth and Accomplishments

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Ground
Breaking

Partnership



In December 2008, BHA and TAIBU took a brief pause to reflect and celebrate the success of the project with excited aspirations of the year to come.

More milestones occurred in 2009 with the recruitment and hiring of clinical staff and registering TAIBU's first clients in April. At the same time construction of the new facility on the grounds of Malvern Town Centre brought renewed excitement in the community which culminated in a "symbolic" ground-breaking ceremony at the foot of the hottest new building in Malvern – TAIBU Community Health Centre.

Currently, TAIBU is providing several programs within the community along with primary health care services at the centre. The Black Health Alliance is extremely proud to have played an integral role in the establishment of TAIBU Community Health Centre and looks forward to the achievement of many more milestones.

Heart disease and stroke are leading causes of illness, disability and death in Canada which causes an increase in personal, community and health care costs. People of African descent are more likely to have higher rates of high blood pressure and diabetes and are therefore at greater risk of heart disease and stroke than the general population.

At BHA, we continually seek opportunities to work in partnership and collaboration with organizations in which we share a mutual goal. In 2008, BHA established such a relationship with the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario with the creation of *The African Heart Beats Dinner & Forum: A Spotlight on Heart Disease and Stroke in Toronto's Black Community*.

Life-saving CPR demonstrations, heart health presentations, an interactive nutrition challenge, health questionnaires, African drumming and a high calorie burning dance session, entertained, educated and moved event participants towards better health.



Milestones

Collaboration

