



Office of Minority Health

## Newsletter - February 2020

### April is Minority Health Month!

The Summit County Local Office of Minority Health's kick off event this year is the Health Fair at the Metro Transit Center. There are vendor tables available for your organization to share the wonderful services they provide in our community. If you would like to participate please call or email Aixa Bakuhn at 330-812-3859 or [abakuhn@schd.org](mailto:abakuhn@schd.org).



### SAVE THE DATE

#### Minority Health Advisory Committee Meeting

March 16, 2019 11:00 AM

Summit County Public Health - Auditorium  
1867 W Market Street, Akron, Ohio 44313

\* Feel free to share this invitation

### Summit County Council Recognize Black History Month

**SUMMIT COUNTY, OHIO**— On Monday, February 10, 2020, Summit County Executive Ilene Shapiro and County Council approved a resolution recognizing February as Black History Month in Summit County. The resolution, unanimously approved, recognizes African Americans and the achievements they have made throughout the nation's history, as well as the struggles and roadblocks they have faced and continue to face.

“From the groundbreaking work of the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity building affordable housing to the beautiful poems and essays of Poet Laureate Rita Dove, countless African Americans who called Summit County home have made contributions felt here and around the world,” said Executive Shapiro. “I am proud to honor these achievements and encourage all Summit County residents to join in this acknowledgement.”

In conjunction with the county's recognition of Black History Month, The Summit County Historical Society produced a special exhibit in the Ohio Building fourth floor atrium. Members of the public are encouraged to visit the exhibit to learn about the achievements of Woodrow Nash, Dolores Parker Morgan, Fritz Pollard and Haynes B. Robinson, Jr.

"The contributions and achievements of the African American community are well-documented in Summit County's proud history," said District 5 Council Member Veronica Sims. "We must embracing racial diversity as a strength and an asset."

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American Heart Month

## Celebrate African American History Month!

This February celebrate African American History Month. Learn about how heart disease, cancer, and stroke impact African Americans and how to improve your health.

To commemorate and celebrate the contributions to our nation made by people of African descent, American historian Carter G. Woodson established Black History Week. First celebrated in 1926, the week was expanded into Black History Month in 1976 as part of the nation's bicentennial. Each year, the U.S. President proclaims February as National African American History Month. Heart disease, cancer, and stroke are the leading causes of death for African Americans. Learn about these conditions and what you can do for health.

[Continue Reading](#)

Additional information:

[https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus/spotlight/HeartDiseaseSpotlight\\_2019\\_0404.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus/spotlight/HeartDiseaseSpotlight_2019_0404.pdf)

[https://www.cdc.gov/heartdisease/docs/ConsumerEd\\_HeartDisease.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/heartdisease/docs/ConsumerEd_HeartDisease.pdf)

<https://www.scph.org/omh/chronic-diseases>

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## February is National Children's Dental Health Month

National Children's Dental Health observances began with a one-day event in Cleveland, Ohio and a one-week event in Akron, Ohio during February 1941.

Since then, the concept has grown from a two-city event into a nationwide program. The American Dental Association held the first national observance of Children's Dental Health Day on February 8, 1949. The single day observance became a week long event in 1955. And in 1981, the program was extended to a month-long celebration known today as National Children's Dental Health Month.

HEALTHY SMILE TIPS from the American Dental Association (ADA):

- Fluoride in water prevents cavities!
- Brush your teeth twice a day with a fluoride toothpaste.
- Clean between your teeth daily.
- Eat a healthy diet that limits sugary beverages and snacks.
- See your dentist regularly for prevention and treatment of oral disease.

# Knowing the Past Opens the Door to the Future The Continuing Importance of Black History Month

By: Lonnie Bunch, Founding Director with National Museum of African American History and Culture

“No one has played a greater role in helping all Americans know the black past than Carter G. Woodson, the individual who created Negro History Week in Washington, D.C., in February 1926. Woodson was the second black American to receive a PhD in history from Harvard—following W.E.B. Du Bois by a few years. To Woodson, the black experience was too important simply to be left to a small group of academics. Woodson believed that his role was to use black history and culture as a weapon in the struggle for racial uplift. By 1916, Woodson had moved to DC and established the “Association for the Study of Negro Life and Culture,” an organization whose goal was to make black history accessible to a wider audience. Woodson was a strange and driven man whose only passion was history, and he expected everyone to share his passion.

This impatience led Woodson to create Negro History Week in 1926, to ensure that school children be exposed to black history. Woodson chose the second week of February in order to celebrate the birthday of Lincoln and Frederick Douglass. It is important to realize that Negro History Week was not born in a vacuum. The 1920s saw the rise in interest in African American culture that was represented by the Harlem Renaissance where writers like Langston Hughes, Georgia Douglass Johnson, Claude McKay—wrote about the joys and sorrows of blackness, and musicians like Louie Armstrong, Duke Ellington, and Jimmy Lunceford captured the new rhythms of the cities created in part by the thousands of southern blacks who migrated to urban centers like Chicago. And artists like Aaron Douglass, Richard Barthe, and Lois Jones created images that celebrated blackness and provided more positive images of the African American experience.

## Continue Reading



### Dr. Carter G. Woodson, late 1940s

Scurlock Studio Records, ca. 1905-1994, Archives Center, National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution.

### Training Opportunity for Barbers, Beauticians and Volunteers from the American Heart Association:

If you are a barber, beautician or volunteer who would like to offer free blood pressure screenings in your shop through the **CHECK.CHANGE.CONTROL** program, during the month of April, the training will be provided in March.

### African Heritage and Health

**Week** was celebrated the first week in February and the African Heritage Diet is a way of eating based on the healthy food traditions of people with African roots. This healthy way of



Please email or call Valerie Weber at [valerie.weber@heart.org](mailto:valerie.weber@heart.org) or 330-396-5808 to sign up for ONE of THREE training options listed below:

- March 9th – 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
- March 16th – 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- March 30th – 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Trainings will be held at:  
The Summa Center for Health Equity  
1493 S Hawkins Ave, Akron, OH 44320

Locally Sponsored by Summa Health.

eating is powerfully nutritious and delicious, and naturally meets the guidelines experts recommend for supporting good health.

[Learn More...](#)

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## Save the Date | April 2020

### CHECK. CHANGE. CONTROL.

During minority health month in April, the [American Heart Association](#) is hosting FREE blood pressure screenings and education throughout the community in local barber and beauty shops!

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