



The National Black Church Initiative (NBCI), a coalition of 150,000 African American and Latino Churches constituting 27.7 members, works to eradicate racial disparities in healthcare, technology, education, housing, and the environment. The mission of NBCI is to provide critical wellness information to all of its members and the public. NBCI offers faith-based, out-of-the-box, cutting-edge solutions to address economic and social issues. NBCI partners with relevant organizations and officials whose overall mission is to reduce racial, social and economic disparities. Innovative solutions are supported by statistical analyses and research-based strategies methods that have demonstrated impactful outcomes Visit our website at <https://www.naltblackchurch.com/>

ABOUT REVEREND ANTHONY EVANS, NBCI PRESIDENT...



Originally from Savannah, Georgia, an advocate for justice, at an early age, while as a student in Vermont, Reverend Evans mobilized local colleges to raise over \$15,000 to help fund the investigation of the Atlanta child killings in the early eighties. After which, Reverend Evans earned a Bachelor's degree in Religion in 1981 from Middlebury College in Vermont. He was ordained in 1982 and went on to earn a Master's of Divinity in 1988 from Howard University School of Divinity. Shortly after earning his Masters, Reverend Evans became President of the National Black Church Initiative (NBCI) in 1992 and for the past twenty-five years he has devoted his expertise to leading the organization, working tirelessly on social and economic justice issues facing the black faith community.

Under Reverend Evans' leadership, NBCI has brought together a coalition of 150,000 churches from across the country, including over 15.7 million African Americans who join together to fight against health disparities, promote financial literacy, protect babies from abuse and neglect, and help preserve the environment. Reverend Evans remains a tireless advocate of the African American community, and is determined to preserve the moral authority of the

black church's voice. Reverend Evans has provided expertise and guidance related to health disparities in all stages of planning and project implementation to ensure cultural sensitivity of project materials and to support participation and engagement of African American and other minority families. He serves as a liaison with the Black Churches at all four recruitment areas and helps to identify churches and facilitate recruitment of community service providers at these churches. Reverend Evans has assisted in program evaluation to improve community uptake, and manuscript preparation to disseminate research findings.

With an extensive background in public policy and social activism, Reverend Evans has the experienced needed to effect public health improvements in the African American community. In 2005, in the wake of Hurricane Katrina, Reverend Evans and the NBCI mobilized over 15,000 volunteers to serve in the disaster relief effort. These volunteers came from NBCI member and sister churches and from many ethnic backgrounds. Reverend Evans has also engaged in an interfaith and interracial approach to solving social problems. In 2010, Reverend Evans organized a group of young hip hop artists and traditional black church leaders to launch an intensive initiative to aid Haiti and Haitians in the aftermath of that year's devastating earthquake. He committed NBCI for seven years to work through Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention to aid in the reconstruction of Haiti, especially in the areas of housing, parenthood, economic development and civil society.

To date, Reverence Evans is launching three significant programs that will affect millions of African American and Latinos over the next seven years to include the following: NBCI's Health Emergency Declaration; NBCI's Financial Literacy Initiative; and NBCI's Educational Initiative. In addition, NBCI has formed a partnerships with Autism Speaks and with the Autism Institute at Florida State University to reduce the average age of autism diagnosis and increase access to quality early intervention in African American communities. The work of NBCI has also resulted in the creation of a health model for the black churches called the Health Emergency Declaration (HED), which will inform and serve as infrastructure for a major collaborative research initiative of Dr. Amy Wetherby as funded by the National Institutes of Health. Another initiative, NBCI's Health Emergency Declaration (HED), is a comprehensive seven-year approach to tackling the tragic state of health in the black community. Through the establishment of 35 health prevention communities, NBCI and the HED plans to educate communities across the country and promote preventive healthcare. Because of NBCI's leading role in the black community, HED will have a greater and more lasting impact on the African American community and significantly help decrease the health disparities that plague it. HED is a science-based health model that works within the traditional function of the black church. It promotes

education, screening, data collection, clinical trials, and conducts health surveys throughout its 35 health communities. The foci of the HED include cardiovascular disease, respiratory disease, arthritis, HIV/AIDS, cancer, diabetes, mental health, and addiction.

Thus, Reverend Anthony Evans has spent the duration of his life fighting tirelessly to reduce health disparities, foreclosure, homelessness, and intra-racial violence as well as promoted financial literacy and environmental and social justice across the United States. More information about NBCI can be found at <https://naltblackchurch.com/>.