



## Press Release

### The Caribbean & African Targeted Health Improvement Programme (CATHIP)

As a direct response to the pandemic six Caribbean and African organisations from; Manchester, Leeds, Sheffield, Birmingham and North and South London have come together in a two-year partnership supported by the National Lottery, to drive forward a unique collective approach in health care, with the objective of raising awareness and improving health outcomes in Caribbean and African communities across Britain.

The Caribbean & African Targeted Health Improvement Programme (CATHIP) will bring together black doctors, consultants, nurses and other clinicians from across the country, alongside leaders from the Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise sector, in a series of dynamic online “Health Hour” presentations, via Zoom, YouTube and Facebook at 11am – 12.15 noon each Saturday afternoon.

The interactive Health Hour will impart, practical knowledge, self-management and preventative measures on key health issues that impact black communities such as; Respiratory conditions, Mental and Emotional Health, Reproductive and Sexual Health, Blood, Blood born Immunological Conditions, Cardiovascular Diseases and Cancer.

At the end of each Health Hour a Q&A session will take place along with one-to-one opportunities to speak with the Doctor/Consultant or other clinicians.

In Manchester the Caribbean African Health Network (CAHN) reached over a million people in May of 2020 with their online health initiatives

Charles Kwaku-Odoi, Chief Executive, Caribbean African Health Network (CAHN) who spearheads this new programme said;

*“We have witnessed first-hand throughout 2020 the impact the information provided via our online Health Hour can have in the lives of our participants. Our vision is to end health disparities for Caribbean & African communities in a generation. This programme assists us broaden our reach; hence we have brought partners together who share our vision to achieve this. We are grateful to the National Lottery for helping us realise our dream.”*

The partnership includes trusted organisations the Caribbean African Health Network, (Manchester) Black Health Initiative, (Yorkshire and Humber), The Royal Assembly Redeemed Christian Church of God (Sheffield) RAFFA International Development Agency (COGP)(Birmingham/National) Croydon BME Forum (South London) and Enfield Caribbean Association (North London)



Speaking on behalf of the partners .....said

***Andrew Brown, CEO of Croydon BME Forum said “I am really happy to be working with the Caribbean and African Health Network, through the CATHIP partnership. It’s a perfect brand-new partnership for Croydon BME Forum because it brings organisations across the UK together. This will enhance our current projects and continue the amazing work we are doing for the BAME community in Croydon.***

***We look forward to welcoming all the organisations on the new Caribbean and African Health Improvement Programme partnership.”***

More and more people have consultations with their doctors and clinicians over the phone or by zoom and skype. The ongoing digitalisation of services through the pandemic has enabled us to see things in a new light, more and more individuals can be made reachable but need support to participate fully and benefit from the expertise we will share.

If you’re interested in having your community members of Caribbean & African decent benefit from our programme or believe you can contribute in any way, please feel free to be in touch.

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## **PRESS PACK**

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