



Healthy
Churches
2020

National
Conference November 15-18, 2016

A NATIONAL, MULTI-PLATFORM INITIATIVE Engaging Faith Institutions to Help Eliminate Health Disparities Affecting African-Americans

The Balm In Gilead Announces the 3rd Annual Healthy Churches 2020 National Conference

RICHMOND, Va. (May 3, 2016) – The Balm In Gilead, Inc. is proud to announce the **3rd Annual Healthy Churches 2020 National Conference**. The conference will be held November 15-18, 2016 in Charlotte, NC. This 3-day national, capacity building, training conference brings the nation’s prominent public health and faith leaders together to address the alarming rates of health disparities among African Americans. The early bird special registration fee is through May 31.

“The Balm In Gilead is excited to host the 3rd Annual Healthy Churches 2020 National Conference, once again, in Charlotte, NC this year,” comments Dr. Pernessa Seele, Founder and CEO of The Balm In Gilead, Inc. “The high rates of diabetes, Alzheimer’s, HIV, cardiovascular and other chronic diseases mandates the coming together of faith, science, public health and technology, to find solutions, as well as, highlight best practices to understanding models of disease prevention & management; screening and service delivery as it specifically relates to African Americans”.

The conference is designed to strengthen the skills and leadership capacity of pastors and persons who are responsible for the Health Ministry, Annual Health Fair, Kitchen Ministry, Nurses Ministry, Men and Women’s Ministry and all aspects of health and compassion within the congregation and community.

“The Balm In Gilead, with over 27 years of addressing health disparities within African American and African communities, continues to be committed to finding innovative approaches to improving the health of African Americans. The 2016 Healthy Churches 2020 National Conference provides an opportunity to network and learn from influencers who are making a difference in the faith and health industries”, further states, Seele. 2016 conference sessions will include how to establish a theological and biblical frame work for a successful health ministry; how to develop work plans and community partnerships; how to design and implement successful community mapping; and design evaluation protocols; grant writing and more.

In recent years, the conference has drawn over 400 attendees from across the nation and has featured well-renowned speakers, which include: James R. Gavin III, M.D., CEO, Healing Our Village, Atlanta, GA; Rev. James A. Forbes, Jr., PhD of Union Theological Seminary and Bishop Marvin L. Winans, Senior Pastor, The Perfecting Church, Detroit, MI. For registration, sponsorship opportunities and other information, please visit: www.healthychurches2020.org.

***About The Balm In Gilead, Inc:** The Balm In Gilead develops educational and training programs specifically designed to meet the unique needs of African American and African congregations that strive to become community centers for health education and disease prevention. The Balm In Gilead is known for its insightful understanding of religious cultures and values and extraordinary ability to build strong, trusted partnerships with faith communities. The Balm In Gilead has been entrusted to build the capacity of national faith structures to utilize their existing relationships to deliver comprehensive health services. For more information, please visit: www.balmingilead.org.*

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Produced by The Balm In Gilead, Inc.