**Central Texas African American Family Support Conference**

Program Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, September 10, 2019

Time: 10am -12pm

Location: Conference Room 3, 1430 Collier St, Austin, TX 78704

In Person: Lady Jane Acquah, Stephany Bryan, Shannon Carr, Vicky Coffee, Marisol Fray, Felicia Mason Edwards, Ellen Richards, Lisa Quinn

On Phone: Edwin Evans, Sonya Hosey, Gerald Pennie, Robin Peyson

1. **Welcome, Introductions & Announcements:** Members introduced and welcomes themselves.
2. **Review Information from the last meeting:** Several minor changes were made to the minutes. Call for Papers and Call for Poster sessions are both live on the conference website.
3. Keynote Speaker Discussion: Keynote speakers will be King Davis and Altha Stewart. Dr. Davis has confirmed and can be in attendance on either day of the conference. Committee will reach out to Dr. Stewart to confirm attendance and begin contract process. Special guest speaker for closing day of conference was discussed. Someone with lived experience who can keep the audience engaged while providing hope is being sought. There is $20k to work with for the speaker (plus approximately $2k additional for travel arrangements) as Integral Care has provided an additional $10k to help celebrate the 20th anniversary of the conference. Two main candidates are two candidates are actress Jennifer Lewis and gospel singer Le’Andria Johnson. Additional speaker suggestions include: Kurt Franklin (currently on tour), Fred Hammond (availability unknown), Taraji Henson (too expensive), Tiffany Haddish (too expensive). Members discussed possible opportunities for additional engagement by the speaker, including attendance at the 4BHN reception and selling $15 tickets just for the speaker portion of the conference. Pros and cons of a more well known speaker were discussed. Main focus of the speaker will be to draw a large audience, build and keep momentum, give perspective, and get the word out that help is available. Committee members will contact Riders Against the Storm about a 20-30 minute singing session during the lunch hour.
4. Program Overview: Committee discussed the idea on getting proclamations about the conference from the city, county and Governor. Ellen Richards will contact Texas Representative Sheryl Cole about a proclamation and will work on Integral Care contacting Courtney Phillips, Executive Commissioner of Texas Health and Human Services. Reception hosted by Austin Area African American Behavioral Health Network will be a Palmer Event Center. Sonya Hosey will monitor progress on the draft program and share with members.
5. Other Business Items: There was no other business to discuss.

**Follow-up Items from September Meeting**

Committee members will contact Riders Against the Storm about a 20-30 minute singing session during the lunch hour.

Ellen Richards will contact Texas Representative Sheryl Cole about a proclamation and will work on Integral Care contacting Courtney Phillips, Executive Commissioner of Texas Health and Human Services.

Sonya Hosey will monitor progress on the draft program and share with members.