

Champion Alliance Program Partner Updates

Pastor Kevin Brown

Pastors Working Together

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- ❑ Pastors Working Together (PWT) was established in 2014.
- ❑ Initially formed in response to Prop 47, PWT has organized 53 African-American churches throughout Northern California.
- ❑ PWT provides a space for faith leaders to collaborate, strategize, and align on issues that directly impact the communities we serve.
- ❑ With our church partners, PWT developed a roadmap of shared interests, that include:
 - Reducing African-American child deaths
 - Re-entry
 - Workforce development
 - Mentoring/leadership development
 - Housing
 - SLE Sober Living Environment
 - Health Disparities/Education

Progress & Impact

- ❑ Project Goal: Recruit and train five Champion Pastors responsible for reaching the African-American community.
- ❑ The five Champion Pastors have used their influence to recruit five additional Champions.
- ❑ Partnerships: In addition, we have partnered with other organizations such as Wellspace Health, Strategies for Change, and Humanity House.
- ❑ In July, Champion Pastors launched “Health Sabbath” to kick off our Champions for Change program, and reached more than 300 African-American parishioners.
- ❑ Champions have conducted eight outreach events reaching more than 200 African Americans.

Challenges & Solutions

Challenges:

- ❑ Apathy within the African-American community.
- ❑ African-American focus is often on daily survival and not health.

Solutions:

- ❑ Used faith-based leaders to serve as a trusted voice of health education and information.
- ❑ African-American Champions targeted low-income communities to disseminate key health messages.

Cultural Insights

- ❑ In the African-American community, Pastors historically have served in positions of influence. Their role is vital to the overall success of programs that focus on the needs of black people.
- ❑ When working in marginalized communities, there must be trusting relationships established between Pastors and residents in order to strengthen community projects.

Our Champions



Rev. Dr. Carieta Cain Grizzell



“Healthy eating is all-inclusive and is necessary for life. Making healthy changes should be a priority”