

COVID-19 COVERAGE

IN BLACK AMERICA

Tanu Henry, Managing Editor of California Black Media

Get Ahead of the Game: Actress Wendy Raquel Robinson tells Californians 'Be ready for emergencies'

Updated: Sep 14

Tanu Henry | California Black Media

Through all the chaos of the COVID-19 crisis, Wendy Raquel Robinson says she has managed to hold it all together. The actress, known for her roles in several films and television shows, says she has several reasons to be grateful, too.

“The cost of unequal healthcare is measured in human life.”

- Dr. Stephen Lockhart, African American Chief Medical Officer, Sutter Health

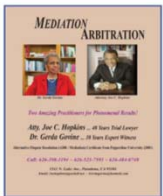


FARHAD BABAEI/MAGNUS NEWS/SIPA/NEWS.COM

Black COVID-19 Patients in California Hospitalized 2.7 More Times That Whites

By Tanu Henry | California Black Media

The cost of unequal healthcare is measured in human life, says Dr. Stephen Lockhart, the African American chief medical officer at Sutter Health, a non-profit healthcare network with 24 hospitals located across Northern California. Lockhart made this chilling observation while talking about the growing body of evidence that is confirming that more minorities and disadvantaged people are getting infected, being hospitalized and dying from COVID-19 than White, middle class and wealthier Americans.



#NNPA BLACKPRESS

Bill Meant to Force Food Delivery Apps to Get Restaurants' Approval First

Published 1 month ago on August 25, 2020
By Tanu Henry | California Black Media

SEARCH POST NEWS GROUP

Jonathan Burgess co-owns Burgess Brothers with his twin brother Matthew. It is a popular American bistro-slash-barbecue restaurant and food supply company based in Sacramento. Locals treasure them for their delicious waffles; handcrafted gourmet barbecue sauce; sweet and spicy smoked sausages; among other specialties.

The African American entrepreneur says small family-owned businesses like his are tempted by what digital food delivery services might offer them: A broader customer base and online advertising on highly trafficked apps.

But that exposure comes with a crippling cost.

“There’s only like a very thin 5% profit margin for most small restaurants. It’s simple math. If you give Uber, Doordash or one of the others a nice chunk of that, it just doesn’t work out for you.”

Burgess says food delivery services should offer special rates for mom and pop shops that are lower than what they charge chain restaurants. Those corporation-owned eateries typically buy their ingredients wholesale at much lower costs and they can make up for losses on delivery fees by what they make in volume.

BAY AREA

Black COVID-19 Patients in California Hospitalized 2.7 More Times Than Whites, Report Says

Published 4 months ago on June 4, 2020
By Tanu Henry

SEARCH POST NEWS GROUP

CHECK OUT THE LATEST

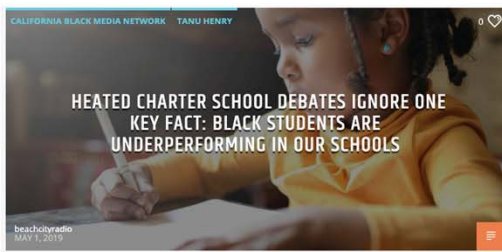


Dr. Stephen Lockhart

The cost of unequal healthcare is measured in human life, says Dr. Stephen Lockhart, the African American chief medical officer at Sutter Health, a non-profit healthcare network centered in Sacramento that serves 3 million people in 24 hospitals located across Northern California.

Lockhart made this chilling observation while talking about the growing body of evidence that is confirming that more minorities and disadvantaged people are getting infected, being hospitalized and dying from COVID-19 than white, middle class and wealthier Americans.

“The COVID-19 pandemic has ripped a Band-Aid off of the structural inequities that exist within our society. We must address these disparities right away,” Lockhart said, adding “We have a moral obligation to do so.”



By Tanu Henry | California Black Media African-American children are California's lowest performing group of students, only above students with special needs. Only 2 percent of Black kids in the state attend schools that are considered "high performing." And only 10 majority African-American schools, located mostly in hard-to-count, high-poverty census tracts around the Bay Area [...]



Tanu Henry | California Black Media "It's been like tons, or gallons of alcohol being thrown on the open wounds of inequality and racism in this country. And as we think about how to recover, we're going to have to think about how to make sure that we don't go back to where we were [...]"



Tanu Henry, California Black Media On July 25, the federal government's Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) program ended for most states, leaving millions of Californians without the extra cash many of them had been relying on for months to make ends meet. The \$600 extra in federal stimulus pay was added cushion to the amount states [...]



By Tanu Henry | California Black Media In February, Gov. Newsom asked Tony Thurmond, Superintendent of Public Instruction, to set up a task force charged with looking at the impact public charter school funding has on district-run public school finances. The team submitted its report to the governor last week. The 10-page document is expected [...]



Tanu Henry | California Black Media On Monday, the full California state Senate confirmed the appointments of two African Americans who have already stepped into top jobs at departments critical to the smooth operation of the state. Yolanda Richardson and Adetokunbo "Toks" Omishakin, are officially assuming their roles as state government executives in Sacramento at a time when the state is implementing deep cuts to its fiscal year 2020-21 budget in response to the global COVID-19 crisis. [...]



Getting Creative to Survive: Barbers and Beauticians Share COVID-19 Stories

Apr 1, 2020 | Community

Chida Rebecca and Tanu Henry | *California Black Media*

Across the country, barbers and hairstylists are feeling the effects of COVID-19. In the Black community, the impact is more severe.

Black-owned salons and barbershops have always served as a hub for men and women to congregate and catch up on the latest news, gossip and overall happenings within the community.

These “meeting places” of sorts have also proven to be extremely profitable for its owners; but, per executive orders from Gov.Gavin Newsom, all non-essential businesses in California have been forced into temporary closure, among them, barbershops, beauty salons, nail technician shops and other cosmetology centers.



Gov. Taps Diverse Group for COVID-19 Recovery Task Force

Apr 22, 2020 | Community

Tanu Henry | *California Black Media*

“It’s been like tons, or gallons of alcohol being thrown on the open wounds of inequality and racism in this country. And as we think about how to recover, we’re going to have to think about how to make sure that we don’t go back to where we were before,” said Angela Glover Blackwell, an African-American author and policy specialist based in Oakland.

Blackwell is the founder and president of the non-profit PolicyLink, a research institute and social action organization that advances racial and economic equity, according to the group’s website.

“It was unacceptable then and it will be unacceptable going forward,” Blackwell continued, pointing out the “painful” economic and health disparities the COVID-19 pandemic has laid bare across the United States and here in California.



“In Spirit of Lord’s Prayer,” Black Churches, Non Profits Ask For Mortgage Help

Mar 23, 2020 | BVN Contributors, Covid-19

Tanu Henry | California Black Media

Hit by loss of income due to the Coronavirus pandemic, African-American churches across California are asking state leaders and the federal government for help to pay their mortgages.

“National Christian leaders are coming together across denominational, theological and affiliation lines, in the spirit of the Lord’s Prayer, with this plea: “make them one” to strategize for the plight of hundreds to thousands of small to medium size congregations nationwide which are in danger of financial distress triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic,” says the Rev. Bishop Kenneth Ulmer, the pastor of Faithful Central Bible Church in Inglewood.

Even before Gov. Newsom placed a stay-at-home order on the state’s estimated 40 million residents Thursday, attendance at Black churches across the state had begun to decline.

Some Black church leaders say their revenues have dipped by an average between 40 and 50 percent.

“Some Black church leaders say their revenues have dipped by an average between 40 and 50 percent.”

The Smallest Black Small Businesses May Now Benefit From California's \$50M COVID-19 Fund If They Can't Get Fed Help

April 9, 2020 by CBM Newswire

Follow Like 0 Tweet Share Save



(CBM) – Last Thursday afternoon, Gov. Newsom announced a new \$50 million emergency California micro-loan program targeting the smallest, most vulnerable corporations among the state's small businesses.

The taxpayer-funded program will benefit California companies with 750 employees or less, according to the program's website.

Gov. Newsom said the state set up the Small Business Loan Guarantee program, which falls under the California Infrastructure and Economic

Development Bank (IBank), to help prop up smaller firms suffering losses due to the COVID-19 global pandemic. Businesses that benefit from California's program would be firms that do not qualify for the \$349 billion the federal government plans to dole out to small businesses in forgivable loans across the country.

“George Floyd should be alive today.”

- Assemblymember Shirley Weber, D-San Diego, Chair of the CLBC

Mourning and Mayhem: California Reacts to the Brutal Killing of George Floyd

June 1, 2020 by CBM Newswire

Follow Like 0 Tweet Share Save



Protestors and pastors across California as well as angered citizens and politicians — including Gov. Gavin Newsom — have all responded to the violent death of an unarmed Black man in Minnesota.

George Floyd, 46, died in police custody after a White officer, Derek Chauvin, kneeled on his neck for nearly eight minutes during an arrest in Minneapolis on May 25. The cellphone video of the brutal killing has been shared tens of millions of times around the world. In it, Floyd can be heard pleading for help and letting the officers know that he was suffocating.

"I can't breathe," Floyd cries out to the cops. He also called out for his mama.

The California Legislative Black Caucus (CLBC) issued a statement after Floyd's death.

"There were other officers who could have helped him but did not," read the CLBC statement. "They instead preferred to stand by and watch as their colleague killed an unarmed man. There were bystanders who wanted to help him but could not because of the uniforms, guns and badges that stood in the way"

Assemblymember Shirley Weber (D-San Diego), the chair of the CLBC, also took to Twitter to express her grief, horror and support for the victim's family.

"George Floyd should be alive today," Weber tweeted. The members of CLBC, she told her followers, "stand with his family, the people of Minneapolis, and those speaking out in the name of justice."

Over \$11 Billion in Stimulus Money for California: 8 Things You Should Know

Mar 28, 2020



Exclusive to San Diego Voice & Viewpoint

By Tanu Henry | California Black Media

The federal government has approved \$2 trillion dollars as well to aid states in their efforts to respond to the COVID-19 crisis. The money will help people, businesses and non-profits impacted; and to pay for government programs related to the pandemic.

Two weeks ago, after Gov. Newsom issued a state of emergency in California, the legislature wrote a \$1 billion blank check to the state, giving it broad authority to spend the money "for any purpose" related to the Coronavirus crisis.

"The money will help people, businesses and non-profits impacted; and to pay for government programs related to the pandemic."



Tanu Henry, Managing Editor
California Black Media
tanu@calblackmedia.org