

BLACK HEALTH EQUITY FUND

FISCAL YEAR 1 INTERIM REPORT



Prepared by:

Dr. Amber Johnson

Aden Tefera

Chelsea Okundolor

Noemi Mendez

Victoria A. Davis

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	3
NUMBERS AT A GLANCE	4
INCREASE ACCESS TO MENTAL HEALTH CARE.....	5
HEALTH TRAINING.....	6
OPPORTUNITIES.....	6
BLACK HEALTH EQUITY INTERNSHIP.....	6
COVID-19 VIRTUAL TRAINING	7
COVID MITIGATION SUPPLIES	8
COVID-19 CARE PACKAGE DELIVERY.....	8
HEALTH EDUCATION AND OUTREACH	9
COVID-19 HEALTH EDUCATION AND OUTREACH SERVICES.....	9
COVID-19 HEALTHY LIVING RESOURCE GUIDE	10
VIRTUAL TOWNHALLS.....	11
BLACK COMMUNITY HEALTH AND.....	12
VACCINE FAIR.....	12
DIRECT RELIEF FOR NONPROFITS AND MICROBUSINESSES	14
LESSONS LEARNED.....	15
MENTAL HEALTH PROVIDER AWARDEES.....	15
DIRECT SERVICES AWARDEES	15
LOOKING TOWARD SUSTAINABILITY.....	17
APPENDIX A: PROGRAM STATUS UPDATES AT BHEF CARES ACT CLOSING	18
APPENDIX B: PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION AND RESOLUTION	23
APPENDIX C: PROPOSED CHANGES.....	26
APPENDIX D: ACCOMPLISHMENTS & HIGHLIGHTS	28
APPENDIX E: CLIENT AND PARTICIPANT SUCCESS STORIES.....	30

INTRODUCTION

Historically, the health status of Black populations has been significantly worse than Whites and other racial/ethnic subgroups. Black/White health disparities, specifically, have grown or remained consistent over the past 100 years. For example, though cardiovascular disease rates among Blacks and Whites were similar in 1950, by the year 2000, rates of cardiovascular disease were 30% higher for Black populations. This history of cardiovascular disease disparities is also apparent in Long Beach. In 2013-2015, the rate of hospitalization for Black Long Beach residents was 11.9 per 10,000 compared to the overall city's rate of 5.8 and double all other race/ethnicity subgroups.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, a Citywide public health response was implemented to detect, trace, and mitigate cases of COVID-19 among Long Beach residents. This was supplemented by an educational campaign to disseminate current COVID-19 prevention strategies to reduce the transmission of COVID-19 in Long Beach. At this time, it was identified that Long Beach Black residents suffered disproportionately from COVID-19. While Black residents accounted for 13% of the population, they account for about 14% of hospitalizations and 20% COVID-19-related deaths. Underlying health conditions and unequal access to testing and treatment exacerbated COVID-19 complications leading to higher severity of illness. For instance, Black Long Beach residents are nine times more likely to be hospitalized for asthma and seven times more likely to be hospitalized for hypertension compared to White Long Beach residents.

Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, coupled with systemic anti-Black racism, the need for mitigation efforts in the Long Beach Black community demonstrated urgency. This need will continue to grow, without mitigation, during future disasters or public health crises. Therefore, efforts to develop culturally tailored strategies to address COVID-19 disparities in Black communities were developed through the support of the Black Health Equity Fund.

BLACK HEALTH EQUITY FUND **FOCUS AREAS**

1. Mental Health Care
 2. Health Training Opportunities
 3. COVID Mitigation Supplies
 4. Health Education and Outreach
 5. Direct Relief for Nonprofits/Microbusinesses
-

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

DIRECT SERVICES	
Total Community Impact	
Overall Residents Served	14,105
Virtual COVID Health Trainings	167
Residents Receiving Health Education/Outreach	3,586
Healthy Resource Guides Distributed	7,240
COVID-19 Care Packages	3,155
Agencies/ Businesses served	66
Social Media Impressions	89,428
Social Media Post Interactions	24,449
Race	
African	115
African-American	11,415
Afro-Caribbean	71
Afro-Latinx	130
Other	2,930
Two or more races	301
Age	
Under 18	691
18-29	750
30-49	1,674
50-64	1,324
65-79	979
80+	145
Zipcodes	
90802	378
90803	144
90804	5147
90805	16,864*
90806	6,826
90807	5,264
90808	158
90810	4,237
90813	8,551*
90814	99
90815	85
Fill in	802

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES	
Total Community Impact	
Initial Assessment and Care Plan	118
# of Links/ referrals	39
Completed 7 sessions	73
Social Media Impressions	-
Social Media Post Interactions	-
Race	
African	17
African-American	125
Afro-Caribbean	6
Afro-Latinx	12
Other	5
Two or more races	-
Age	
Under 18	36
18-29	44
30-49	64
50-64	23
65-79	6
80+	-
Zipcodes	
90802	7
90803	8
90804	27
90805	23
90806	22
90807	31
90808	16
90810	10
90813	14
90814	4
90815	9
Fill in	2

*Number considers geotagged social media impressions

INCREASE ACCESS TO MENTAL HEALTH CARE

The COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent economic crisis and socio-political unrest have impacted the Black community significantly. Additionally, COVID-19 has disrupted lives across the life span in Long Beach by closing schools, prohibiting social interactions, and eliminating jobs. The constant uncertainty, racial trauma, and anxiety have a profound psychological effect on the Black community and that psychological stress, in turn, leads to physical health problems. BHEF funded 3 mental health organizations to provide no-cost psychotherapy treatment to uninsured and underinsured Long Beach Black residents in need of mental health support. These clinicians demonstrated capacity and expertise in working with the Black community. Cost estimate per provider included funds to cover enrolled clients to undergo at least seven 60-minute psychotherapy sessions per client (including initial assessment).

OUTCOMES

The awarded mental health organizations provided psychotherapy treatment to Black Long Beach residents from November 2020 to April 2021. In this time, a total of 231 individuals were served; this total includes family members as well as group sessions that took place towards the latter portion of the service window. A total of 73 clients completed the full seven 60-minute sessions.

Demographic data revealed that these organizations serviced Black clients ranging from under 18 to 79 years old. Additionally, they were able to provide psychotherapy treatment to multiple ethnicities within the African Diaspora (African, African American, Afro-Caribbean, and Afro-Latinx). Further broadening the span of reach, mental health providers were able to provide support to individuals from 11 Long Beach zip codes (90802, 90803, 90804, 90805, 90806, 90807, 90808, 90810, 90813, 90814, 90815), along with two other outside zip codes. Most clients served were from 90807 (31), 90804 (27), and 90805 (23).

AWARDED AGENCIES



Dr. Sandra Hardy
Center for Best Living



Ms. Ginger Lavender Wilkerson
Ginger Lavender Therapy



Ms. Robbin Beohourou
Compassionate Counseling

HEALTH TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Health training opportunities were provided for CSULB undergraduate and graduate students, as well as for Black serving organizations. Students enhanced their professional development within the areas of grants management, public health, and epidemiology in response to the COVID-19 impact on Black communities. To provide a culturally relevant response for the Black community in Long Beach, one organization was awarded to train Black serving organizations on culturally relevant COVID-19 health education.

BLACK HEALTH EQUITY INTERNSHIP

As part of their efforts in the development and sustainment of the Black Health Equity Collaborative in Long Beach, CSULB established an internship opportunity to train the next generation of community health professionals. The internship welcomed both undergraduate and graduate students from all majors with a strong interest in improving health equity within the Black community. Students who were eligible to apply demonstrated a basic understanding of community health, interpreting health data, and developing and implementing communication strategies with key stakeholders. The internship required a year-long commitment and students be available to work 12 hours per week. The goal of the internship was to offer students the opportunity to gain real-world experience in community health, collaborate with a team, learn strategies to advance Black health equity, and provide a space that promotes personal and professional development.

OUTCOMES



Four Black Health Equity interns received training in the following areas:

- Performing community health research and assessment
- Disseminating health information to community stakeholders with the City of Long Beach and community stakeholders
- Monitoring the progress of Black Health Equity Fund awardees
- Black Health Equity Fund Evaluation and Presentations.
- Health Education Event Planning and Coordination.

COVID-19 VIRTUAL TRAINING

Advantage Health Now was awarded to provide culturally tailored training, utilizing COVID-19 or infectious disease subject-matter experts, to enhance COVID-19 related education and outreach efforts to Black-serving organizations.

OUTCOMES

COVID-19 Virtual Training was distributed to a total of 167 individuals. During the virtual training, the majority of the individuals served were African Americans with a total of 150 participants. Including, Afro-Latinx (10), other (3), individuals with two or more races (4). In addition, the majority of the participants joined from several zip code areas, for instance, 90802, 90803, 90804, 90805, 90806, 90807, 90808, 90810, 90813, 90814, and 90815. As result, the most common selected participants were from 90802 (25), 90803 (36), 90806 (12), and 90814 (19). In this case, Advantage Health Now was able to conduct successful Virtual COVID-19 trainings to enhance Black health.



Participant Testimonial: *“I wanted to follow you both and thank you for such an outstanding presentation last night. The information that you both provided to our families was very timely. You were able to clear up many inconsistencies regarding COVID as well as the various vaccines available for our families. I am certain that if we had families that began the meeting on the fence about the vaccine, have since altered their thinking and were probably hustling last night and this morning to find a place to be vaccinated. These are very uncertain times that we are living in however your presentation cleared some of the uncertainty that many of our families have about this COVID epidemic”*

COVID MITIGATION SUPPLIES

Culturally tailored COVID-19 care packages were designed to meet the needs of Long Beach Black residents at risk of COVID-19 infection (e.g., older adults, those with pre-existing conditions). COVID-19 care packages were developed with the specific emphasis on Black residents who are experiencing homelessness, who are low income, older Black adults, or Black youth.

COVID-19 CARE PACKAGE DELIVERY

Eight Black-serving nonprofit organizations and for-profit small businesses were awarded to conduct activities to coordinate and disseminate COVID-19 care packages to Long Beach Black residents.

COVID-19 care packages included hand soap, hand sanitizer, gloves, toothpaste, toothbrushes, face coverings, thermometers, disinfectant wipes, gift cards for groceries, and nutritional support.

OUTCOMES

The awardees distributed COVID-19 care packages to Black Long Beach residents at risk of COVID-19 infection from January to April 2021. During this time, a total of 2,162 individuals were served. The demographic data reveals that African, Afro-Caribbean, Afro-Latinx, and other races with African American residents receiving the majority of the COVID care packages. A majority of the individuals ranged in age from under 18 and 30-49. The awardees were able to distribute care packages to individuals from various zip codes within Long Beach including 90802, 90803, 90804, 90805, 90806, 90807, 90808, 90810, 90813, and 90814 with the most common zip codes being 90805(203), 90807(360), and 90813(469).

AWARDED ORGANIZATIONS

Agape Children's Museum

Colorband Shoes

Craft and Light Creative Arts Studio

Earthlodge Center for Transformation

Parker Interactive

Project Optimism

The Swazi Shop

The Salt Lounge



HEALTH EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

The Black Health Equity Fund developed multi-pronged culturally tailored strategies for health education and outreach among Black community members in Long Beach. Health education and outreach strategies included delivering COVID-19 education materials through mail, zoom, and social media, development of a culturally tailored COVID-19 resource guide with accompanying videos, Black Health Equity Townhalls, and Black Health Fair and Vaccine Clinic.

COVID-19 HEALTH EDUCATION AND OUTREACH SERVICES

Grants were awarded to 7 organizations to conduct health education and outreach on how to mitigate the risk, transmission, and spread of COVID-19 among Long Beach Black community residents. Examples of health education and outreach services include posting on social media platforms, mailing COVID-19 education materials, providing COVID-related education within the organization. Funded agencies were required to complete the BHE COVID Virtual Training.

AWARDED ORGANIZATIONS

African American Cultural Center of
Long Beach

Speak Up Empowerment

Project Optimism

Ronnie's House

The G.R.E.E.N. Foundation

Clarissa Manuel Foundation

Sullivan International

OUTCOMES

The awardees distributed Health Education and Outreach Services to a total of 3,586 participants. Most of the participants that engaged in the services ranged from 30-49 (190), 50-64 (745), 65-79 (335). In addition, many individuals also participated in the Outreach Services from a wide spectrum of ages, including individuals under 18 (38), 18-29 (115), and 80 (9). During the Outreach Services, the majority of the individuals served predominately African Americans with a total of 1,423 participants and Other of 1,935 participants. Many other ethnic backgrounds join the services as well, including, Africans (21), Afro-Caribbean (37), Afro-Latinx (64), and individuals with two or more races (114). In addition, the Outreach

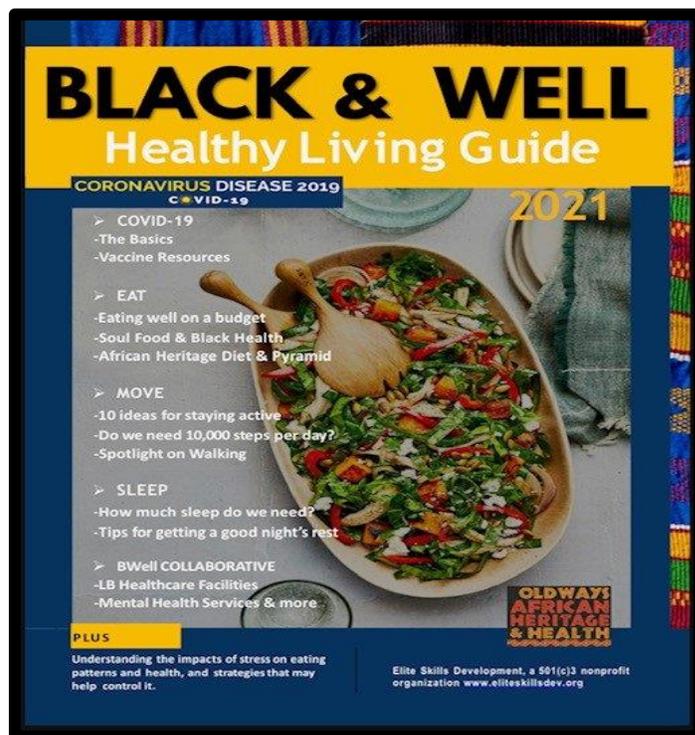
Services also included various zip codes within Long Beach including, 90802 (95), 90803 (114), 90804 (4,893), 90806 (6,193), 90807 (4,493), 90808 (55), 90810 (3,678), 90814 (35) and 90815 (13). In this case, the most common participants were from 90805 (15,374) and 90813 (6,849). As result, the Health Education and Outreach Services were successful in providing COVID-related education within the organization to Long Beach residents.

COVID-19 HEALTHY LIVING RESOURCE GUIDE

One grant was awarded to Elite Skills Development to develop a digital and hard copy “COVID-19 and Healthy Living Resource Guide” and accompanying videos that provide culturally tailored information to mitigate the risk, transmission, and spread of COVID-19 to Long Beach Black residents.

OUTCOMES

COVID-19 and Healthy Living Resource Guides were distributed to a total of 6,420 individuals. The majority of the individuals were from age ranges 30-49 and 65-79 and predominantly of African American ethnic background. Individuals who received the resource guides were from 11 Long Beach zip codes (90802, 90803, 90804, 90805, 90806, 90807, 90808, 90810, 90813, 90814, 90815) and some were from other zip codes. Most of the individuals served were from zip codes 90813 (975), 90805 (882), and 90807 (335). Elite Skills Development was able to distribute resource guides and serve a total of 40 agencies and businesses.



**How To Wear Your Masks
for Kids Video**



Healthy Cooking Video

VIRTUAL TOWNHALLS

The BHE Townhalls were launched to showcase the health equity efforts made by all the BHE fund awardees. They provided discussion around health topics related to the Black community and invited various awardees to highlight their unique efforts funded by the grant. They were also designed to provide BHEF transparency to the Black community in Long Beach.

OUTCOMES

“COVID-19 vaccine and BHEF Mental Health”

Total Attendees: 107

Dr. Yu, a physician with Miller’s Children and Women’s Hospital Long Beach delivered a presentation on COVID-19 transmission, prevention, and the vaccine to address vaccine hesitancy. Dr. Yu was joined in a COVID-19 vaccine panel by Nancy Riano, Nursing Services Officer for the Community Health Bureau in the Department of Health and Human Services, and Angela Dixon Hamlett, Licensed Clinical Social Worker at the Black Infant Health program and the HIV Care Clinic at the Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services. Mental Health awardees Compassionate Counseling, Ginger Lavender Therapy, and Center for Best Living participated in a panel discussion on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Black mental health and responded to community questions in a Q+A session.

**LONG BEACH
BLACK HEALTH EQUITY**

VIRTUAL TOWN HALL

You're invited to a pre-launch event for the Long Beach Black Health Equity Collaborative, which combines the efforts of the Long Beach Black Community, CSULB, and the City of Long Beach to address health disparities.

2.25.21 • 6-8PM

Open to CSULB students, faculty, staff, and Long Beach community members • Hosted by the College of Health and Human Services • In partnership with the City of Long Beach and made possible with Coronavirus AID, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding.

RSVP: **Zoom Registration**

For more information, visit: bit.ly/blackhealthequity

College of Health and Human Services | MemorialCare | Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach

**LONG BEACH
BLACK HEALTH EQUITY**

VIRTUAL TOWN HALL

4.8.21 • 6-8PM

“COVID-19 Mitigation and Black Health Equity”

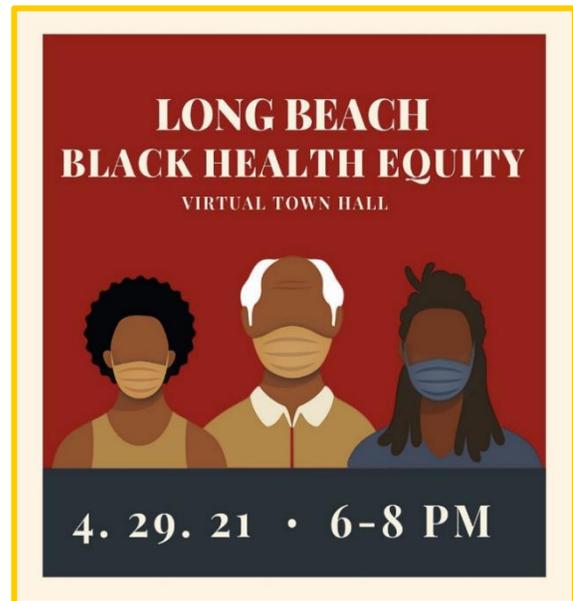
Total Attendees: 96

COVID-19 care package awardees Project Optimism, Salt Lounge, Colorband Shoes, Swazi Shop, Earthlodge, and Center for Transformation discussed their care packages and the importance of providing the Black community with culturally tailored care packages. A subsequent Black Health Equity panel included Ms. Phaedra Allen, Dr. Kineka Hull, Ms. April Parker, Ms. Alicia Coulter, Empress Angelique Jackson, Ms. Veronica Clanton-Higgins. This panel included an in-depth discussion of the meaning of Black health equity and provided strategies for community members to take action.

“COVID-19 health education and outreach and Black Men’s Health”

Total Attendees: 93

COVID-19 health education awardees Elite Skills Development, Sullivan International, the G.R.E.E.N. Foundation, African American Cultural Center, and the Clarissa Manuel Foundation shared their strategies for culturally relevant health education delivery, and strategies used to overcome challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Black Men’s Health panel included Dr. George Smith (Moderator), Rev. Swayne Cofield MD., Mr. Ayoola Fadonougbo, Dr. Ike Mmeje, Mr. Nevon Watson, Dr. Keyon Anderson, and Mr. John Parker. This panel engaged in a conversation surrounding Black men’s experience with the healthcare system, the COVID-19 vaccine, overall Black men’s physical and mental health.



BLACK COMMUNITY HEALTH AND VACCINE FAIR

The Black Community Health and Vaccine Fair occurred on Saturday, May 15th at the Michelle Obama Neighborhood Library in Long Beach, California. The event was in collaboration with Memorial Care Long Beach Medical Center, Sullivan International, and Long Beach Vice Mayor Rex Richardson. Community members over the age of 18 were given access to the Moderna vaccine. They could also receive COVID-19 care packages, speak with healthcare and health education vendors, win prizes, play games, and listen to music.

OUTCOMES

The Black Community Health and Vaccine Fair occurred on Saturday, May 15th at the Michelle Obama Neighborhood Library in Long Beach. The vendors included Memorial Care Long Beach Medical Center, Sullivan International, Project Optimism, April Parker Foundation, Earthlodge Center for Transformation, Craft & Light Creative Arts Studio, Agape Children’s Museum, Black Infant Health Long Beach City of Long Beach Health Department Tobacco Education Program,



City of Long Beach Economic Development, The Sam Simon Feeding Family Foundation, Clarissa Manuel Foundation, and food scientist Dr. Cheryl Rock. During this event 350, COVID-19 care packages were distributed to children within the community. Additionally, 33 Moderna vaccines were given to community members who wanted to get the vaccine.



DIRECT RELIEF FOR NONPROFITS AND MICROBUSINESSES

These community-based service organizations and businesses have established, trusting relationships with Black community residents. These relationships facilitate their ability to make expedient and reliable connections to the Black community to deliver local services and support to the Black community's heightened needs during the COVID-19 pandemic. Majority Black-serving nonprofit organizations and small businesses were, however, themselves disproportionately suffering economically due to the pandemic. Thus, providing financial relief to these Black serving organizations provided critical support to continue serving the Black community during the COVID-19 pandemic. The following nonprofit organizations and microbusinesses collectively received over \$330,000 in direct relief funding via working capital grants:

Adventures to Dreams Enrichment
Afrikan Restoration Project
California Aquatic Therapy & Wellness Center
Care Closet LBC
Colorband Shoes
Craft and Light Creative Arts Studio
DemoChicks
Earthlodge Center for Transformation
ESP Education & Leadership Institute
Ginger Lavender Therapy
Love Beyond Limits
Play Nice Long Beach
Ronnie's House
Slice of Jamaica
Speak up Empowerment Foundation
The Clarissa Manuel Foundation
The Salt Lounge LLC

LESSONS LEARNED

MENTAL HEALTH PROVIDER AWARDEES

The Black Health Equity Fund has aided counseling groups mainly consist of African Americans in Long Beach, California. In this case, several mental health awardees were able to offer services to increase group therapy sessions to benefit community building. For instance, the program allows clients to build connections with mental health providers with numerous Black men and women to alleviate clients' stress and anxiety. Furthermore, mental health professionals provide virtual group therapy to expand their services since they have developed an efficient communication technique with patients remotely online. In this circumstance, virtual group sessions allow health practitioners and clients to use their time wisely depending on their flexible schedule. As a result of the collaboration with the Black Health Equity team, a fund to continue counseling for clients has been offered, allowing mental health services to continue and support the Black community's health through September.

Furthermore, to keep these sessions continuing, health professionals and clients must continue to connect, which is crucial for maintaining social networks. The services also allowed uninsured clients to be waitlisted and financial offers to focus on solutions for continuing counseling. Additionally, although most mental health awardees did not want to prohibit anyone from getting services, clients could still receive therapy to continue their counseling in this situation. Therefore, Black Health Equity Fund has supported the creation of a sustainable network for clients and mental health practitioners to continue working for a healthy community.

DIRECT SERVICES AWARDEES

The Black Health Equity Fund created a community for Black organizations in Long Beach. Direct service awardees commended the selection committee for the diversity among selected agencies. Agencies felt as though they were a vital part of a whole, rather than in competition. Black organizations and community were able to connect and network within various areas in Long Beach, increasing the number of residents utilizing available resources and establishing a sense of family throughout the Black community. Many of the direct service agencies did not expect specific funds to be distributed to the Black community, therefore, they were appreciative of the opportunity to be a part of the initiative. Additionally, they recognized that this was the first time community and partnership was found in Long Beach and they foresee longevity for the efforts started by the fund. Within the collaborative space that the BHEF formed, awardees found mentors and friends, in addition to the confidence to reach out to other organizations for help, support, and volunteers. Moreover, awardees acknowledge the BHEF as a step forward for the Black community and that it was more inclusive than any other contract group some had experienced. Awardees identified that most of the limitations to the provision process occurred at the beginning of the grant. Some reported that expectations were not clear and there was an initial lack of communication. Furthermore, others identified that the grant process with the City of Long Beach for Black organizations differed from other grants and was challenging to complete; this was the primary barrier.

To continue the momentum, the BHEF cultivated, direct service awardees brainstormed ideas to expand and provide additional activities or programs to support the Black community. Awardees want to ensure that continued efforts advocate for equity, remain centered around collaboration, consider innovative ways to address health disparities specific to the Black community, expand on mental health services, and promote areas of financial literacy, employment opportunity, personal and professional development, and mentorship. Based on their experiences, awardees also think it is necessary to target Black men and youth to increase participation. The next steps towards accomplishing these goals were set as establishing a structure to confirm what these agencies have done and reach out to the community to determine what they need. However, to be consistent with their work, agencies recognized their need for funds. In the future, agencies would love to host more community events to build and maintain rapport, in addition, to encourage multiethnic collaboration.

The Black Health Equity team hosted three town hall events in collaboration with CSULB's Health and Human Services Department. Direct service awardees valued the events and emphasized the need for this aspect of the fund to be sustained. The town halls were sanctioned as a great space for sharing resources, services, and credible information from professionals for the community and allies to the Black community. All events were held via Zoom and the webinar format was preferred among agencies. Additionally, organizations appreciated monthly events to stay updated with what was going on in the Black community. The direct service awardees identified areas to strengthen the town halls as incorporating a call to action at every event and inviting city council members to attend and contribute to the discussion. Furthermore, some agencies received questions from town hall attendees about how they may get involved; future discussion on expanding the events is required to determine where volunteers may be needed.

LOOKING TOWARD SUSTAINABILITY



The creation of a Black Health Equity Collaborative (BHEC) was sought to develop collaborative partnerships among the City of Long Beach, California State University, Long Beach, and Black-serving provider agencies, nonprofit and for-profit small businesses, to promote health and wellness among Long Beach Black residents to reduce COVID 19 impact, risks factors, and mortality among Long Beach Black residents.



Engagement with the Black community in Long Beach revealed that Black residents do not know where to go when faced with social, economic, psychological, or health concerns. In response, participating BHEC entities have the collective objective of improving the overall health and well-being of Long Beach Black residents who are disproportionately impacted by historical inequities that have contributes to persistent health disparities in Black residents in Long Beach. It is imperative for BHEC members that the work enhances Black health equity transcends the COVID-19 pandemic. Health must be viewed holistically while addressing the impact of systematic racism on health outcomes.

“The mission of the Black Health Equity Collaborative (BHEC) is to address health inequities and disparities in Black communities through one powerful voice”.

BHEC seeks to accomplish this mission by:

- Acknowledging and addressing the social determinants of health that contribute to health outcomes in Black communities. These determinants include but are not limited to racism and discrimination, housing insecurity, and access to educational, economic, and health opportunities.
- Developing a model for support for physical and mental health across the lifespan in Black communities.
- Developing systems of accountability for healthcare for Black health equity.
- Enhancing access to resources to advance health
- Promoting diverse forms of wellness.
- Providing information and advocacy for Black health equity.
- Sustaining community engagement

APPENDIX A: PROGRAM STATUS UPDATES AT BHEF CARES ACT CLOSING

<p>Advantage Health Now</p>	<p>Advantage Health Now (AHN) curated culturally sensitive print rich curriculum delivered virtually by way of Zoom. The curriculum, with the topic of COVID-19 (Disease, Virus, and Vaccine) was delivered to organizations within the Black Community that provide services to the Black Community within Long Beach, CA. There are no current challenges with the program because once the curriculum was approved by the City of Long Beach, the webinars were scheduled and delivered within a timely manner to the communities within the scope of the program. Three webinars that were most special to AHN were delivered to Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, LBCC's Student Health/Student Life Department and CIAAP (Coalition of Informed African American Parents) within Long Beach Unified School District. These groups were eager to learn more to share with the community they service and the organizations are active and far reaching within the City of Long Beach. The 11 webinars were all special events because each group was different in their approach to the various teach backs and lessons that were presented. The question-and-answer session within the webinars were always interesting because most questions showed that individuals want the COVID-19 vaccine and are only hesitant because there is not enough health education available to them in a classroom or community format. For the larger webinars, we made sure to have a physician available to work with Alicia in answering the more scientific questions.</p>
<p>African American Cultural Center of Long Beach</p>	<p>During this reporting period we were able to successfully launch our programming. On March 19, 2021 we hosted a Vaccination clinic & COVID education forum targeting the senior population in North Long Beach. Partnering with Church One, the Long Beach Health Department this event was a success with 325 vaccinated. On Saturday, 3/27/2021, we hosted an COVID Education forum targeting women in the Long Beach community to discuss the stressors of COVID, the vaccination and the mental health of Black women during the era of COVID. Our committee experienced significant delays to being able to launch our programming between December to March. This was a result of miscommunication regarding operation requirements which resulted in a delay to launching programming. However, it allowed for our team to focus on planning in preparation for launch in March 2021. Our team spent this time focused on program development, networking, identifying stakeholders and resource mapping. We are anticipating April 2021 to be another successful month of outreach and programming.</p>
<p>Agape Children's Museum</p>	<p>Agape Children's Museum participated in a Black Health Community Health Fair an event (April 24th) presented by the City of Long Beach and the Black Health Equity Collaborative. Featured vendors were the Long Beach Ministerial Alliance, Memorial Care, Craft and Light Creative Art Studio and hosted by Bethany Church of Long Beach. Along with the Museum distributing our Covid-19 Care Packages health screenings, resources, games and art activities were included in the event. The Museum continued to distribute their Care packages that included personal hygiene supplies, health resources and nutritional support to the following local area Black Churches; First</p>

	Providence Baptist Church, St. Luke Holy Missionary Baptist Church, New Liberty Baptist Church and The Rock Christian Fellowship.
Center for Best Living	The current program provides culturally relevant mental health service to African American and African residents of Long Beach with quality mental health services to residents who are uninsured or underinsured. Residents report significant improvement and gratitude for the program and service provided. The model of short-term problem focused treatment and some more in-depth service as needed, has proven effective and meaningful to the participants and their families. Most clients met once a week for individual sessions. One group session with 4 participants was provided. One in person session with a mother and her active 3year old was deemed most needed at the time. Family sessions with one family has proven to have significantly impacted their overall family functioning. Also, one family where multiple family members participated in individual sessions with the same therapist (3 adult males), all report a high degree of satisfaction.
Clarissa Manuel Foundation	Our programming is mostly event and activity based focusing on providing information in community forums that align with our organization initiatives of academics, physical & mental health, economic disparity and home insecurity for the Black and African American community. We are currently preparing to open our scholarship cycle, start our fundraising events as the community reopens, and we are revamping our youth program for the start of the next school year. Our biggest challenge is our small size and lack of workforce as we are a group of ten (10) and work with very few volunteers per event. We are proud of the work we do in the community with our small support network and the successful completion of this grant. We do not have any special events currently scheduled. However, we are planning to host our first ever Diabetes Walk in the Fall 2021, having had to postpone from Fall 2020.
Colorband Shoes	Working with technical assistance from the April Parker Foundation and in coordination with other BHEC grantee - we teamed up to procure, compile, and distribute care packages to black residents of long beach. On March 27, 2021 from 11am to 2pm Long Beach black residents participated in a contact free drive through pick up at Barton Elementary School. The combined efforts of ColorBand Shoes, Project Optimism, Agape Children's Center, Swazi Shop and Elite Skills Development and a host of vollunteers, we provided over 2,000 care packages to black long beach families and received new coverage by channel 4 News.
Craft and Light Creative Arts Studio	The distribution of care packages to elementary youth that contained items to support the awareness of and endurance through COVID-19 pandemic was successfully executed in April 2020. Care packages were given to elementary youth at Stevenson Elementary, Hoover MS, and at our Long Beach Black Health Fair. These packages included: watercolor craft kit, granola bar, toothbrush and paste, colorful kid face masks, sanitizer, water, informative guide on COVID-19 virus designed by Craft+ Light Creative Studio and select engagement team members from Long Beach Memorial- Miller Childrens' Hospital. This concluding event invited all grant awardees to provide final distribution of their packages if needed and further share resources to support COVID-19 awareness and prevention.

	<p>The Rock Church led by Pastor Gregory Sanders contributed amply as many members came to volunteer at the event. Long Beach Memorial partnered and brought a fleet of services including: breast cancer screening, diabetes screening, bike and safety team who provided free kid bike helmets, blood sugar testing, and 150 Moderna Vaccines. A vaccine clinic was set up on the grounds of Bethany Church. The event vaccinated 40 people and no vaccines were not wasted.</p>
<p>Earthlodge Center for Transformation</p>	<p>We successfully distributed 200 care packages to Black Long Beach residents. We created specialized kits for different ages, gender, races, abilities, and housing circumstantial situation. We created 90 cis gender differentiating kits for the Black houseless community (45 for female, 45 for male) in Long Beach, 75 care packages for frontline activists for Long Beach Black Lives Matters and mutual aid group CAT 911, 35 wellness kits for youth including transgender youth in transitional housing, and 10 young adult kits for Project Bloom and the youth associated with local community organizations. We also partnered with Avant for distribution, a drop in center for homeless youth and our re-entry population. The adult themed care packages contained a shaving kit, a blanket, shea butter, a spritzer, a flashlight with batteries, wipes, hand sanitizer, a journal and pen, sanitary pads, socks, granola bars, Ritz crackers, sanitary kits, masks, lip balm, and a reusable bag. The houseless/transitional populations received light weight easy wash earth colored green bags and the activist communities received cloth emblmed bags. The kids care packages contained a snack, a shea butter, a flashlight and batteries, hand sanitizer, Black superhero/sheroe comic book and a Black superhero toy. Each of our community anchor leaders/healing network participants distributed the care packages to individuals throughout the City.</p>
<p>Elite Skills Development</p>	<p>Elite Skills has met the specified terms, goals and objectives of the CARES Act Black Health Equity Fund Grant, Scope 1, 1-C Healthy Living Guide.</p> <p>Specifically, we distributed a of total of 4,300 Healthy Living Guides and created 8 culturally tailored videos to mitigate risk, transmission, and the spread of COVID-19 to Long Beach Black residents.</p> <p>Two additional significant accomplishments include hosting the City's First Mobile Vaccination Clinic. The clinic vaccinated 200 people, 88% were seniors and 80% were African American. Elite Skills worked with the LB Minister's Alliance and the City to create a culturally affirming space that set precedents for future clinics and was highlighted by the Public Health Alliance Vaccine Equity Video training video series that was aired throughout the State's health departments. Third, the reach for our video series has expanded beyond Long Beach to include the Long Beach Memorial hospital, UCLA medical center, LBUSD and the Los Angeles County Office of Education.</p>
<p>Parker Interactive</p>	<p>Working with technical assistance from the April Parker Foundation we procured, compile, and distributed Mask Mic Kits to Senior Black/African American residents of long beach. We contacted the Case Manager and Social Works at senior facilities in Long Beach to obtain demographic information regarding their Black/African American residents. Each facility identified the number of Black residents currently residing in their facilities. We directly</p>

	delivered 217 Mask Mic Kits to the Case Manager/Social Worker for internal distribution based on facility COVID-19 Guidelines.
Project Optimism	<p>Project Optimism develop a social media campaign with the information from the Advantage Health Now trainings. We have created 8 posts that included videos and info graphics on instagram (@ProjectOptimismLA). This campaign has helped increase the exposure of the organization. Multiple entities have reached out with plans to collaborate on future projects.</p> <p>On April 17th a community feed was held at St. Luke's Church in downtown long Beach. Approximately 150 community members experiencing homelessness received hot, organic meals and given the opportunity to shower. Project Optimism also donated 200 boxes of 40 masks to Barton Elementary school and 250 care packs to Craft & Light and Speak Up Empowerment.</p>
Ronnie's House	<p>50 Black Owned and Black Serving beauty and barber shops supported- . Outreach staff created Community Drop Off Events, where staff was able to visit each shop to bring awareness to city services like Mental Health, Food, Transportation, Business Support, and other available resources. During drop off events, Staff also reminded business owners and workers of the importance of following health guidelines in order to continue stopping the spread of COVID-19. Staff delivered 20 Community Resource Booklets that include city wide community resources per shop and PPE Care Packages that included :(20 N95 masks, 200 Children's Masks, 1 Thermometer, and 20 Adult Face Shields). The total amount of community resource booklets delivered is 1000, Children's Masks is 11750, N95 Masks 940, Thermometers 43, Face Shields 940.</p> <p>A Black Health Newsletter - Ronnie's House Designed a Black Health Newsletter that featured mental health providers, links to black serving nonprofits, link to get on the vaccine list, covid testing center information, health insurance information and information for barbers and hair salons. A Second Newsletter, was sent out in March promoting the vaccines and other health resources.</p> <p>Poster Campaign - Ronnie's House designed and printed a 3W's Health Posters for businesses to place on doors or windows. The 3W's is a campaign that was created during the first part of the grant to remind residents to wash their hands, watch their distance, and to wear their masks. These posters are currently being distributed and the distribution will be complete first week in April.</p> <p>Mail Campaign - Ronnie's House printed 500 post cards, to mail to Barbershops and Hair Salons.</p> <p>Social Media Campaign- - Social Media Campaign, continued garnering an additional 5000 video views and Black Business and Barbershops continued to share the resources on their social media. The campaign was focused on the</p>

	3W's Wash your hands, Watch Your Distance, and Wear Your Mask and integrated, what matters slogan, such as family has garnered over 60,000 views and growing daily. .A video of Dr Joni Ricks. Promoting the 3 W's, continued to be shared and increased by 4000 in views.
Sullivan International	The most common services received through the social media health education campaign was information/referral linkages. For example: Meal delivery, virtual social engagement, connection to housing resources, connection to parenting resources, COVID-19 isolation kits, prevention information, Personal Protective Equipment, Shelter from Domestic Violence. Sullivan Int'l partnered with several other health education and outreach grantees to leverage resources and maximize grantee performance metrics. Two examples that Sullivan Int'l initiated with other grantees: 1) Ms. Robbie Butler's social agency-Speak-up Empowerment included the Sullivan Int'l Facebook/Instagram social media links in her mailers and Ms. Shirin Senegal of Ronnie's House/LB United partnered with animated media co-productions included on her website and in all social media delivered by Sullivan Int'l on Facebook/Instagram and Snapchat throughout the Feb.-Mar. 2021 Covid-19 health education and outreach prevention campaign. Sullivan Int'l made the offer of posting/running messages, event and activity announcements on its social media campaign to all health education and outreach grantees. Estimated reach and ad frequency to AA pop. 18-34 years at 85% and 11.3 times, respectively over 5/6-week campaign period with Covid-19 education and prevention messaging to deter transmission among targeted population.
The Swazi Shop	Working with technical assistance from the April Parker Foundation and in coordination with other BHEC grantee - we teamed up to procure, compile, and distribute care packages to black residents of long beach. On March 27, 2021 from 11am to 2pm Long Beach black residents participated in a contact free drive through pick up at Barton Elementary School. The combined efforts of ColorBand Shoes, Project Optimism, Agape Children's Center, Swazi Shop and Elite Skills Development and a host of volunteers, we reached almost 800 represented families and event attracted the attention of the channel 4 News. In addition, the Swazi Shop collaborated with Shades of Afrika to distribute 200 care kits to the community. Also, the Swazi Shop donated 200 care kits to the Ms. Single Mom Empowerment Forum hosted by Speak Up Empowerment Foundation, Inc where they served over 200 single Black mothers in Long Beach.
The Salt Lounge	The community has been very receptive to the care packages. Each person seems very grateful and excited to see that these are available to the community. On our end, we feel so inspired and committed to doing more even as this comes to a close. The experience is building a greater sense of connectedness with those that visit and amongst our team.

APPENDIX B: PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION AND RESOLUTION

<p>Advantage Health Now</p>	<p>Problem: Awardee and BHEC were not on "one accord" regarding scope. Resolution, Alicia and Dr. Johnson worked together to make sure the program delivery timeline was not hindered, and scope was confirmed and program executed within the timelines designated by the City of Long Beach.</p>
<p>African American Cultural Center of Long Beach</p>	<p>Our team experienced a delay to launching programming between December 2020-March 2021 due to miscommunications regarding the operation requirements. However, it allowed for our team to focus our time on planning and preparation. Our team spent this time focused on program development, networking, identifying stakeholders and resource mapping. As a result of our planning approach our committee was able to launch large scale programming in March which included the facilitation of a vaccination clinic and COVID education forum targeting the senior community on the northside of Long Beach, where 325 community members received the COVID vaccine. In addition, on Saturday 3/27/2021 we hosted an COVID Education forum targeting women in the Long Beach community to discuss the stressors of COVID, the vaccination and the mental health of Black women during the era of COVID. Overall, we feel the events have been a success and we are looking forward to engaging the community in our April programming. A challenge our team noted is that not all programming attendees completed the voluntary survey, which provided data to capture for our reporting. However, the registrants and allocated resources provided a true reflection of the number of individuals serviced at any given event. The numbers reflected in this tool are for those who completed the data collection survey during sponsored programming.</p>
<p>Agape Children's Museum</p>	<p>Public Trust for Health Equity in our city's Black Community. Convincing the Community that vaccines are safe and effective for their children and family. Solutions to this problem has been to continue to saturate our Black Residents with science and fact-based information and resources, this was accomplished through information that we are giving to our residents in the Care Packages.</p>
<p>Center for Best Living</p>	<p>Future programing might be enhanced by attending and participating in a kick-off or community event that would highlight all the wonderful services provided through this program. The community fairs are a great idea. Now that we can gather more, and outdoor events are sanctioned. I believe we will have more access and a wider reach into the community. We were able to reach our numbers and beyond, once we extended the program thru April 30th we could regroup. However, when our additional therapist had to stop seeing clients in February, due to unanticipated Board of Psychology requirements for licensed and/or registered psychologists, we were concerned. Fortunately, Dr Hardy was able to make adjustments to her schedule and meet the April 30th deadline.</p>

<p>Clarissa Manuel Foundation</p>	<p>Our biggest challenge was staffing availability to coordinate activities, logistics in moving goods to multiple locations during regular business hours when staff was unavailable, and handling paperwork. All the members of the CMF work full-time professional level jobs and the majority sit on other boards and volunteer with multiple organizations. We did want to make referrals for mental health; however we never received a response regarding the ability to share the phone numbers directly with the public. So in an abundance of caution, we did not publicize that information. We also missed tapping into a large collaborative of similar organizations that could have enhanced our deliverables time table and access due to our limited availability and the short notice we had in responding immediately to the contracting process and subsequent coordination.</p>
<p>Colorband Shoes</p>	<p>Registration for this event was highly effective however, many residents wanted the AP Take Care kits due to its contents. We were only able to provide 250 kits and over 500 residents were put on a wait list to receive Take Care Kits at a future date.</p>
<p>Craft and Light Creative Arts Studio</p>	<p>The challenges met with this distribution were few- however they did delay some progress. Locating schools that would be amenable to the distribution of care packages for black youth was an unexpected challenge. The proposal written was to distribute to elementary black youth in the 90802 zip code. After several attempts, Stevenson Elementary was open to supporting this distribution and then contact was made with Hoover MS who had over 150 black students in grade six who lived in the 90805 zip code. With just a few packs still available to distribute and three weeks till the end of the grant period (April 30th) the Long Beach Black Health Fair was imagined and coordinated.</p>
<p>Earthlodge Center for Transformation</p>	<p>Given the vulnerability of the population being served, we were not able to take "in action" pictures of care package deliveries to those being served. Also, outside of zip code and best guessing gender/sex based upon our sight assumptions, we were not able to collect detailed nor contact information of those served because of the exchange nature of care package delivery service. Asking for photos didn't seem appropriate in this instance. Originally, we did not submit our RFP to provide care packages for youth. However, we quickly learned that all members of families need a care package tailored to their needs. As an intergenerational village approach organization, we quickly expanded to include care packages for youth in our distribution. For the youth care packages, in order to simultaneously promote the increase in literacy and celebrate Black heroism/sheroism, we enclosed comic books of Black superhoses and supersheroes and also Funko POP toys of Black superheroes and sheroes.</p>
<p>Project Optimism</p>	<p>Due to not having the correct platform, we could not capture the demographics of the impressions, nor target a specific region. We likely had views outside of Long Beach.</p> <p>In the last month of this grant, there were minimal issues related to the delivery of services. If anything, providing meals to only Black residence experiencing homelessness was the largest challenge.</p>

Ronnie's House	Mental Health Referral Process - The original Mental Health Referral process had a lack of privacy. The process required us to fill in a google doc form that was going to a Call State student, with the name and details for the referral. This broke Hipaa Laws. , It is also important to keep in mind that privacy for the community is important as they navigate resources. As a result we brought this to the attention of the people helping lead the Black Health Equity Grant, and the process changed all around. Another problem was the way the shops are operating, with limited hours for us to deliver services. In March, we experienced less of this problem since shops were given the reopening green light. By March, 95% of the outreached shops were open during normal operating hours of Tuesday-Saturday 9am-6pm.
Sullivan International	Sullivan Int'l exceeded all program goals/metrics related to the Covid-19 health education and outreach to the targeted an audience of African American young adults 18-34. The initial challenges of delayed mobilization of media assets did not affect goal attainment and successful program outcomes.
The Swazi Shop	The project was overall pretty well due to the communal support from the other grant awardees.

APPENDIX C: PROPOSED CHANGES

<p style="text-align: center;">Advantage Health Now</p>	<p>Changes: Once confirmed as an awardee, business owners, should schedule a meeting with the BHEC leadership to review the scope to make sure there is an understanding of what is expected as an awardee. Once the expectation is confirmed, create a timeline to make sure time was maximized (more time allowed to execute the webinars with the goal of networking with more community members regarding the determined subject matter).</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Agape Children’s Museum</p>	<p>The only notable change that I would suggest is offering more Seed Money to help get the projects off to a better and efficient start, because many non-profits may not be designed to have discretionary funds to start the project at its infancy period. The Faith-Based Community and its area churches desired more time in terms of a cooperative campaign effort in helping to implement the program to its congregants. Maybe next time the Black Health Equity Collaborative can team with the Ministers Alliance formally in helping to reach area Black residents.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Center for Best Living</p>	<p>I believe the program, as structured, offers enough flexibility to allow therapist to be creative and seek out creative and non-threatening ways of providing culturally sensitive therapeutic interventions to the community. Perhaps a way of billing that is not solely measured by individual sessions, for example purchasing books for a therapeutic book club, teaching peer support groups, or ways to bill for large gatherings or panel discussions to a larger audience might enhance the program, especially as we venture outdoors post the Covid crisis. Also, the current rate of reimbursement reflects a respectful value for the service we provided. This, in turn, helped to raise the level of expectation for services given to our clients. Personally, it did not feel like a poverty program designed for impoverished people, but rather a program designed for people who are highly treasured, historically left out, and considered part of the Best of Long Beach.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Clarissa Manuel Foundation</p>	<p>We are much better positioned to participate in future opportunities having completed the contracting process and the grant response, Also, we completed the six-week non-profit resiliency and growth seminar which was very helpful in preparing for future grants or contracts. At first, there was some minor inconsistency in information and the contact person to send the reports but it was quickly clarified.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Colorband Shoes</p>	<p>A lead organization who is familiar with the Grant process and the City of Long Beach should be awarded a contract to provide programmatic and technical support to grantee to ensure success, helping them to overcome obstacles, minimize cost, leverage existing community resources and provide clarification of requirements.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Earthlodge Center for Transformation</p>	<p>Next time, we will increase the amount of PPE material and food for the care packages aimed at the houseless community in Long Beach. We value expanding our services to engage more individuals and communities and bring Earth based and trauma informed healing practices to a wider audience. Additionally, we would host a care package webinar and put an invite in each package for those who would have liked to have kept in contact and receive wellness education through our organization. This would have given us the opportunity to capture the data of</p>

	transitional/houseless/active Black Long Beach residents and connect them to our community organization for future education and services and possibly even testimonials.
Elite Skills Development	There needs to be consistency in the requirements for RFPs and grants across all departments. Additionally, the overall design and release of RFPs should be reviewed to insure there are no duplications of services, and that the timing of the releases allow organizations to plan and respond with effective proposals.
Parker Interactive	A lead organization who is familiar with the Grant process and the City of Long Beach should be awarded a contract to provide programmatic and technical support to grantee to ensure success, helping them to overcome obstacles, minimize cost, leverage existing community resources and provide clarification of requirements.
Sullivan International	Recommended future practices include: 1) development of a media/promotion calendar and common strategy at the outset of outreach for all grantees 2) alignment of coordinated calendar/strategy to maximize best use of media messaging and event promotion 3) use of goggle docs for real time updates and information sharing 4) Pre-approved core messages/themes made available 5) Overall teaming goals for integrated communication/marketing/outreach maximal activation of transmission prevention behavior.

APPENDIX D: ACCOMPLISHMENTS & HIGHLIGHTS

<p>Advantage Health Now</p>	<p>**55% of community members that attended the webinars and were not previously vaccinated for COVID-19 vaccine confirmed that they would either: 1. Change their "no" to "maybe, or 2. Change their no/maybe to a yes!</p> <p>**LBCC Student Life Department was a great partner because they have a staff that is credentialed with MSWs, RNs, BSNs... and their staff was able to acquire the data given and most concerned with making sure their Black students were receiving culturally sensitive information when delivered by staff.</p> <p>**Although this program is COVID-19 training and to combat vaccine hesitancy, this type of health education is needed within the Black Community. So many community members felt their needs were heard and appreciated health education for them by them. To continue to combat poor health outcomes for the Black Community, continued culturally sensitive health education delivered by Black Public Health professionals.</p>
<p>African American Cultural Center of Long Beach</p>	<p>Aside from the obvious success of our programming, which is provided hundreds of community members access to the life changing COVID vaccine, information & resources related to COVID & mental health during season, are the community partners our team has been able to facilitate. Through this process we have connected with other awardees who are active in the community. This has allowed us to see one another, support one another's efforts and combine forces. In addition, I would also acknowledge our attendance to trainings and weekly meetings with other awardees.</p>
<p>Agape Children's Museum</p>	<p>The Museum will continue follow-up and delivery work through our Healthy Living Outreach Program. With the Covid-19 Care Package Delivery Project ending on the 30th of April, Agape Children's Museum plans to host our annual Family Health Festival on Saturday, September 25th at a place to be announced. It is our desire that City of Long Beach Health Department along with the Blak Heath Equity Collaborative will partner with us for our annual health and wellness event.</p>
<p>Center for Best Living</p>	<p>I look forward to being able to provide more photos and or handouts, brochures and literature once we return to face-to-face interactions and community events. Any photos or brochures we created are available for city distribution and publication.</p>
<p>Clarissa Manuel Foundation</p>	<p>The CMF provided PPE and resource information to individuals who are homeless and individuals who would otherwise not be touched through virtual engagement or community events by going directly to the streets on foot to engage residents. We also addressed topics such as Human Trafficking and how to navigate the financial challenges for college freshman in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic. The CMF was covered in an article in the Precinct Reporter Group News by free-lance reporter Dianne Anderson (attached). In conjunction with the CARES Act project, the CMF collaborated with the following organizations in serving the community to mitigate the devastating effects of the pandemic: Elite Skills, One Church Ministries, African American Cultural Center, Antioch Church, Christ 2nd Baptist Church, Bible Believers Missionary Baptist Church, Grace Memorial Church, The Rock Christian</p>

	Fellowship, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. Long Beach Alumnae Chapter, Black Infant Health Long Beach, AOC7, National Council of Negro Women, and Bridgebuilders Foundation.
Colorband Shoes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Joint Collaboration with multiple BHEC grant awardees •Collaboration with the LBUSD •Over 2000 care packages distributed •Well managed and coordinated distribution •Coverage by Channel 4 NBC News
Craft and Light Creative Arts Studio	Thankful to have councilmembers Supernaw, Austin and Richardson attend the LB Black Health Fair. In addition, LA County Supervisor Janice Hahn visited the fair, shared greetings and we line danced!
Earthlodge Center for Transformation	Through the CARES Act, we received funding from the City of Long Beach to provide healing and wellness support to our communities. We received recognition from Long Beach Vice Mayor Rex Richardson for our work in the community through the COVID-19 pandemic. We exceeded our original goal and provided 200 care packages through our organization and through our anchor leader/healer's network. Our Project Bloom youth distributed our youth care packages giving them leadership development opportunities. And we served some of the hardest to reach amongst us - houseless/transitional/re-entry communities. We believe the houseless, youth and activist fatigue by frontline society and changemakers are the most vulnerable amongst us and it was an honor to serve these segments of our community. Of the 16 care package contents, we were able to use 4 Black owned businesses to provide part of the content thus recycling Black dollars.
Elite Skills Development	Elite Skills has distributed all 4,200 printed Healthy Living Guides. The distributions include individual households, parents, churches, social and service organizations, health clinics, barber & beauty shops, libraries, mortuaries, and more. Photos, video links and media articles have been previously submitted and the city has been authorized to use and publish photos and videos.
Project Optimism	Significantly passed the number of people we planned to educate via this grant
Sullivan International	Collaborative messaging was achieved by partnering with other program grantees extending the reach of the social media campaign.
The Swazi Shop	Joint Collaboration with multiple BHEC grant awardees • Collaboration with the LBUSD, Shades of Afrika, and Speak Up Empowerment Foundation, Inc • Over 1250 registered Long Beach Resident • Well managed and coordinated distribution • Coverage by Channel 4 NBC News

APPENDIX E: CLIENT AND PARTICIPANT SUCCESS STORIES

<p>Advantage Health Now</p>	<p>"I wanted to follow you both and thank you for such an outstanding presentation last night. The information that you both provided to our families was very timely. You were able to clear up many inconsistencies regarding COVID as well as the various vaccines available for our families. I am certain that if we had families that began the meeting on the fence about the vaccine, have since altered their thinking and were probably hustling last night and this morning to find a place to be vaccinated. These are very uncertain times that we are living in however your presentation cleared some of the uncertainty that many of our families have about this COVID epidemic"</p> <p>"Excellent presentation! The panelist did a wonderful job. Kudos to whoever selected them."</p> <p>"The program was dynamic, informative, and candid. We appreciate you and your team."</p> <p>"This was a fabulous webinar! There were so many gems!"</p> <p>"Thank you for presenting such a professional panel to talk about Covid-19 and the differences in the available vaccinations..."</p> <p>Here's hoping for an end to this pandemic and also hoping for more compassionate choices -- masking, distancing, and washing -- from our fellow travelers on Spaceship Earth. We're all in this together!"</p> <p>"...these ladies are pros. [Alicia Coulter] is speaking facts!"</p> <p>"My guests are hoping this is being recorded because they are already asking how they can share with others."</p> <p>"Awesome event! I learned a lot and I'm hearing good feedback from my invited guests."</p> <p>"Phenomenal! You are gifted in the way you speak to our community. You do it in a way that reaches us, informs us, and ultimately protect us."</p> <p>*"Excellent presentation! The panelist did a wonderful job. Kudos to whomever selected them."</p>
<p>Agape Children's Museum</p>	<p>Children and Families exhibited great gratitude for the Covid-19 Cares Act delivery campaign and the quality of the contents from the care packages. Also, kudos to the contributions from the Black Health Equity Collaborative that is needed in Long Beach's Black Community.</p>

Colorband Shoes	Initial feedback from participants showed great appreciation for the focus on the black community and the quality of the contents of the care packages. Also, our community partners from LBUSD, who were present at the event, commented that the turnout and execution demonstrated excellence.
Earthlodge Center for Transformation	Although we don't have testimonials as we might with other types of service delivery methods, we'd like to share one moving story with the City. One of our Board members along with Earthlodge residency participants outreached to Drake park to distribute care packages for the houseless community. A houseless individual was crying by his stroller after relaying his experience of falling on the ground with a scar on his arm. He was crying profusely and looked in distress. Our Earthlodge volunteers approached the individual, handed them care package and listened to their story of resilience. After sharing what he had been through suffering from the medical-industrial-complex and prison-industrial-complex, he named how he felt safe and in love with his community at Drake Park in Long Beach. He began singing our Earthlodge volunteers a song about survival, hope, and justice and we exchanged flowers. The moment of engagement at the park was grounded in the offering of basic needs the Earthlodge care package provided through the City of Long Beach care packages.
Elite Skills Development	<p>First, Elite Skills distributed a of total of 4,300 Healthy Living Guides and created 8 culturally tailored videos to mitigate risk, transmission, and the spread of COVID-19 to Long Beach Black residents.</p> <p>Secondly, Elite Skills hosted the City's First Mobile Vaccination Clinic. The clinic vaccinated 200 people, 88% were seniors and 80% were African American. Elite Skills worked with the LB Minister's Alliance and the City to create a culturally affirming space that set precedents for future clinics and was highlighted by the Public Health Alliance Vaccine Equity Video training video series that was aired throughout the State's health departments.</p> <p>Third, the reach for our video series has expanded beyond Long Beach to include the Long Beach Memorial hospital, UCLA medical center, LBUSD and the Los Angeles County Office of Education.</p> <p>Finally, Sharon Digs-Jackson has been an active participant in the City's Vaccine Equity & Outreach Subcommittee and provided great assistance regarding outreach within the Black & African American community. This includes assisting in planning three African American focused vaccination clinics and creating culturally affirming handouts and materials.</p>
Parker Interactive	Senior residents appreciated being specifically considered for Care Packages. Several residents stated, they feel like Long Beach Cares about them. They were very excited about the Mask Mic and thought it was a great item to help with communication and reduce the spread of Covid-19.
Ronnie's House	1. A partnership with five Black Owned Barber and Beauty salons to become PPE and Resource Hub Centers for the community. Through this partnership, Ronnie's House is able to further outreach efforts even after the grant service timeline. 2. Black Health Grant Grantee, April Parker Foundation, received 60,000 masks and 1100 Resource Booklets to distribute African American Students in gift bags. 3. Boys

	and Girls Club received thousands of Masks for their youth, and we are working with them to connect them to Mental Health and other resources for their youth who range from 8 to 18. (please make note we served them under a prior Grant, and continued to Serve them during the Black Health Equity Grant.
Sullivan International	Participants/community members that received Covid-19 prevention information and resource linkages expressed continued interest and appreciation in the African American community for the behavioral guidance (i.e., wash your hands, wear a mask and watch your distance). This was evidenced by the significant message reach, linkage counts/referrals and likes left on Facebook and Instagram accounts.
The Swazi Shop	Initial feedback from participants showed great appreciation for the focus on the black community and the quality of the contents of the care packages. Also, our community partners from LBUSD, Shades of Afrika, and the Ms. Single Mom Empowerment Forum, who were present at the event, commented that the care packages and presentation was convenient and excellent.