

SIM CAB Listening Session Review Questions

Key Findings Key Messages & Next Steps for CAB discussion.

1. **Event Name:** Black Churches Forum
 - a. **Location:** Cross Street AME Zion Church
 - b. **Date:** December 5, 2017

2. **Goals of the Event:** To talk with the Black faith community about their ability to address healthcare access, in the context of the faith community.

Key Findings:

3. Based on the Key Findings, what Recommendations do you have?

Please connect your recommendations with 2017 CAB Plan Focus Area 1,2,3:

- 1) **INFLUENCE SYSTEMS CHANGE:**
 - a) Church leaders are interested in developing advocacy skills. Support them in finding their voice and offering them tools to be health care advocates for their communities.
 - b) African American faith communities agree on the importance of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) – support their efforts to seek preventive care and use essential health benefits.
 - c) There is widespread concern about incarceration of Black men due to mental health and addiction issues. We must educate police and work with social service agencies to ensure Black people get the care they need.

- 2) **PROMOTE PROVIDER-CONSUMER PARTNERSHIPS:**
 - a) The Black community struggles to connect with Access Health CT and health insurance literacy tools. Offer trainings and supports to help the Black community understand health insurance, and advocate for simplification of health insurance.
 - b) Support efforts to help Black churches engage more regularly with primary care physicians, and offer them the tools to better engage with their doctors. Perhaps Choosing Wisely can help.

- 3) **ENGAGE AND EMPOWER CONSUMERS:**
 - a) Church leaders felt it was important to offer education for people regarding their healthcare

4. **Do you have any Recommendations that Connect with the CAB Health Equity Priority?**
Health equity involves the promotion of equal opportunities for all people to be healthy and to seek the highest level of health possible.
 - a. The Black community is interested in finding funding to support their efforts to better engage with healthcare. Black churches often serve as first responders to

health and mental health crises – how can we support Black churches as hubs of healthcare support and information?

Key Messages:

- Hold Access Health CT accountable for educating and engaging Black communities in healthcare.
- Offer education for people regarding their healthcare. Many Black people do not understand health insurance and feel it is not affordable. This showed a continued need for outreach and education in regards to the ACA in Black communities.
- Diabetes is a big problem for many Black community members. We need to address it.
- St. Francis Hospital, the Urban Alliance, Martha House, Faith Care, and Revitalize Hartford are good resources for the Black community.
- Find funding to support the Ministerial Health Fellowship – so church leaders can continue to meet, exchange information, and share resources.

5. Activities and Next Steps:

a. Next Steps to Implement?

b. Do we need additional information? If so what and how to obtain it?

c. Resources Required?

d. Next Deadline?