

# **National Black Nurses Association, Inc.**

8630 Fenton Street, Suite 330, Silver Spring, MD 20910 • Phone: (301) 589-3200 • Fax: (301) 589-3223



For Immediate Release  
November 1, 2010

Contact: Millicent Gorham  
301-589-3200

## **National Black Nurses Association Announces Requests for Proposals for National Obesity Initiative Grants**

The National Black Nurses Association is pleased to announce that it will award ten \$1,000 grants to local chapters for its 2011 National Obesity Initiative. These grants will assist local chapters in an effort to fight the growing obesity epidemic.

The National Black Nurses Association is currently accepting proposals for the National Obesity Initiative from chapters in good standing. "It is the goal of this NBNA effort to provide seed grants to chapters to design innovative approaches to curtail the obesity epidemic", stated Dr. Debra A. Toney, President, National Black Nurses Association. "This program supports NBNA's ability to achieve its mission to eliminate health care disparities."

Dr. Audwin Fletcher, childhood obesity researcher and former member of the NBNA Board of Directors will lead the National Obesity Initiative. "This competitive process is designed for NBNA local chapters to develop strategies to stem the obesity epidemic within their chapter, city or state. And, it is a challenge for the 80 NBNA chapters to collectively lose 40,000 pounds by the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at the 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Institute and Conference, July 13-17, 2011, Indianapolis, Indiana. The ultimate goal is to become a healthier NBNA!!!," stated Dr. Fletcher.

According to National Black Nurses Association President "our chapters and members are our greatest assets and NBNA wants to assist them in carrying out our mission. Helping to curb obesity will help our entire nation eliminate chronic diseases and ultimately improve the health status of our society."

The National Black Nurses Association's mission is to provide a forum for collective action by black nurses to investigate, define and advocate for the health care needs of African Americans and to implement strategies that ensure access to health care, equal to, or above health care standards of the larger society.

## NBNA's National Obesity Initiative

### Request for Proposals [RFP]

### \$1,000 Seed-Grant Proposals

There has been a dramatic increase in obesity in the United States in the past 20 years. In fact, obesity has become a lifelong issue—one that is a major health problem and one that has reached epidemic levels. According to NBNA president, Dr. Debra A. Toney, this is the reason that NBNA launched its National Obesity Initiative in 2008.

Dr. Toney has appointed Dr. Audwin Fletcher, childhood obesity researcher and past NBNA Board of Director member to lead the National Obesity Initiative.

During the 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Institute and Conference, to be held in Indianapolis, Indiana in conjunction with the Indiana Black Expo, NBNA chapters are asked to solidify their commitment to NBNA's initiatives of fighting the obesity epidemic.

Dr. Toney states, "NBNA has joined coalitions with a cadre of organizations to fight obesity; and my support for this initiative is unwavering". In conjunction with the 40,000 pound weight loss challenge [honoring 40 years of community service] that was recently released to NBNA chapters, NBNA is providing seed grants to chapters to help offset innovative approaches to curtailing weight loss.

During the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Institute and Conference, NBNA chapters can display efforts in curtailing the fight against obesity via poster presentations, podium presentations, and participation during the annual chapter-hosted health fair.

On November 1, 2010, requests for proposals [RFP] will be available for chapters to submit "obesity-centered" seed-grant awards for funding up to \$1,000. The NBNA will award ten (10) \$1,000 seed-grant awards to chapters who submit **original** proposals that provide innovative approaches to curtail obesity within their chapter, city, or state. All applications should be emailed to [afletcher@umc.edu](mailto:afletcher@umc.edu). The selection process will be competitive and based on the following criteria [see attached for application]:

- Complete application by deadline 10%
- Summary of Problem 10%
- Significance of Project 20%
- Approach to Problem 20%
- Innovation of Project 20%
- Detailed Budget for Project 20%

At the completion of the project cycle [**November 2010 through June 2011**], chapters will submit formal reports documenting findings which would include:

- Summary of Problem 10%
- Significance of Project 10%
- Approach to Problem 10%
- Innovation of Project 20%
- Limitations with the Project 10%
- Results of the Project including sustainability and intent to continue 40%.

The focus of the seed-grant proposals should center on strategies to curtail the obesity epidemic and the 40,000 pound weight loss challenge for chapter members. With 80 active chapters and 3,000 members, Dr. Fletcher states, "While the challenge for NBNA chapters to collectively LOSE 40,000 pounds by the NBNA 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at the 39th Annual Institute and Conference, July 13-17, 2011, **the ultimate goal is to become a healthier NBNA!!!**"

Before- and after-pictures of weight loss should be submitted. Other forms of documentation might include: documentation of walk-a-thons; documentation of local health fairs, seminars; documentation of chapter devised brochures; submitted articles to the NBNA newsletter and journal; documented obesity initiatives within chapter reports; and documented email blasts, twitters, blogs and Facebook discussions regarding the obesity initiative.

Activities for weight loss could include: line dancing, mime dancing, Zumba, aerobics [including, water].

Reasons for submitting a RFP and participating in the competitive weight loss initiative:

- The Chapter (1) documenting the "BEST" results of the project will present at the President's Institute.
- The next four (4) Chapters with good documentation results will present podium presentations during the Obesity Institute.
- The final five (5) Chapters will present poster presentation during the Obesity Institute.
- NBNA chapters confirm their support for Dr. Toney and the NBNA's efforts in combating the obesity epidemic thus becoming ambassadors for healthy eating

The timeline for the Obesity seed-grant initiative is as follows:

- **November 01**, applications available
  - **November 15**, application deadline
  - **December 01**, notification of award
  - **February 01**, bi-monthly report
  - **April 01**, bi-monthly report
  - **June 01**, final report
  - **June 15**, notification of winners
  - **July**, chapter presentation at conference
- **NOTE: Chapters NOT adhering to timeline will be DISQUALIFIED!!!!**

**National Black Nurses Association  
2011 NBNA National Obesity Initiative Grant  
Letter of Agreement**

This letter of agreement is between the (Place Name of Chapter) and the National Black Nurses Association.

(Place Name of Chapter) understands and agrees to complete the requirements of this grant.

The (Place Name of Chapter) agrees to publish an article in the NBNA newsletter. The chapter agrees to submit reports as outlined in the proposal.

It is also understood and agreed to if activities are not completed within established guidelines all funds must be returned within 30 days of the project end date of **June 30, 2011** to the National Black Nurses Association.

Chapter President Signature:

Date:

National President Signature:

Date:

NBNA's National Obesity Initiative  
Seed-Grant Application  
Limit of 5 pages  
Application Deadline, November 15, 2010  
Must be emailed to [afletcher@umc.edu](mailto:afletcher@umc.edu)

APPLICANT'S NAME:

CHAPTER AFFILIATION:

PROJECT TITLE:

SUMMARY:

SIGNIFICANCE:

APPROACH:

INNOVATION:

BUDGET:

SCORE: \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEWER: \_\_\_\_\_