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National Black Nurses Association Appoints Executive Director

Silver Spring, MD – The National Black Nurses Association (NBNA) released a statement on the appointment of its new Executive Director to lead the Association.

After an extensive national search, today the National Black Nurses Association, Inc (NBNA) is honored to announce the appointment of **Mrs. Tonya Jackson, MSHA, BSN, RN** to serve as the association's Executive Director effective January 18, 2024. She brings to this role over 20 + years of transformational leadership in non-profit and community-based organizations. She is a registered nurse specializing in long-term care and has experience as an administrator, a director of nursing, adjunct professor of nursing, and quality improvement.

Mrs. Jackson is an accomplished and innovative organizational strategist in health equity, nonprofit transformation, workforce development, and building equitable system transformation. This is in addition to her experience working in housing and building equitable systems with a nurturing spirit as a nurse, showcasing a remarkable ability to scale organizations while effectively executing their missions. With a distinguished background in both public and private industries, Mrs. Jackson has held various senior leadership positions and is known as a champion in her field.

Throughout her 20+ year career mainly in nonprofit organizations, she has served as the Chief Executive for Transit Employees' Health and Welfare Plan, LLC (A Public Sector Health and Welfare Plan). She has also served as the Vice President of Health and Housing Strategy for Volunteers of America National Services. Other prior roles include an appointment as the Director of Health Safety Net Development and Innovation for Fairfax County Government's Health and Human Services, Regional Care Director at CareFirst Blue Cross Blue Shield. Mrs. Jackson founded the Agape Health Group, Inc., which began as an organizational development consulting firm and quickly grew into a multimillion-dollar governmental contracting agency offering homecare services, healthcare staffing, and health education.

Mrs. Jackson has committed her career to leading not-for-profit organizations and serving on well-known boards at a National, State and Local level. She was appointed as the Co-Convenor for the Southern and Prince George's County Health Collaboration. She served as a Board of Director for Prince George's County Chamber of Commerce, where she started and chaired the first health care community. Under her leadership the Healthcare Committee hosted the county's first health symposium. She was also an appointed Ambassador of Health at NIH for the Healthy Child Program. She is a sought-after featured speaker on local governmental issues. She also has been featured on several news outlets, representing the small business community on the effects of the implementation of the "Affordable Care Act."

Mrs. Jackson has been awarded multiple accolades such as Maryland's Most Admired CEO/Daily Record, Maryland's Very Important People-Successful by 40, Top 100 Minority Business for the Mid-Atlantic region, and SmartCEO Future 50 Emerging Winner- Baltimore. Outside of her professional endeavors, she is a charter member of the Psi Epsilon Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc and served as the Steering Co-Chair for the "Pearl Elegance Foundation." Currently, she is the President of the National Harbor Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc., and serves as the organization's National Nominating Chair. Despite her numerous accomplishments, her most cherished role is loving wife to her husband David, and devoted mother to her three children: Trinity, Chloe, and Madison.



Mrs. Tonya Jackson MSHA, BSN, RN

"It is such an honor to have this opportunity to serve as Executive Director for the National Black Nurses Association. As a nurse, I am humbled to have the opportunity to serve an organization of excellence at the core of the Black nurse experience. I am equally ecstatic to work with NBNA President Dr. Fields, the Board of Directors and the NBNA staff as we embark upon this new journey together." — Stated Mrs. Tonya Jackson.

"It is an honor to welcome Mrs. Jackson as our Executive Director. She brings a wealth of non-profit expertise and leadership as a nursing professional. This is a critical time for nursing, and I believe Mrs. Jackson's style of leadership is what we need to advance the NBNA mission. I look forward to working with her." – Stated NBNA President Dr. Sheldon D. Fields.

It has been a pleasure to have served as the Interim Executive Director while NBNA conducted their search for a permanent Executive Director. I feel NBNA has selected the right candidate to help lead our organization as we continue to serve as the voice for Black nurses and diverse populations. I'm excited to assist Mrs. Jackson as she transitions into her new role" — Stated Dr. Vivienne Pierce McDaniel.

The Washington DC based executive search firm "Academic Search" conducted the national search for NBNA's Executive Director.

About NBNA

Founded in 1971, the mission of NBNA is "to serve as the voice for black nurses and diverse populations ensuring equal access to professional development, promoting educational opportunities and improving health." NBNA represents 500,000 black registered nurses, licensed vocational/practical nurses, nursing students and retired nurses from the USA, Eastern Caribbean, and Africa, through 111 chartered chapters, in 32 states and the District of Columbia. Learn more at www.NBNA.org.