

Vaccines

Are Good For

America



**THIS CAMPAIGN IS PART OF NBCI 10 YEAR
IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM 2020-2030**





The National Black Church Initiative Launches Its 'Immunization Now' Program

We Hope to Vaccinate 2 Million African Americans

WASHINGTON, DC, UNITED STATES, January 22, 2025 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The [National Black Church Initiative](#) (NBCI), a coalition of 150,000 African American churches constituting 27.7 million members, is launching the first edition of the "Immunize Now" newspaper. It is a comprehensive newspaper on the importance of immunization and the African American community. This is part of a 10-year immunization program that was launched by the National Black Church Initiative in 2020.

We plan to kick off this immunization project at Israel Baptist Church in the city of Baltimore on January 26, 2025, at 10 am.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), immunization is a process by which a person becomes protected against a disease through vaccination. This term is often used interchangeably with vaccination or inoculation. Vaccination is the act of introducing a vaccine into the body to produce protection from a specific disease.

Rev. Anthony Evans, President of the National Black Church Initiative, said, "When we launched this program in 2020, we knew it would be an uphill battle, but we did it in light of the fact that



President of the National Black Church Initiative



National Flu Campaign - NBCI 10 Year Immunization Program: 2020-2030

Press Releases



NBCI and ACHDC Release Major Report to the HHS and Congress Concerning Vaccine Confusion

Vaccines are good for America!

WASHINGTON, DC, UNITED STATES, December 9, 2025 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The [National Black Church Initiative](#) (NBCI), a coalition of 150,000 African American and Latino faith communities comprising 27.7 million members, has released a 43-page report on the confusion surrounding vaccines and their effects on vulnerable populations. The report, "[Vaccines Are Good for America](#)", focuses on the need for vaccines and the negative consequences of the confusion for African Americans, Latinos, young children, immunocompromised adults, and the poor.

According to health experts, vaccine confusion will lead to 100,000 premature deaths among African Americans with dual diagnoses over the next five years. Rev. Anthony Evans, President of the National Black Church Initiative, says, "Vaccines are good for America. NBCI is proud to let its 27.7 million members know that there are 100 years of scientific data that support the effectiveness and safety of vaccines. The benefits of vaccines truly outweigh the risks—this is why you should check with your primary care doctor. NBCI eagerly and continuously seeks partnerships with BIO, Pharma, the CDC, NIH, all health foundations, and state and local health departments to promote immunization for all Americans. Let's keep America healthy and vaccinated."

Vaccines Are Good for America's relevant subtitle is "Why all the confusion?" This report strives to clear up the needless confusion around vaccine effectiveness, particularly because Blacks are at a crisis point when it comes to immunization. The [American Clinical Health Disparities Commission \(ACHDC\)](#) is working with NBCI to help provide clinical direction concerning teaching vaccine education to the general public. Vaccines Are Good for America states: "We must warn



Rev. Anthony Evans, President, National Black Church Initiative



VACCINES ARE GOOD FOR AMERICA

DISEASE CONTROL AND ERADICATION

Widespread vaccination can lead to the control, elimination, or even global eradication of diseases. Smallpox has been eradicated, and polio is close to being globally eliminated due to successful vaccination programs.



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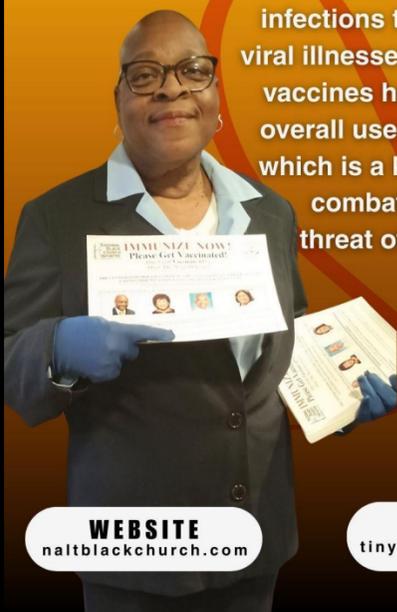
EDUCATION



VACCINES ARE GOOD FOR AMERICA

REDUCED ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE

By preventing bacterial infections (like certain types of pneumonia) or secondary bacterial infections that can follow viral illnesses (like the flu), vaccines help reduce the overall use of antibiotics, which is a key strategy in combating the global threat of antimicrobial resistance.



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VACCINES ARE GOOD FOR AMERICA

IMPROVED CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION

Healthy children miss less school, which improves their academic progress and long-term economic productivity.



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VACCINES ARE GOOD FOR AMERICA

DISEASE CONTROL AND ERADICATION

Widespread vaccination can lead to the control, elimination, or even global eradication of diseases. Smallpox has been eradicated, and polio is close to being globally eliminated due to successful vaccination programs.



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IMMUNIZE NOW!

Please Get Vaccinated!

**Our Goal-Vaccinate 65%
Over The Next 10 Years**



THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL (CDC) SAYS AFRICAN-AMERICAN AND LATINO IMMUNIZATION RATES ARE DANGEROUSLY LOW

VACCINES SAVE LIVES by PREVENTING DISEASE

BLACK DOCTORS AND THE BLACK CHURCH ENCOURAGE IMMUNIZATIONS FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY



*Rev. Anthony Evans
President of National Black Church Initiative*

**Ministers are not Doctors.*



*Dr. Elena Rios
President & CEO of the National Hispanic
Medical Association, (NHMA)*



*Marcus Christopher Griffith, MD
Psychiatrist and Obesity Medicine
physician, Southeast Permanente Medical
Group*



*Dr. Yolanda Lawson MD
President-of the National Medical Association
Board Certified OBGYN is the founder of MadeWell
OBGYN*

Immunization Rates in the African American Community

African American adults are less likely than non-Hispanic White adults to have received a flu vaccine in the past year or to have ever received the pneumonia vaccine. **Influenza adults 18 and older for 2023-2024 season: White, non-hispanic (49.1%), Black, non-hispanic (42.1%), Hispanic (34.6%).** Source: <https://tinyurl.com/bd36uc25>.

Pneumonia data from 2021: Coverage with ≥ 1 dose of any type of pneumococcal vaccine among adults aged ≥ 65 years was 64.0%, similar to the estimate for 2021. Coverage among White adults aged ≥ 65 years (69.1%) was higher compared with Black (53.5%), Hispanic (41.7%), Asian (50.2%), and other race (54.0%) adults.

Composite 2021 data: Coverage with all age-appropriate vaccines in the composite adult vaccination measure (including influenza vaccination) was lower among Black (12.1%) and Hispanic (17.0%) adults compared with White (26.1%), Asian (26.2%) and other race (24.5%) adults aged ≥ 19 years. Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/imz-managers/coverage/adultvaxview/pubs-resources/vaccination-coverage-adults-2022.html>



VACCINES ARE GOOD FOR AMERICA

MATERNAL AND INFANT HEALTH

Vaccinating pregnant people can protect both the parent and the baby, who receives protective antibodies and is vulnerable in their first months of life before they can be vaccinated themselves

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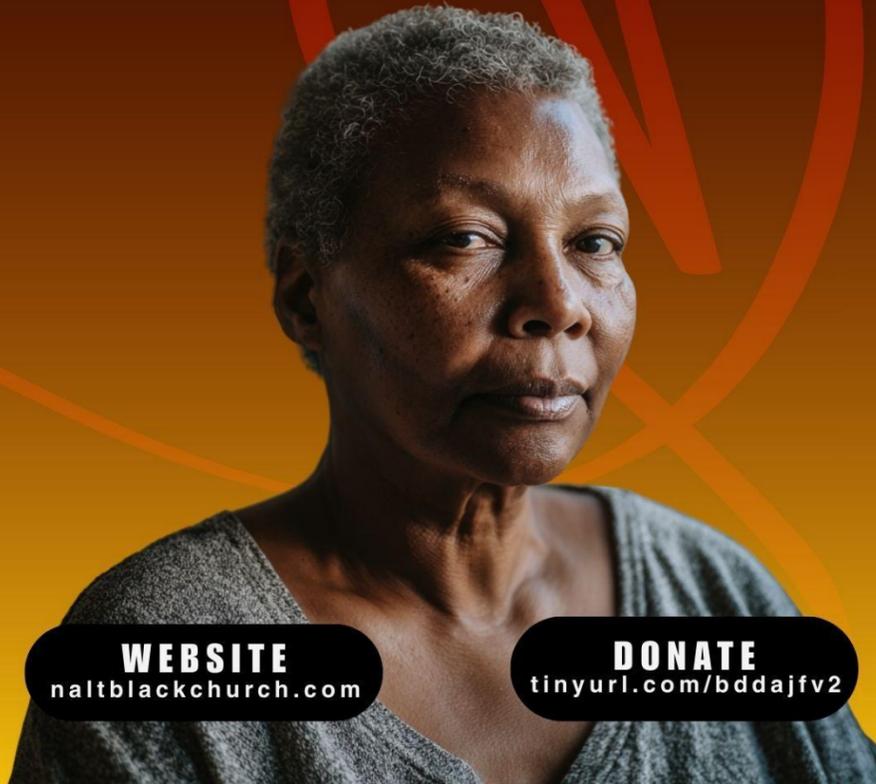
EDUCATION



VACCINES ARE GOOD FOR AMERICA

PROTECTING VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

When a large percentage of a community is vaccinated, it slows or stops the spread of disease, which provides indirect protection (herd immunity) for those who cannot be vaccinated, such as infants, the elderly, or individuals with weakened immune systems due to conditions like cancer.



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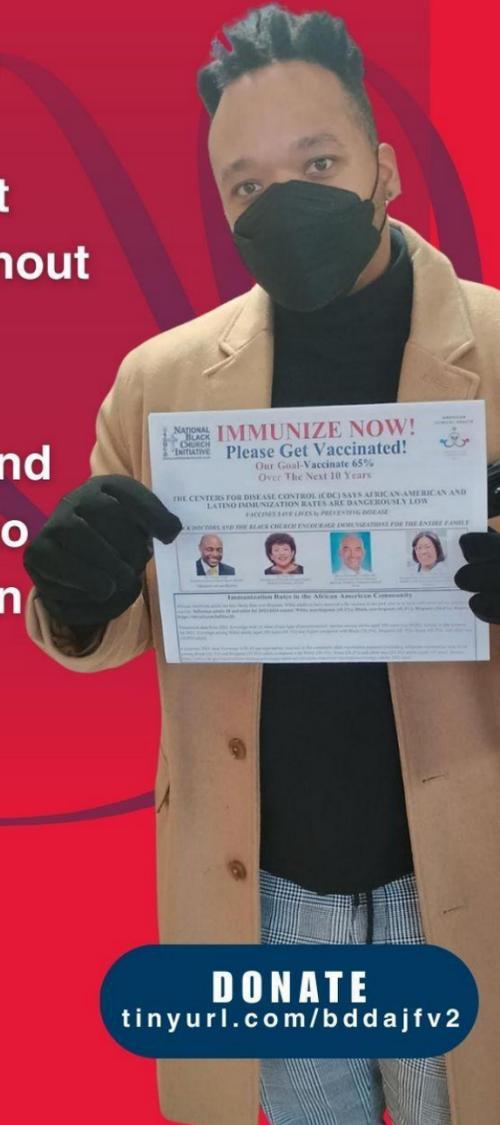
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VACCINES ARE GOOD FOR AMERICA

STRENGTHENED IMMUNE SYSTEM

Vaccines teach the immune system to recognize and fight specific germs without the risks of a full-blown infection, providing a safer and more reliable way to build immunity than getting sick.



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Vaccines are good for America!

YOUR GUIDE TO VACCINES Protecting Yourself and Your Community



Let's talk about vaccines, those important shots that keep you, your loved ones, and your neighbors healthy. We'll review how vaccines work in easy-to-understand language, bust some common myths, and give you the facts you need to feel confident about rolling up your sleeve.

Why Are Vaccines Important?

Vaccines save lives. They're one of the best ways to protect against serious diseases that can make you very sick, send you to the hospital, or even cause death. Getting vaccinated protects you and those around you, like babies, older adults, and people who can't get certain vaccines because of health problems. This is called *community protection* or *herd immunity*.

How Do Vaccines Work?

Here's an easy way to think of it:

- Think of your body's *immune system* as an army that protects you from germs (like viruses and bacteria).
- When you get a vaccine, you're giving your army "practice rounds." The vaccine doesn't cause the real disease, but it teaches your body how to fight off specific germs if they ever show up.
- Later, if the real germ comes around, your army is ready. They identify the enemy, and they fight back fast to protect you. You may never get sick at all, or if you do, the illness will likely be much milder.

Why Focus on Flu and Pneumonia Shots?

Every year, flu (influenza) and pneumonia put thousands of people in the hospital and can even lead to death, especially for older adults and people with certain health conditions. These two vaccines are especially important:

- Flu Shot:** Get it every fall. Even healthy adults can get very sick from flu. The shot can stop you from getting very sick, and it means fewer missed days of school and work.
- Pneumococcal Vaccine (Pneumonia Shot):** Protects you from serious lung infections and things that can happen when someone has pneumonia and complications like sepsis (the body's extreme response to an infection). It is especially important for adults over 50 and people with ongoing health problems.





VACCINES ARE GOOD FOR AMERICA

INCREASED PRODUCTIVITY

By preventing illness and missed work or school days, vaccines help maintain a productive workforce and support the overall economy. Every dollar spent on childhood immunizations in the U.S. is estimated to save approximately \$11 in societal costs.



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EDUCATION



VACCINES ARE GOOD FOR AMERICA

REDUCED FINANCIAL RISK

Vaccination helps families avoid the potentially catastrophic out-of-pocket medical expenses that a severe illness can cause, which can otherwise thrust people into poverty.



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VACCINES ARE GOOD FOR AMERICA

COST-EFFECTIVENESS AND SAVINGS

Vaccination is one of the most cost-effective public health interventions. It prevents the significant costs associated with medical treatment, hospitalizations, and long-term care for diseases.



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VACCINES ARE GOOD FOR AMERICA

Reduced Illness Severity

If a vaccinated person does get sick (a breakthrough infection), they are much less likely to experience severe symptoms, hospitalization, or death compared to an unvaccinated person.



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VACCINES ARE GOOD FOR AMERICA

Protection Against Complications

Vaccination helps prevent long-term health complications associated with certain infections, such as:

- Protection Against Liver damage and cancer from Hepatitis B and HPV.
- Protection Against Pneumonia and brain inflammation from measles.
- Protection Against Painful shingles and associated nerve pain from the Chickenpox Virus Reactivation.
- Protection Against Cardiovascular events like heart atPneumoniad strokes, which can be triggered by inflammatory illnesses like the flu, RSV, and shingles.



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VACCINES ARE GOOD FOR AMERICA

Disease Prevention

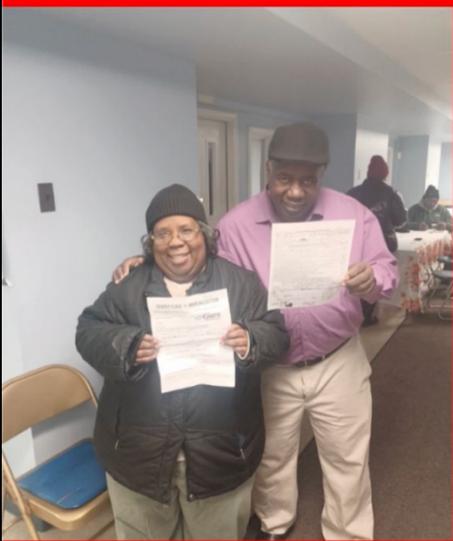
Vaccines are highly effective at preventing numerous serious, potentially deadly, or disabling diseases such as measles, polio, tetanus, hepatitis B, and whooping cough.



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OUTREACH



VACCINES ARE GOOD FOR AMERICA

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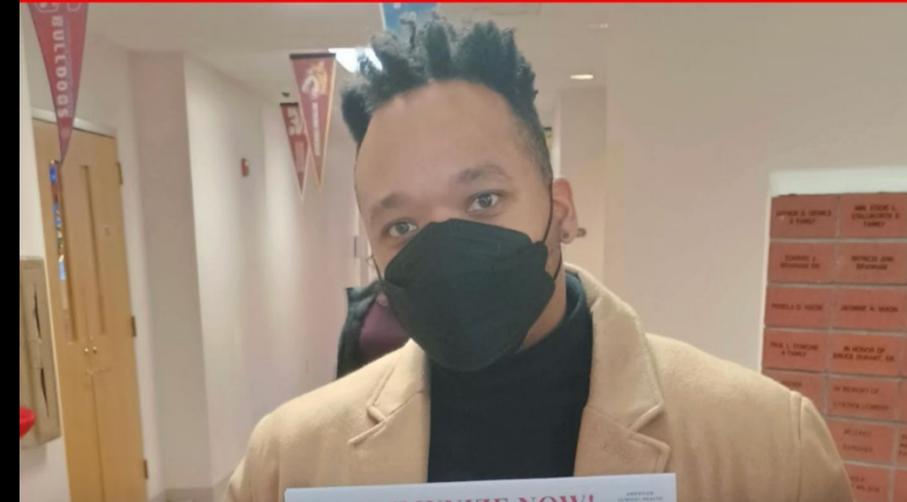
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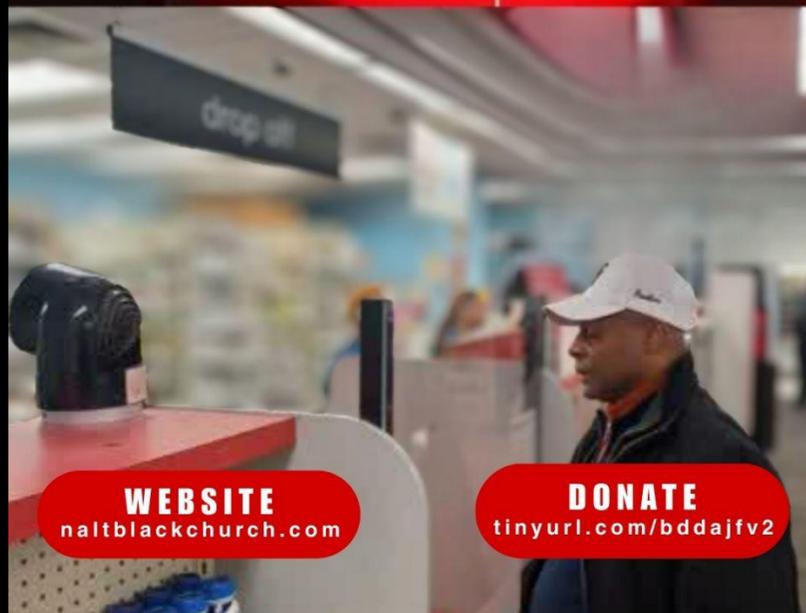
Awareness



The Worst Flu Season in 15 Years

Reduce risk of complications

Vaccination minimizes complications that can arise from diseases, such as postherpetic neuralgia from shingles, breathing problems from diphtheria, and liver failure from hepatitis B.



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WARNING The Worst Flu Season in 15 Years

Minimize Hospitalization

Immunization significantly reduces the chances of needing urgent care or hospitalization for vaccine-preventable diseases like COVID-19 and the flu.



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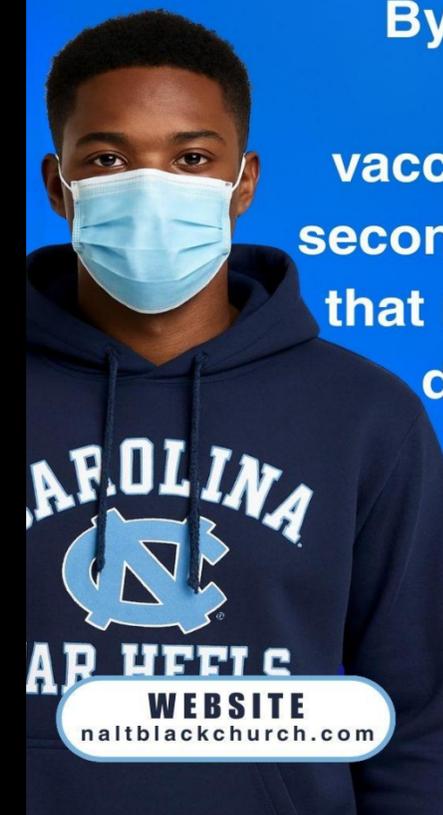
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The Worst Flu Season in 15 Years

Prevent Secondary Infections

By preventing the initial illness, vaccines help avoid secondary infections that might take hold during recovery.



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Immunize Now Campaign



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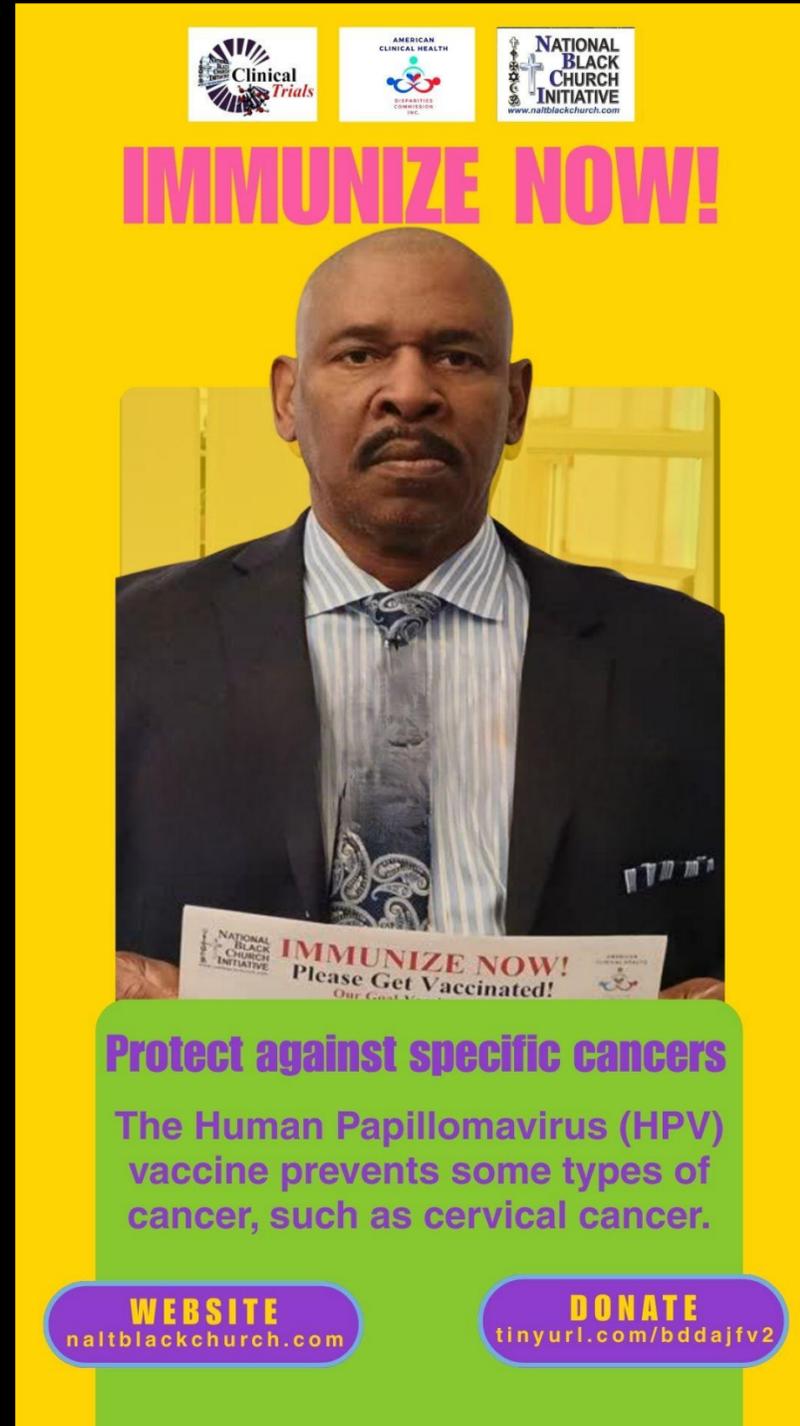
Immunize Now!

Lower risk of long COVID

Studies suggest that people vaccinated against COVID-19 are less likely to develop long COVID if they contract the virus.

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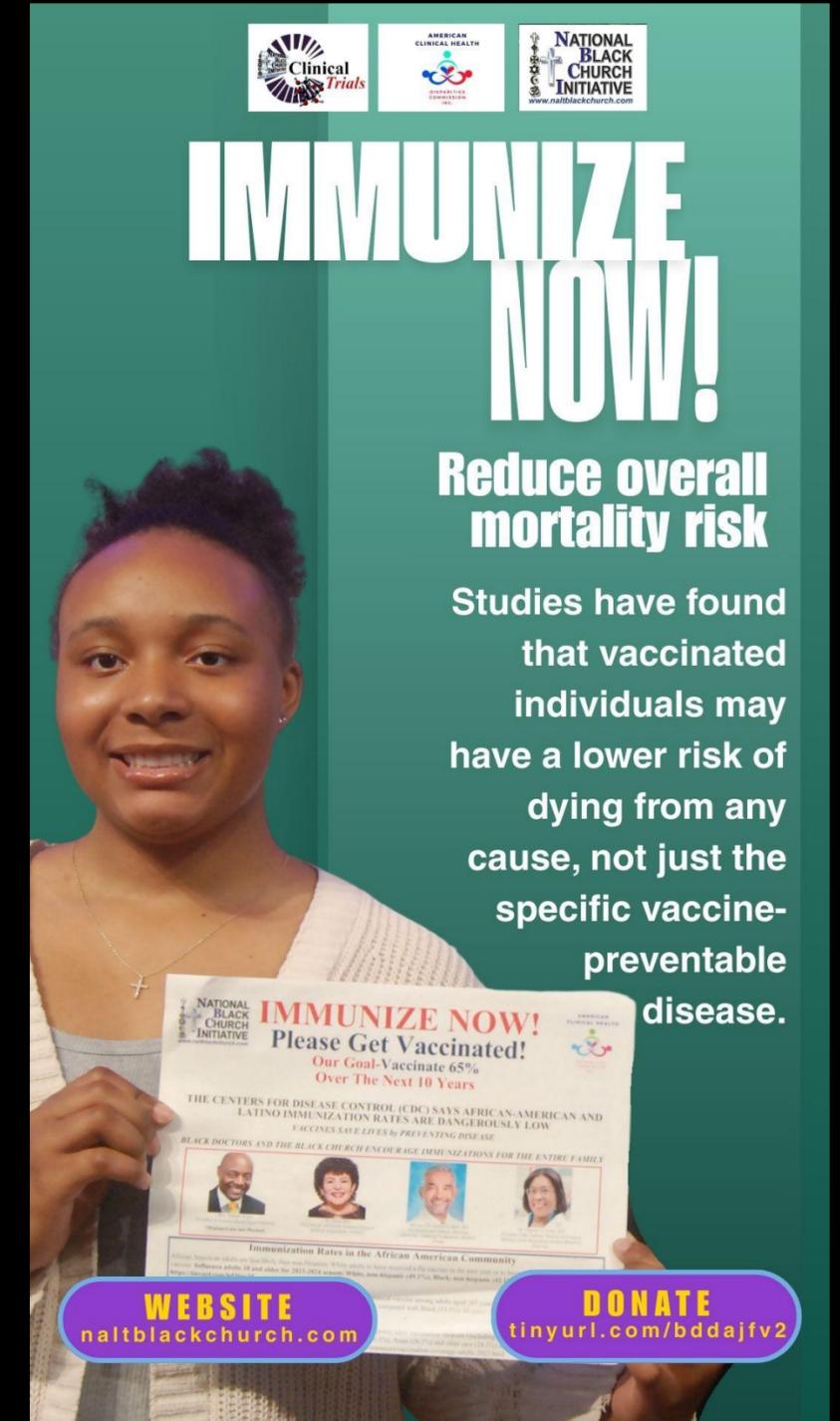
IMMUNIZE NOW!

Protect against specific cancers

The Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine prevents some types of cancer, such as cervical cancer.

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IMMUNIZE NOW!

Reduce overall mortality risk

Studies have found that vaccinated individuals may have a lower risk of dying from any cause, not just the specific vaccine-preventable disease.

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IMMUNIZE NOW!

Lower stroke risk

Vaccination against influenza can also lower the risk of stroke in older adults.



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VACCINES ARE GOOD FOR AMERICA

PREVENT SERIOUS ILLNESS

Vaccines train the immune system to fight off infections, preventing severe illness, disability, and death from diseases like influenza, pneumonia, shingles, and hepatitis B



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IMMUNIZE NOW!

Reduced heart attack risk

The flu vaccine, in particular, has been associated with a lower risk of heart attack.

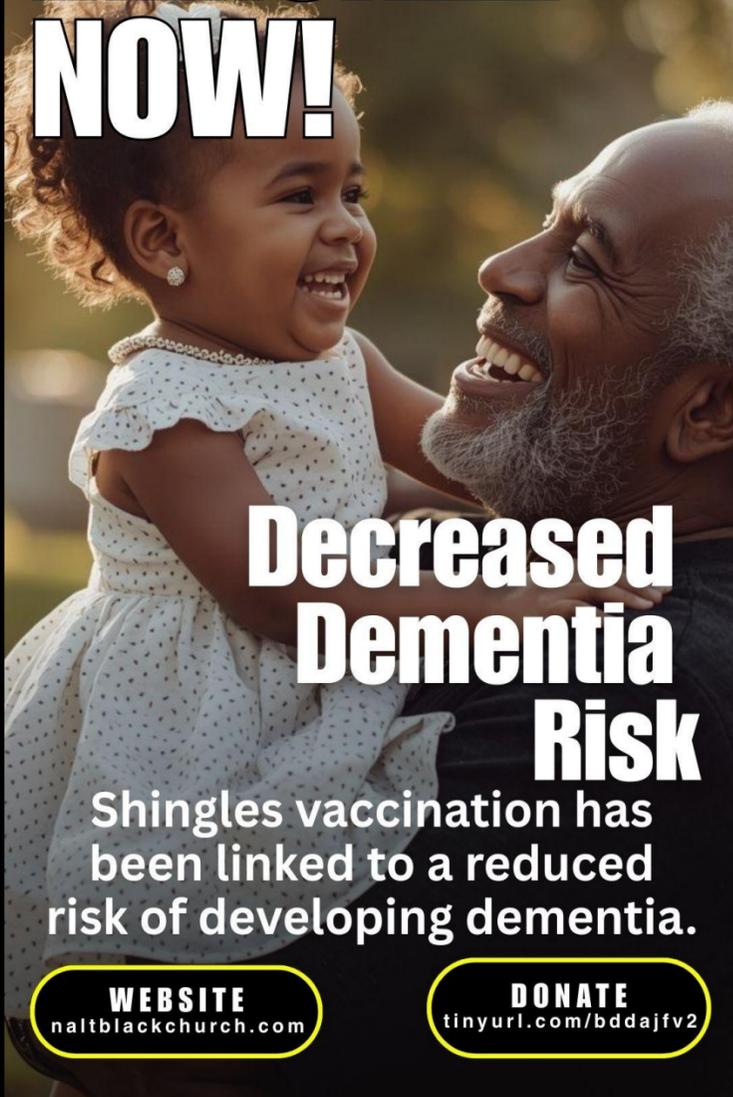


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IMMUNIZE NOW!



Decreased Dementia Risk

Shingles vaccination has been linked to a reduced risk of developing dementia.

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IMMUNIZE NOW!



Improved Cardiovascular Health

The shingles vaccine may lower the risk of other serious cardiovascular issues, such as blood clots.

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IMMUNIZE NOW!



Enhanced cancer survival outcomes

For patients with cancer, receiving the influenza vaccine has been associated with better survival rates.

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ACHDC.NET/

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**DEADLY
SEASONAL VIRUS.**

15,000,000 SICK.

**18,000
HOSPITALIZED**

7,400 DIED.

GET VACCINATED



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**NBCI AND ACHDC DECLARE A
VACCINE FLU EMERGENCY**

**GET YOUR FLU VACCINE SHOT
ESPECIALLY SENIORS AND
MOTHERS WITH DEPENDENT
CHILDREN**

**A NEW, POTENTIALLY SEVERE
FLU VARIANT IS SPREADING IN
THE US.**



**ACHDC mandate
masks for ALL
black churches**
achdc.net/





Community Events



buy.stripe.com/4gw3d41zqeJz8vu000 Reverend Anthony Evans, President



The National Black Church Initiative and New Life Mission Baptist Church and Ministries, Baltimore MD are Honored to Work with Canaan Missionary Baptist Church and Pastor Darnell Jeffers on NBCI's Program

Vaccines Are Good For America (Free Vaccine Clinics with Walgreens) *Walgreens*

There will be Flu, COVID, and other vaccines available for our Seniors, and others who need them.
Canaan Missionary Baptist Church will host the vaccine program on its site.

November 15, 2025 10am - 4:00 PM
Canaan Missionary Baptist Church
1108 E. Preston St.
Baltimore, Md. 21202
443-835-2599



Rev. Darnell Jeffers
Pastor, Canaan Missionary Baptist Church



canaamissionarybaptistchurch.com



buy.stripe.com/4gw3d41zqeJz8vu000 Reverend Anthony Evans, President



The National Black Church Initiative is Honored to Work with Co-Op City Baptist Church and Pastor Rev. Dr. Sheldon Williams on NBCI's Program

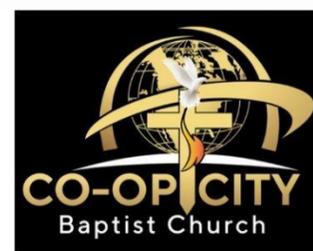
Vaccines Are Good For America (Free Vaccine Clinics with Walgreens) *Walgreens*

There will be Flu, COVID, and other vaccines available for our Seniors, and others who need them.

November 15, 2025 10:00am - 5:00pm
Co-Op City Baptist Church, Bronx, NY
Einstein Shopping Center
135 Einstein Loop S, Bronx, NY 10475
(718) 320-3774



The Reverend Dr. Sheldon E. Williams
Pastor, Co-Op City Baptist Church



buy.stripe.com/4gw3d41zqeJz8vu000 Reverend Anthony Evans, President

The National Black Church Initiative is Honored to Work with Israel Baptist Church and Pastor Rev. Dr. H. Walden Wilson, II on NBCI's Program

Vaccines Are Good For America (Free Vaccine Clinics with Walgreens) *Walgreens*

There will be Flu, COVID, and other vaccines available for our Seniors, and others who need them.

November 22, 2025, 10:00 am - 5:00pm
Israel Baptist Church Historic Sanctuary
1220 N. Chester St, Baltimore, MD 21213
410-732-3494



Rev. Dr. H. Walden Wilson, II
President of the National Black Church Initiative



buy.stripe.com/4gw3d41zqeJz8vu000 Reverend Anthony Evans, President

The National Black Church Initiative is Honored to Work with Israel Baptist Church and Pastor Rev. Dr. H. Walden Wilson, II on NBCI's Program

Vaccines Are Good For America (Free Vaccine Clinics with Walgreens) *Walgreens*

There will be Flu, COVID, and other vaccines available for our Seniors, and others who need them.

Sunday November 16, 2025, 12:00PM - 4:00PM
Greater Saint John Cathedral (GSJC)
11425 Old Marlboro Pike
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772
301-574-5100



Bishop Kevin V. Gresham Sr.
Senior Pastor
Greater Saint John Cathedral



buy.stripe.com/4gw3d41zqeJz8vu000 Reverend Anthony Evans, President



The National Black Church Initiative is Honored to Work with Gethsemane Baptist Church and Pastor Emmett S. Young on NBCI's Program

Vaccines Are Good For America (Free Vaccine Clinics with Walgreens) *Walgreens*

There will be Flu, COVID, and other vaccines available for our Seniors, and others who need them.

November 29th, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Gethsemane Baptist Church Fellowship Hall
5119 4th St NW
Washington, DC 20011
202-882-5836



Snacks with be provided