

Blood Pressure

More than 70,000 blacks in New York's Central Harlem district alone are unknowingly walking around with high blood pressure, the leading health problem among black Americans, according to Dr. George Branche of the Harlem Hospital Center.

The problem is not indigenous to New York alone, Dr. Branche told attendees at the National Conference on High Blood Pressure Control. He said about one-third of blacks living in inner cities throughout the U.S. suffer from high blood pressure.

The three-day conference attracted more than 800 educators, health administrators, members of the medical and nursing professions, citizen's groups and labor organizations, economists, clinicians and public health experts from throughout the country to discuss progress and controversies in high blood pressure control.

"One problem peculiar to the inner city is that the incidence of high blood pressure is higher there -- and this holds for whites as well as blacks," the physician said.

"The inner city is certainly a more stressful place to live. At least I believe that. Now whether this causes the increased incidence of hypertension is another question being looked at," Dr. Branche said.

"Innovative detection and treatment programs are needed to help inner city blacks control their high blood pressure. Experience at the Harlem Hospital Center shows that carefully trained nurse therapists have a high success rate in detecting the disease and in educating people about the need for getting help and staying on treatment," he said.

In most cases, Dr. Branche explained, High blood pressure shows no symptoms until too late, when it results in heart attack, stroke or kidney disease.

"Nurse therapists and other health aides can do this work very well, and they often do it better than physicians because they have the time to spend with individuals, explaining the dangers and the importance of getting the right treatment.

"In addition to these specially trained nurse therapists, the Center added evening and Saturday hours for the convenience of the patients, and had a pharmacist on hand for drug dispensing during part of the program. Inner city residents are very mobile within their neighborhoods, and we lack adequate facilities, physicians and other personnel.

"It's very difficult to motivate people to go out of their way and use up their time waiting sometime for hours to check up on a potential disease, when they feel just fine, when they don't have pain or other symptoms," he said.

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N B U F

The Black Scholar is a magazine that describes itself as a "Journal of Black Studies and Research." The magazine is concise and well written. It deals with relevant issues that affect black life in a mature, intelligent and meaningful manner. The Black Scholar has a speakers bureau, book club and other related services.

Black Scholar, in association with National Black United Funds, recently published a special issue on Funding The Black Community. Dr. King E. Davis, Professor of Human Behavior at the Graduate School of Social Work, Norfolk State University, served as guest editor to the issue. Dr. Davis, has written extensively on black fund raising, and is currently studying black volunteers and their roles in black organizations.

Dr. Davis was supported by a strong cast of supporting writers who addressed themselves to topics such as; The Federal Government and Black Fund Raising, Tax Exempt Funds and Black Economic Development, Developing Black Foundations: An Economic Response to Black Community Needs, The Tax Reform Act of 1976: Some Implications for Black Fund Raising Organizations, The Impact of External Public Funding Policies on the Development of Black Community Organizations, Mutual Aid: A Key to Survival for Black Americans, and The United Way and the Black Community in Atlanta, Georgia.

In addition, Dr. Davis leads with his own article entitled Jobs, Income, Business and Charity in the Black Community.

The issue is comprehensive and hard hitting. It is must reading for those who are concerned about the welfare of the Black community and who want to be a part of the struggle for change.

Other contributors to the special edition include Lynda King Anderson, my Administrative Assistant. Lynda has participated extensively in the development of National Black United Fund Chapters. She has participated in the development of our legal challenge to Federal policies that prohibit black fund raising.

Dr. Robert S. Browne is Executive Director of the center for Black Economic Development in New York City. In addition, Dr. Brown is President of the 21st Century Foundation.

Dr. Milfred C. Fierce, is Executive Director of the Association of Black Foundation Executives. He has written extensively on the contributions of foundations to black institutions.

James A. Joseph, currently serves as Under Secretary, Department of Interior, but served as President of the Board of Directors of National Black United Funds for three years before his appointment. Dr. Joseph was instrumental in the development of the Association of Black Foundation Executives and served as Chairman of the Board for five years.

Alex J. Norman is acting Associate Professor in the School of Social Welfare, at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Earl Palmer is an instructor of Social Work at Southern University. His analysis of United Way was completed in 1976 while he was a graduate student at Norfolk State College.

Dr. Carl Sewell has served as Executive Director of the Joint Center for Political Studies for several years. During this time, Dr. Sewell has conducted research on the process of black community development.

Dr. Davis in his guest editorial states: "The articles in this special edition are aimed at identifying the specific processes, policies and organizations that inhibit successful black fund raising. In some instances these barriers emanate from policies of the Federal Government, from tax reform measures, from the iniquitous distribution of local United Way monies, or from the distributional pattern of black charity. Whatever their source, they contribute to the impoverishment of black organizations and black community life."

I will devote my articles in the coming

weeks to the varied and interesting articles of this special issue on Black Fund Raising. Copies of the edition may be obtained by sending \$2.00 to National Black United Funds, 335 West Florence, Los Angeles, California 90003.

THE LAS VEGAS METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

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PUB: LV VOICE April 20, 24

Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

- 1. Ducks
- 6. Flower part
- 11. Malay island
- 12. Wardrobe
- 14. Macaw
- 15. State
- 17. Exclamation
- 18. Puts
- 20. Soon
- 21. Perform
- 22. Press
- 23. Buttonlike parts
- 26. Therefore
- 27. Decline
- 30. Of the nostrils
- 31. Tissue
- 32. English school
- 33. Bold
- 35. Corded fabric
- 36. Because
- 38. Tales
- 40. Engrave
- 42. Above
- 43. Raised platform
- 45. Dreadful
- 46. Siouan Indian
- 48. Heron
- 50. Foot digit
- 51. Scanty
- 53. Meal
- 55. Waste matter
- 56. Edible seeds
- 25. Linden
- 28. Mixers
- 29. Wound coverings
- 31. Label
- 33. Flower
- 34. Leased
- 36. Side to side
- 37. Shroud
- 39. Male title
- 41. Giant
- 44. Slav
- 47. Paddle
- 49. Golf mound
- 52. Move
- 54. Father

DOWN

- 1. Bullfighter
- 2. Poetry muse
- 3. Article
- 4. Hawaiian wreath
- 5. Carbonated water
- 6. Sailing ship
- 7. Lengthen
- 8. Italian river
- 9. Snake
- 10. Very heavy
- 11. Foundation
- 13. Pronoun
- 16. Insect
- 19. Cold symptom
- 24. Felt one's way

ANSWERS ON PAGE 19