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# Tuskegee University recognizes National Minority Health Month

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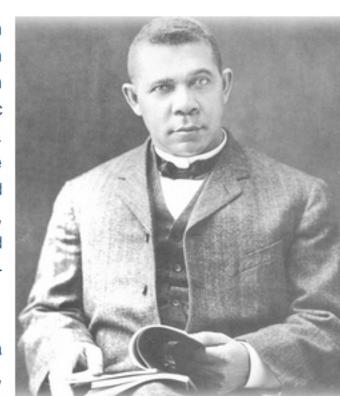
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TUSKEGEE, Ala. (April 9, 2013) — In recognition of National Minority Health Month, the Health Disparities Institute for Research and Education and the National Center for Bioethics in Research and Health Care at Tuskegee University will host a series of events. According to the Office of Minority Health in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, "This April, the Office of Minority Health and our partners mark National Minority Health Month by raising awareness about health disparities that continue to affect racial and ethnic minorities, and the health care law's groundbreaking policies to

In keeping with the theme for National Minority Health Month, the Health Disparities Institute for Research and Education will convene the 2nd Annual Health Disparities Symposium focusing on: "The Economic Impact of Health Disparities in the Alabama Black Belt. \*One of the major sessions in the symposium will be the "Economic Analysis of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act" presented by Pamela Roshell, Region IV director of U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The symposium will held Thursday-April 14at the university and the City of Tuskegee.

reduce these disparities and achieve health equity."

April 27, the Health Disparities Institute will host a gala with featured keynote speaker, Dr. Henry W. Foster, Jr., a renowned physician who was head of the



Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at John A. Andrew Hospital, here in Tuskegee. In addition, Foster was the presidential nominee for U.S. Surgeon General under the Clinton administration, and former dean of medicine at Meharry Medical College. The gala, "New Spirit, New Hope for Health Care," will recognize Tuskegee University graduates who are currently in the health care professions and/or who are engaged in health disparities research and education. The gala will also showcase the outstanding career of Dr. Foster and serve as the launching of an endowed scholarship in his name. The scholarship will be for those students at Tuskegee University who have aspired to pursue a career in the health professions or health disparities research. Foster will discuss "Creating New Paradigms in Healthcare and Healthcare Delivery."

### EVENTS:

What: 2nd Annual Health Disparities Symposium

Theme: "The Economic Impact of Health Disparities in the Alabama Black Belt"

When: Thursday-Friday

Time: 7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. CST Where: Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center at Tuskegee University

Cost: Students \$25; senior citizens (62 and older) \$25; and other registrants \$100

What: Healthy Lifestyles Health Marathon

Theme: "The Economic Impact of Health Disparities in the Alabama Black Belt" When: Saturday

Time: 8 a.m. CST

Where: City of Tuskegee Square

Cost: Competitive runners \$25 and free for non-competitive participants

Contact: Barbara Howard: 334- 421-8128 or Cheryl Ferguson: 334-725-2383 or healthylifestylemarathon@gmail.com

What: Worship Service When: Sunday, April 14

www.tuskegee.edu/HDIRE

Time: 11 a.m. CST Where: Butler Chapel AME Zion Church

Cost: Free

What: Women In Science and Health (W.I.S.H.) Seminar

When: Wednesday, April 17 Time: 12- 1:30 p.m. CST

Where: John A. Kenney Hall Room 70-105, Tuskegee University

What: "New Spirit: New Hope in Healthcare" Gala Featured Speaker: Dr. Henry W. Foster, Jr.

When: Saturday, April 27

Time: 5:30 - 6 p.m. for reception and 6 - 8:30 p.m. for gala

Where: City of Tuskegee Municipal Complex Cost: Tickets are \$50 per person and \$90 per couple

### About National Minority Health Month

Historically, National Minority Health Month arose from the work of Booker T. Washington, Tuskegee University's founder and first president. In 1915, he launched Negro Health Improvement Week that later evolved to National Negro Health Week which occurred from April 11 - April 17. What we now observe as National Minority Health Month had its origin in The National Negro Health Week of Booker T. Washington. Booker T. Washington addressed the issue of health in 1914 at the Tuskegee Negro Conference. It was in his address that he reiterated the data surrounding the health of the American Negro. In his address, he cited that 45 percent of all Negro deaths were preventable; that there were 450,000 Negroes who experienced serious illnesses continuously; the annual cost was \$75 million; and that sickness and death cost the American Negro \$100 million annually. Together, these activities and citations prompted a 35-year national health movement starting in 1915 and ending in or around 1950.

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