

# LETTER TO OUR COMMUNITY

Dear Community Member and Partners,

We are pleased to share the 2023 African American Community Assessment for San Mateo County. We are honored to facilitate this community assessment focused on understanding the social and environmental factors contributing to or preventing substance use and mental health challenges in Black youth and the community.

On behalf of the African American Planning and Design Committee, we hope you find this information useful in your planning to uplift the strengths and beauty of the African American culture that helps our youth withstand using substances while responding to the needs of our community that support our resilience. We envision working together across sectors and communities to prioritize issues and strategies to reduce the impacts of substance use and mental health challenges in the Black/African youth and community.

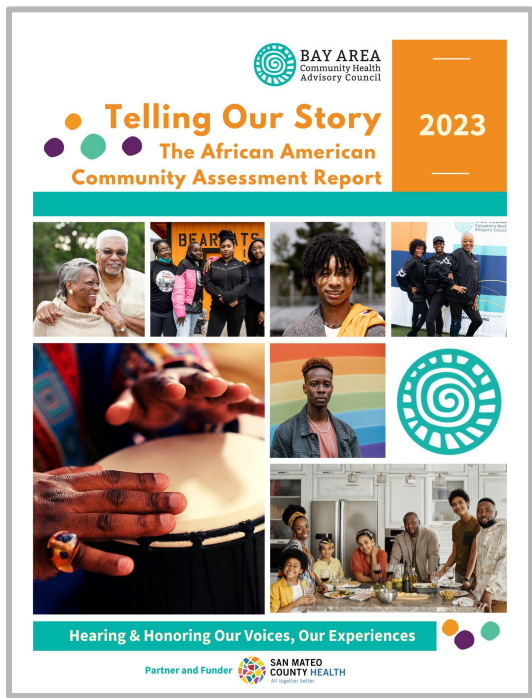
The Bay Area Community Health Advisory Council (BACHAC) recognizes that not all community members have health access across diverse communities and generations. Although this report is primarily for understanding the strengths and needs of the Black/African American Community, we are committed to eliminating health disparities and inequities by working together across sectors to achieve health justice and equity for all.

The Black /African American Community in San Mateo County asks you to **hear their voices** and **honor their experiences** through action and commitment. Therefore, we ask that you engage with us if you have any inquiries about the report or our experience conducting the assessment. We welcome any efforts to join us, or thought partnership related to engaging and providing resources to the Black Community. Please contact us at Email: [info@bachac.org](mailto:info@bachac.org) or call (650) 652-3884.

***“Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we’ve been waiting for. We are the change that we seek.” –Barack Obama-***

Thank you,

Lisa M. Tealer  
Executive Director  
Bay Area Community Health Advisory Council





**Download the Executive Summary and Report**  
**Telling Our Story: The African American Community Assessment Report 2023**





“Beyond other races and ethnicities, when we as Black people, **especially the younger demographic** are exposed to positive reinforcement, we can see this more vibrant and intelligent side of us.”

- Isaiah Sneed, Youth Planning Committee Member

[www.bachac.org/african-american-community-assessment-2023](http://www.bachac.org/african-american-community-assessment-2023)

Hear a Youth’s Voice about co-creating our assessment experience.

[www.bachac.org/blog/2023/12-isaiah-sneed](http://www.bachac.org/blog/2023/12-isaiah-sneed)

