



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Center for Closing the Health Gap to Host 2022 Health Expo at Cincinnati's Washington Park on April 30 from 10am-5pm
18th annual event features "We Must Save Us" theme and performance by Blessed & Highly Favored featuring the Clark Sisters; Expo brings Cincinnati families free health education and screenings, fun fitness/cooking demos and entertainment

CINCINNATI, OHIO – MARCH 10, 2022 – The Center for Closing the Health Gap, a Cincinnati non-profit working to empower families to take control of their own health, will host its 18th Annual Health Expo on April 30 from 10am-5pm. Returning to a live, in-person format, the 2022 Health Expo will be held at Washington Park in the heart of downtown Cincinnati and include free health screenings and education sessions, fitness/cooking demonstrations, live entertainment, exhibitor booths, a Children's Pavilion and more. It will also feature a special gospel music performance at 11am by Blessed & Highly Favored featuring the Clark Sisters.

"The Health Expo has been helping people improve their health and saving lives for nearly two decades," said Renee Mahaffey Harris, President and CEO of the Center for Closing the Health Gap. "The pandemic robbed us of the opportunity to connect in person the past two years, so we're very excited to return to an in-person event and reconnect with our neighbors and residents who may have no other way to get accurate and important health information they can trust."

The performance by Blessed & Highly Favored will celebrate and connect gospel music and visual art. It is presented as a collaborative fundraiser by the Robert O'Neal Multicultural Art Center, Black Art Speaks, and Art Reconciliation Truth and Empowerment, three Black-led arts organizations that use the arts to make change, promote social justice, and unify our city. The event will feature the legendary Clark Sisters, Second Wind, and several local church choirs.

The 2022 Health Expo will also feature a variety of cooking demonstrations and fun fitness programs as part of the Health Gap's Movin' & Groovin' program. It will also include an Ask The Doctor program to help residents connect with local doctors and medical experts on issues ranging from the safety of COVID vaccines to the importance of basic health screenings. Local performers and entertainers will also be scheduled throughout the day and two special areas will be devoted to the unique needs and issues of kids and women – the Children's Pavilion and the Black Women's Health Movement Pavilion.

The Health Gap is accepting applications for food vendors and exhibitors at this year's Expo. To learn more and apply, visit <https://closingthehealthgap.org/what-we-do/events/health-expo>. Residents interested in volunteering can email the Health Gap at ClosingtheGap@thehealthgap.org or call 513-585-9879.

"Over the years, we've heard from thousands of our neighbors about the power of the Health Expo," added Mahaffey Harris. "We've heard from people who get life-saving health screenings. From people who start taking

control of their own health by creating better eating and fitness habits. From people who enjoy the spirit of family and community that defines the Health Expo experience. From people who look forward to coming together every year to celebrate our Black Community.”

The Health Expo is made possible by generous support and sponsorship from a host of Cincinnati’s leading healthcare, government, media, non-profit and business organizations, including:

- 101.1 FM WIZF
- The Christ Hospital Health Network
- Cincinnati Children’s Hospital
- Cincinnati Herald
- Cincinnati Medical Association
- City of Cincinnati
- Fifth Third Bank
- Hamilton County
- Kroger
- Local 12 WKRC
- LULAC
- Mercy Health
- P&G
- Soul 101.5/1230AM
- Star 64 WSTR
- TriHealth
- UC Health
- Urban One
- US Bank

About the Center for Closing the Health Gap in Greater Cincinnati

The Center for Closing the Health Gap is Cincinnati’s only grassroots organization that promotes awareness about health disparities through education, training, advocacy and outreach activities for organizations and individuals in Greater Cincinnati. The Center maximizes collaborative opportunities by working with organizations, associations, health institutions and other stakeholders to promote health and disease prevention. The Center’s goal is to improve the health status of the African American, Latino and Appalachian populations.

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