

The Partnership of African American Churches is a faith based non-profit tax exempt organization founded to educate the public and local government officials regarding issues that impact the physical, social, emotional, spiritual, and economic well-being of West Virginia Communities of Color, through its four initiatives Health, Education, Substance Abuse and Broadband. These four initiatives focus specifically on, Closing the Education Achievement Gap, Substance Abuse Prevention and Recovery, insuring that High Speed Affordable Broadband is available for vulnerable populations, and developing Lay Health Ministries in local congregations.

As part of its education initiative, the organization operates three afterschool program sites that serve at risk youth who live in impoverished urban neighborhoods within Kanawha County. The organization also provides area youth who attend the afterschool program, free music lessons that include piano, percussion and string instruments. Each year around Christmas time, the organization orchestrates a community wide music recital that displays how the students have progressed in learning to play their instruments.

The organization also assists partner churches in developing health ministries through training congregation members to become Health and Wellness coordinators. The Health and Wellness Coordinators duties are to plan activities within the church such as blood pressure checks, chronic disease self-management classes and healthy eating workshops. The staff of this organization has been trained to assist the uninsured or underinsured enroll in health care coverage.

Because many people in West Virginia do not have access to broadband, this organization has assumed a leading role in advocating for affordable high-speed quality broadband for all West Virginians.

Substance Abuse Recovery coaching is also a focus of the organizations efforts. Recovery Coaches are trained throughout the state by this organization to act as a guide or mentor for people seeking or in recovery from alcohol or other drug addiction. Another element of the organizations substance abuse initiative is its existing Prevention Coalition, whose mission is to prevent and reduce substance abuse among youth. A large part of the coalition's activities involve bringing about education and awareness on the detriments of youth substance abuse through public messaging.

Programming aired on the proposed low power FM station will be designed to help relay the messages of individual and community well being and empowerment. Daily programs will be aired eight hours per day from 7:00AM -11:00AM and 3:00PM-7:00PM from Monday through Friday and all day Saturday and Sunday to educate the community. Programming will consist of information on:

- Development of health ministries and the health programs or activities congregations are implementing,
- Music by local artist
- Recovery coaching services and updates on scheduled trainings,
- Local gospel concerts
- Education programs and child nutrition, Food hub Cooperative
- Interviews with local artist, and music from diverse genres with diverse DJs
- Youth substance abuse prevention process
- Music from local venues
- Public service messages and environmental strategies to prevent youth from participating in drug activity