



African American Wellness Coalition

Who we are:

The African American Wellness Coalition (AAWC) is comprised of a group of concerned community advocates, cancer survivors, community organizations and public health professionals who have come together to address the health disparities in the African American community. The group was originally convened as a collaborative effort of Atlantic Health System and the Morristown Neighborhood House borne of their concern to improve health and access to health care and to discuss the pressing health needs of the African American community. During initial meetings, the group identified key issues in regards to the impact of breast cancer in particular on the African American community including barriers to screening, accessing early detection, and their perception of breast cancer, in particular, with the goal of identifying specific approaches to better engage the community.

The AAWC also recognizes a need to broaden the conversation beyond breast cancer to include other critical health issues (i.e. diabetes, heart disease, etc.) impacting the African American communities, as well as an emphasis on health and wellness in general. Through active partnerships and coordinated efforts, the AAWC aims to empower the African American community in the Morris County area to improve their overall health and wellbeing.

Our Vision: To foster a culture of wellness in our communities

Our Values:

- **Respect:** Provide information, resources and services that value the uniqueness of the community (culture, health literacy, gender, age).
- **Empowerment:** Offer information and provide tools to empower individuals to be active partners in their health care.
- **Engagement:** Create strategic partnerships in the community to address health disparities and improve the overall health outcomes and well-being of community members.
- **Diversity:** Promote a culture of inclusiveness that recognizes, values and honors the cultural and racial diversity of the community and welcomes all participants in initiatives that promote wellness in the community.

Founding Partners

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.
Pi Theta Omega Chapter

Bethel AME Church of
Morristown

Calvary Baptist Church

Church of God in Christ
for all Saints

County College of Morris

Morris County Chapter of
Jack and Jill of America, Inc.

Morristown Alumnae Chapter of
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Morristown Medical Center

Morristown Neighborhood House

The Links, Inc.
Morris County Chapter

Mission Statement

The African American Wellness Coalition is committed to empowering individuals in the African American community in Morris County to become active partners in their health care by providing health promotion information and resources to reduce health disparities and improve overall quality of life and well-being.