



JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2008

HAPPY NEW YEAR {FIRST\_NAME},

**Happy New Year  
2008**

The BPA Newsletter Staff wishes you and yours a wonderful New Year.

**BPA ANNUAL SPRING CONFERENCE  
PLAN TO ATTEND, EXHIBIT or ADVERTISE**

The Black Psychiatrists of America is pleased to invite you to participate in the Annual Spring Conference:

**“Envisioning New Paradigms Black Americans’  
Mental Health”**

14-16 March 2008  
Hotel Derek - Houston, TX  
[www.blackpsych.org](http://www.blackpsych.org)

**ON THE MOVE:**

**Iverson Bell, Jr., MD**, has been elected Distinguished Fellow of the APA.

**Dr. Gloria Pitts, DO**, was nominated and voted into the American Osteopathic Association of Mentors Hall of Fame AND she was also chosen for the 2007-2008 Health Policy Fellowship sponsored through Ohio University

**Dr. Carl Bell's Appointments:**

International Fellow - Institute of Philosophy, Diversity, and Mental Health Center for Ethnicity and Health, Faculty of Health, University of Central Lancashire, Preston, United Kingdom, 2007.

Appointed to the National Institute of Mental Health National Mental Health Advisory Council by Secretary of Health and Human Services, Michael O. Leavitt, December 2007 ending September 30, 2011.

Appointed to the National Academy of Science’s, Institute of Medicine, Board on Children, Youth, and Families and the Board on Health Care Services’ Committee on the Prevention of Committee on the Prevention of Mental Disorders and Substance Abuse Among Children, Youth, and Young Adults: Research Advances and Promising Interventions, May 14, 2007.

Appointed Chairperson of the Council on Social Issues and Public Psychiatry of the American Psychiatric Association, 2007 – 2008.

Greetings Colleague:

The New Year is heralding a very busy season for African American Mental Health. Probably the biggest events are in the political arena. In Osama Baraka For the first time we have an African American candidate with a strong chance of winning. The impact on our community and on the self perception of our young people cannot be minimized.

In Donna Norris we have a strong candidate for the presidency of the American Psychiatric Association. The consequences of not voting cannot be minimized. This has the potential of being an exciting year. I don't plan to miss any of it for the world!

**William B. Lawson, M.D., Ph.D., D. F.A.P.A.**  
BPA Newsletter Editor



**WHERE DOES YOUR CANDIDATE  
STAND ON HEALTHCARE?**  
2008 Presidential Candidates (Side by Side  
Comparison):  
<http://www.health08.org/sidebyside.cfm>

AFL/CIO on healthcare: <http://www.aflcio.org/>

**Cos and Effect**

**Bill Cosby may be right about  
African-Americans spending a  
lot on expensive sneakers-but  
he's wrong about why.**

A few years ago, Bill Cosby set off a firestorm with a speech excoriating his fellow African-Americans for, among other things, buying \$500 sneakers instead of educational toys for their children. In a recent book, *Come On People*, he repeats his argument that black Americans spend too much money on designer clothes and fancy cars, and don't invest sufficiently in their futures.



Many in the black community have been critical  
<http://www.slate.com/id/2181822>

## TRANSITIONS:

**Dr. Earle Alexander** passed away on the 4th of January with his family by his side. Services will be held at St. Mary's Church in the Clinton Hill's section of Brooklyn.

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS & ABSTRACTS:

### Five Essential Elements of Immediate and Mid-Term Mass Trauma Intervention: Empirical Evidence

*Psychiatry 70(4) Winter 2007*

Stevan E. Hobfoll, Patricia Watson, **Carl C. Bell**, Richard A. Bryant, Melissa J. Brymer, Matthew J. Friedman, Merle Friedman, Berthold P.R. Gersons, Joop T.V.M de Jong, Christopher M. Layne, Shira Maguen, Yuval Neria, Ann E. Norwood, Robert S. Pynoos, Dori Reissman, Josef I. Ruzek, Arieh Y. Shalev, Zahava Solomon, Alan M. Steinberg, and Robert J. Ursano

Given the devastation caused by disasters and mass violence, it is critical that intervention policy be based on the most updated research findings. However, to date, no evidence-based consensus has been reached supporting a clear set of recommendations for intervention during the immediate and the mid-term post mass trauma phases.

<http://www.psychiatry.org/disasterpsych/pdfs/345-349BenedekDFullertonCTranslatingFiveEssentialElementsPsychiatry7.pdf>

## ASPH Friday Letter

### PUBLIC HEALTH RESOURCE

### SUSC Releases CD

### Curriculum to Teach Public Health Workers How to Make Ethical Decisions in an Emergency

The University of South Carolina's (USC) Center for Public Health Preparedness has released an electronic book to prepare public health workers for ethical dilemmas and clinical and public health issues that may arise in the midst of an attack or disaster.

*Ethics and Public Health in an Age of Terrorism* is a professionally crafted curriculum on the role of public health in addressing the ethical, emotional and legal dilemmas facing those who plan for and respond to hazards of all types.

[http://fridayletter.asph.org/article\\_view.cfm?FLE\\_Index=6395&FL\\_Index=1493](http://fridayletter.asph.org/article_view.cfm?FLE_Index=6395&FL_Index=1493)

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<http://www.blackpsych.org/id5.html>

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- The BPA is a Resource Center for Valuable Materials

JOIN BPA: [www.blackpsych.org](http://www.blackpsych.org)

## Hallway of Life Recovery Center, Inc. Transitional Living for Women

Lacresha Hall, M.D, is opening a transitional living facility "halfway house" for women on February 1, 2008. Sober living is about more than a place to live. It is about a way of life. Women in recovery have special needs and at Hallway of Life Recovery Center we provide a structured living environment to help women fulfill those needs by building independence through emotional, spiritual and economic growth.

Lacresha Hall, M.D  
Hallway of Life Recovery Center, Inc.  
137 S. Swinton Ave.  
Delray Beach, Fl. 33444  
561-908-6277

<http://www.hallwayoflife.com/>

## A Safety-Net Hospital Falls Into Financial Crisis

by Shaila Dewan and Kevin Sack,  
*New York Times*



### January 8, 2008, Atlanta

- Pamela Vaughn is a Grady baby. Like tens of thousands of Atlantans over the last 115 years -

like Gladys Knight, the soul singer, and Vernon Jordan Jr., the presidential confidante; like more than one in three babies born here in the last decade - Ms. Vaughn entered the world at Grady Memorial Hospital, one of the nation's largest safety-net hospitals. Ms. Vaughn was not only born

at [http://www.nytimes.com/2008/01/08/us/08grady.html?\\_r=1&oref=slogin](http://www.nytimes.com/2008/01/08/us/08grady.html?_r=1&oref=slogin)

## SEPARATION ANXIETY

### Are historically black colleges good for blacks?

By Abigail Thernstrom & Stephan Thernstrom

**Friday, November 30, 2007 12:01 A.M. EST - Fisk University** is in such dire financial straits that it is considering selling off part of its valuable art collection. The Nashville, Tenn., school is one of the nation's 103 historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs), and its money problems raise an obvious question: Half a century after *Brown v. Board of Education*, should we still support an institution of higher education that is less than 1% white?

[http://www.opinionjournal.com/taste/?id=110010929&mod=RSS\\_Opinion\\_Journal&ojrss=frontpage](http://www.opinionjournal.com/taste/?id=110010929&mod=RSS_Opinion_Journal&ojrss=frontpage)

## HONORING DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

**January 18, 2008, Houston Chronicle** - Miss Perri Jones, of Dodson Elementary School, won first place in the annual speaking competition honoring Dr. King. Video by Adam Ariganello.

<http://link.brightcove.com/services/link/bcpid823425601/bclid1382900203/bctid1378397439>

## CAREER OPPORTUNITY:

Project Officer, Active Living by Design, North Carolina Institute for Public Health

<http://www.unc.edu/epa-job/?p=414>

## 2008 BPA Spring Conference

### CONFERENCE GENERAL INFORMATION

The Conference Committee invites you to attend and participate in the

**BPA Annual Spring Conference**  
14-16 March 2008 Houston, TX

The BPA has organized continuing medical education programs throughout the United States through our annual Spring Conferences. We embrace the goal of eliminating health disparities and improving quality of life for minorities by the year 2010. This Continuing Medical Education Program will focus on cultural factors for Blacks as they impact mental wellness, diagnosis, treatment therapies and research. We will also discuss the impact of technologies upon our clinical and business practices.

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Call: 800-322-8662

Reference File Number: ZB3F CN9H4S

Web Site: [www.continental.com](http://www.continental.com)

#### **HOTEL DEREK RESERVATIONS:**

Call: 713-961-3000 or 866-292-7100

Reference Code: **BLPSY**

Web Site: [www.hotelderek.com](http://www.hotelderek.com)

*(click on reservation)*

#### **Hotel Derek**

2525 West Loop South

Houston, Texas 77027

Phone: 713-961-3000 / Toll Free: 866-292-7100

Fax: 713-297-4392

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### APA CANDIDATES: Donna

**Norris, President & Francis G. Lu, Trustee At Large**

View Dr. Norris' Slate:

<http://www.pipatl.org/people/donnanorris/index.html>

*"My personal view – it just doesn't get much better than this"*

**Napoleon Higgins, Jr., MD**

Private Practice

APA Member

President-Elect, BPA

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### Report Faults States for Policies That Hurt Historically Black Colleges

Many state governments continue to distribute higher-education funds and approve new degree programs at public colleges in ways that put historically black institutions at a disadvantage, according to a [report](#) released this week.

Read full article: <http://chronicle.com/news/article/3871/report-faults-states-for-policies-that-hurt-historically-black-colleges>

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#### UPCOMING EVENTS:

**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS** - Robert Wood Johnson Foundation 2007-2008 Clinical Scholars deadline Feb 29, 2008: <http://www.rwjf.org/applications/solicited/cfp.jsp?ID=20081>

**BPA SPRING CONFERENCE** for the BPA Annual Spring Meeting 14-16 March 2008: [www.blackpsych.org](http://www.blackpsych.org)  
**(NEW) MENTORSHIP PROGRAM SPONSORED BY AACDP.** This fellowship program is for senior faculty considering becoming a psychiatry chair. The deadline is March 14, 2008. For more information: <http://aacdp.org/web/public/news.html>

#### **DBSA 2007 Gerald L. Klerman Awards** -

Nominations are now being accepted for the DBSA 2007 Gerald L. Klerman Awards. The deadline is Friday, March 14, 2008. For more information:

[http://www.dbsalliance.org/site/PageServer?pagename=research\\_2007KlermanSr](http://www.dbsalliance.org/site/PageServer?pagename=research_2007KlermanSr)

**CALL FOR PROPOSALS** - Harold Amos Medical aculty Development Program

Application Deadline March 19, 2008:

<http://www.rwjf.org/applications/solicited/cfp.jsp?ID=19842&c=EMC-FA135>

**APA 2008 Annual Meeting** - Washington, DC - May 03-08, 2008. Join colleagues from across the U.S. and 50 other countries for the psychiatry event of the year. To register or for more information call toll free 1-888-35-PSYCH or visit [www.psych.org](http://www.psych.org)

**IPS (Institute on Psychiatric Services)** - October 02-05, 2008 Abstracts due date has been extended to Sunday, December 16, 2007:

[http://www.psych.org/public\\_info/libr\\_publ/meetings/ips.cfm](http://www.psych.org/public_info/libr_publ/meetings/ips.cfm).



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**Meet the Editor**

**William B. Lawson, M.D., Ph.D., D. F.A.P.A.**

Dr. Lawson is currently Professor and Chairman of the Department of Psychiatry at Howard University College of Medicine.

*More on Dr.*

Lawson: <http://www.blackpsych.org/id18.html>

[wblawson@Howard.edu](mailto:wblawson@Howard.edu)

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**SEND YOUR ARTICLE:**

Please send articles you would like included to BPA Newsletter Editor: [BPA4Info@aol.com](mailto:BPA4Info@aol.com). All submissions subject to approval.

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**ADVERTISING**

**MOOD DISORDERS, SCHIZOPHRENIA, AND  
ETHNOPSYCHOPHARMAOLOGY**

William B. Lawson MD, PHD, DFAPA is available for grand rounds presentations on mood disorders, schizophrenia, and ethnopsychopharmaoclogy. Honorarium, travel, and CME will already be arranged.

To schedule a program, contact:  
Shennae Taylor, 908-222-4937  
[staylor@sciuseducation.com](mailto:staylor@sciuseducation.com)

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