



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Washington, DC - March 9, 2011. The Black Psychiatrists of America, Inc. (BPA) is pleased to announce that registration and sponsorship opportunities are now open for its upcoming July events in celebration of the **Bebe Moore Campbell National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month**.

On **July 28, 2011** (9:30am – 3:00pm) - BPA is hosting the first ever forum on Capitol Hill entitled: **The Mental Health Status of Black America®** with **Congressman Elijah Cummings** of the 7th District in the U.S. House of Representatives serving as the Honorary Chairperson and **Delegate Shirley Nathan-Pulliam, R. N.**, Maryland House of Delegates, as the Honorary Co-Chairperson for this historical event!

The **Forum**, slated to become an annual event, brings together a host of disciplines, organizations, and experts in field of mental health from across the nation to seek solutions as well as make recommendations targeted towards key decision makers with respect to mental health policies and issues. The continuing challenges of violence, trauma, addictive behaviors, stress and anxiety disorders and other problems in the midst of a severe economic crisis with lack of funding for critical services and programs tied to a dwindling culturally competent health care workforce, signal that the mental well being of African-Americans, as well as all of American citizens, is in a full crisis

The event is **Free** and open to the public but does require advanced registration. Plan to join BPA for this historical and critical event. Consider becoming a sponsor and immediately achieve national recognition for your organization, business, or group by being in support of addressing the mental health concerns of our nation.

On the following day after the Forum, BPA will continue its activities by hosting its annual **"Gala Awards Banquet"** on **July 29, 2011** at **7:00pm** in Washington, DC at the lovely **Mandarin Oriental Hotel**. This is a major fundraising activity for the association and will launch both the **BPA Foundation** and the national community outreach program, **A Check-Up From The Neck-Up®** targeting communities across the country with a national mental health

awareness campaign. Awards will be given to persons who have been advocates for psychiatry and mental health causes across the nation. Stars, VIPs and international dignitaries will be in attendance. Along with a silent auction, a wearable art demonstration, great food, wonderful entertainment, and an award ceremony, there will be time for you to engage in excellent networking opportunities with some of the nation's "movers and shakers". **This is the event of the summer!** Plan to be onboard to support worthwhile causes, get your tax deduction, and have lots of fun with BPA as we host a **Summer Party with A Purpose!**

Registration and sponsorship opportunities are available but going fast for both of these high profile events. Don't delay, register and consider a sponsorship today!

For more details as well as registration and sponsorship information for both events, please visit the BPA website at: www.blackpsych.org or Call: (410) 637-5474 and (410) 752-2943 or Toll free at: 1-877-BPA-1967. We thank you for your support!