



National
Benevolent
Association
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NBA FALL NEWSLETTER • 2022

2022 SENT SEMINAR

Featuring the theme 'Imagine,' the virtual SENT Seminar offered weekly videos throughout the month of September.

7th

Annual Event

86

Registrants

19

Guest Speakers

17+

Hours of Video

Learn more about
NBA's Social
Entrepreneurship
Program at NBACares.org/SEprogram



Rev. Yolanda Norton, Finn Lanning, and Rev. Syvoskia Bray Pope, the Directors of the three newest NBA Incubate Partners.

NBA Invites Three New Organizations to Become Incubate Partners

The NBA Social Entrepreneurship program is proud to welcome three new social enterprises as Incubate Partners. Like all NBA partners, these organizations are nonprofit Disciples-related health and social services. The nonprofits have partnership agreements through December 2024, and each will receive grant funding allowing them to grow their ministries in new and exciting ways.

Global Arts & Theology Experience (GATE)

Born out of the Beyoncé Mass, the Global Arts & Theology Experience is "dedicated to promoting positive development for Black girls and Black women through theology and the arts." GATE dreams of a world where all Black women and girls are empowered by their history, creativity, and potential.



**THE GLOBAL
ARTS & THEOLOGY
EXPERIENCE**

The organization was founded by Rev. Yolanda Norton, who worked to bring GATE to fruition as a member

(continued inside)

INSIDE:

NBA STAFF:

Revs. Rebecca Hale & April Lewton celebrate 10 years with NBA!

MISSION & MINISTRY GRANTS:

Helping young leaders spread their wings

of NBA's 2021 Social Entrepreneur Cohort. "Yolanda has excelled as a member of our SENT Cohort and now we are excited to have GATE as an Incubate Partner," said Rev. Darnell Fennell, NBA Director of Social Entrepreneurship.



Camp Sunflower

In 2018, Camp Sunflower launched in Wichita, Kansas to serve as a safe place for young people of all sexual orientations and gender identities to connect with others, develop leadership skills, and learn coping and advocacy skills.

The camp is directed by Finn Lanning who has overseen the project since it began. "Camp Sunflower is excited to partner with the NBA to further our shared goal of

advocating for underserved communities by creating affirming and welcoming spaces for LGBTQ+ youth to build community, develop leadership and activism skills, and to improve outcomes for these vulnerable young people," says Lanning.



EMPOWER HOPE CENTER

Empower Hope Center

The Empower Hope Center was founded in 2017 by Rev. Syvoskia Bray Pope. The organization serves as the social services arm of New Century Fellowship Christian Church (DOC) in Louisville, Kentucky.

Currently, the Center offers financial education courses, support for single mothers, and presentations designed to help adults discern their career paths.

"Rev. Pope has remained faithful to her work to serve the community as a pastor and entrepreneur. Her work shows the power of a local church understanding that social impact can occur inside and outside of the sanctuary," says Rev. Fennell.

"The seeds of the work of our Social Entrepreneurship program are flourishing. All three of our new partners have either attended SENT Seminar or are part of our recently established SENT Cohort. GATE and Camp Sunflower have also received Mission & Ministry grants from NBA," says Rev. Ashley Mayham, NBA's Social Entrepreneurship Program Coordinator. "We are grateful to bring them on board and excited to see what they will do in the coming years!"

Learn more about our partner organizations at NBAcare.org/Incubate.

Mark your calendar for these upcoming events from NBA:

November 15, 2022, 7:00 pm CT—Restorative Justice panel discussion featuring guests with lived experience of both the U.S. justice system and restorative justice programs.

December 14, 2022, 6:30 pm CT—A special SoulCare offering for the holiday season. Grab a warm beverage and join us for wellness and self-care practice.

Registration is open now! Visit our events page at NBAcare.org/events to sign up.



FCC Princeton's Venturing Crew experienced a ropes course as part of a leadership development retreat.

NBA Mission & Ministry Grants Impact Young Leaders

NBA Mission & Ministry Grants are awarded to projects that support older adults or provide education to at-risk youth and young adults. One grantee, First Christian Church in Princeton, KY, supported more than 30 youth in developing leadership skills, broadening cultural awareness, and making the transition to college and young adulthood. Their program, Venturing Crew, offers outdoor adventures and community service opportunities to adolescents that help them challenge themselves personally and gain leadership and life skills. The Crew has learned about social justice and engaged in activities to address issues such as food insecurity, homelessness, and the environment. Learn more about FCC Princeton's Venturing Crew program and read impact stories from other Mission & Ministry Grantees at NBAcare.org/Grantee-Stories.

An Anniversary Meal: Rebecca Hale & April Lewton Reflect on 10 Years with NBA in Video Series

A shared meal and the table are iconic symbols in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). At NBA, we often like to meet with friends over a meal or beverage. In this video series, Executive VP, Rev. Rebecca L. Hale, and VP of Development & Marketing, Rev. April Lewton celebrate their 10-year anniversaries with NBA as they prep and cook a meal to share. Throughout the videos, Hale and Lewton share what their decade at NBA has meant, what's changed with the organization, and what has changed within them. If you watch all the videos, you may see the prank they played on NBA President & CEO, Mark D. Anderson! **Watch at NBAcare.org/AnniversaryMeal.**



Rev. Rebecca L. Hale cooks a celebratory meal.



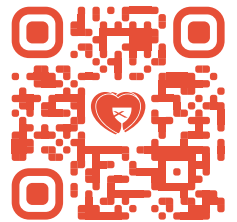
National
Benevolent
Association
of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

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NBA is a grateful recipient of Disciples Mission Fund support.
Your contributions help make stories and ministries like these possible. Thank you!

Real Change Begins With Bold Visions

In communities across North America, we see the people, pastors, and congregations of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) identifying problems, challenging injustice and oppression, putting our faith into action, and bringing forward the most important thing we need to generate meaningful change: vision. But bold visions alone are never enough. That's where the National Benevolent Association comes in. We work to advocate for the well-being of humanity and to create communities of compassion and care. We do this by filling a unique and critical role: we provide tools, resources, support, and community for leaders, organizations, and churches to realize their potential and their visions. Every gift sustains visionary leaders, expands our community, and enables us to work alongside more people and organizations. Make a gift that can help remake the world—one leader, one organization, one community, and one vision at a time.



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MISSION STATEMENT

Following God's call, the National Benevolent Association exists to inspire and connect the people and ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), to accompany one another in the creation of communities of compassion and care, and to advocate for the well-being of humanity.



National **Benevolent** Association

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