

General Board Meeting
June 28 & 29, 2022
Atlanta, Georgia

Report of the International Health Commission of the AME Church

Bishop Francine Brookins, Commission Chair

Rev. Dr. Natalie Mitchem, Executive Director

Rev. Dr. Miriam J. Burnett, Medical Director

The meeting was called to order by Bishop Francine Brookins.

We had devotions, followed by prayer by Dr. Kimberly Gordon Brooks.

Roll Call was completed. Those in attendance:

Bishop Francine Brookins, Chair

Rev. Dr. Miriam J. Burnett, Medical Director AMEC International Health Commission

Dr. Alicia Collins Dennis	1 st
Rev. Dr. A. Qismat Alim	2 nd
Dr. Kimberly Gordon Brooks	3 rd
Michael Cousins Jr. (YA)	4 th
Mr. Chinelo Tyler (YA)	5 th
Rev. Kimberly McMichael	6 th
Ms. Patricia Parker	7 th
Dr. Rhalanda Jackson	8 th
Ms. Chantal Alford (YA)	9 th
Rev. Dr. Rodrecus Johnson	10 th
Mr. John Love	11 th
Mrs. Sandra Lucas Fields	12 th
Rev. Linda Thomas Martin	13 th
Mrs. Belinda S. Yahwon	14 th
Rev. Willington Bikwa	15 th
Ms. Joy Frances Johnson	16 th
Mr. Shone Sipopa	17 th
Mr. Hope Lenepa	18 th
Mr. Benjy Mofolo	19 th
Rev. Rosetta Swinton	20 th

We had Approval of the Agenda and the Treasurer's report and the 30 year celebration. It was moved by Bro. Michael Cousins Jr. and 2nd by Dr. Kimberly Gordon Brooks.

Bishop Francine Brookins thanked Rev. Dr. Burnett and those that are actively working in the Health Commission. Bishop Francine Brookins also thanked Dr. Collins for the response to disasters. They meet monthly for 1-2 hours because real work is being done. (Amen).

Rev. Dr. Burnett stated that Bishop Francine Brookins is a very active Chair and that she is engaged and working along with the components side by side.

- The Health Commission has 13 active ministries.
- The AMEC Health Commission is leading the path for immunization
- Health Directors are still needed for the following districts:
5th, 12th, 14th, 15th, 16th and those that are appointed are required to be active in the Commission.

The statement of work overview was given by Rev. Dr. Burnett. She stated we work with entities all around the world. And has been asked to join the WCC Health Healing Consortium and present at the World Council of Churches in Germany this year.

Rev. Dr. Burnett gave certificates for the HIV/AIDS training at the Annual Training in 2021. It was a 3-hour training held during the 2-day training. This is a means of satisfying the required course stated in the Discipline

There is the National Black HIV/AIDS Day Feb. 7th.

Dr. Burnett stated that the AME Church is leading the way with all publications and Bishop Francine Brookins stated that we are dealing with copyright issues, as other denominations are using what we have published.

When we fail to utilize our people, we are doing a grave dis-service. We need to remember to be in prayer and to be encouraging to each other.

- We have updated the protocol and vaccine and it has been sent out throughout the connection.
- We have been asked to participate/apply in a multi-billion dollar grant for the vaccine.
- We have received \$38,676.00 to one state (Penn. Except for Philadelphia). New York received \$25,000. These monies are being used to provide assistance to local churches in the area.
- The Alzheimer unit has taken off. We just signed a 5-year MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) extension, and it will increase \$7,500.00 increments.
- We have Disaster Preparedness and Response. We have contacted the International Disaster Preparedness and have people assisting in Malawi.

- We have partnered with, the Henry Turner McNeil Chaplain Association for Trauma Services
- We have Nutrition Facts Label grant, and the Rev. Dr. Natalie Mitchem is the coordinator for the Cleveland, Ohio Nutrition Project.
- You can join the AMEC Culinary RX for \$49.00/per congregation. This supports the IHC and is linked to the Farm and Garden Ministry.
- July is Faith Based Health, Wellness, Nutrition, and Fitness Month and the IHC will celebrate 30 years of service on Saturday July 16th, 2022, at 11AM EST on Zoom. More information is on the website
- Clergy and Clergy Family Self Care and Wellness Month is August
- We have the IHC (International Health Commission of the AMEC) Farm and Garden Ministry, and you must make sure that you test the soil before you plant. You can contact your local extension office for this.
- The 4th Sunday of every month Rev. Cavaness has a training on farming and gardening at 6:00pm EST on Zoom and Fourth Saturday at 9AM for Global churches. All of the needed information is located on the web site. AMEHealth.org.
- The Health Commission meets every 4th Saturday at 11 AM EST on Zoom
- To join the Health Commission, the membership is \$25.00.

Recommendations

1. Health Directors identified in the 5, 12, 14, and 16 Episcopal Districts
2. Active engagements of Health Directors at all levels with the International Health Commission
3. Actively review material on www.AMEHealth.org website, Facebook, and Twitter
4. Register and engage with Farm and Garden Ministry. The link is on www.AMEHealth.org and Facebook
5. Identify liaisons for Alzheimer's Partnership and Disaster Preparedness and Response
6. Fully adhere to recommended Infection Control guidelines and presently listed as COVID protocol (it will be expanded to Communicable Disease Control).

We were adjourned in prayer by guest Presiding Elder Letitia Watford.