

WELCOME

Thank you for participating in the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) Black Volunteer Caucus’ virtual Fireside Chat. Today’s outstanding and dynamic speakers will discuss the unequal burden of prostate cancer in the Black community as Black men in the U.S. have among the highest documented prostate cancer rate in the world, and their cancer deaths are one of the greatest mortality disparities in oncology. The Fireside Chat speakers, including men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., will discuss how patient-centered solutions including prevention, screening, education, improving metabolic health, and centering the voices of the Black community in public policies can increase prostate cancer outcomes for Black men. We hope you will continue to join us for future BVC events and activities and greatly appreciate your support for this important work towards reducing inequities in the Black community.

BLACK VOLUNTEER ACS CAN’s Black Volunteer Caucus (BVC)



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**Ensuring Inclusion and
Involvement in the
Black Community**

The Black Volunteer Caucus is an all-Black volunteer led advisory group dedicated to advancing health equity and eliminating health disparities. The BVC guides ACS CAN’s work to enhance, strengthen, and diversify communications, messaging, partnerships, and volunteer recruitment, training, and engagement within the Black community. BVC members share a common and national focus on building a diverse structure to decreasing death and suffering from cancer specifically in the Black community and ensuring no one is disadvantaged in the fight against cancer. fightcancer.org/BVC

American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN)

The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) makes cancer a top priority for elected officials and candidates at the federal, state, and local levels by empowering advocates across the country to make their voices heard. As the American Cancer Society’s nonprofit, nonpartisan advocacy affiliate, ACS CAN works closely with American Cancer Society experts to identify and develop evidence-based public policies that promote access to prevention and early detection, treatment, and follow-up care. ACS CAN is strictly nonpartisan and does not endorse, oppose, or contribute to candidates or political parties. The only side ACS CAN takes is the side of people facing cancer and survivors. Cancer impacts everyone, but it does not impact everyone equally. Significant disparities in cancer prevention, screening and treatment persist, meaning not every individual has an equitable opportunity to survive and thrive after cancer. ACS CAN holds a strong commitment to [addressing these disparities](https://fightcancer.org) and advancing health equity in communities nationwide. fightcancer.org



**American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
Black Volunteer Caucus (BVC)
Fireside Chat
AGENDA**

Tuesday, February 28, 2023

11:00 am Welcome and Overview

- **David Ford**, ACS CAN National Board of Directors & BVC Member

11:05 am The Impact of Prostate Cancer Disparities in the Black Community

- **Congressman Troy Carter Sr.**, D., Louisiana (video remarks)

11:10 am Conversation: Prostate Cancer’s Burden in the Black Community and Patient-Centered Solutions (*Audience questions to be asked in the discussion*)

- **Moderator: David Ford**, ACS CAN National Board of Directors & BVC Member
- **Dr. Kevin Billups**, Professor of Internal Medicine & Urology, Meharry Medical College
- **Mr. William Battle**, MA, Founder & President Emmanuel Health Education
- **Mr. Tony Holt**, Co-Founder, 90-Day Men’s Health Challenge

11:50 am Increasing Prostate Cancer Screenings for Black Men

- **Congressman Donald Payne Jr.**, D., New Jersey (video remarks)

11:55 am Closing Remarks

- **David Ford**, ACS CAN National Board of Directors & BVC Member



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SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



Dr. Kevin Billups, Professor of Internal Medicine & Urology and Director of the Men’s Health Program, Meharry Medical College

Dr. Kevin Billups is a highly experienced Urologist and Men's Health Specialist with over 30 years of dedicated practice in the field. His focus is on Men's Health and Sexual Medicine, and he is an authority in managing both erectile dysfunction and testosterone deficiency as symptoms of chronic medical conditions such as diabetes, obesity, hypertension and heart disease. He uses a unique approach that combines traditional medication with lifestyle changes, such as improved nutrition, exercise, sleep and mindset. This clinical strategy allows Dr. Billups to address the root cause of medical problems, rather than simply treating symptoms. With personal experience of the positive benefits, Dr. Billups advocates for this approach to restore health and vitality in himself and his patients with chronic diseases. He is a strong believer that the only solution to sustain better health is for men to empower themselves to act and make lifestyle changes.

Dr. Billups graduated from Harvard University and The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. He completed his Urology residency at the Johns Hopkins Brady Urological Institute and then pursued a fellowship in Urology, Sexual Medicine and Vascular Physiology at the University of Virginia. Dr. Billups is currently a Professor of Internal Medicine & Urology and Director of the Men's Health Program at Meharry Medical College in Nashville, TN. Throughout his career, Dr. Billups has helped countless men restore their health and lead happier, more fulfilling lives.



William Battle, MA, Founder and President, Emmanuel Health Education

Mr. William Battle, MA is an Adjunct Professor at Bowie State University in the College of Education, Department of Teaching, Learning and Professional Development. He is a highly driven health educator who over the past decade has engaged students in the philosophical application of knowledge related to various health practices and issues that affects today’s society. He places a high priority on nutrition, chronic diseases, drugs, alcohol, tobacco, and dimensions of wellness. William is also President and Founder of Emmanuel Health Education (EHE) Inc., a community based non-profit 501 C (3) that provides an array of health messages for men where they live, work and worship. Additionally, EHE works diligently in Maryland and North Carolina to advocate, educate, to engage community based participatory research and awareness to eradicate prostate cancer among men of color.



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Tony Holt, Co-Founder, 90-Day Men’s Health Challenge

Tony is co-founder of the movement called the 90-Day Men’s Health Challenge. The movement aims to end the poverty cycle in mindset, health, and wealth with our health being the first order of wealth. Over the past 10 years, Tony has been a speaker, coach, advisor and facilitator for individuals nationwide, helping to improve or restore their health and vitality through transformative thinking, a science-based approach to nutrient-rich plant-based eating, movement and sleep.

Tony has devoted countless hours to researching peer-reviewed studies and literature on the impact proper whole-food plant-based nutrition, mindset, and movement have on the improvement and the restoration of our health from chronic medical conditions such as diabetes, obesity, hypertension and heart disease. His passion stems from his personal health struggles. At 45 years old, Tony was overweight and grappling with high blood pressure, high cholesterol, erectile issues, borderline diabetes, congestive heart failure, and prostate cancer. He successfully reversed these chronic health issues by following the scientifically-backed restorative practices he now shares with men and women throughout the United States and abroad. For more than a decade, Tony has been free from chronic health problems and medication, lost over 60 pounds, and runs marathons. He credits his faith, family, support network, and unwavering commitment to a healthy lifestyle for his success.

Tony is the Chief Business Development Officer for Cushion Employer Services Corporation. He is a graduate of Tennessee State University, a deacon, husband, father of two and grandfather to three of the most amazing children on the planet.



David Ford, ACS CAN National Board Member & BVC Member

David Ford is Senior Government Relations Manager at Southern California Edison, managing relationships with government municipalities and promoting awareness of a clean energy future. He serves on several strategic and philanthropic boards including with the American Cancer Society West Region Los Angeles, Los Angeles Philharmonic, American Association of Blacks in Energy and Greater Los Angeles African American Chamber Educational Foundation. As an ACS CAN California volunteer advocate, Mr. Ford has experience sharing his personal cancer story with stakeholders to highlight the complex issues many patients and survivors experience and how policymakers can take action to address them.



Congressman Donald M. Payne, Jr., D, New Jersey

U.S. Representative Donald M. Payne, Jr. is a Democratic congressman representing New Jersey’s 10th Congressional District, which covers portions of Essex, Hudson, and Union counties. A Newark, New Jersey native, he has served the people of the 10th Congressional District since 2012. Rep. Payne, Jr. is a tireless fighter for New Jersey families, working to create jobs and grow the economy, protect and invest in our children, and ensure the health and safety of our communities.

In 2021, Rep. Payne, Jr. was voted to be Chairman of the Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines and Hazardous Materials in the powerful House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. The Committee has jurisdiction over national infrastructure and all modes of transportation, including aviation and mass transit. In 2017, Rep. Payne, Jr. fought for a \$900 million appropriation to fund the Gateway Project, a multi-year, multi-billion-dollar project to rebuild transportation infrastructure between New Jersey and New York. He has continued to fight for Gateway and transportation infrastructure projects that benefit the American People. He led the Build America series of convenings to bring together government, industry leaders, small businesses, and women- and minority-owned businesses to increase diversity in federal government contracting projects.

As a member of the House Committee on Homeland Security's Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Recovery, Rep. Payne, Jr. has built a record of achievement in a divided Congress. He introduced two bills that were signed into Public Law by President Barack Obama, including the Department of Homeland Security Interoperable Communications Act of 2015, which ensures that DHS personnel can reliably communicate during emergencies. Rep. Payne, Jr. also introduced a bill to secure public areas of transportation facilities, such as airports. His bill was incorporated into the FAA Reauthorization Act and signed into law in October of 2018.

Rep. Payne, Jr. is a strong supporter of the Affordable Care Act, which provides thousands of New Jerseyans with access to high-quality, affordable health care. He has been a strong advocate for investing in and protecting the health of our children and introduced the TEST for Lead Act to protect children from lead-contaminated drinking water in schools. Rep. Payne, Jr. also is a vocal advocate for cancer prevention, introducing the National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month Resolution to raise awareness about the need for regular cancer screenings. In the wake of Hurricane Maria’s devastation in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, Rep. Payne, Jr. repeatedly took to the House floor to advocate for better federal emergency response. He is a leader on gun violence prevention and introduced the Safer Neighborhoods Gun Buyback Act of 2019, which aims to incentivize people to trade in their firearms for prepaid cards.

Rep. Payne, Jr. began his long career in public service when he founded Newark South Ward Junior Democrats, becoming its first president. He also served as an adviser to the YMCA Youth in Government program. He attended Kean College (now Kean University), where he studied graphic arts. He lives in Newark with his wife Beatrice and their triplets, Donald III, Jack, and Yvonne.



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Congressman Troy A. Carter, Sr., D, Louisiana

Congressman Troy A. Carter, Sr. is an elected member of the United States House of Representative from Louisiana’s 2nd Congressional District.

Congressman Carter currently serves on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, one of the largest committees in Congress that has jurisdiction over all modes of transportation & infrastructure, and the Small Business Committee, which has direct oversight and consideration over all matters affecting America’s backbone—small businesses.

Congressman Troy A. Carter, Sr. earned a Bachelor’s degree from Xavier University in Political Science and a Master’s of Science degree in Management from University of Holy Cross and he studied at Harvard’s JFK School of Government and Carnegie Mellon’s School of Urban and Public Affairs.

Congressman Carter began his professional career as a Senior Aide to then, Mayor Sidney Barthelemy. In 1991, Congressman Carter became the first African American to be elected to the Louisiana House of Representatives from the 102nd District in Algiers, where he served as the youngest ever floor leader representing the City of New Orleans.

In 1994, Congressman Carter was elected to the New Orleans City Council, representing District ‘C’, which includes Algiers, and the historic French Quarter, again becoming the first African American elected to the position. After a hiatus from public office, Congressman Carter was elected to the State Senate for Louisiana’s 7th District, where he served Senate Minority Leader and Caucus Chair. During his time as a Legislator, Congressman Carter authored and co-sponsored and passed hundreds of bills.

Congressman Carter is a staunch advocate for criminal justice reform, women’s health care, and civil rights and equality on behalf of the LGBTQIA+ community and environmental justice reform. Congressman Carter serves as the 2nd Vice President of the Congressional Black Caucus where he works feverishly to hold true to the mission of the organization by fighting for African Americans and other marginalized communities in the United States to have the opportunity to achieve the American Dream. Additionally, Congressman Carter is the Regional Whip, elected by his peers, for the House Democrats. This territory includes Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, Alabama, North Carolina, South Carolina and the Virgin Islands.

Congressman Carter is a proud husband to wife, Brigadier General Ana Carter of the United States Army, and father to sons, Troy Jr. and Joshua. Being that Congressman Carter is a proud HBCU graduate, his sons are too students of HBCUs — Troy, Jr. is a Senior at Xavier University of Louisiana and Joshua is a Junior at Howard University. He is a loving Dad to several rescue animals. Two dogs, Beaux and Millie, and a tabby cat, Milo. His family resides on the Westbank of New Orleans.

Congressman Troy A. Carter, Sr. has enjoyed a series of historic 1sts including:

- 1st African American elected to the Louisiana State House from District 102
- 1st African American elected to the New Orleans City Council representing District C
- 1st African American elected to the Louisiana State Senate from District 7
- 1st Congressman elected to Louisiana’s 2nd Congressional District from the Westbank of New Orleans (Algiers)
- 1st Congressman whose spouse is a Brigadier General in the United States Army



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RESOURCES

[Take Action on the PSA Screening for HIM Act](#)

American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network

Ask your member of congress to pass the PSA Screening for HIM Act to remove a significant barrier currently preventing Black individuals and others at high-risk for the prostate cancer from getting the care they need to prevent and efficiently treat prostate cancer.

[Emmanuel Health Education, Inc. \(EHE\)](#)

Emmanuel Health Education is a community-based organization that designs and deliver prostate health education to increase awareness, and prostate screening to decrease incidents and high rates of mortality. EHE facilitates quarterly support groups that foster a comfortable autonomous environment among prostate cancer survivors to share individual experiences and educational learning experiences about prostate cancer health in various community venues including but not limited to barber shops, beauty salons, community centers, faith-based organizations, and local agencies.

[Prostate Cancer and Black Men](#)

American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (2022)

Increase access to prostate cancer screening and clinical trials for Black men to reduce prostate cancer diagnosis and mortality disparities.

[Cancer Statistics, 2023](#)

American Cancer Society

American Cancer Society’s annual report on cancer facts and trends. According to the report, incidence of prostate cancer in Black men is 70% higher than in White men and prostate cancer mortality rates in Black men are approximately two to four times higher than those in every other racial and ethnic group.

[IMPACT: Improving Mortality from Prostate Cancer Together](#)

American Cancer Society & American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network

ACS and ACS CAN are uniquely positioned to address these alarming disparities through our new IMPACT initiative – Improving Mortality from Prostate Cancer Together.

[Testing for Prostate Cancer](#)

American Cancer Society

Includes information to help individuals understand testing for prostate cancer so they can decide with their doctor if testing is right for them.

[The Facts On Our Fight](#)

American Cancer Society and American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (2022)

A series of data briefs that talk about cancer disparities and the work ACS and ACS CAN are doing with communities, including the Black community, to advance health equity



***“Let’s Hear from the Ladies! How Black Women are
Fighting Prostate Cancer Disparities”***

Facebook Live – March 15 at 5 pm (ET)

[facebook.com/ACSCAN](https://www.facebook.com/ACSCAN)



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