

# Health Equity Highlights

Welcome to another Health Equity Highlights update! We are excited to share what we have been working on recently.

Be on the lookout -- our next issue will have a new look! Watch for a Constant Contact welcome email, where you will have the ability to edit your profile and preferences.

## February 2022 Updates



## Talent Garden Programs

### Black Men with Stethoscopes

On Saturday, December 4, more than 80 young Black men came to our campus and learned about becoming physicians, dentists and advanced practice providers. These middle and high school students used some of the real tools and techniques of healthcare, and met and spoke with doctors and other healthcare professionals! If you missed it, the event was covered by [Fox 9](#) and [WCCO](#).

Over 50 Hennepin Healthcare staff volunteered to make this event a reality -- thank you! We also want to acknowledge the Executive Leadership Team; Dr. Nneka Sederstrom, Chief Health Equity Officer for her strategic vision; our Pediatrics, Dental, EMS, Emergency Medicine, and marketing departments; the event planning team, including Emily Mason, Sheyanga Beecher and Chanon Ridore; and Jim Peters, Program Development Manager for bringing it all to life in partnership with community! See photos from the event [here](#).

And coming in April...



### Black Women with Stethoscopes

The Black Women with Stethoscopes (BWWS) youth summits will take place on Saturday, April 30th and Sunday, May 15th. Like Black Men with Stethoscopes, BWWS is part of the Hennepin Healthcare Talent Garden program, where we give life to initiatives that will introduce historically excluded youth to careers in healthcare.

We hope that these experiences open up possibilities that can change the trajectory of youth's lives and careers. To learn more about how to get involved, [email Talent Garden](#).

## Black and African American Collective

### Meet the Leadership Team

We are thrilled to have the talents and collective vision of these [four leaders](#) to shape critical health equity work at Hennepin Healthcare!

The Collectives are designed for Hennepin Healthcare employees to foster:

- affirming social relationships
- professional networks
- development opportunities
- a deeper sense of belonging by creating a space where diverse employees can be their authentic selves and take a collective breath and pause

The leaders of Collectives serve as an advisory resource to contribute to more equitable and inclusive policies, practices and procedures that will:

1. Support, develop and mentor Black, Indigenous, employees of Color and other marginalized and underrepresented communities.
2. Attract, recruit and advance diverse talent of various backgrounds and identities that are currently underrepresented in leadership, clinical and administrative roles.
3. Increase awareness of multicultural differences, understanding of cultural norms and celebrations of heritage.
4. Partner with and increase opportunities to conduct business with local Black, Indigenous, Immigrant and POC owned businesses.
5. Strengthen existing community partnerships and create new community partnerships.
6. Provide a more equitable and culturally responsive care environment for patients.

## Vacancies on State Health Licensing Boards

There are many vacancies on health licensing boards for both licensed professionals (like doctors, nurses and more) and public members.

Governor Walz and Lt. Governor Flanagan are committed to supporting access to healthcare for all Minnesotans, and applying for a state board is an important way to bring equity-focused healthcare lenses to important decision-making bodies.

To start, visit [here](#) for more information, including applications for these vacancies. (The application review date is a minimum application period, and applicants can apply past that date on a rolling basis).

### Apply for an appointment to a state board or commission

A list of boards and commissions, including open positions can be found on the [Minnesota Secretary of State's website](#). With over 100 boards and commissions covering topics from architecture to the zoo, there are hundreds of opportunities annually. For questions about the process or how to get involved, please [email](#).

## Voices of Hennepin Healthcare: Aida Strom



*Aida Strom, Health Equity Community Engagement Program Manager, envisions a collaborative healthcare model built with the histories and hopes of those it serves.*

"I so strongly believe that every single human deserves good healthcare and respect within the healthcare system," expresses Aida Strom, a member of the Sisseton Wahpeton Dakota Oyate.

As the health equity community engagement program manager at Hennepin Healthcare, Aida is participating in an [innovative planning process](#) to advance health equity. She advocates for a collaborative healthcare model that partners with communities to practice historically informed, consent-based and culturally respectful care. She believes that this is possible at Hennepin Healthcare, recognizing its unique role within the region's healthcare landscape.

[Read Aida's full story](#)

## Connect With Us

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