



Special Interest Group – Black Diaspora Seeking Health Equity Offering Solutions

SIG Black Diaspora Description

Special Interest Group – Black Diaspora is an affiliation of people from the Black Community who are People with Parkinson’s Disease, Care Partners of someone with Parkinson’s Disease, Movement Disorder Specialist, plus Neurologists, Researchers, Clinicians, Patient Coordinators, Therapist, and Social Workers focused on working and serving Parkinson’s Patients. SIG-Black Diaspora is a grass roots working group that bring expertise and best practices focused on developing solutions to mitigate health disparities in the Black Community with a focus on issues of the Black PD Community. We are not a health benefits organization nor seeking to displace any such organization. We are dedicated to collaborating with these organizations to amend existing protocols and processes to better serve under-engaged communities of color.

SIG Black Diaspora Mission Statement

Our mission is to improve Parkinson’s Disease Health Outcomes in the Black PD Community, to increase Black Community participation in clinical research, and to empower members of the Black PD Community to live their best lives despite having Parkinson’s Disease.

SIG Black Diaspora Vision Statement

Our vision is to create a working group which builds on research advocacy and community engagement best practices. The group will focus on enhancing Black Research Advocates knowledge of:

- existing research findings related to Black people and their communities of color,
- gaps in research on the presence of and impact on the Brain Health Black community,
- evolving efforts to reach, to engage and to educate the Black community,
- available Black medical professionals addressing PD (neurologist, movement disorder specialist, and general practitioners diagnosing and referring patients to specialist), and
- reference resources available to address medical disparities in the Black community.

It is our vision that this dynamic working group will survey, compile, and review existing research and literature from members of the Black medical community. The intent of the work will be the development of best practice summaries for reaching the Black PD community and recommendations to assist healthcare and educational organizations in their mission where it entails the Black community.

It is our vision that this group will be a sounding board for researchers, outreach project developers, website developers and those developing patient materials. The intent will be to bridge gaps between the organizations and their affiliates and the Black PD community.

It is our vision that our working groups become a dynamic, but permanent bridge to enable inclusion and equity of Black PD community voices in efforts to make lives better in the PD community.

Finally, it is our vision that this group will be a co-collaborator with similar working groups representing and working on closing medical disparities in other under engaged communities.

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