

Vision 2025: Inspiring Generational Champions for Resilience and Good Health

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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iDREAM for Racial Health Equity chosen as Nonprofit of the Year

NONPROFIT WAS HONORED BY STATE SENATOR HOLLY J. MITCHELL ON CALIFORNIA NONPROFITS DAY

Los Angeles, CA – iDREAM for Racial Health Equity, a project of Community Partners® is proud to announce it has been selected as a 2019 California Nonprofit of the Year by 30th District State Senator, the Honorable Holly J. Mitchell.

Wenonah Valentine, MBA, founder and executive director from iDREAM for Racial Health Equity traveled to Sacramento on June 5th to join with more than one hundred other nonprofit leaders being honored by their state senators and assemblymembers during a celebration luncheon as part of California Nonprofits Day.

“Thank you, Wenonah and the team for a tremendous day of celebration and fellowship. So proud of what we’ve accomplished and recognized by State Senator Holly J. Mitchell as a Nonprofit of the Year,” comments Kevin Tamaki, Advisory Board Chair.

“Nonprofits are often hidden in plain sight,” explains Jan Masaoka, CEO of the California Association of Nonprofits (CalNonprofits). “California Nonprofits Day is an opportunity for our elected officials to celebrate the good work they see nonprofits doing in their districts, and for everyone to appreciate the collective impact of nonprofits in our communities.”

The mission of iDREAM for Racial Health Equity is committed to empowering a pipeline of millennial and community health advocate leaders with a deeper understanding of the cultural, societal, environmental and economic issues impacting health outcomes for mothers and babies throughout the life course. Rooted within a 25-year storied mission, iDREAM has formed relationships with faculty, students and community research ambassadors and cultural brokers to raise awareness, answers and action to close the Black-White gap in maternal and infant health. iDREAM has evolved as an unapologetic champion for Black college graduates who are most likely to experience pregnancy complications and poor birth outcomes. Their response to maternal trauma led to developing content and facilitating cultural humility trainings for medical maternity providers. Since 2017, iDREAM served as a key stakeholder in perinatal equity initiatives with the California and Los Angeles Departments of Public Health.

“When the economy changed in 2008, we formed faculty and student relationships and 11 years later, deepened our pipeline for emerging community leaders and decision-makers to stand in the birth equity movement,” iDREAM Founder Wenonah Valentine shared. “We made the right decision and celebrated raising the conversation to new levels. Thank you, Senator Mitchell, for elevating awareness and action for Black maternal and infant health. iDREAM continues as an intergenerational movement.

WeWork Fine Arts Building
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Receiving the 2019 CA Nonprofit of the Year Award jump starts the 25th anniversary of our 25-year mission. Thank you for helping us celebrate with the people who stood with us!”

Additional Background

California Nonprofits Day, now in its fourth year, was formally recognized by Assembly Concurrent Resolution 62, authored by the chair of the Assembly Select Committee on the Nonprofit Sector, Assemblywoman Monique Limón (Santa Barbara), who spoke at the celebration luncheon. Senator Holly Mitchell keynoted the luncheon. The day is organized by Assemblymember Limón and CalNonprofits.

According to “Causes Count,” a 2016 [report](#) commissioned by CalNonprofits, the nonprofit sector is the 4th largest industry in the state, employing nearly one million people. Each year, California nonprofits generate over \$200 billion in revenue and bring in \$40 billion in revenue from outside of California. The unpaid labor contributed by volunteers at nonprofits is equivalent to 450,000 full-time jobs every year.

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