Dear Friends,

2021 was a time of growth and opportunity for BU Wellness Network as we enhanced our work and developed deeper and new relationships in our Indianapolis community.

Last year, we achieved many of the goals we set out in our 3-year strategic plan. We provided services to more than 1,300 people. We implemented signature programs and health education that address health disparities beyond HIV. We hosted 8 HIV prevention events and participated in countless community events to bring education about our services directly to the community. We embarked on new partnerships with community organizations, including many that share our zip code. We are so proud of the impact and progress we made in year one of our strategic plan.

Looking forward, it is clear what is necessary on our journey to enhancing the health and wellness of Black communities in Indiana.

Black people continue to carry the burden of HIV in Indiana despite only accounting for less than 10% of its population. The health burden does not end there, as the Black community remains overrepresented in many other health disparities, which we have seen become further exacerbated by the global pandemic. Meeting the immediate needs of the Black community remains the most critical piece of our work here at BU. Through efforts such as coalition building, we work to identify root causes and develop solutions to close the gaps and achieve optimal health outcomes for Black people.

As you read our inaugural annual report, I hope it inspires you to deepen your connection with us and our mission as we work to end the epidemic.

We couldn’t do what we do without all of you.

Jasmine A. Black, MPH
Executive Director
Dear Donors and Friends,

I am so excited to share our annual report with you! Despite the difficulties we have all faced during the pandemic, I am happy to report some important growth for the BU Wellness Network. This past year, we have received recording-breaking support from our community of donors and funders, including a prestigious grant from the Centers for Disease Control that supports our extended testing hours. The grant is the first of its kind for BU Wellness Network and now we offer the latest hours for testing in the state! Additionally, we have grown the size of our staff to meet the needs of our community, including the development of a robust nutrition program. Carrying forward the visionary leadership of Dr. Darrin Johnson, our new Executive Director Jasmine Black has stepped up to shepherd the organization in innovative ways that maintain the spirit of and honor the history of the organization. She brings to the table many years of relevant experience through prior work with the State and other community-based organizations.

As we look ahead to 2022, there will be some changes, including a move for the agency headquarters. We will be seeking input from our community to help with this transition as we look forward to increasing our physical space to better address the needs of those we serve (and accommodate our growing staff). We are also working to continue growing the Board of Directors so that it reflects the diversity of our community, the services we provide, and meets the needs of our ever-growing organization. As always, we welcome your thoughts, questions, and engagement throughout the entire journey.

Wishing you and yours good health always!

Dr. Marlo D. David
President, Board of Directors
**Vision Statement**

BU envisions a world where...

- Black people in Indiana have comprehensive access and improved health outcomes.
- The community recognizes BU as the expert, first point of contact for Black health and wellness and looks to BU for thought leadership.
- The health services BU provides combats racial inequities.

**Mission Statement**

To enhance the health and wellness of black communities in Indiana.

**Core Values**

- Advocate
- Education
- Wellness
- Equity
- Intersectionality
- Excellence

**Three Pillars**

**Prevention Services**
- HIV/STI Screening
- Telehealth Prep Services
- Mpowerment & D-Up
- Emergency Financial Assistance

**Supportive Services for People Living with HIV**
- Non-Medical Case Management
- Psychosocial Support
- Emergency Financial Assistance
- Medical Transportation

**Nutrition Access**
- Food Pantry
- Eat And Thrive (E.A.T)
- BU Fresh Market
Prevention

- 62 PrEP referrals
- 2,000 condoms distributed
- 1,010 individuals screened

Breakdown of HIV/STI Screenings in 2021

- HIV: 891
- Syphilis: 742
- Gonorrhea: 915
- Chlamydia: 914
- Hepatitis-C: 573

Supportive Services for People Living with HIV

- 875 non-medical case management visits
- 100% newly diagnosed individuals linked to care
- $33,189 distributed in emergency financial assistance

Nutrition Access

- 237 people received fresh produce
- 73 participants in E.A.T.
- 224 client assistance pantry visits
- 65 fresh markets hosted
Eat and Thrive (E.A.T.) is a food and nutrition program, started in 2021, that seeks to increase knowledge about healthy eating and enhance access to healthy food options within Indianapolis’ food deserts.

E.A.T. offers a monthly nutritional web episode on the BU Wellness Network YouTube page that covers one recipe, tips for healthy eating, and information about HIV in the black community and HIV prevention methods.

Participants receive a free “Thrive Box” that includes every ingredient needed to make the recipe covered in that month’s episode.

**How It Works**

1. **Enroll**
   - Enroll in the E.A.T. program through our online registration link.

2. **Receive**
   - Receive your monthly Thrive Box with all of your fresh ingredients.

3. **Watch**
   - Watch the E.A.T. web series episode on the last Wednesday of each month.

4. **Follow**
   - Follow our easy step-by-step recipes to learn new skills, try new tastes, and make your family amazing meals.
BU Fresh Market, which began in 2021, provides produce to community members in Indianapolis weekly. Sourced primarily through in-kind donations, individuals can come to the BU Wellness Network office during business hours to receive produce for themselves and their family. During the warmer months we offer BU Fresh Market on The Go, where BU staff and volunteers hit the streets and provide produce to the community prioritizing predominantly Black neighborhoods and areas with a high concentration of individuals experiencing homelessness.
As we enter the second quarter of 2022, we are excited to share with you all of what we have planned for the year. This year we are focused on further enhancing the programs and services we provide to our clients and the community to address everyone’s needs. Below you will find our priorities for this year:

**Revamping our support groups**

- **Sisters United**
  - Expanding programming to address HIV prevention for Black women
- **Safety, Opulence, Unity and Leadership (SOUL)**
  - Curating safe spaces for transgender and gender non-conforming participants

**Continuation of the “Safe Sex Sells Too Series”**

- Hosting more culturally relevant events to provide education and resources to the Black to aid in ending the HIV epidemic

**Staff Development: Investing in our team**

- Enhancing staff capacity by elevating the expertise and capabilities of our team
- Funds designated for staff continuing education opportunities (classes, certifications, trainings, conference attendance, etc.)

**Black Treatment Advocates Network (BTAN) Marion County Chapter**

- Creating a network of individuals who can share resources, develop solutions, and create a loud voice for the health concerns within the black community
- There are four subgroups: Adolescent care, PrEP, Nutrition & Transgender Advocacy

**Eat And Thrive (E.A.T)**

- Mailed delivery option for participants to increase access for those who do not have reliable transportation or have non-traditional schedules

**BU Fresh Market**

- Monthly pop-up pantries around Indianapolis with free HIV/STI testing
Creating Long-Lasting Relationships

For 22 years, BU Wellness Network has been committed to serving the community’s needs. Beginning as a support group for Black same-gender-loving men in the height of the HIV epidemic, BU now serves 35% of all African-American people living with HIV in the state. BU provides a welcoming, supportive, and safe space for clients – BU is their home away from home.

Home begins when they walk through the door and receive a warm welcome from our intake coordinator followed by the offering of food and beverages. This helps them transition to a space where the focus is on them and their needs.

Our non-medical case managers go above and beyond to provide clients with all the tools they need – accessing their medicine, getting insurance, and emergency financial assistance, to name a few. Chris, who has been at BU since 2010, values his relationship with his caseworker more than anything.

“I’m the type of person that if I don’t like it [caseworker] I’ll find me a new caseworker.”

His first introduction to BU was through his then caseworker Terri Young who offered resources to help him find stable housing. His previous case manager at another organization told him he needed to apply for housing support but offered no guidance on how to do it which left him stuck – so he switched caseworkers.

“She’s that type of person she gets stuff done... When you need it she’s there for you.”

Pre-covid, Chris visited BU almost daily to say hello and to volunteer in the office. Since the office is currently appointment only, he takes advantage of any programs that allow him to stop by.

Chris recently participated in the Love Thyself Workshop that provided clients with guided meditation and a yoga demonstration, the portion he really enjoyed. He likes the opportunity to try new things as he embarks on continuing to improve his health, a focus of BU.

Just as clients are appreciative of our caseworkers, BU staff appreciate our clients. “It is always an honor and a blessing to be able to help the community,” says Director of Client Care and Retention Terri Young. “This work humbles me daily. I have learned more from my clients than they will ever know.”
In support of our mission to enhance the health and wellness of Black communities in Indiana, we strive to patronize and promote Black-owned organizations and businesses in our work wherever possible. In 2021, BU Wellness Network supported 72 black businesses and nonprofits through our own events and community engagement opportunities.

3-D Trophy & Engraving Co Inc
AlveTina Art & Ceramic
Audrey Anne’s Hot Sauce
Auxiliaries in Ministry
Be Nimble Foundation
Be Radiant Accessories
Blended Family Events
Bloom Love Lift
Bloomin Season
Brenda Bullock
Brothers Growth, LLC
Chatrivia Kennedy
Chef Esset
Chef Oya
Chef Paul’s Kitchen
Chi City-Wide Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta, Inc.
Christine’s Creations
Cies Treats
Clarke Consulting, LLC
Cleo’s Bodega and Café
Crack Snax
D&D Adventure, LLC
D. Rep Deejay
Danielle’s Funnel Cakes
Darrin Johnson PHD, LLC
David Tipton
Décor By Dannie
DJ Cash
DJ Kidnap
Doughvour LLC
Drea & Co, LLC
Drippin Royaltee Plus Size Clothing Boutique
EarKandy
Ebony Chappel
Empower Indy
Goddess Waist Trainers
Gregory Calloway
Hendricks Catering
House of Shamaiah, LLC
I’ll Drink To That Podcast
Inferno by Crys
Invictus Designs
Isn’t She Loveli
Jewel Essentials Soaps & Beyond
JG Productions & Management LLC
Just Jeffrey
Koby Bluitt
Lili’s Creations
Mathis Media, LLC
Mayfield Security Services
Meridian Park Event Center
Michael’s Soul Kitchen, LLC
Mr. Wright
Nature’s Tea Company
Needful Things Media and Such
NOYZ Production Studios
Obsrv Agency, LLC
Perfect Apparel
Pioneer Missionary Baptist Church
Powerhouse Church Of Indianapolis
Queen of Hearts Counseling
Rec Zone Indy
SC’s Wig Bar
Shades by Shanni
T. Marie Candle Co.
Teas Me Café
Tiffianie King
Trans Solutions Research and Resource Center
We’re Poppin Popcorn & Lemonade
Who Do Tint
XON CBD
OUR FINANCES

TOTAL REVENUE
$1,865,046.69

CONTRIBUTIONS
7%

GRANTS
72%

FUNDRAISING
8%

TOTAL EXPENSES
$1,361,636.55

CONTRACT PHARMACY
21%

OPERATIONS
11%

PROGRAMS
81%
Thank You to our Supporters!

The impact that BU Wellness Network has on the Black community is due, in part, to the generous support of individuals and organizations who invest in our mission. BU Wellness Network leadership and staff would like to thank and recognize the donors of 2021.

$10,000+
Gilead Sciences, Inc.
Meijer
The Ally Coalition
The Indianapolis Foundation

$5,000-$9,999
Eli Lilly and Company
Human Rights Campaign

$1,000-$4,999
Alan Witchey
Anthem
Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield
BOCA
CH Douglas & Gray Wealth Management
Clara Miah Evans
Continuud
Indianapolis Fruit Company
Indy Hunger Network
Janet Arno
John Patton
Margaret Ahearn
Marion County Public Health Department
Richard and Nathan Walsh

$1-$999
Adrian Wynn
Aja Roache
Akua Miller
Annette Brewer
Anonymous
Anthony DeMyers
Banging Booze Liquor
Be Radiant Accessories
Bookkeeping Plus, Inc.
Brenda C. Black
Brian Dilkes
Brian Helm
Bridget Butts
Candice Bradley
Carrie Foote
Cedrick Harris
Chiffonda Armstead
Chris Jennings
Christian Ankney
Christina Shepherd
Christine Dixie
Cies Treats
Circle City CAG
Cleopia Glover
Crystal Paschal
Damon Rice
Danielle Jernigan
Daqavise Winston
Darius Bost
Darrin Johnson
David Chropka and Jason Grisell
Demetrius Robinson
Drippin Royaltee Plus Size Clothing Boutique
Dylan Friddle
EarKandy
Elaine Francis
Eric Egler
Eric Meininger and Peter Kim
Flanner House
Gwen Roache
$1-$999 (cont.)
Hannah Kistler
Iesha McBeath
India Brinkley
Isn’t She Loveli
J. Stokes
Jack Shepler
Jasmine Black
Jason Gehlhausen
Je’ Nobia Smith
Jeffrey Croker
Jenna Unrue
Jerod Williams
Jessica Smith
JoaQuinn Griffin
Jocelynn Porter
John O’Haver
Johnny Reliford
Jonathon B. White
Karrisa Jackson
Katara McCarty
Kathleen Conyers
Kathryn Koehler
Kenneth Spry
Kiana Ricks
Kisha Stone
LaMonda Horton-Stallings
Laramie White
LaTonya Harrell
Leander Files
Leonard Gardner
Lilis Creations
Lisa Vielee
Loretta LaShaye and Kids Tasty Treats
Loretta Reed
Lori Leaumont
Makumba Mulenga
Marissa Miller
Markika Harris
Marlo David and DuShaun Goings
Marquisha Bridgeman
Martina Jackson
Matt Barton
Maya Keeton
Micaylah Rose
Michael Coleman
Michael Hines
Michael Menafee
Michael Range
Michelle Soucy
Michelle Y. Harris
Michelle Young
Milele Kennedy
Nature’s Tea Company
Nicole Long
Ninja Miles
Paparazzi
Precious Norris
Princess Palayse
Children’s Clothing
Quinton Miles
Rae Jeanne Coran
Ragena Spells
Randall May
Rebecca Waletich
Rebekah Stark
Robert Grice
Ronald Pryor
Salesforce
Santosha Johnson
SaRetta Brown
SC’s Wig Bar
Scott Hall
Shades by Shanni
Sheron Gladney
ShyWain Brown
Sir Clark
State Employees’ Community Campaign
Terri Young
Terria Young
Tina Word
Todd Fuqua
Trader Joe’s
Traneisha English
Vance White
Victor Black
Vincent Black
Wayne Wilson
Whitley Yates
BU Wellness Network
Board of Directors

Dr. Marlo David, President
Jaime Roberts, Vice-President
Dr. DeMarc Hickson, Treasurer
SaRetta Brown, Secretary

BU Wellness Network Staff

Jasmine Black
Executive Director

Michael Range
Quality Manager

Ninjia Miles
Director of Development

Terri Young
Director of Client Care and Retention

Aminata Tounkara
Non-medical Case Manager

Ariyane Bailey
Non-medical Case Manager

Kem Moore
Community Health Worker

Edward Benson
Prevention Program Manager

Aaron Hardy
HIV Prevention Program Coordinator

Daphne Risher
AmeriCorp Member

Mi’kayla Cross
HIV Prevention Program Coordinator

Adrian Shelman
Community Health Worker

Damon Hamilton
Prevention Program Manager

Flomichelle Battles
HIV Prevention Program Coordinator

Jordan Delfyette
HIV Prevention Program Coordinator

Khara Ice
Executive Intake Coordinator & Nutrition Manager

Autumn Davenport
Intake Specialist

David Johnson
Community Health Worker