

ECHO HOPE

Enhancing Collaborative Health Options & Opportunities (through) Hope and Healing Opportunities with Proactive Education



PROJECT NAF
Nurturing Asheville & Area Families



Happy 36th Anniversary Dr. John H. Grant

Founding Chairman, President & CEO of Mount Zion Community Development, Inc.

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF MZCD

Happy 36th Anniversary to Dr. John H. Grant, Pastor & President of Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church of Asheville, Inc.

As the Founding Chairman, President & CEO of Mount Zion Community Development, Inc., under your visionary leadership, the Mount Zion Church was cognizant of the fact that when a blighted area is restored and improved, the community benefits through the creation of new or restored homes, prospering businesses, more attractive public areas and parks, and renewal of individual and civic pride.

Blighted areas can become like prisons for those who are powerless to change their way of life. People living in deteriorated and oftentimes overcrowded conditions can become the victims of crime and disease which have serious social consequences.

Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church of Khayelitsha, South Africa



Before



After



Therefore, on behalf of the Board of Directors of Mount Zion Community Development, Inc., we extend our sincerest gratitude to you for your unwavering dedication and outstanding community service, which has and continues to impact our local community, state, nation, and beyond. You are deeply appreciated, and we remain forever grateful for your tireless work and lasting contributions.

CITY OF ASHEVILLE PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Dr. Grant has faithfully served as the visionary leader, Pastor and President of Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church of Asheville, Inc., for 36 years; and

WHEREAS, under Dr. Grant's visionary leadership, services rendered by Mt. Zion Church are not merely ideals, but a foundation for many and a social justice platform that often fills the gaps in access to services and resources to meet the needs of the whole person locally, statewide, nationally and internationally; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Grant's ministry is committed to preaching, teaching, and witnessing the gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ; this commitment led to the establishment of Mount Zion Community Development, Inc. (MZCD), founded by Mt. Zion Church under his leadership, and where he served as Founding Chairman, President and CEO; and

WHEREAS, MZCD has raised and invested millions of dollars in program initiatives, too many to mention; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Grant helped organize the Eagle-Market Streets Development Corporation, serving as the Founding President, Chairman & CEO for three years and helping the corporation secure its 501(c)(3) IRS exemption status, more than a quarter of a million dollars in grant funds, gain official recognition as a development partner with the City of Asheville and hire its first full-time executive director; and

WHEREAS, in 1998, Dr. Grant helped organize Community Outreach, Incorporated, a 501 (c) 3 non-profit that rescued the YMI Cultural Center ("YMICC") from foreclosure at a cost of more than \$30,000.00; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Grant is known as a man of integrity and accountability and the recipient of many honors including Buncombe County's "100 Most Influential People," "Minority Enterprise Week Minister of the Year," "Certificates of Special Congressional Recognition" for three years, Martin Luther King, Jr. "Church of the Year" award for "reflecting the spiritual values of Dr. King's stand for social and economic justice, the empowerment of others, and the sacrifice of time and resources to benefit the impoverished and disenfranchised of our community;" and several proclamations declaring "Dr. John H. Grant Day;" and

NOW, THEREFORE, I S. Antanette Mosley, Vice-Mayor of the City of Asheville do hereby proclaim October 5, 2025 as

DR. JOHN H. GRANT DAY

in celebration of Dr. Grant's 36 years of service as the Pastor and President of Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church of Asheville, Inc., and as a resilient community leader, entrepreneur, and non-profit developer.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Asheville, North Carolina, to be affixed this 5th day of October 2025.

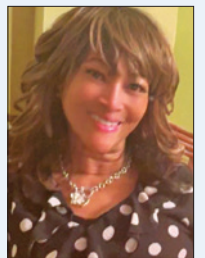


S. Antanette Mosley
S. ANTANETTE MOSLEY
VICE-MAYOR

MOUNT ZION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, INC.



Dr. John H. Grant, Founding Chairman, President, CEO of Mount Zion Community Development, Inc.



Belinda K. Grant, Chief Executive Director of Mount Zion Community Development, Inc.



Staff

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Executive Director
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- Barbara Anderson: Office Support/Community Connector
- Dr. Ronald Caldwell: Supervising Physician
- Sapphire De'Bellott: Project NAF Outreach Worker
- Mr. Henry Glaze: Transportation Coordinator
- Kontia Grant: Nurse Family Practitioner
- Ms. Rosa B. Hearst, in appreciation of past services

MESSAGE FROM MZCD STAFF



Dr. Ronald Caldwell, Kontia Grant, Sapphire De'Bellott, and Barbara Anderson.

On behalf of the Project ECHO team, thank you Dr. John H. Grant for your visionary leadership in establishing Mount Zion Community Development, Inc.

Mount Zion Community Development, Inc. continues to have a positive impact in the community through the provision of services to individuals and families by addressing critical gaps in healthcare. Your dedication to making a real-world difference sets a remarkable example for us all and reinforces why we are so proud to be a part of this organization.

Thank You!

OUR PARTNERS

Our programming is made possible through the support of our generous funders.



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Mount Zion Community Development, Inc.

Board of Directors

- Mrs. Linda Glaze: Board Chair
- Rev. Scott Rogers: Vice Chair
- Mrs. Michelle Harper: Fundraising Chair & Treasurer
- Mr. Leroy Simpson: Member
- Mrs. Tracey Rice Johnson: Fundraising Co-Chair
- Mrs. Alberta Drane: Events Coordinator
- Mr. Henry Glaze: Transportation Coordinator

Project NAF Community Advisory Board

- Denise Duckett: BCHHS Pregnancy Care
- Nancy Farmer: Sparc Foundation
- Charlene Galloway-Pea: Mt. Zion Church of Asheville: Inc.
- Anne Kouri: Mars Hill University
- Latoya McDaniel: Former Participant
- Tim Splain: Asheville City Police Department (Male Advocate)
- Vacant: Advent Health
- Royanna Williams: Business Owner & Former NAF Participant

Project Empower

Education Means Power – in collaboration with initiatives to impact the opioid crisis.

Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Behind every act of resilience, every choice to stick with it, and every effort to care for or give, there's a personal reason—a "Why."

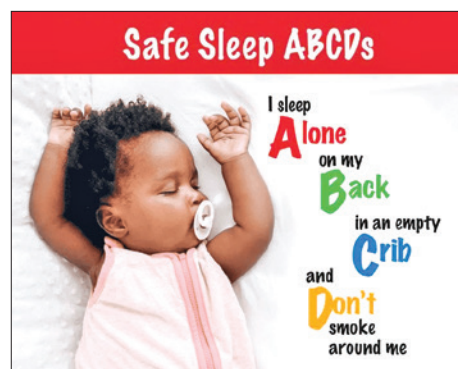
This year's Breast Cancer Awareness theme is "My Why." Living Beyond Breast Cancer invites people from every walk of life—those diagnosed with breast cancer, families, healthcare providers, fundraisers, and friends—to share their "Why."



Why Your "Why" Matters

When you share your "Why," you inspire others to speak up and connect with a larger community of hope and strength. When you give, you make trusted resources and compassionate support possible for people who need it most.

Infant Loss Awareness Month



Source: CDC

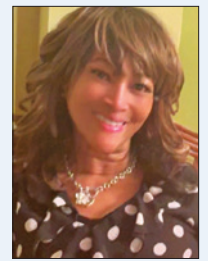
October is SIDS and Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month, a time to educate the public on Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS), promote safe sleep practices to reduce sleep-related infant deaths, and honor the memories of infants lost during pregnancy and early life.

Key initiatives include the ABCs of Safe Sleep (Alone, Back, Crib), which advises placing babies on their backs to sleep in a crib without blankets or toys. Additionally, the month recognizes families who have experienced perinatal loss, offering support and a platform to share their stories and grief.

MOUNT ZION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, INC.



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