NAACP
Oranges & Maplewood Branch

# The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
## ~ ORANGES & MAPLEWOOD BRANCH ~

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October 20, 2026

**Re:** Sponsored CPR Certifications for high school students in East Orange

Dear Counselor,

The NAACP Oranges & Maplewood Branch in collaboration with the City of East Orange Health Department invites you to support, **"Helping the Block Breathe: *CPR can save a life*."** We need your help in selecting 6 Juniors and/or Seniors from your school, who you feel would be deserving of this opportunity, to participate.

This initiative is sponsored by our *BUILD Grant* project: "Oranges & Maplewood C.A.R.E.S. (Community Advocacy & Restorative Education Support)"and will take place on **Thursday, November 5, 2026, from 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM at Benjamin Banneker Academy**: 500 South Clinton Street, East Orange, NJ 07018.

We will be joined by leadership from both the East Orange City Council and NAACP: Oranges & Maplewood. Students will then have the opportunity to participate in a full day of interactive learning with licensed professional, Harmony Williams, of ***Partnering with Harmony***. Upon completion, students will be officially certified by *American Red Cross* in CPR/AED & First Aid.

Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) is a valuable skill that can help save a life during cardiac arrest, when the heart stops beating or beats too ineffectively to circulate blood to the brain and other vital organs. With a half-million cardiac arrests each year, CPR increases the likelihood of surviving cardiac arrest. So this initiative aims to equip students with the tools needed to be a life saver for their family, neighbors, and surrounding community!

Please submit the names and contact information for your selected students to Cassandra Bien-Aime at health@omnaacp.org by Friday, October 30, 2026.

In Truth & Service,

*Danielle Thomas*

**Danielle Thomas,** President
NAACP Oranges & Maplewood Branch

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