



November 1, 2023

William B. Lawson, MD PhD, DLFAPA
Research Consultant
Silver Spring, Maryland

Dear Dr. Lawson,

Congratulations! The Black Mental Health Alliance for Education & Consultation, Inc. (BMHA) is pleased to inform you that you have been awarded the ***Phoenix Arising Award, Peoples' Choice For Impact on the Mental Health And Substance Use In the Community*** named in homage to BMHA principal founder, Dr. Maxie T. Collier. Your exemplary work, life, and vision to build maximal human development in the Black community is to be commended and embodies the theme of Dr. Collier's vision for Black people: "Just as the phoenix rose from the ashes, so must the Black community re-emerge from the ruins."

This year's Awards Ceremony & 40th Anniversary Gala, held Friday, December 1, 2023 is a fundraiser and celebration of the life and work of Dr. Maxie T. Collier. This year's theme: "***Honoring Our Past, Transforming Our Today, Defining Our Future***" speaks to the ever present resilience and the need to support the emerging mental health issues in the black community.

For 40 years, BMHA has been a mental health and social advocacy nonprofit organization providing a trusted forum to lead and promote culturally relevant approaches to behavioral health access, integration of behavioral health service, and quality care for the black community. Our work is more critical than ever and we are excited to celebrate the brilliance and resilience of those who labor in this work.

The Award Ceremony and Gala will be hosted at the Baltimore World Trade Center, 401 E. Pratt Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202 at 7:00 pm. You may confirm your acceptance of the award and attendance by Friday, November 10, 2022 via email to Mrs. Roxana Feenster who will serve as the primary point of contact regarding this request. She may be reached via phone at 443-314-5188 or via email at r.feenster@blackmentalhealth.com.

On behalf of the Black Mental Health Alliance Board of Directors, please accept our sincere congratulations and we look forward to celebrating with you December 1, 2023. Should you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Andrea Brown
Executive Director