

"WE GIVE HONOR TO OUR MILITARY BRANCHES AND VETERANS, THE ENTIRE MONTH OF NOVEMBER"



# The Dallas Post Tribune

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VOLUME 70 NUMBER 6

SERVING THE BLACK COMMUNITY WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOR SINCE 1947

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November 9 - 15, 2017

## JOIN GRAMMY® AWARD WINNER TAMELA MANN AND ACTOR/COMEDIAN DAVID MANN AT THE MUSIC HALL AT FAIR PARK ON NOVEMBER 11

### ACA Enrollment Surging, Even Though It Ends Dec. 15th



By Cash Michaels  
Contributing Writer

The enrollment period to be covered by the federal Affordable Care Act (ACA) began Nov. 1st, and is scheduled to end Dec. 15th, for those hoping to qualify for health care coverage beginning January 1, 2018.

The Trump Administration, which has made no secret of its wish to "repeal and replace" President Barack Obama's signature legislative achievement, has done everything it can to force the ACA to whither on the vine by cutting the enrollment period from the previous three months, to just 45 days. And it has also cut the \$100 million Obama Administration budget to both advertise the open enrollment period, and slashed grant funding efforts for state and community organizations across the nation that reach those in dire need of all that the ACA offers through education and mobilization, by an estimated 90 percent to just \$10 million for the entire nation.

And yet, according to recent published reports, Pres. Trump's efforts to strangle the ACA to discourage participation are coming up short. In fact, based on available numbers, people are enrolling at a higher, faster pace than last year at this time, and there's every reason to believe that pace will continue the closer Dec. 15th comes.

While no official numbers have been released by the administration yet, The Washington Post (citing sources) reports that, "More than 200,000 Americans chose a plan on Nov. 1st (first day of open enrollment). That's more than double the number of consumers who signed up on the first day of enrollment last year. More than 1 million people visited HealthCare.gov, the official federal website, the official said, which amounts to roughly a 33 percent increase in traffic compared with 2016."

This doesn't account for over a dozen states that have their own health insurance exchanges. However, several states, like California, New York and Connecticut, all say they are seeing more signups over last year as well.

Indeed, those wishing to enroll should go to [www.healthcare.gov](http://www.healthcare.gov) to qualify for federal tax subsidies to offset the rising cost of health insurance premiums. Those subsidies, better known as APT (Advanced Premium Tax Subsidies), make monthly premiums more affordable for most Americans who apply.

Continues on Page 6



Grammy® Award Winner and Gospel music's "IT" Girl, Tamela Mann and husband, comedian David Mann

NASHVILLE, TENN. -- Grammy® Award Winner and Gospel music's "IT" Girl, Tamela Mann and husband, comedian David Mann, joined by the rest of the talented Mann family, bring the Mann's World Family Tour to the Music Hall at Fair Park in Dallas, TX on Saturday, November 11th.

You may have seen Tamela's show-stopping performance on the Grammy® stage, or watched her receive her first Grammy® Award for Best Gospel Performance Song for "God Provides" from her Billboard No. 1 album One Way and nab her second NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Gospel Album for One Way.

Fans can now join Tamela along with her husband David and the Mann Family for the year's best concert and comedy show ALL IN ONE NIGHT!

"We're excited to get back on the road this fall and go on tour with our kids. It's not just a concert, or a comedy show, it's a family experience," says David Mann, executive producer of the tour.

Featured each night are Tia Mann performing new music, DJ David Mann, Jr., a comedy set by David Mann, a full concert by Gospel's leading lady, Tamela Mann, along with a few surprise guests.

One Way marks Tamela's fourth solo studio album and is executively produced by Tamela, her husband and business partner, actor David Mann and son David Mann Jr. The album's all-star guest producer credits include: Eric Dawkins, King Logan, Shaun Martin and Timbaland.

Tamela and David have been an acting duo in film, on tv and on stage for years. From starring in the No. 1 TV and film franchise, Tyler Perry's Meet The Browns together, to their current television hits, the couple continues to make audiences laugh with their wholesome brand of comedy. They currently star in The Manns (TV One) and Mann & Wife (Bounce TV).

### First Female African American CWO-5 in the Information Warfare Community



Valencia Simmons-Fowler, first African-American CWO 5 in the information warfare community.  
(U.S. Navy photo by Petty Officer 3rd Class Kyle Hafer/Released)

Story by Petty Officer 3rd Class Kyle Hafer, Navy Recruiting Command

MILLINGTON, Tenn -- Chief Warrant Officer (CWO) 5 Valencia Simmons-Fowler is the first African America woman to achieve the highest chief warrant officer rank in the information warfare community, November 3.

The Chicago, Illinois native started her Navy career at Recruit Training Command Orlando, Florida in March 1988. From there she attended Cryptologic Technician Collection (CTR) "A" School where she achieved the notable accomplishment of honor graduate.

As her list of successes continued, Simmons-Fowler earned the title of chief petty officer in September 2001 while serving aboard USS Bataan (LHD 5). Later, during her tour at Naval Security Group Activity in Norfolk, Virginia she was selected for the CWO program in 2003, beginning her life as a chief warrant officer.

"This was my goal since the beginning of my career," said Simmons-Fowler. "I have always strived for the next level, the pinnacle profession, and I earned it."

The historic promotion is the result of hard work and dedication that isn't achieved alone, but with the help of mentors and shipmates along the way.

"None of us ever gets here alone," said Capt. Alonza Ross, the director of enlisted distribution at Navy Personal Command and mentor to Simmons-Fowler. "It takes a lot of support from family, friends and shipmates. I certainly understand how significant this achievement is, and I knew she was capable of doing it."

Inspiration follows this woman who has achieved so much. The protégés that Simmons-Fowler mentors see that they also have the opportunity to achieve just as much, if not more.

"I am extremely proud of Chief Warrant Officer 5 Simmons-Fowler," said Yeoman 2nd Class Olivia Likely, a protégé of Simmons-Fowler. "Women are pillars of strength and support. To see Chief Warrant Officer 5 Simmons-Fowler achieve this extraordinary goal, I know I have confidence and a voice, to know that not only can I conquer my goals, I can shoot far beyond that."

Continues on Page 3

## WOMEN'S MARCH - LOS ANGELES 2018, SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 20th, 2018 GEARS UP TO 'GET OUT THE VOTE'! HEAR OUR VOTE!

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## #WEDNESDAY WISDOM

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They Sleep.  
We Grind.

## IN THIS ISSUE...

SPORTS - PAGE 6



(AP)- Brehanna Daniels goes into NASCAR history books as first Black female crewmember



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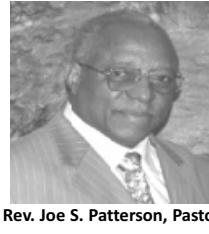
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P. 214-421-4119 Email: [gnz2210@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gnz2210@sbcglobal.net)



### Services

Bible Study  
Tuesdays @ 11:00 a.m.  
Wednesdays @ 7:00 p.m.

Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.  
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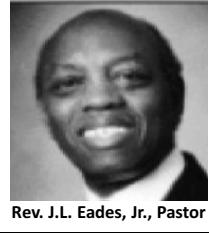
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"A Good Understanding Wins Favor" Prov. 13:15

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5300 Marvin D. Love Freeway, Dallas, TX 75232  
P. 214-339-5800



### Schedule of Services

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Wednesday Prayer Meeting - 7:00 p.m.  
Brotherhood (1st & 3rd Wed.) - 8:00 p.m.  
Senior Mission (1st & 3rd Wed.) - 8:00 p.m.  
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Dr. Frederick Douglass Haynes, III  
Senior Pastor

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10:45 a.m. CST

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Wednesdays Word & Wonders  
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7:00 p.m. (Sanctuary) CST

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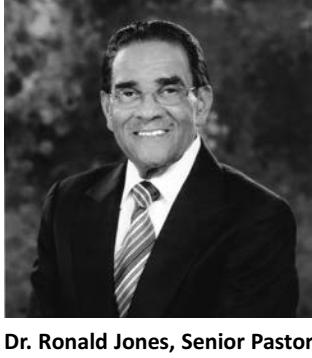
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Dr. Ronald Jones, Senior Pastor

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Fax 214.421.1531

Website:  
[NewHopeBapt-Dallas.org](http://NewHopeBapt-Dallas.org)  
Email:

1newhope4all@sbcglobal.net  
Sunday School 9:30 AM  
Morning Worship 10:45 AM  
Wednesday Midday Bible  
Study 12:00 Noon  
Wednesday Mid Week Bible  
Study 6:00 PM

### Saint Phillips Missionary Baptist Church

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Rev. Dr. Curtis W. Wallace  
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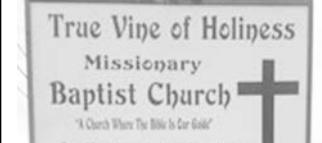


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Dr. Wendell Blair, Sr.—  
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"The Church where the  
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2 Timothy 3:16

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Bro. Lamont Ross, Senior Minister

## Greenville Avenue Church of Christ

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Minister S.T. Gibbs, III

Associate Ministers:  
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Ben Myers  
Patrick Worthey  
Elders:  
Harlee Glover  
Fred Green  
Raymond Hart  
David Phillips, Jr.  
Johnnie Rodgers, Sr.

Schedule of Services  
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Bible Class 9:45 a.m.  
Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.  
Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.  
**WEDNESDAY**  
Prayer Service - 7:00 p.m.  
Bible Class - 7:30 p.m.  
**THURSDAY**  
Bible Class - 11:00 a.m.

## Dallas West Church of Christ

3510 N. Hampton Rd.  
Dallas, Texas 75212  
P. 214-631-5448  
Website: [www.dwcoc.com](http://www.dwcoc.com)

Sammie Berry  
Minister

### Calendar of Events

Sunday Bible School 8:45 a.m.  
Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.  
Tuesday Song Practice 7:00 p.m.  
Wednesday Bible Class 9:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.  
Sunday Radio Broadcast 7:30 a.m. on 970 AM  
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## Church of Christ at Cedar Valley

4013 N. Dallas Avenue, Lancaster, Texas 75134  
P.O. Box 510, Lancaster, Texas 75146 (Mailing)  
469-567-1822 (Phone) 469-567-1823 (Fax) [www.coccv.org](http://www.coccv.org)



Samuel Bailey, Minister

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Mrs. Gwen Brewer  
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Mr. Robert Brown  
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Ms. Adrienne D. Carr  
Mrs. Alavastine Carr  
Mr. & Mrs. James Carr & Kids  
F. Fox

Mr. Terry & Mrs. RueNette Chambers & Families  
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## THE BLACK CHURCH AND THE FUTURE OF OBAMACARE

By Julianne Malveaux  
(NNPA Newswire Columnist)

First of all, despite the Trump Administration's efforts to kill ("repeal and replace") the Affordable Care Act, it is still the law of the land, and because of the federal mandate everyone is required to have some form of health insurance. However, since "45" and his team have declared it all but dead, they have shortened the enrollment period from three months to a mere six weeks, from November 1-December 15, 2017. Additionally, the United States Department of Health and Human Services has drastically cut the budget for outreach. This time last year, there were television and radio announcements, billboards on buses, and other reminders that people should enroll for healthcare, if they didn't already have healthcare through their jobs.

The Trump Administration hopes that, without outreach, people will not enroll for healthcare, so that they can then crow that people "don't want" healthcare. Some faith leaders, however, have pledged to use their pulpits to remind their congregations to get enrolled for healthcare. Rev. Dr. Barbara Williams Skinner, the first Executive Director of the Congressional Black Caucus and an activist who melds faith with public policy, who is also a spiritual advisor to many Black leaders, has developed a toolkit for communities of faith to help them do the work that our government won't: encouraging people to sign up for affordable healthcare.

You can follow the faith leaders' conversations about open enrollment and healthcare on social media using the hashtags #SOULSTOENROLL or #SOULS2ENROLL, and by liking the Facebook page, Facebook.com/FaithinPublicLife, where you can find the toolkit adopted from the government page, GetAmericaCovered.org; instructions for the weekend

campaign that will begin November 12, suggestions for faith leaders; a sample bulletin announcement; a PSA; and social media tips. In other words, the faith community is being encouraged to treat healthcare enrollment like any other grassroots organizing campaign and get involved in it.

Back in the day, before social media, we used to talk about "the drum," how we shared information in the Black community; many of our radio stations, or public broadcast programs, and newspapers were our drums. Now, faith leaders are taking the drum viral to ensure that people who don't get the word, because of lack of government outreach, will get it through the Internet.

We will rely on these methods of communicating more and more, as this administration attempts to contract, not expand, the information people need to get essential healthcare (and other services). The toolkit and other resources are proof that our community has the ability to organize the evil that is seeping out of Washington.

"Woke" members of Congress are working with Rev. Skinner and others to get the word out. Congressman Jim Clyburn (D-S.C.) had his PSA up before the enrollment period opened on November 1, and some members of Congress have PSAs posted on their websites; but everyone won't log on to a congressional website to get access to the PSA. That's where the churches and community organizations come into play.

Once upon a time, we were great at mobilizing. Without any Internet, 250,000 people managed to get to Washington, D.C. for the March on Washington on August 28, 1963. Mimicking that effort, and using both word of mouth and the Internet, more than a million women made it to Washington D.C. for the post-inaugural Women's March. Now we

have the opportunity to rally millions to participate in the benefits of the Affordable Care Act.

There are consequences to not enrolling. If you don't enroll by December 15, you may have to wait a whole year before getting access to affordable healthcare and the subsidies available under ACA, and you may have to pay a fine for not enrolling. Some states (California, Washington, Minnesota, Colorado, Massachusetts and Washington, D.C.) will allow enrollment until January, but most will close enrollment on December 15. Even with a longer enrollment period, the best thing to do to ensure that the people who need health insurance get it is to encourage them to enroll early.

Helping people enroll for ACA benefits is not only a public service, it is also an act of resistance to "45's" pernicious attempts to undermine President Obama's signature piece of legislation. To be sure, the ACA is not perfect, but it is responsible for expanding the base of people who can get affordable health insurance.

This example of Faith in Action may be a template for other ways to use the church to organize resistance. The novelist Dr. Daniel Black (author of "Perfect Peace: A Novel") recently gave a talk in which he described our churches as the backbone of the Black community. Disagree with your pastor, or with the sermon if you will, he said, but still get to church for the sense of community that can only be found there. While the Black church is less impactful than it was in 1963, when most of us could be reached through church announcements, it is still a place where we gather and share information. If you don't usually go to church on November 12, when the #SOULS2ENROLL weekend campaign kicks off, consider making your way there to check this campaign out. If you do go to church, encourage your pastor to participate.

Once upon a time, we were great at mobilizing. Without any Internet, 250,000 people managed to get to Washington, D.C. for the March on Washington on August 28, 1963. Mimicking that effort, and using both word of mouth and the Internet, more than a million women made it to Washington D.C. for the post-inaugural Women's March. Now we

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**SPORTS PAGE****7 Day Weather Forecast for DFW**

Thursday, November 9

Friday, November 10

Saturday, November 11

Sunday, November 12

Monday, November 13

Tuesday, November 14

Wednesday, November 15

H - 61°  
L-46°H-65°  
L-49°H-71°  
L-56°H-69°  
L-50°H-69°  
L-56°H-74°  
L-58°H-76°  
L-58°**CitySquare Provides a Medical Home to South Dallas Neighbors**

*CitySquare's Community Clinic provides acute care and a Wellness Program that helps neighbors adopt healthy habits to prevent chronic diseases prevalent in low-income communities.*

Dallas, October 30, 2017 - Unmet health needs are a part of the cycle that keeps individuals and families in the grip of poverty. Without insurance and sufficient income, folks often rely on emergency room care or are forced to neglect their health altogether. They have no trusted medical home. The CitySquare Community Clinic aims to provide such a place at 2835 Al Lipscomb Way in the Fair Park area.

Monday through Friday, families can meet their medical needs at the clinic with a team of doctors and clinicians including general practitioners and specialists like pediatricians and gynecologists.

Education and wellness are priorities at the clinic. The Women's Wellness Exam, for example, includes a breast exam, PAP smear and pelvic exam, and often a discussion of other aspects of women's health. For mammograms, patients are referred to community partners that offer imaging. Birth control is also available. IUD'S and shots are administered at the clinic and physicians can prescribe oral contraception.

The CitySquare Community Clinic endeavors to relieve the stress of obtaining healthcare for its

neighbors. There is a Class D Pharmacy on-site that can meet many patients' needs.

The CitySquare Community Health Transportation Program team drives neighbors to medical appointments and pharmacies so that the lack of transportation does not become a barrier to accessing quality healthcare.

Individuals do have to meet certain qualifications for the services. They must be uninsured though the clinic does accept Medicaid for children. Neighbors must reside within certain zip codes (75203, 75208, 75210, 75211, 75215, 75216, 75217, 75223, 75226, 75227, 75241) or be a participant in another CitySquare program, and be at 200% of the Federal Poverty Level. To make an appointment, neighbors can call 214.421.1783 Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. or go to the clinic to meet with staff. The clinic is open later on Thursdays and is in the process of expanding evening hours.

CitySquare fights poverty holistically. Patients coming to the clinic may well find that many of their needs for food, housing, and employment can also be met by the organization through 17 programs that address the root causes and effects of poverty.

"CitySquare exists to help with the community's overall well-being. We want our neighbors in Fair Park and South Dallas to know that

they have access to trusted healthcare and a welcoming medical home right in their neighborhood," says CitySquare CEO Larry James.

CitySquare will be hosting its "Annual Wellness Event" on Saturday, November 18th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the CitySquare Opportunity Center 1610 S. Malcolm X Blvd | Dallas, TX | 75226 where neighbors will have the opportunity to meet clinicians from the CitySquare Community Clinic. The event will feature free blood pressure checks, blood sugar checks, BMI measurements and Mammograms on-site. It's a family event with free food and drinks, and the opportunity for neighbors to learn more about health and wellness.

**About CitySquare**

From 1988 to present day, CitySquare has grown into a broad community development organization offering a comprehensive array of social services that address four key areas related to the persistence of poverty: hunger, health, housing, and hope. Together, our 17 social service programs provide more than 30,000 human touches in Dallas, Waco, and Denver, Colorado.

CitySquare fights the root causes and effects of poverty through service, advocacy and friendship. For more information, go to [www.CitySquare.org](http://www.CitySquare.org).

**ACA Enrollment Surging, Even Though It Ends Dec. 15th**

Continues from Page 1

Premiums on some health insurance plans can be subsidized as low as \$87.00 per month from a high of \$662.00, depending on the type of plan an applicant needs and signs up for.

To make sure Pres. Trump's efforts to squash the ACA sign-up period fails, several advocacy groups across the nation, including the NNPA, have stepped forward, making sure that their constituencies are properly informed about all ACA deadlines and requirements.

Some states are stepping up to cover the cost of open

enrollment education too, like California, adding \$5 million to its efforts.

The question now is, though it's clear that many Americans are ignoring Trump's efforts to kill the ACA, just how many of them are young people.



There is concern in the health care community that most of the new signups are people who are older and have afflictions, versus young, healthy people who are needed in large numbers in order for the ACA to work properly by design.

**Brehanna Daniels goes into NASCAR history books as first Black female crewmember**

(AP) - During a NASCAR Truck Series race back in June, Brehanna Daniels made history at Dover International Speedway when became the first African-American woman to pit a car in one of NASCAR's national series races. She was on pit road the next day in the XFINITY Series as well.

Daniels played basketball at Norfolk State before being recruited into NASCAR. The 23-year-old made it through the various levels of tryouts for pit crew members and is now the sport's first African-

American female tire changer.

For her first Truck Series race, she was the tire changer for Cody Ware's No. 50 Chevrolet, which fin-

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**Saturday, November 11th and November 18th, 2017  
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

**MLK, Jr. Community Center (Building A)  
2922 MLK Boulevard, Dallas, Texas 75215**

Representatives from Goodwill Industries will be on site to assist with job placement and training. Register to receive complimentary breakfast & lunch.

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## 'NO GREATER LOVE'--A MOVIE CAMERA FOLLOWS ACTIVE-DUTY SOLDIERS INTO COMBAT . . . AND GOING HOME

**LOS ANGELES** – Oct. 31, 2017 – NO GREATER LOVE—the first theatrical documentary filmed and directed by an active-duty soldier—brings to vivid life the battles of the “No Slack” Battalion (of the famed 101st Airborne Division) in Afghanistan . . . and back home.

Friday, Nov. 10, for Veterans Day weekend, the multiple-award-winning NO GREATER LOVE premieres in select cities nationwide. (For current theaters and to request local showings, check the website.) NO GREATER LOVE, after one round of cuts, is still a contender for Documentary Feature in the 2017 Academy Award®.

“NO GREATER LOVE shows No Slack’s most intense firefights since Vietnam,” said former Army Chaplain Justin Roberts, who directed and filmed in Afghanistan for more than three years. “But it’s the stories behind the video that changed my life. How can soldiers who know this kind of danger, hardship and loss, transition back to civilian life? Home becomes a whole new battleground.”

Consider that:

Every day, 20 U.S. military veterans commit suicide (Suicide Data Report, Department of Veteran Affairs, Mental Health Services, 2015)

20 percent of veterans suffer PTSD (Litz BT, Schlenger WE. PTSD in service members and new veterans of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars: a bibliography and critique. PTSD Res Q 2009;20(1):1-2.)

Among incarcerated adults, 10 percent served previously in the military (Blodgett JC,

Avoudjian T, Finlay AK, et al. Prevalence of mental health disorders among justice-involved veterans. Epidemiol Rev 2015;37: 000–000.)

Of the U.S. homeless population, 12 percent are veterans (Tsai J, Rosenheck RA. Risk factors for homelessness among US veterans. Epidemiol Rev 2015;37: 000–000.)

Most Americans are unaware that U.S. military chaplains carry no weapons, even in battle—and it’s true that while deployed in Afghanistan, Roberts initially had no plans to make a film. The courage around him, however, spurred him to ask: “What drives men to commit acts of valor and sacrifice?” (As “No Slack” won decisive, strategic victories in intense battles, it also suffered multiple fatalities, returning home with more than 200 purple hearts.) Roberts also interviews Gold Star family members.

“The only way a person can really come back from war is with love,” Roberts said. “And it has to come from friends. It has to come from family members, neighbors and the people you were fighting for, and from each other. That is the only way we can fully come home.”

NO GREATER LOVE producers hope the film to motivate theatergoers to get involved and support veterans in their local area.

Distributed by Atlas Distribution Company, NO GREATER LOVE has won 11 awards to date, including Best Documentary at the Boston Film Festival and the Louisiana Film Festival.

## Operation Homefront and DFW Dollar Tree Stores Collaborate to Make the Season Merry and Bright for Military Children

Operation Homefront and Dollar Tree Inc. (NASDAQ: DLTR) will once again join forces this year to make the holidays brighter for our military families with the nonprofit's Holiday Toy Drive. For the 11th consecutive year, Dollar Tree customers can purchase toys for military kids, easing the financial burdens that often accompany the holiday season for junior- and mid-grade (E1-E6) service members and their families.

Dollar Tree stores will have collection boxes available in which shoppers place their purchased toys, knowing they will be delivered to the children of our men and women in uniform. Operation Homefront volunteers collect these toys to be distributed at the nonprofit's holiday events across the country and through on-base Family Readiness Groups. Making the season bright for military families is what this partnership is all about, and Dollar Tree and its generous customers

have made that joy possible since 2006.

“On behalf of the entire Operation Homefront family, I want to thank Dollar Tree and its customers for continuing their generous support for our Holiday Toy Drive program,” said Brig. Gen. (ret.) John I. Pray Jr., president & CEO of Operation Homefront. “Over the course of the past 11 years, we have made a real difference, with millions of goods going to support our military families. Our work together over this holiday season continues to demonstrate our collective appreciation for their exceptional service and the importance of our efforts to help this very special group of our fellow Americans thrive in the communities they have worked so hard to protect.”

OperationHomefront.org also accepts online contributions for all of Operation Homefront's programs to build strong, stable, and secure military families.

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## WOMEN'S MARCH - LOS ANGELES 2018, SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 20th, 2018 GEARS UP TO 'GET OUT THE VOTE! HEAR OUR VOTE!

### LOS ANGELES, CA - NOVEMBER 7, 2017 -

Organizers for the Women's March - Los Angeles 2018 have announced that the Los Angeles event will take place on Saturday, January 20th, 2018 in Downtown Los Angeles, CA. Organizers, Emiliana Guereca and Deena Katz would like stress that this event will focus on positive, unifying action and will be not only for women but for all who seek women's rights, human rights, civil liberties, and social justice. We want to harness the political power of the Women's March by turning marchers into voters.

"Women's March Los Angeles 2018 is about having our voices heard, activating our community and unifying our community. Women's rights are human rights." - Emiliana Guereca

"In a time when we are all wondering what we can do, we can do this...let them hear our voice!"-Deena Katz

The Women's March - Los Angeles 2018 is part of a national movement to unify and empower everyone who stands for women's rights, human rights, civil liberties, and social justice for all. This is a non-partisan and peaceful event. People will unite locally and nationally in every state and major metropolitan area to stand with us in solidarity for the American values we represent.

The Women's March - Los Angeles 2018 welcomes all people to join us as we unite locally and nationally. We seek to unify and empower everyone who stands for women's rights, human rights, civil liberties, and social justice for all. The Women's March marches to support and inspire each other and to remind our great nation to respect, honor and protect our diversity and our freedoms. We believe change comes from taking positive, constructive action and find solace and strength in the principles of inclusion, civility, and compassion for our shared humanity.

For more information, visit [www.womensmarchla.org](http://www.womensmarchla.org), media inquiries: [cherry@putnam-smith.com](mailto:cherry@putnam-smith.com).



Women's March Los Angeles, January 21, 2017

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## WHAT OTHER STATES CAN LEARN FROM OHIO'S EDUCATION PLAN



By Dr. Elizabeth Primas (Program Manager, NNPA/ESSA Public Awareness Campaign)

While education officials in Ohio have identified six components for rating schools on their school report cards, they are giving more attention to making sure students don't fall behind to begin with. Over the last four years, education leaders in Ohio have tripled their investments in the "K-3 Literacy component" and its corresponding preschool program. Ohio has also increased access to high-quality education programs for children living in poverty and low-income families families. This investment is aligned with the state's birth to third grade support system, that is designed to ensure that students enter school with the skills necessary to be successful and reach third grade with skills needed to read proficiently.

In December 2011, Ohio began using Early Learning and Development Standards that address five essential domains of school readiness for children from birth to five years-old. Those same standards will continue with the state's ESSA plan. The five domains

include: social and emotional development; physical well-being and motor development; approaches toward learning; language and literacy development; and cognition and general knowledge. These standards have been expanded to provide a continuum of learning for children from birth to five years of age; that implies that there are different expectations for children depending on their age and development. Once parents and caregivers understand that children develop on a continuum, or with skills built upon what was previously learned, educators and parents can begin to work in tandem with each other; ensuring that children are learning and developing appropriately.

Ohio's Early Learning and Development Standards provide parents with information and expectations for each of the five domains; allowing them to get a jumpstart in preparing their child for school readiness. Standards are organized by topic and age: Infants (birth to around 8 months); young toddlers (6 months to around 18 months); and older toddlers (16 months to around 36 months). The guides are organized to allow parents to easily identify where their children should be, developmentally. For instance, the Social and Emotional Development Domain chart for awareness and expression of emotion, states that infants should express sadness, fear or distress by crying, kicking legs and stiffening the body; by pre-K, children should be able to recognize and identify their own emotions, as well as the emotions of others.

Dr. Elizabeth Primas is an educator, who spent more than 40 years working towards improving education for children of diverse ethnicities and backgrounds. Dr. Primas is the program manager for the NNPA's Every Student Succeeds Act Public Awareness Campaign. Follow Dr. Primas on Twitter @ElizabethPrima3.

In 2003, Betty Hart and Todd R. Risley, two researchers at the University of Kansas, published a report titled, "The Early Catastrophe: The 30 Million Word Gap by Age 3." They found that exposure to a rich vocabulary in a child's early years is critical and the disparities in that exposure result in an achievement gap. It is important for parents to speak to their children, all of the time, using "standard" English. Parents can introduce their children to new words by explaining things in the child's environment. Reviewing the names of items in the grocery store, the names of animals they see in the neighborhood, and the style and color of their clothes are simple ways to make a big impact.

If we are to close the achievement gap, we must start before the child arrives at the schoolhouse doors. From birth, parents should sing songs and repeat nursery rhymes. Reading rhyming books and alphabet stories promote language acquisition and literacy. Parents are a child's first teachers. It is up to us to give our children the exposure necessary to close the achievement gap.

To find out more about ESSA and its opportunities in literacy visit [www.nnpa.org/essa](http://www.nnpa.org/essa).

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## AlumNow: Physics teacher inspired Carter grad to become an engineer



**AlumNow!**  
DALLAS ISD ALUMNI PROFILE

Bridgette Bennett

Engineering financial analyst

Carter High School,

Class of 2006

DALLAS — David W. Carter High School graduate Bridgette Bennett is now an engineer, and she credits her high school physics teacher for getting her to where she is today.

In addition to physics, Bennett treasured her time in JROTC, and she has some great advice for students today. The Hub checked in with Bennett as part of the ongoing Dallas ISD AlumNow series.

**What was your favorite subject/activity/involvement in high school?**

Physics for a subject and JROTC for an activity. Those two opened so many doors for me after high school. Although, I gave the military a try at West Point, I ultimately decided to pursue an engineering degree as a civilian.

**Who was your favorite teacher?**

Mr. Louis Papadopoulos. He saw that I had a talent for something (physics) and spoke up. That's literally the reason why I became an engineer.

**What lesson did you learn in high school or beyond that has served you well through the years?**

Be resourceful. My generation and those following simply does not have the luxury of slow-paced, dependent learning. Ask someone or look it up for yourself. Continual learning is worth the effort.

**What advice, if any, would you offer to high school students today?**

Endure (and enjoy) the 5-10 years that it takes to set yourself up for success. From about 15 to 25 years old, make that your focus so that you can have fewer worries throughout the other chapters of your life. Be resourceful. Ask questions. Make mistakes and don't be afraid to admit it. Be prepared for opportunity when it finds you. Travel. Be kind. Get plenty of sleep and stay hydrated. Invest in yourself and don't compare yourself to others.

**Tell us about your career or personal highlights/accomplishments since graduating from high school.**

After graduating from Carter, I tried my hand at a military academy but decided to pursue a bachelor at Rice University where I had an absolute blast. I did a couple of years of SAP consulting before deciding to attend graduate school in Europe. I'm back in Texas in a great career and life couldn't be better.