This Newsletter covers the two (2) months of July and August 2013 as a result of your leaders having a heavy meetings schedule with several conferences and meetings during the months of July and August 2013. This included the Conference meeting of the National Association of Drug Court Professionals at the Gaylord Center in Prince George’s County, Maryland, July 14-16, 2013, where your National Executive Director was recognized and introduced to an audience of over 4,000 persons as a major partner of NADCP in promoting the expanding of the drug court system in America, noting its successes, and increasing the availability of treatment.

He attended the American Bar Association Health Law Section Leadership Council meeting as a Vice-Chair of its Substance Abuse Task Force, July 19-20, 2013. There he was a strong proponent of working for parity with reference to substance abuse and mental health care under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to make sure that the regulatory system and the reality under the new Exchanges and Health Policies achieve reality as to these two areas. We are of the view that this liaison and role with the Health Law Section, will enhance our ability to be a powerful force in advocating for and influencing achieving parity in reality and in meeting objectives as to the quality of treatment persons receive for substance use and mental health problems in the future.

Your National Executive Director next attended the 40th Annual Conference & Training Institute of the National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice at the Peabody Hotel in Little Rock, Arkansas July 21-25, 2013 where he served on two workshops as the Moderator and also as a Commentator on the issues being discussed. He first served as the Moderator on a Panel on “Juvenile Delinquency: Systems Paradigm/Perspective (Case Analysis)” and subsequently on a second Panel on “Re-entry: Inmate Skills Development and Release Preparation” and as a Presenter on the program being designed and implemented by the National African American Drug Policy Coalition, Inc. (NAADPC). He also used this occasion to network with other attendees to connect them with the sixteen (16) Chapters NADCP has established around the country and in areas where we have set up Planning Committees to establish new additional Chapters.

From July 27 – August 1, 2013 your National Executive Director attended the 88th Annual Convention of the National Bar Association in Miami, Florida where he had the occasion to talk with the New President, Patricia Rosier, about the National Bar Association having its Criminal Law Section and its Health Law Section collaborate more closely with the National African American Drug Policy Coalition, Inc. in advocating for changes in public policy and the laws as to mandatory sentencing, reducing the length of sentences for drug offenses, giving judges more discretion to deviate from mandatory sentences under the pending safety value legislative proposals pending before Congress, assisting in achieving reforms in the juvenile justice system especially as to youth convicted as adults receiving long determinate terms which amount to life without parole in reality as a means for evading the Supreme Court decision that life without parole is unconstitutional as cruel and unusual punishment and such youth should have an opportunity for parole within some reasonable time, and taking steps to make sure that parity is achieve in implementing the Affordable Care Act with respect to substance abuse treatment and mental health care. She assured that under her year as President that there would be close coordination and collaboration between the National Bar Association and the National African American Drug Policy Coalition, Inc. (NAADPC).

From August 4-7, 2013 your National Executive Director attended the 37th Annual National Training Conference and Exhibition of
the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives in Pittsburgh Pennsylvania, where he was a recognized Dias Guest at its Opening Ceremony and thereafter participated in a number of its workshops and engaged in network activities to interest many of its members to become involved in our Chapter activities around the country and to join Planning Committees to set up new Chapters.

From August 8-10, 2013 he attended the Annual Meeting of the American Bar Association in San Francisco, California where he participated as a witness in the Western Regional Hearing on the American Bar Association National Task Force on Stand Your Ground Laws, which was recorded by CNN to be broadcast to the Nation, See separate article on this presentation. He also participated in the meetings of the Criminal Law Section and the Juvenile Justice Committee, and apprised the persons attending these functions of some of the major activities of the National African American Drug Policy Coalition, Inc. and solicited their support and help on these issues.

Finally, he traveled to Sacramento, California to assist in making plans for the establishing of an Eastern California Chapter of the National African American Drug Policy Coalition, Inc. where he coordinated with the leaders of the Planning Committee their future plans to include two Community Colleges’ criminal justice and re-entry programs and their professors in the Chapter, with the goal of being prepared formally to establish the Chapter no later than February 2014. While there from August 11-14, 2013 he gave lecture presentations to three (3) different classes with an aggregate total of more than 100 college students in the Solano County Community College.

On August 31, 2013 your National Executive Director made two separate presentations at the 15th Oxford House World Convention at the Washington Hilton Hotel, each of which had an audience of about 100 persons. The first session dealt with Oxford House and Drug Courts, and the second session dealt with Oxford House and Re-entry. Both sessions were dynamic and met with enthusiastic responses from the attendees and many questions to which he responded.

In the meantime, Major General John R. Hawkins, III, U.S. Army, Retired, serving as Assistant National Executive Director of NAADPC, attended meetings of “We Connect DC Metro Collaborative” on July 24, 2013, the Advisory Committee at the Center for Drug Abuse Treatment, SAMHSA, and other local meetings in the Washington, D.C. area dealing with the activities and programs of NAADPC, including exploring the opportunities for funding and grants.

On August 30, 2013 he participated on a Panel at the 15th Oxford House World Convention at the Washington Hilton Hotel on Veterans with substance abuse problems or prior criminal involvement and the availability of Oxford House as a housing transition means for them readjusting in the community. It was there noted that about 20% of the nearly 12,000 residents in the national network of Oxford Houses are veterans, and many are veterans with alcohol and drug addictions and sometime with PTSD who are moving into Oxford Houses. There were many questions of how these individuals would be treated.
American Bar Association Western Regional Hearing of the National Task Force on Stand Your Ground Laws. On August 9, 2013 your National Executive Director appeared on the first Panel of four (4) witnesses and speakers to address the social policies which allegedly support the Stand Your Ground Laws, criticizing the law as promoting violence and the destruction of life. He related that based on his lengthy experience as a judge presiding over many homicide cases, and prior to the then as a prosecutor, he had found the common law approach of requiring a person to retreat if he or she can do so without putting his or her own life in jeopardy or suffering serious injury, he or she has a duty to do so. He observed that the Stand Your Ground laws negate this duty of retreat and the respect for human life.

But he went on to raise a number of more serious questions, including the case against a six-person jury for felony offenses where a person may lose his or her freedom for more than a year. He emphasized that while the United States Supreme Court – in the case of Williams v. Florida, 399 U.S. 78 (1970) - had upheld as constitutional six-person juries in non-capital cases, that was merely the floor and that State legislatures could impose a higher standard if they wanted to do so. Thus it is important for all citizens to vote for representatives in a legislative body who will genuinely represent the public interest, including the public interest of the middle class and the poor.

He noted that as America becomes more diverse it is important to have a jury of twelve (12) persons as under the common law where we have a genuine cross section of the relevant community, and not just a small segment from a “gated middle or upper class community” with different life experiences and cultural exposure. Where racial issues and poverty matters are involved a jury should have someone from exposure to that lifestyle evaluating the credibility of witnesses and determining how the law should apply to the facts which a jury believes collectively has been established.

Further, there are grounds to contend that the United States Supreme Court decision in Williams v. Florida, supra, is flawed and was wrongly decided. See Alisa Smith and Michael J. Saks, THE CASE FOR OVERTURNING WILLIAMS V. FLORIDA AND THE SIX-PERSON JURY: HISTORY, LAW AND EMPIRICAL EVIDENCE, 60 Florida Law Review 441 (2008). As the Zimmerman jury illustrates, one can argue whether a jury of six (6) would be sufficient to promote group deliberation, to insulate members from outside intimidation, and to provide a representative cross-section of the community. There are studies which suggest that larger juries are more likely than smaller juries to contain members of minority groups, deliberate longer, hang more often, and possibly recall trial testimony more accurately.”

See, e.g., http://www.psycontent.com/content/u6220491777u8k16 in Law and Human Behavior. A reasonable person may wonder whether had the Zimmerman case been tried in an inner city court area with a jury of twelve (12) individuals including 2 or 3 African Americans the result would have been an acquittal, or whether the result would have been at least a manslaughter conviction or a hung jury.
Your National Executive Director concluded his remarks with the observation on how important it is to vote and elect legislators who will pass laws embodying social policies which will serve all persons, including those living in poverty circumstances, and persons of all racial, national or ethnic origin, and religions to achieve true justice for both the victim and the perpetrator in circumstances as involved in the Zimmerman case.

While the objective of the hearing was to focus on the repeal of Stand Your Ground Laws and replace with them the Common Law standard which has existed since the Thirteenth Century and has served the Common Law countries and the United States well in the past, and at the same time preserve human life, for when a mistake is made, and one is killed, death is irrevocable, the issues growing out of the Zimmerman case raise other important issues, including whether the practice of peremptory challenges should be abolished in jury selection, because subtle biases can creep in to lawyer’s strikes based on intuition and interpretations of prospective jurors’ appearance, demeanor or reactions during voir dire examination to select jurors in criminal cases. Peremptory challenges were abolished in England at the turn of the century and the system has not suffered as a result. Included in written materials handed out for the Hearing was an article by your National Executive Director published in the American Bar Association Criminal Justice Magazine, Spring 2005, titled “Jury Reform for the 21st Century: A Judge’s Perspective.”

July was Minority Mental Health Awareness Month. In 2008, the United States Congress proclaimed July as National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month. The National Alliance on Mental Health, one of the country’s largest non-profit organizations, has observed that one out of four adults living in the United States and one out of every 10 children struggles with mental health issues, and that minority communities are less likely to access health care for mental health issues because of the stigma around depression and other mental illnesses.

We have noted that this is especially a problem with African Americans who distrust Caucasian and other racial groups’ healthcare professionals. How can the National African American Drug Policy Coalition, Inc. address this issue? We have already embarked on a plan to encourage more African Americans to go into healthcare field and to become clinical psychologists, psychiatric social workers, and nurse practitioners so that potential mental health patients will feel more comfortable ventilating to them and accept their counseling and advice on how to cope with the frustrations and the situations they confront in their daily lives. Another thought which has occurred to us is to use the Black Churches to create Health and Wellness Committees to advise the members of their congregations who may be having depression and mood disorders. Like Health Fairs for physical ailments, have people screened by healthcare professionals who can become their friendly healthcare advisers as to mental and emotional problems as well. Finally, we are considering urging that in our Community Health Centers throughout America there be a mental healthcare component or unit with African American professionals or semi-professionals to assist persons experiencing mental and emotional difficulties in the community.

We would appreciate your suggestions on other initiatives we can undertake to overcome the reluctance of African Americans to take care of their mental health to the same extent that they would take care of a physical ailment, and to do so early on so that they can return to normal living and enjoy their lives ahead of them. Let us be innovative and create comfortable situations where, for the African American community, we build trust and we achieve true parity for them in treating substance abuse and mental health issues.
Interview by New York Bureau Chief for TheRoot.com, an African American news and opinion website headed by Dr. Henry Louis Gates, Jr. Your National Executive Director was interviewed by Hillary Crosley, Journalist, concerning his involvement in the Martin Luther King, Jr. March on Washington in August 1963 as an observer for the U.S. Department of Justice working with Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy. In the course of explaining that he was there as the eyes and ears of the Department of Justice to make sure that there would be peace and order, and no riots or disorders, he explained that marches and protests may focus attention on burning issues, but they are not enough. He stressed that they must be followed up by ACTION of those who march and protest by qualifying to vote and actually voting for legislators who will change the laws to respond to the concerns of the protesters and marchers.

Further, the protesters and marches must do more than just that – they must engage in ACTION by volunteering to work with churches and non-profits to educate the public and to influence people to vote to bring about change to meet their demands. They must be willing to forego lavish clothing and other material possessions and put their money where their protests are and contribute to those organizations that are action oriented so that they can get out the vote to elect legislators who will respond positively to their concerns as to injustices, disparate treatment and unlawful discrimination. We need people who are willing to sacrifice their personal comforts to seek jobs, freedom and justice for people living in poverty and deprived circumstances and for the middle class economically who are losing ground in the struggle for economic security.

It is significant to note George E. Curry, former editor-in-chief of Emerge magazine and current Editor-in-Chief of the National Newspaper Publishers Association has aptly observed, we need to focus on the reality between 1963 and now in 2013 and what we must do rather than what we protest must be done by others. He noted that in 1963 we demanded an end to ghettos. He observed: “we still live in ghettos. Forty-five percent of poor Black children but only 12 percent of poor White children live in neighborhoods of concentrated poverty.” He noted that we then demanded an end to school segregation. He observed that today: “Seventy-four percent of Black children attend schools that are 50-100 percent non-White, resulting in fewer resources than majority White schools. To the goal that we march for Jobs for all, he observed: “In 2012 the Black unemployment rate – 14 percent – was 2.1 times the White unemployment rate (6.6 percent). Finally as to the goal of marching for a living wage, he responded: “The minimum wage of $7.25 an hour [is] well below the $11.06 an hour a full time worker needed in 2011 to keep a family of four out of poverty” and that 36 percent of Black workers make poverty-level wages.

With these realities before us, we must do far more than just march and protest. We must engage in self-help, invest our monies in businesses and enterprises where we can hire our own and provide the jobs to lift those persons in poverty out of poverty and into a comfortable living style. We must cabin our financial resources, not spend lavishly and create our own economic structure to achieve financial independence from the currently dominated capital structure in America. We must become doers and action-oriented, opening up our own tailor shops, our dry cleaners, our car wash establishments, restaurants, and even hotels and banks where we work together in unison rather than being fragmented and dispersed in an integrated environment “left at the bottom of the barrel” of economic well-being. We must become politically active and we must vote intelligently for people who will implement policies in the law which will eradicate the remaining vestiges of disparate treatment and unlawful discrimination in this Nation as to all persons.
Your National Executive Director in that interview emphasized that we must reach out to those living in poverty to help them obtain jobs which can lead to them lifting themselves out of poverty, to keeping our schools open longer in the day and even in the summers with enrichment programs to create the desire in our youth to learn and excel, and to expose them to internships and other opportunities to broaden their horizons. Those of us who have broken through the poverty ceiling and who have become educated and successful in our respective professional fields or careers must reach back and be genuine mentors and counselors to youth in poverty so that they know that they too can “make it” and realize the true “Dream” that Martin Luther King, Jr. espoused in August 1963.

In his recorded interview, your National Executive Director strongly expressed the views set forth above as to the future of the African American race in the United States and where we need to go to really realize the Dream of Martin Luther King, Jr. he so eloquently laid out for us in August 1963.

Heroin and Cocaine Vaccines Successful in Preclinical Studies. It has been brought to our attention that two recent preclinical studies have reported successful tests for vaccines to help overcome heroin or cocaine addiction. For a copy of the press release from Weill Cornell Medical College, go to www.weill.cornell.edu/news/releases/wcmc/wc mc2013/05_10_13.shtml.

New Psychiatric Manual Combines Alcohol Disorders. The newly released update to psychiatry’s Diagnostic Manual combines problem drinking and alcoholism into a single condition to be known as “alcohol use disorder,” which some experts say could lead binge drinkers to be mislabeled as alcoholics. This new diagnosis in the DSM-5 could follow college students into adulthood.

Critics of the DSM-5 say it will expand the list of what constitutes mental illness and will lead to a needless increase in diagnoses. A growing number of psychiatrists, psychologists and clinical social workers say depression and other normal responses to life events are too often labeled as mental illness, increasing the use of potentially dangerous medication. They have also noted that the DSM is used by insurance companies and schools in making decisions about coverage and special provisions for people with developmental or mental disorders, and thus the new classification could have needless negative consequences for these individuals.

Inhaling Alcohol: Dangerous Trend, Expert Says. Some college students are experimenting with inhaling alcohol by pouring it over dry ice and “smoking” the vapors, according to an expert who says the practice is dangerous. Dr. Harris Stratyner, Regional Clinical Vice President of Caron Treatment Centers in New York has stated: “When you inhale alcohol, it goes directly into the lungs and circumnavigates the liver. The liver is what metabolizes alcohol, but when you inhale it, it goes directly from the lungs to the brain.” He stated that this practice is more likely to lead to deadly alcohol poisoning than drinking liquor. Inhaling alcohol vapors can dry out the nasal passages and mouth, making a person more susceptible to infection. He concluded with the observation: “One of the things that prevent alcohol poisoning is that you usually vomit.’ But “when you circumvent the stomach and go straight to the lungs, you don’t have that ability.”

We strongly recommend that this message be conveyed throughout the member organizations which are part of the National Historically Black Colleges and Universities Substance Abuse Consortium, Inc., a member organization of this National Coalition to avoid any of our youth in the 82 such institutions in that Consortium from suffering and dying for
alcohol poisoning as a result of engaging in this practice.

Study Finds Little Proof Mothers’ Cocaine Use in 1980s Led to “Crack Babies”. A new study finds little evidence that mothers’ use of cocaine during pregnancy in the 1980s led to a proliferation of “crack babies.” Researchers reviewed 27 studies that included a total of 5,000 11 to 17 year-olds whose mothers used cocaine during pregnancy. The teens came from low-income families, most of which were Black and urban. Some of the studies found a mother’s cocaine use could increase the risk her child would have behavior and attention problems, anxiety and worse performance in school. These effects generally were small and could have been caused by other factors, such as family problems and exposure to violence, the researchers report in the journal Pediatrics.

“The field of prenatal cocaine exposure has advanced significantly since the misleading ‘crack baby’ scare of the 1980s,” the authors concluded.

Role of Drug Courts - Positive Effects on Families and Society. Despite what most people think, the association between drugs and criminal behavior is not solely due to people committing crimes to further their drug habit. Drug use is actually a factor in many crimes that have nothing to do with obtaining money for drugs. In fact, drug use is implicated in 50 percent of violent crimes, 50 percent of instances of domestic violence and 80 percent of child abuse and neglect cases.

Research has indicated that a more balanced approach that incorporates both treatment and criminal justice supervision is more effective. This is where drug courts come in. They are specialized courts that offer people arrested for drug-related crimes an opportunity to obtain community-based treatment coupled with close judicial supervision as a way of avoiding sentencing and potential incarceration. They are among the most effective ways to address the problem of substance abuse and crime.

Drug courts improve people’s lives in a variety of ways. They have been shown to increase rates of employment, help people obtain stable living arrangements, improve mental and physical health, and enhance interpersonal relationships. As a result of drug courts, mothers and fathers can regain custody of their children, provide for their families and become productive members of their community.

Further drug courts can reduce mass incarceration and the tremendous cost of incarceration the States and the Federal government face, and free up monies for education and health needs of the people. It has been represented that there are over 2700 Drug Courts at the present time. We submit that with its success rate, and the economic costs of providing for the judicial supervision and oversight being so much less than the cost of jail and prison incarceration, that over the next five (5) years the number of Drug Courts in America should double to exceed 5,000 or more such courts as reducing our incarceration rates and financial strain on our governments and at the same time result in significant crime reduction and promotion of public safety throughout the Nation. Increasing greatly the number of Drug Courts and their methods of operation should be the wave of the future in improving the administration of justice in this country.

Juveniles and Young Adults Arbitrarily Subject to Stop and Frisk Authority: Judge Shira Scheindlin of the Southern District of New York in Floyd v. City of New York on Monday, August 12, 2013 issued an extensive 195 page opinion on the stop-and-frisk practices in New York City which should be mandatory reading for every police chief and commissioner in the United States.
After an extensive non-jury trial lasting two months and developing an extensive factual record, the judge found that police officers had for years been systematically stopping innocent people on the street without any objective reason to suspect them of wrongdoing. She concluded that these stop and frisk actions demonstrated a widespread disregard for the Fourth Amendment, which protects persons against unreasonable searches and seizures by government law enforcement officials, and she also found violations of the 14th Amendment’s equal protection clause, in that the practice was asserted against young minority individuals and not against Caucasian youth in similar circumstances.

She specifically found that the city “adopted a policy of indirect racial profiling by targeting racially defined groups for stops based on local crime suspect data” and rejected the city’s arguments that more stops happened in minority neighborhoods solely because those neighborhoods happened to have high-crime rates. She found that police officers were too quick to deem suspicious behavior that was perfectly innocent, in effect watering down the legal standard required for a stop by the United States Supreme Court in *Terry v. Ohio*, 392 U.S. 1 (1968). She cogently noted that about 88 percent of the stops resulted in the police letting the person go without an arrest or ticket, a percentage so high that it suggests that there was not a credible suspicion to suspect the person of criminality in the first place. She further found that Blacks and Hispanics “were more likely to be subjected to the use of force than whites, despite the fact that whites are more likely to be found with weapons or contraband.”

Among the remedies she designated an outside lawyer to monitor the Police Department’s compliance with the Constitution. She also ordered a pilot program in which police officers in at least five precincts across the city will be required to wear body-worn cameras in an effort to record street encounters. She further ordered that there also be a series of community meetings to solicit public input on how to reform stop-and-frisk practices.

The current Mayor has vowed to appeal the decision to the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. However, it is noted that he is not running for re-election and next year New York City will have a new Mayor who may take a different position. Further, the City Council passed legislation which gave persons a right to go into court for a remedy for an illegal stop-and-frisk and also created an independent Office of Inspector General to monitor the police practices. While the current Mayor vetoed that proposed legislation, the City Council subsequently overrode the veto and enacted both provisions in late August with sufficient margins for the legislation to go into effect. Some may argue that the legislation makes the issue of an appeal moot, but that remains to be resolved.

**Developments at the National Level – to End Racial Profiling Act of 2013 in the U.S. Congress.** Senator Ben Cardin of Maryland introduce S. 1670 in the U.S. Senate and Congressman John Conyers introduced the companion proposal, H.R. 2851 in the House of Representatives. That legislation takes cognizance of the fact that in the aftermath of September 11 events in the United States, Muslims, Arabs, and South Asians in addition to African-Americans and Hispanics have become victims to the practice of being targeted for additional screenings and stop-and-frisk. It has also been frequently asserted that Latinos and other immigrant communities have faced profiling through anti-immigrant state laws and border patrol activities where papers are demanded on public roads, trains and buses.

Under the proposed legislation introduced in the current Congress, the law would prohibit the use of profiling on the basis of race, ethnicity, national origin or religion by law enforcement agencies. The ERPA legislation would impose concrete steps toward eliminating the practice of making a group of
people subject to heightened scrutiny based on race, ethnicity, religion or national origin. In the current political climate with problems of sequestration and raising the debt ceiling, it is doubted that any significant action will occur on this proposed legislation in 2013. We may have to await developments in 2014 before we see any meaningful action on these proposals.

Office of National Drug Control Policy, The White House, Has Requested Our Views and Input for the 2014 National Drug Control Strategy. We recently received from The White House a Memorandum which stated: “The development of President Obama’s inaugural National Drug Control Strategy (Strategy) included extensive dialogue and consultation with policy makers, practitioners, subject matter experts, and partners across the Nation and around the world. As a result of this robust input, the inaugural Strategy presented a comprehensive approach to reducing drug use and its consequences.” Noting that our input will be vital as they seek to continue the Administration’s record of reform in advancing a balanced, modern drug policy, ONDCP has requested our views be submitted no later than October 4, 2013.

We note of special interest to the National African American Drug Policy Coalition, Inc. would be issues of preventing illicit drug use in our communities, intervening early in the health care system, strengthening drug treatment services and support for the millions of Americans in recovery, and breaking the cycle of drug use, crime and incarceration. We intend to make a submission and request that any of you who have some thoughts and recommendations, submit them to us no later than Monday, October 1, 2013.

Fall One-Day Conference Set for September 17, 2013 at Blackburn Center, Howard University. We urge everyone who can do so to come to this most important conference which will focus on the issue of “Violence in the African American Community – How Can We Implement Effective Solutions?” This is one of the most devastating problems impacting American youth and others in our major cities of this Nation and also implicates one of the most controversial issues facing America as to gun violence and what controls can be enacted consistent with the Supreme Court’s interpretation of the Second Amendment as to regulations and control, with respect to universal background checks, registration of guns, prohibition of assault weapons and ammunition clips, and ultimately could lead to the question of whether the demographics of America have so changed since the Bill of Rights were proposed and adopted in the time period of 1789 - 1791 that the Second Amendment needs to be amended to deal with the circumstances in which we live in the 21st Century.

To poise the question is not to forecast the ultimate resolution of this issue, but merely to support the need for a Task Force of the National African American Drug Policy Coalition, Inc. to be created to obtain the views and input of our members and supporters over the next few months between now and the end of the year, and then to come up with some recommendations both as to social policy and law and what action our Churches, and our civic and social organizations must take to deal with these issues. We solicit your views and recommendations to be submitted no later than December 31, 2013, with the Task Force to study and consider them and prepare a Final Report by March 31, 2014 which will be then considered at our Spring Major Summit Conference in April 2014.

Concerned Black Men, Inc. National On July 26, 2013 the Concerned Black Men, Inc. upon the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding by representatives of both non-profits became an integral member organization of the National African American Drug Policy Coalition, Inc. with the understanding that we will work together in collaboration in recruiting mentors for teenage boys to prevent them from
becoming involved in underage drinking, use of illegal drugs, abuse of prescription drugs and in juvenile delinquent behaviors which would hamper their opportunities in the future for education and entering a meaningful career or profession as an adult.

We have pledged to assist the Concerned Black Men in recruiting Mentors for its program under a grant program it has with HHS Administration for Children and Families (ACF) called the CBM CARES National Mentoring Initiative in Philadelphia, Prince George’s County and in Richmond, Virginia and elsewhere to the extent we have the time and resources to do so. We have asked our Chapters and our Planning Committees to establish new Chapters in those areas to contact CBM’s CARES Project Manager in their respective areas and to recruit from among their contacts young African American male professionals and businessmen to serve not only as Mentors but also as Guidance Counselors as to excelling in school and not engaging in anti-social behaviors in this CBM CARES Initiative.

Concerned Black Men, Inc. National, initially created in 1975 in Philadelphia has more than two dozen chapters around the country with its National Office in Washington, D.C. It becomes the twenty-five (25) National Member Organization replacing the National Institute of Law and Equity which withdrew earlier this year because it had re-organized and was no longer a national organization, but simply a Tennessee local non-profit entity focusing on problems in that State.

In addition to focusing on mentoring of young African American males, it is significant to note that CBM National has placed a heavy emphasis on fatherhood and getting fathers involved in the raising and molding the character of their children. CBM National shares with the National African American Drug Policy Coalition, Inc. the strong objective of getting fathers to be more than a means of child support payments. Rather they must go further to connect with their children to mold their character, to encourage them to excel in school and other activities, to encourage productive dreams to be sought and achieved, and to avoid becoming involved in a criminal lifestyle and repeating the mistakes they made. Indeed, as part of the NAADPC re-entry philosophy we stress that getting fathers involved who have served time in prison may make them more persuasive with their teenage sons and daughters about the consequences of criminal behavior in dissuading them from doing so, and being a meaningful part of their children’s lives should give the fathers a substantial incentive not to violate supervised release, parole, or probation in a split sentence situation, and encourage them to become law abiding productive individuals because they want to be in the community to share in the achievements and successes of their children.

To those of you reading this Newsletter, if you reside in an area where there is a CBM Chapter, we urge you to connect with that Chapter and to volunteer to be a male mentor, or if you are a female, to recommend an African American male person you know who would be willing to be a male mentor for an African American boy between 11-17 years of age to help assure that youngster will not become a prison inmate in the future. To put it simply in explicit language, NAADPC and CBM National strongly share the goal of developing a comprehensive outreach project designed to improve academic and life outcomes for youths residing in underserved communities nationwide. We wish to cooperate with each other to the maximum extent possible within the limits of our financial and human resources.

Administrative Matters: You should conclude from this Newsletter that the volume of work for the National Coalition has greatly increased over the past nine (9) years and we now have considerable influence on policy issues affecting substance abuse and mental illness, criminal justice and juvenile justice reforms, and all of
those areas impacted by the laws and policies in these areas, such as education, employment, access to affordable housing, and workforce development with reference to those re-entering our communities from being incarcerated, and also for our youth as an alternative to getting involved in the underground economy of crime.

As a result in the Fall of 2011 the Board of Directors voted to amend its By-laws to establish a dues structure in connection with opening up the National Coalition to individuals joining the Coalition, without regard to race, ethnic origin, nationality or other grounds which have been the basis for unlawful discrimination, who supported our causes, and that to make such a dues structure credible, we had to also impose a nominal dues structure on our Member organizations and chapters for the administrative and communication services we provided them. Thus we established the following structure on a Calendar Year basis:

- Member Organizations with 1,000 or more individual members would pay annual dues of $250 if less than 1,000 members, it would pay annual dues of $150
- Individual Chapters of which there are now sixteen (16) would pay annual dues of $150
- Individual persons in the professions represented by our Member Organizations for 10 years and longer would pay annual dues of $100.00; if less than 10 years, that person would pay $60 per year.
- All other individuals would pay annual dues of $45.00 per year.

When sufficient revenue comes in from these sources and other possible sources of funding, it is the Plan of the Board to hire up to two (2) full time administrative staff people to respond even more timely to all the requests we get for our views and input on issues as reflected above. We would still have the assistance of Howard University staff persons, but they must take care of their Howard duties first and sometimes this result in unwarranted and extensive delays in getting a prompt response or action taken.

Those organizations, chapters and persons who decide to formally pay the dues according to the above structure may mail a check or money order to Ms. Rosalee Morris, Administrative Assistant, Center for Drug Abuse Research, Howard University, Holy Cross Hall, Room 400, 2900 Van Ness Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20008 or to, Arthur L. Burnett, Sr., National Executive Director, National African American Drug Policy Coalition, Inc. c/o Howard University School of Law, Holy Cross Hall, Rooms 412-414, 2900 Van Ness Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20008,

Program to Promote More Dynamic Activities by Chapters. Should we be successful in obtaining sufficient dues and other revenues to hire up to two (2) full time staff directors, it is our intent to establish publication of these Newsletters monthly reporting to our Member Organizations, Chapters and individual members on the major activities of the National Office during the month, and to include in such Newsletters a column on Chapter activities, and to establish a yearly Award recognizing the most active and dynamic Chapter on a yearly basis in the future. We plan to feature noteworthy activities and programs of our member chapters so that we will know what each of our units or components are doing and so that we can have much more impact in our future suggestions and recommendations to the public at large, to policy makers and ultimately on legislators, both federal and state. In this connection it is specifically noted that the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation and the National Black Caucus of State Legislators, Inc. are members of our National Coalition and their members frequently request our views on pending Bills and related matters.
PLEASE ATTEND OUR SEPTEMBER 17, 2013 PRE-CONFERENCE DAY SPONSORED BY THE NATIONAL AFRICAN AMERICAN DRUG POLICY COALITION, INC. AS PRELIMINARY TO THE CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS FOUNDATION ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE BEING HELD WEDNESDAY-SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 -21, 2013. IT PROMISES TO BE A DYNAMIC CONFERENCE.