

Daryle Allums is Golden State Warriors' "Impact Warrior" for 2022



By Tanya Dennis

At the June 13, 2022 game, the Golden State Warriors presented Daryle Allums, founder of Adamika Village and Oakland Frontline Healers with their 2022 Impact Warrior Award.

Allums, a high school dropout and former drug dealer, was acknowledged for his multiple contributions to the Bay Area, especially the African American community.

During the Warriors' Monday night half-time, Allums was brought from box seats to mid-court to receive his award. He shared his special moment with mentor and friend Donald Frasier, CEO of BOSS, who he says had a profound effect that turned him around. "I wouldn't be standing here today if it wasn't for Don. He took more than one chance on me, helped me grow and build my movement."

Allums' journey from the streets of Deep East Oakland to center court Monday began in 2016, after Allums lost a close friend to gunfire while she was praise dancing.

For 24 hours after her death, he stood on the street corner where she was murdered and yelled "Stop Killing Our Kids." In 2016 he created Adamika Village#stopkillingourkidsmovement and became what is known as a "Credible Messenger" in the streets.

Allums has since recruited many to his victims-led organization to intervene and care for other victims of violence and their families. He has returned over 81 human trafficking vic-



Don Frazier from BOSS and Daryle's mentor and Daryle Allums CEO of Adamika Village and Oakland Frontline Healers. Photo By Kia Stewart.

tims to their families. When the police can't find missing children, he is known for finding and returning them to their families.

Allums also started a Peace in the Streets movement, and with the assistance of Vision Quilt installed "peace art" that lines International Blvd. from 74th Ave to 102nd Ave, covering 1.6 miles of International Blvd with anti-violence messaging.

In 2020, Allums, who has lupus, saw the high risk COVID-19 posed to vulnerable people such as himself and started Oakland Frontline Healers, assisted by Dr. Geoffrey Watson and best friend Justin Lee.

Oakland Frontline Healers serves Oakland's most vulnerable populations with PPE, food, housing vouchers, vaccines, and other services to assure Black folks thrive and survive the pandemic.

Realizing the detrimental

effects of social distancing and isolation, OFH is now addressing the escalating mental health issues that have arisen in the Black Community.

Allums shared that "Receiving that award was something I never imagined and makes me attribute all my blessings to God."

Allums shared that "Oakland Frontline Healers is hosting a city-wide Black Mental Health Initiative Town Hall on Thursday, June 23 and June 30 at 6 p.m. via Zoom, which will include the East Bay Association of Black Psychologists, Alameda County officials, Children's Hospital and Oakland City Councilmembers to discuss establishing African American Healing Hubs in West and East Oakland. The public is invited to attend by going to this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89462621273>

"First we addressed violence, then COVID-19, now Adamika Village#stopkillingourkidsmovement and OFH are on the frontline to heal people that have been subjected to violence and COVID-19 and are traumatized or have other issues," Allums said. "Currently, there are few places a Black person can go to receive culturally appropriate treatment, but that's about to change."

Groups Unite to Oppose Landmark California Mental Health Legislation

By Aldon Thomas Stiles, California Black Media

Senate Bill (SB) 1338, also known as the "CARE Court Program," is attracting growing resistance as it makes its way through the legislative process. Some legal advocacy and civil rights groups say the law would negatively affect African Americans and other minorities.

The proposal, introduced in February by Senators Tom Umberg (D-Santa Ana) and Susan Talamantes Eggman (D-Stockton), would create a supportive alternative to the criminal justice system in California for people who are mentally ill or suffering from Substance Abuse Disorder.

Focused on the state's unhoused population, SB 1338, would mandate treatment for people diagnosed with mental illnesses. About 40% of homeless adults and children in California are Black, a number nearly seven times higher than the total percentage (5.6%) of Black people in a state with about 40 million people.

Opponents of the legislation say SB 1338 dangerously expands judicial power and empowers the criminal justice system to commit people to mental health treatment that is sub-par



— and often against their will. There is also the potential for misdiagnosis, they warn.

"CARE Court promotes a system of involuntary, coerced treatment, enforced by an expanded judicial infrastructure, that will, in practice, simply remove unhoused people with perceived mental health conditions from the public eye without effectively addressing those mental health conditions and without meeting the urgent need for housing," read the Human Rights Watch's (HRW) opposition letter.

"We urge you to reject this bill and instead to take a more holistic, rights-respecting approach to address the lack of resources for autonomy-affirming treatment options and affordable housing," the letter said.

SB 1338 unanimously

passed in three Senate committees before the full State Senate approved it in May.

The legislation is currently making its way through the Assembly, where the Committee on Judiciary is reviewing it.

"Given the racial demographics of California's homeless population, and the historic over-diagnosing of Black and Latino people with schizophrenia, this plan is likely to place many, disproportionately Black and Brown, people under state control," HRW's letter continued.

Some members of the California Association of Mental Health Peer Run Organizations share HRW's opinion, claiming that the program would "disproportionately affect people of color by imposing another un-

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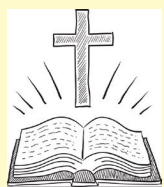
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