

Sawubona Gala

OCTOBER 8TH, 2022

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Greetings,

Welcome to our Inaugural Gala.

It is with humility and gratitude that the two of us acknowledge the hard work by members of the Sawubona Board to launch our organization. Together we have moved from an idea into action. Our differences have sharpened our focus and helped begin engagement of the wider community.

The Great Oaks Charter School and by extension the Bridgeport community have embraced the work we have begun. It is our hope that our efforts will bring greater understanding and compassion for each other. Martin Luther King Jr. described us as being wrapped in one garment of destiny. That vision of the human family inspires us to truly work towards communal healing.

Those of you who have encouraged us, volunteered or donated to our cause during this year have fueled our enthusiasm. Our children and our communities will be the beneficiaries if we continue this journey together. Mental wellness like giant oaks can grow from the small acorns of hope and resiliency we plant in each interaction that we have with each other.

Sawubona,

We see you. We hear you. We believe in you.

Andrew Gerber MD, PhD
Vice-President

Charles J. Morgan MD
President

Sawubona Inaugural Gala Program

**5:00-6:30pm
Cocktails**

**5:00-8:00pm
Silent Auction**

**7:00pm
President's Welcome
Dr. Charles J. Morgan**

**Guest Speaker, Terrell Davis
Pro Football Hall of Fame**

**Guest Speaker, Anthony Campbell
Chief of Police, Yale University Police Dept.**

**7:30 pm
Awards Ceremony**

**8:45pm
Silent Auction Winners Announced**

**9:00-10:00pm
Dancing**

2022 Board of Directors & Gala Committee

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Linda Rost, LCSW
Ayana Thomas

We are pleased to support
Dr. Charles Morgan
&
Sawubona
for their work in
addressing the mental health needs
of our community.

With best wishes
for continued success,

*Dr. Donna J. Twist
and "The Team"*



CITY COUNCIL BRIDGEPORT

October 8, 2022

Good Evening,

On behalf of the Bridgeport City Council, I wish everyone a warm welcome to the Inaugural Sawubona Gala and extend the City Council's congratulations to each one of the award recipients!

The Bridgeport City Council is highly supportive of community-based organizations such as Sawubona. As an elective body we embrace programs that strive to address mental health needs and support the resiliency of Bridgeport youth and their families, especially using volunteers.

We believe that the Sawubona partnership with Bridgeport's Great Oaks Charter school is of monumental benefit to the community and applaud this achievement in community leadership on the part of Sawubona.

Likewise, the City Council believes that organizations such as Sawubona who see the potential in our youth for building a better Bridgeport are themselves community builders. Please accept the gratitude of the Bridgeport City Council for the important contributions that Sawubona is making to the Bridgeport community.

May this Inaugural Sawubona Gala be joyous and may there be many more in the coming years!

Sincerely

Aidee Nieves

City Council President



VOLUNTEERS

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GBAPP, Inc.



Rev. Nancy Kingwood Executive Director of GBAPP, Inc.

Rev. Nancy Kingwood currently serves as the Executive Director of GBAPP, Inc. She holds two degrees in Human Services and a Master of Science in Organizational Management & Leadership from Springfield College. She is a 2010 graduate of the Black Ministries Program at Hartford Seminary & holds a Master of Arts in Biblical Studies, respectfully. She is a 2012 graduate of the CT Health Foundation Fellows program. Rev. Kingwood is a work group participant of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Culture of Health Prize. She is a current student at Johnson C. Smith Theological Seminary's Drum Major for Justice Certificate Program. Rev. Nancy is also on the Black Church Scholar Selection Committee at the Howard Thurman Center at Hartford International University. She has also worked with several national organizations as a capacity building specialist providing technical assistance to faith-based organizations. Such organizations include the National Black Church Initiative located in Washington, DC & the Metropolitan Inter-denominational Capacity Building Network located in Nashville, TN. She is a Human Service Board Certified Practitioner. Rev. Kingwood is a SAMHSA Train the Trainer on Trauma Informed Systems Approaches.

She also serves as an associate minister at Mount Aery Baptist Church. In 2010, Rev. Kingwood had the honor to join the HIV & Women of Color Congressional Briefing Committee to voice concerns of all women. She is the visionary of the *Nia Alliance for Women of Color & Nancy Kingwood Ministries, LLC*. She has received the following community awards: Soroptimist Her Haven Project, Mount Aery Beacon of Hope Award, Bank of America Local Hero Award, Citation State of CT General Assembly, Local AIDS community Award, 100 Professional Women of Color 2018, Sojourner Truth Community Service Award /Rev. Nancy Kingwood Day/City of Bridgeport

She is married with three daughters and eight grandchildren. In her spare time Rev. Kingwood loves reading and taking road trips.

SOUTHWEST COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER



Dr. Dara Richards



Mollie Melbourne



Nancy Wiltse

SWCHC is a federally qualified health center recognized by the Joint Commission as a Primary Care Medical Home Certified Organization. SWCHC is dedicated to providing high quality, accessible medical, dental and behavioral health services to individuals and families in the Greater Bridgeport area especially the uninsured, underserved and homeless populations.

From the beginning, in 1976 a group of concerned and committed citizens representing the City of Bridgeport, Bridgeport Housing Authority and other neighborhood agencies formed the West End Neighborhood Advisory Council to address the need for medical and dental services. The Advisory Council submitted an application to the Department of Health, Education and Welfare to provide services in their impoverished neighborhoods. In August 1977 the Advisory Council received the three-year *“Notice of Grant Award”* and the Health Center became a reality.

At the end of the three-year funding cycle the Advisory Council emerged as the Board of Directors with sole fiduciary responsibilities of the newly incorporated Health Center. In 1978, the services were relocated from PT Barnum housing complex to the refurbished St. Stephen’s School on Bird Street. On August 1980, Southwest Community Health Center was incorporated as a not-for-profit entity.

SWCHC has expanded their services into seven locations including five school based health centers offering a full range of comprehensive medical, dental, behavioral health and intensive outpatient substance abuse treatment services.



Great Oaks Bridgeport is a comprehensive 6th through 12th grade publicly funded charter school dedicated to academic achievement with individualized care and support to meet the needs of our diverse community. With over 650 students, Great Oaks Charter School is set apart by our commitment to career and college readiness supported through our passion for the social and emotional support of all students.

Our unique partnership with AmeriCorps provides Fellows dedicating a year of service benefiting our students with additional support in English Language Arts, math, and mentorship delivering on our mission to address the inequities found in many traditional settings. Our AmeriCorps Fellows go through rigorous training in community building, relationship development, and instructional support. Many of our AmeriCorps Fellows develop into teachers serving our school after their AmeriCorps commitment.



We deeply value our scholars and stand firm to our commitment that “Our students will shape the world, not be defined by it.” Through our values of Excellence, Perseverance, Integrity, and Compassion, our EPIC students develop a strong sense of self and pride in their own identity and develop responsibility for their success.



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Congratulations
Dr Charles Morgan,
Dr Thomas Knox
and the entire
Sawubona Team
on your Inaugural Gala!

The best is yet to come.

Dr. Donna-Marie Manasseh-Jones
and
Mr. Brian Jones

With heart-felt gratitude,



appreciates Karen for our logo creation and establishing our graphic presence.

Karen Pease Marino
Creative Director

w: karenpeasemarino.com
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JACOB'S HOLLOW STUDIO

Dr. Rachel W. Bush
Artist
drrachelwbush@gmail.com



*We applaud Sawubona's support of
mental health and the resilience
of youth and their families.*



rtor.org is a free service of Laurel House, Inc.
Silver Hill Hospital provides leadership funding
to help sustain this free service.

Congratulations

to

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and

Dr. Charles Morgan

for this great project.

Ulla and Nabil Atweh MD



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To the Administrative Team at
Great Oaks Charter School,

We, on the Sawubona team,
are ever grateful for your
vision, for your passion for
helping your students thrive,
and for putting your trust in
us.

~ Claudette Kunkes



Karen H Brody, MD proudly supports Sawubona, Inc., on its First Inaugural Gala!
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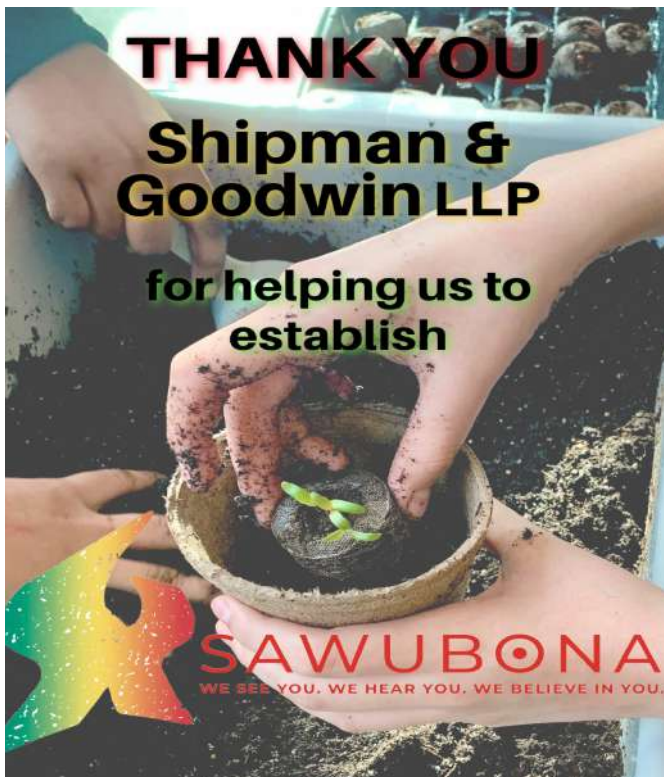
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..... Michelle Morgan-Randall

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SAWUBONA FAMILY!**

**-FROM ROBERTS AND
CLOUD**

AYANA *Thomas*



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