As fall approaches, it's time to get healthy as we head into the latter part of the year. As part of that effort, Dr. Pier Broadnax, director of the RN to BS in Nursing program has been tasked with coordinating health services for DC residents by offering free screenings at a number of citywide events. On Saturday, August 15, Dr. Broadnax, organized health services at the DC General Homeless Shelter back to school event, which was sponsored by DC Mayor Muriel Bowser, and Councilmembers Yvette Alexander, Elissa Silverman and Charles Allen.

"We have recruited several District nursing groups to help with these events. Today, the George Washington, School of Nursing, graduate faculty, BridgePoint Hospital, the Nigerian Nurses Association and DC Fire and EMS are helping out at this event," explained Dr. Broadnax.

The nurses and EMTs offered free screenings for blood pressure, glucose, BMI (Body Mass Index) and depression. Dr. Elgloria Harrison, special assistant to the Dean of CAUSES, was also on hand to offer attendees information about asthma. According to the Washington Post, most children in DC who are hospitalized for asthma reside in Wards 7 and 8.

"We are providing outreach to a community that has traditionally been underserved; especially those who are homeless and disenfranchised, living in a shelter," stated Dr. Broadnax. "People have been pleased at receiving one-on-one education, materials and screenings for both parents and children."
"I think the nursing program is one of our most important programs because it is a pathway to great healthcare jobs in nursing," said Councilwoman Silverman.

Special thanks to the UDC RN to BSN adjunct faculty and students, the graduate faculty of the George Washington School of Nursing, and the Nigerian Nurses Association for participating in this important community activity.

Dr. Broadnax will be coordinating health services at these upcoming events:
- Annual Job Fair and Health Screening - August 21
- Health Expo - August 22
- Congressional Black Caucus - September 22
"It's great to get out in the community and have face time. What we want people to understand that having their blood pressure or glucose levels checked at an event like this isn't a diagnosis, but they still need to follow up with a doctor," explained DC EMT Matt Westerbeck.

Additional photos are available on our Facebook page.

The mission of the BSN program is to produce well-educated, autonomous, competent and resourceful graduates to practice nursing in the multiethnic, global and technological society of the 21st century. Visit the RN to BSN program online or contact Dr. Broadnax at (202) 274-5916.

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