

## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
December 29, 2020

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### **HEALTH EDUCATOR NETTYE JOHNSON SELECTED TO JOIN THE ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON FOUNDATION CULTURE OF HEALTH LEADERS**

*39 professionals chosen from hundreds around the country to establish a healthy living culture change*



The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) recently announced that Certified Health Education Specialist, author and speaker Nettye Johnson has been selected to join its 2020 cohort of the [Culture of Health Leaders Program](#). This leadership development program provides an opportunity for select professionals, who wish to use their influence to advance health and equity and help build a culture of health in the United States.

“This selection is truly an honor,” said Johnson. “My passion and work support a culture of health in which every person understands and values health and has both the expectation and the ability to live in good health. This philosophy aligns beautifully with RWJF’s national agenda to improve health, equity and well-being for all people.”

The selection of Johnson, who is an American Council on Exercise-certified health coach and holds credentials from the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing (NCHEC), is as much an honor as it is a recognition of her experience providing science-based, faith-empowered education and programming addressing African American health disparities.

With more than 15 years of experiential leadership and grassroots health education engagement in the faith community, including her position as the National Physical Fitness Coordinator of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. H.O.P.E. HHS Partnership, Johnson will add an important perspective to the cohort.

“All of us involved in improving the health and lives of others do what we can for individuals, yet there are larger issues at play – inequities and both institutional and societal barriers to health – that can be addressed through focused collective efforts,” continued Johnson. “I look forward to tackling such issues with like-minded professionals.”

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Johnson is one of only 39 professionals selected from more than 700 applicants nationwide, and 1 of only 2 from the State of Louisiana. The fact that she is a resident of Louisiana is significant as the state consistently ranks as one of the unhealthiest in the country.

“I am grateful for this tremendous opportunity to learn, collaborate, and improve my culturally appropriate health outreach in Louisiana while contributing to the RWJF culture of health movement,” Johnson concluded.

As a Culture of Health Leader, Johnson will receive an annual stipend and high-touch executive coaching, and participate in a structured, three-year curriculum and development experience focused on leadership, mastery of self, relationships, environment and change. At the end of the program experience, each leader will plan, launch and lead a local project that engages professionals across disciplines with the community to advocate for better health and build public support for systemic change.

To learn more about the Robert Wood Foundation’s Culture of Health Leaders program, please visit the [program’s website](#).

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