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BLACK COALITION ON AIDS APPOINTS INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Black Coalition on AIDS (BCA) announced the appointment of former San Francisco Deputy Director of Health James Loyce as Interim Executive Director for the agency.

Loyce, who recently retired from San Francisco Department of Public Health as Deputy Director of Health for AIDS Programs, will assume the post on May 1, replacing current Executive Director Perry Lang, who is taking a sabbatical.

“We are pleased and proud to have Jimmy Loyce step into this leadership role at BCA at this time,” said BCA Board Chair Donyale John. “Jimmy has been a friend and ally of the agency since its inception more than 20 years ago. In the current funding climate and as the epidemic continues to spread in the Black community, it will be good to have Jimmy’s experienced hand at the helm during this time in our history.”

BCA is one of the oldest AIDS service agencies in the country and in recent years expanded its mission to both stop the spread of HIV/AIDS and eliminate health disparities in the Black community. BCA provides health education and support services to nearly 4500 people a year and manages the awarding-winning, 11-bed Brandy Moore House facility for people who are HIV positive and formerly homeless.

“I look forward to being of service to the community through BCA,” said Loyce, a co-founder of the agency in 1986 and recipient of the agency’s 2006 community health leadership award. Loyce, who has been an HIV/AIDS health expert since the beginning of the epidemic, was also the former Executive Director of the AIDS Project Los Angeles, one of the nation’s largest AIDS service organizations.

“I believe the agency is in good hands with Loyce leading the team,” said Lang, who joined the agency in 2003.

Since Lang's arrival, the coalition has doubled in staff and budget size and relocated from the South of Market District to 2800 Third Street, in Southeast District 10. BCA offers an array of health education and health support services designed to improve health awareness and literacy and assist those learning to cope with chronic or terminal conditions, including HIV/AIDS, breast cancer, diabetes and more. The coalition, which conducts a popular alternative medicine workshop twice a month, hopes to launch a new community Health Academy and Wellness Center in the fall.

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