



## Sample Letter to the Editor

[insert date]

Letters to the Editor

[insert newspaper name]

To the Editor:

HIV/AIDS is a worldwide plague that is slowly killing Black America. The continued severity of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Black communities cannot be underestimated. Our challenge in 2010 is to stem the tide and save the lives of Black people locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally!

For 10 years now, **February 7, 2010 has been designated as National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day (NBHAAD)**. NBHAAD is a national HIV testing and treatment community mobilization initiative designed to encourage Blacks across the United States and Territorial Areas to **get educated, get tested, get treated, and get involved** with HIV/AIDS, as it continues to devastate Black communities. Currently, NBHAAD is directed, planned and organized by a group known as the **Strategic Leadership Council** who partners with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to mobilize communities and address specific issues in regards to local epidemics and best practices that will influence the course of HIV in Black communities across the country. *Healthy Black Communities, Inc.* serves as the lead organization responsible for coordinating communications, material development and dissemination, and brand management.

Public figures such as **Congressman Elijah E. Cummings; Tony Dungy; Idris Elba; Kimberly Elise; Lance Gross; Hill Harper; Taraji P. Henson; Tom Joyner; Congresswoman Barbara Lee; Bishop Eddie Long; Ludacris; Master P; Tangi Miller; Patrik-Ian Polk; General Colin Powell; Sheryl Lee Ralph; Gloria Reuben; Romeo; Rev. Edwin Sanders; Tavis Smiley;** and **Congresswoman Maxine Waters** have all contributed their advocacy as spokespersons to this effort.

For 2010, we are mobilizing communities to be the voice and face for making *HIV/AIDS Prevention - A Choice and a Lifestyle!* We are asking Blacks all over to become the voice for change by submitting a mini-video through the website that is centered on one or all four of the objectives of **NBHAAD** – education, testing, involvement, and/or treatment. All people,

regardless of lifestyle or HIV status, *can* and *should* get involved with spreading the HIV/AIDS message to their families and communities.

**National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day 2010: Get educated! Get tested! Get involved! Get treated!** For more information on **National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day**, log onto [www.blackaidsday.org](http://www.blackaidsday.org).

Sincerely,

[name of person sending letter]  
[title],  
[organization, agency, group name]