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**Theresa A Bush**  
**Director of Public**  
**Relations and**  
**Communications**  
[tbush@ncusolutions.com](mailto:tbush@ncusolutions.com)  
**614.432.3846**

## **THE AFRICAN AMERICAN MALE WELLNESS AGENCY TO HOST WELLNESS WALK IN JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI**

**COLUMBUS, OHIO (March 2022)** – The National African American Male Wellness Agency is bringing the wellness Walk/Run 5K to Jackson, MS. Saturday, April 9, 2022 at the Russell C. Davis Planetarium, 201 East Pascagoula St. Jackson, MS 39201, beginning 7 a.m. This is the 1<sup>st</sup> annual Walk/Run 5K coming to the capital city of Mississippi. This year’s honorary chairman is Honorable Chokwe Antar Lumumba, Mayor of Jackson. The goal of the NAAMWA is to raise awareness for preventable health diseases. The free health screenings that will be provided for registered participants are diabetes, BMI, prostate cancer, HIV/AIDS, glucose, and much more. This event is free and fun for the whole family to enjoy. There will be a children’s play area, food and shopping vendors and community health partners on site for everyone to meet.

*Mississippi ranks last, or close to last, in almost every leading health outcome. In Mississippi and nationwide, these health disparities are significantly worse for those who have systematically faced obstacles to health due to their socio-economic status, race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, geographic location, and other characteristics historically linked to discrimination or exclusion. – Mississippi State Dept. of Health website*

*“I’m excited the African American Male Wellness Agency has made a commitment this year to make this Wellness Walk happen in the Capital City. We are aware that last year’s event was postponed due to COVID-19,” Mayor Chokwe Antar Lumumba said. “This walk is vitally important to our residents and timely as well. As we continue to battle the pandemic, we are learning how important it is to stay fit and healthy and also find a way to be part of safe group activities. This year’s event will offer both and we are very pleased that our City was chosen for this event.” Jackson, Mississippi Mayor Chokwe Antar Lumumba*

Established in 2004, the mission of the African American Wellness Agency (AAWA) is to increase the life expectancy of African American men in physical health, mental health, financial health, fatherhood and research. We have embraced an expanded focus into six core initiatives that also include mentorship and research that develop men into great fathers and remove barriers that may hinder their participation in the lives of their children. We are “*The Holistic Black Impact of Health and Wellness for African American Men and their families*”.

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