



children
atRisk

The State of Black Children in Texas Summit

Empowering Futures & Advancing Well-Being for Black Children

Thursday, February 13, 2025 | 10:00AM – 12:00 PM CT

[Register Here](#)

Join us for the third annual State of Black Children in Texas Summit, a virtual gathering focused on advancing well-being and creating opportunities for Black children. This event will highlight key data, explore strategies for enhancing workforce pathways, and address the mental health challenges impacting Black students. Through expert-led conversations and a keynote address, we'll examine how partnerships can break systemic barriers and strengthen community support for Black education. Be part of this meaningful dialogue to drive change and inspire futures.

10:00 – 10:05 AM **Welcome & Opening Remarks**
Marvin Pierre, Co-Founder and Executive Director, 8 Million Stories

10:05 – 10:10 AM **Student Video**

10:10 – 10:25 AM **Data Highlight**
Stella Smith, Ph.D., Educational Researcher and Leader

10:25 – 11:00 AM **Beyond the Classroom: Preparing and Creating Workforce Pathways for Black Children for College, Career, and Lifelong Success**

This panel discussion will feature experts from diverse career pathways exploring how partnerships can break systemic barriers, foster mentorship, and equip Black students with the skills, opportunities, and networks needed to excel academically and be prepared to participate in an evolving global economy.

Panel Discussion Moderated by **Lekesha Attuquayefio (Barnett)**, DMin, Minister, Consultant, Author

LaMonica Love, Business and Estate Planning Attorney

Hope Pamplin, Ph.D., LPC-S- Therapist

Kevin Bryant, Managing Director, GoodCitizen

Antonie H. Rice, PhD, Associate Dean of Education and Student Affairs
National School of Tropical Medicine

11:00 – 11:30 AM **Fireside Chat: Mental Health Matters: Supporting the Emotional Well-being of Black Children for Lifelong Success**

This conversation will explore the unique mental health challenges Black children face and how educators, families, and communities can provide culturally responsive support. Experts in education, mental health, and advocacy will discuss breaking stigma, creating safe spaces, and fostering emotional well-being to help Black students thrive academically and personally.

Fireside Chat with **Marvin Pierre**, Co-Founder & Executive Director, 8 Million Stories
Jamie Freeny, DrPH, MPH, Director, Center for School Behavioral Health, Mental Health America of Greater Houston

Morgan Tuck, M.A., LPC-S, NCC, Founder & Lead Therapist, Mawazo
Counseling and Consulting

Hazel Davis, Community Engagement Leader & Workforce
Development Advocate

11:30 – 11:50 AM **Keynote Speaker: The Power of Partnership: Strengthening Community
and Corporate Support for Black Education**

Trustee Erica Davis, Board Second Vice President, Harris County
Department of Education

11:50 AM – 12:00 PM **Closing Remarks**

Marvin Pierre, Co-Founder and Executive Director, 8 Million Stories