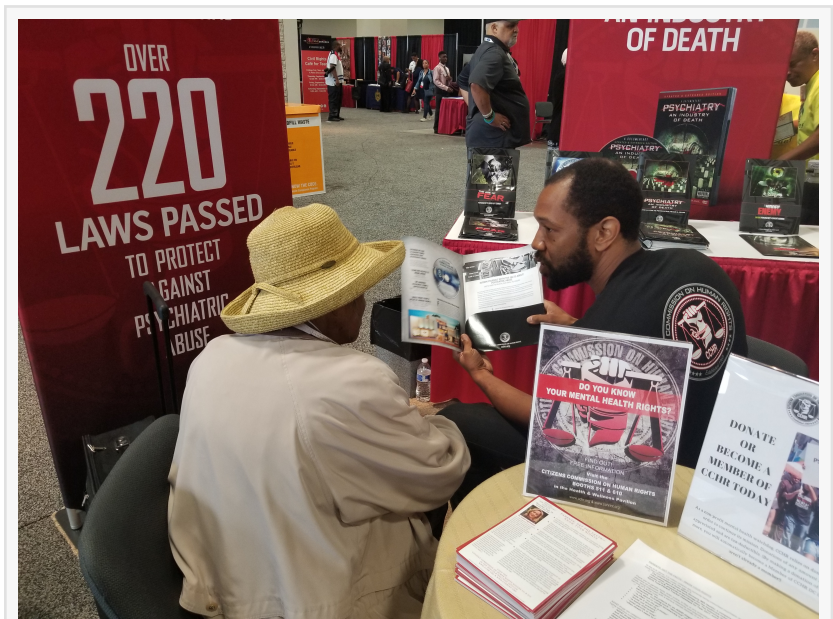


Bringing Mental Health Rights to Parents and Veterans at the Congressional Black Caucus Annual Legislative Conference

CCHR exposes targeting of African Americans with false psychiatric diagnosis and dangerous medications as a human rights violation.

WASHINGTON DC, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, UNITED STATES, September 27, 2018 / EINPresswire.com/ -- Citizens Commission on Human Rights exposes the targeting of African Americans with false psychiatric diagnosis and dangerous medications as a human rights violation. Facts about mental health rights provided as a shield against such abuse.

Citizens Commission on Human Rights (CCHR) brought its "Restoring Human Rights & Dignity to the Field of Mental Health" campaign to the 2018 Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Annual Legislative Conference to educate African-American parents and veterans about their rights and warn them of the dangers of psychiatric drugs.



The public were informed by Citizens Commission on Human Rights Volunteers at the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's 48th Annual Legislative Conference

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Dr. Linda Lagemann

This included a 2-hour “Ask the Expert” session led by Dr. Linda Lagemann, national media commentator on the mental health system. Parents and grandparents stopped by to receive information and learn their rights when a psychiatrist, doctor or school professional says their child has a “mental disorder” and needs to be on “medication.”

“Psychiatric diagnoses are entirely subjective – different psychiatrists seeing the same person often come up with different diagnoses. This subjectivity is vulnerable to prejudice and may explain why studies find African American males are disproportionately given a psychiatric diagnosis,” said Dr. Linda Lagemann. She further explained, “The psychiatric-pharmaceutical industry is not

a public service. Its interests are new markets to tap and getting more customers for longer. One of those markets is younger and younger children. Another of those markets is the African American community, which historically did not drug their children at the same rate as white

parents.”

CCHR cautions parents to know their rights and arm themselves with the documented facts. For instance, many do not know that Federal law prohibits school personnel from requiring parents to drug their child as a requisite for attending school ([Title 20](#) of United States Code: Chapter 33, Subchapter II, ASSISTANCE FOR EDUCATION OF ALL CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES § 1412, State Eligibility.)

CCHR also focused on the subject of veteran suicide offering free copies of The Hidden Enemy documentary DVD to the military, veterans, members veteran support groups, family or associates of active-duty personnel or veterans, present at the Congressional Black Caucus Conference.

In 2013, the U.S. Department of Defense announced a startling statistic: The [number of military suicides in 2012](#) had far exceeded the total of those killed in battle. One month later, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs revealed that veteran suicide was running at 22 a day—about 8,000 each year.

A Chaplain from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs who is in charge of counseling military that return from war zone told a CCHR volunteer: “I know all about this. I witness it first-hand when I help soldiers reintegrate into society after being in a war zone. That is why I always wear a bracelet that has number 22 engraved on it.”

CCHR’s volunteers also provided attendees with a copy of the [Mental Health Declaration of Human Rights](#) and educational materials that help avoid unconsented psychiatric labeling and drugging.

The 48th Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Annual Legislative Conference was held at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Washington D.C. with the theme “The Dream Still Demands Courage, Resilience, Leadership and Legislation.” The five-day conference attracts annually nearly 10,000 people from across the world and is the leading policy conference on issues impacting African Americans and the global Black community. The conference featured nearly 100 public policy forums on health, education, economic empowerment, the environment, and more.

Citizens Commission on Human Rights is a nonprofit charitable mental health watchdog



A veteran is welcomed to the Citizens Commission on Human Rights display and learns about issues affecting veterans’ mental health at the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation’s 48th Annual Legislative Conference



Participants are briefed on their rights in the mental health system by Citizens Commission on Human Rights Volunteers at the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation’s 48th Annual Legislative Conference

cofounded in 1969 by the Church of Scientology and professor of psychiatry Dr. Thomas Szasz. It is dedicated to eradicating psychiatric abuse and ensuring patient protection.

With headquarters in Los Angeles, California, CCHR International guides a global human rights advocacy network of some 180 chapters across 34 nations. CCHR Commissioners include physicians, psychiatrists, psychologists, lawyers, legislators, government officials, educators and civil rights representatives.

For more information about materials or participation in the Citizens Commission on Human Rights Washington DC, contact (202)-349-9267 or write to isabelle.vladoiu@cchr.org or go to the website at <https://www.cchr.org/>

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