

MELODIE NARAIN BLACKWELL

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Melodie Narain-Blackwell is a serial entrepreneur and health advocate, who has always been passionate about encouraging others to dig deep to pursue their purpose. As a multi-ethnic woman of faith, she has built businesses that represent all of the parts of who she is. Though she has been a part-time entrepreneur for more than 15 years, Melodie began her full-time entrepreneurial journey in 2018 after she was laid off from her full-time job. Concurrent with her lay-off and leap of faith, Melodie was diagnosed with Crohn's disease, which has been an arduous ongoing battle for her life. Facing this health challenge head-on, led her to become a passionate health advocate for people of color who battle illnesses.



- BLACK WOMEN ARE 3 TO 4 TIMES MORE LIKELY TO EXPERIENCE PREGNANCY-RELATED DEATH
- AROUND 7.6% OF BLACK WOMEN HAVE HEART DISEASE (20% MORE LIKELY TO DIE), COMPARED TO 5.8% OF WHITE WOMEN
- BLACKS ARE 2X MORE LIKELY TO DIE FROM DIABETES
- BLACKS HAVE THE HIGHEST MORTALITY RATE OF ANY ETHNIC AND RACIAL GROUP FOR ALL CANCERS (MORTALITY AT 2.2X FOR MEN AND 2.7X FOR WOMEN)
- BLACKS ARE 50% MORE LIKELY TO HAVE A STROKE

SPEAKER TOPICS

HEALTH:

EXAMPLE TOPICS (NOT LIMITED TO):

- HOW TO ADVOCATE FOR YOURSELF/PATIENT
- THE MINORITY PATIENT PERSPECTIVE
- BATTLING CHRONIC ILLNESS
- WHO NEEDS SUPPORT
- SYMPTOMS THAT THEY DON'T TELL YOU ABOUT
- BLACK WOMEN'S HEALTH
- MATERNAL HEALTH AND CHRONIC ILLNESS
- HOW DO I MANAGE IT ALL - FINDING BALANCE
- YOUR ILLNESS IS YOUR SUPER POWER
- REACHING MINORITY PATIENTS

ENTREPRENEURSHIP:

EXAMPLE TOPICS (NOT LIMITED TO):

- JUST "FAITHING IT" ISN'T ENOUGH
- WHERE IS GOD IN MY BUSINESS
- WHERE DO I START
- INTENTION IS AN EVERY DAY JOB
- BUSINESS IS SERVICE
- COMMUNITY