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5TH ANNUAL BRIDGING THE GAP JOY RUN/WALK HEALTH FAIR ANNOUNCED

Petersburg, VA, January 4, 2019 - The Community Transformers Foundation and Tabernacle Baptist Church located at 418 Halifax Street, Petersburg, VA will host the Bridging the Health Gap Joy Run/Walk and Community Health Fair. The event will kick off April 27 at 9:00 at 444 Halifax Street in the City of Petersburg and is a combined 5K and 2K run/walk. Participants do not have to be experienced runners or walkers. The Community Health Fair promotes awareness and emphasizes the importance of good health habits and regular health screenings. In Partnership with The Community Transformers Foundation and Tabernacle Baptist Church, the Capital Area Health Network will be on hand and has provided over 390 wellness and dental screenings, courtesy of their mobile health clinic over the last four years. Since the Community Health Fair's beginning, over 600 people have attended this portion of the event and have learned valuable health information from the vendors.

New this year is a Town Hall Meeting, which will be held on Friday April 26, 2019 from 6:30 pm – 8 p.m. According to City-Data, nearly 45% of the city's adult residents have BMI rates of 30 or more and estimated figures report poor health causes about 14,000 years of potential life lost in the city in comparison to the state average of 6,100 years. As a result, the focus of the meeting is on "Transforming our Health and Community One Step at a Time!" This event is in collaboration with the American Association of Black Cardiologists and has been added to further advance health equity in the City of Petersburg and surrounding areas. People are encouraged to come out and ask health questions to a panel of Healthcare Professionals. These events are a joint endeavor with churches, businesses and organizations in the Petersburg area community who are integral in keeping Petersburg healthy. The focus of each event is on community, health, faith and having fun! This event is also made possible through partnerships with Petersburg Parks and Leisure Services and the Tri-Cities Road Runners. All are invited to show support by attending and participating

The Joy Run/Walk began as an initiative of the Tabernacle Baptist Church Health Care Ministry in May 2014 to support cardiovascular health by encouraging walking and running. It was created to improve and to combat the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's ranking of the City of Petersburg as the least healthy city in Virginia. The inaugural 2014 event kicked off with over 150 participants and today the Joy Run/Walk and Community Health Fair has impacted over 1,000 participants. Registration is currently open. Online registration, registration forms, and sponsorship forms can be found at www.communitytransformersllc.org or www.tbcpptg.org. For more information contact Donald Barrow at 804-382-7500 or Dee Johnson at 804-720-9244, or e-mail joy.run.tbcpptg@gmail.com or info@communitytransformersllc.com.