

## PRESS RELEASE

**EMBARGOED UNTIL: 00:01 Wednesday, 1st October 2025**

### ***New Black Leaders Toolkit and Events Calendar Launch for Black History Month 2025***

### **Greater Manchester celebrates Black History Month with free resources available from 30th September**

**MANCHESTER, 1st October 2025** - The Caribbean & African Health Network (CAHN), in partnership with Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA), today launches two new resources to celebrate Black History Month 2025 across Greater Manchester.

The Black Leaders Toolkit 2025 and Greater Manchester Black History Month Events Calendar go live on 30th September, offering free, ready-to-use materials for organisations, educators, community groups, and individuals across the region.

#### **Black Leaders Toolkit 2025**

The toolkit spotlights four remarkable Black leaders connected to Greater Manchester:

- **Sharon Amesu** – Award-winning speaker and former barrister, shaping courageous and inclusive leadership from the Northwest to global stages
- **Rev Frances Davies-Tagoe** – 25 years of compassionate social action in Manchester's communities, leading the Tree of Life Centre in Wythenshawe
- **Sir W. Arthur Lewis** – Manchester's first Black lecturer and professor, Nobel Prize winner in Economics (1979)
- **Prof David Olusoga OBE** – British-Nigerian historian and Professor of Public History in Manchester, author of *Black and British: A Forgotten History*

The toolkit includes inspiring biographies, quote cards, ready-to-use graphics, and copy-and-paste social media content, designed for anyone to use without design skills.

#### **Greater Manchester Black History Month Events Calendar**

The online events calendar showcases Black History Month celebrations across the region. This community-driven directory enables organisations and individuals to submit their own events, creating a resource by the community, for the community.

Event submissions are being accepted now at: <https://tinyurl.com/zw6wfvnm>

#### **Quotes**

**Sharon Amesu, leadership consultant and former barrister, said:** "Every generation requires people who will respond to the call of courage. The greatest leaders are those who respond to the call in service of others."

**Charles Kwaku-Odoi DL, Chief Executive of CAHN, said:** "As we launch Black History Month across Greater Manchester, our theme, *Eighty Years of Pan African and Caribbean Resilience*, reminds us that the pursuit of liberation has always included the right to health, dignity, and wellbeing. The Fifth Pan African Congress, held in Manchester in 1945, laid the foundation for collective progress. Today, that legacy continues through initiatives like this

toolkit and directory, which celebrate our communities' contributions and connect us to the resilience and excellence that have always defined us."

**Natacha Pires, Head of Communications & Marketing at CAHN, said:** "We are delighted to share this calendar and directory in partnership with GMCA. We believe there is true value in keeping history alive and in the celebration of Caribbean and African people in Greater Manchester and beyond. In times where animosity might seem to grow in our country, it is important, even more so, to contribute to an equitable society that values every person. This calendar and directory are for the people we serve and our many allies that want to discover more about Black History Month."

**Rev Frances Davies-Tagoe said:** "I am humbled by this momentous recognition. I thoroughly enjoy living a life of service and I encourage everyone to leave everything you touch better than you found it."

### Availability

Both resources are available free to access, download, and share from 30th September 2025 at: [www.bhmgreatermcr.com](http://www.bhmgreatermcr.com)

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### About CAHN

The Caribbean & African Health Network (CAHN) is a Black-led organisation on a mission to eradicate health inequalities and wider disparities for Black Caribbean and African people in the UK.

**For information about the organisation, please visit** <https://www.cahn.org.uk/>

### About GMCA

The Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) is the combined authority for Greater Manchester, working to improve the quality of life for the city-region's 2.8 million residents. GMCA works in partnership with the 10 Greater Manchester councils and the Mayor to deliver on priorities including economic growth, transport, housing, and creating a more equal and inclusive city-region.

**For more information, please visit** <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/>