

To Whom It May Concern:

The African Initiative (TAI) and Black Onyx cordially extend our invitation to you and your members to our very first panel discussion on Mental Health Stigmatization, primarily in the context of African, African-American and other minority group communities. The panel discussion will take place in the ACC Ballrooms on Wednesday 24th October at 8PM (see attached flyer below). The discussion will be facilitated by _____, director of the Ward Hall Counseling Clinic, as well as a few other students.

We plan to touch on several different topics in regards to mental health awareness in African communities including but not limited to mental health stigmatization, the underlying cultural and religious factors that influence the way different communities approach mental health, the resources available on campus beyond just the Counseling Center, what we can do to improve the resources available for minority students on campus, etc.

We also will be touching base on the fundraiser that The African Initiative will be having within the next couple weeks to raise money and awareness for the Nehemiah Autism Center in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. We hope to not only shed light on what more we can do to raise awareness of the obstacles local African communities face when it comes to mental illnesses and well-being, but also to better understand what we can do to support local African communities in the long-term. If you are interested in helping out by volunteering with tabling for the fundraiser or if you have any additional topics you would like us to bring up at the panel discussion, please reach out to me or _____ at [@plattsburgh.edu](mailto:_____@plattsburgh.edu).

We are very excited to have everyone come together to address these significantly important issues, and to hear from each and every one of you. Please feel free to share and promote this event, and to reach out to me or the president of Black Onyx, _____ at [@plattsburgh.edu](mailto:_____@plattsburgh.edu) if you have any questions and/or concerns.

Warmest regards,

President
TAI