

African Americans more likely to require transplant

By TUALA WILLIAMS

According to the National Kidney Foundation, African Americans suffer from End Stage Renal Failure at higher percentages than any other race. Statistics suggest that kidney failure is twice as common among African Americans and they are more likely to develop the disease than other groups and they develop it at earlier ages than Whites. The foundation reports that the leading cause of kidney disease is diabetes. The number of cases of diabetes among African Americans has doubled over the past 35 years. And African Americans are more likely to develop the disease than Whites and developing the disease at younger ages. Approximately, 13.3 percent of all African Americans over the age of 20, 3.2 million people, have the disease. Also, Blacks who develop complications with the disease tend to suffer greater disability than Whites, the foundation reports. In fact, Kidney failure among Blacks with diabetes is about four to six times greater than Whites with the rate increasing steadily. Most people associate high blood pressure with heart failure.

But, a little known fact is that high blood pressure, a condition common among Blacks, is the second leading cause of kidney failure among African Americans. In most cases, prevention of kidney failure is possible with early detection and management of diseases that lead to it. However, according to statistics, at least 43 percent of African Americans currently receiving dialysis didn't know they had kidney failure until about a week before starting dialysis. One possible reason is that early kidney disease has no symptoms.

Currently, African Americans make up approximately 27 percent of people awaiting transplant. Yet, despite the increased likelihood that African Americans may one day have a loved one in need of a transplant, only 12 percent of all donors are Black. Time on the waiting list for transplant recipients has decreased dramatically over the years, but shortages still exist. According to Emory Health Sciences Center in Georgia, "Nationally, about 55,000 persons are on transplant waiting lists and about 4,000 of these persons die each year while awaiting a transplant. That means every day about 55 Americans will receive a needed transplant but 10 will die because of organ unavailability." According to the center, a major barrier to donation today is low rates of family consent.

Tuala Williams is the general manager of The Dallas Examiner.

THE MINORITY HOME BASED BUSINESS REPORT

New Website Offers Free Research And Information On Legitimate And Low Cost Home Based Businesses For The Minority Entrepreneur

New York, NY (BlackNews.com) - The Minority Home Based Business Report (<http://rs6.net/tn.jsp?t=dq6omdcab.0.txvif9bab.dinu5xbab.45664&ts=S0268&p=http%3A%2F%2Fthemminorityhomebasedbusinessreport.com>) is a new website that offers free research and analysis of the best home-based business opportunities for minority entrepreneurs with meager venture capital and high expectations.

"The purpose of the website is to assist people with little start-up capital in assessing various home based businesses," says J. E. White, the founder of the website. "We have done the critical research and have filtered through the 'get rich quick' schemes and scams that are designed to take people's money without the possibility

Home Based Business Reports are accessed according to the following criteria; the start-up costs must be low (under \$1,000); the business must be computer/internet based; the business must be something that the business owner would also utilize as well as the potential clientele; and the business must have a reliable support system and training that the minority entrepreneur can rely upon in order to ensure the business's success.

White warns that all of the businesses recommended by his website take consistent work and the minority entrepreneur must have patience and be diligent in his or her pursuit of business success. "There are no 'get rich quick' or promises of overnight success at this website. Everything takes work," says White. "The Minority Home Based Business Report has just done a little homework for you." To visit the website and see for yourself go to <http://rs6.net/tn.jsp?t=dq6omdcab.0.txvif9bab.dinu5xbab.45664&ts=S0268&p=http%3A%2F%2Fthemminorityhomebasedbusinessreport.com> for more information.

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<http://rs6.net/tn.jsp?t=dq6omdcab.0.txvif9bab.dinu5xbab.45664&ts=S0268&p=http%3A%2F%2Fthemminorityhomebasedbusinessreport.com>

Comptroller Susan Combs Distributes \$534 Million in Local Sales Tax Revenue

(AUSTIN) — Texas Comptroller Susan Combs today said the state collected \$1.6 billion in sales tax revenue in July, up 5.3 percent compared to July 2006.

"Growth in sales tax collections eased in July, but moved ahead at a steady pace," Combs said. "In particular, receipts from the mining, construction, manufacturing, and service sectors reflect a Texas economy resisting the cooling seen in the national economy."

Combs sent \$534.2 million in August sales tax allocations to local governments, up 5.1 percent compared to August 2006. So far this calendar year, sales tax allocations to local governments are up 6.6 percent compared to last year.

Combs sent sales tax payments of \$364 million to Texas cities, up 4.1 percent compared to last August. Calendar year to date, city sales tax revenues are surpassing 2006 by 6.9 percent. Sales tax payments of \$31 million went to Texas counties, 5.6 percent higher than last August. So far in calendar year 2007, county sales tax allocations are up 7.8 percent compared to last year.

In addition, \$17.6 million in sales tax revenue went to 121 special purpose taxing districts, 20.3 percent more than in August 2006. Ten local transit systems received \$121.5 million, up 5.9 percent compared to a year ago.

July state sales tax revenue and August allocations to local governments represent sales taxes collected in June by businesses that report sales taxes monthly, and sales taxes collected in April, May and June by quarterly filers. For details of August sales tax payments to individual cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose districts, locate the Monthly Sales and Use Tax Allocation Comparison Summary Reports on the Comptroller's Web site at www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/allocsum/compsum.html.

The Comptroller's next sales tax allocation will be made on Friday, Sept. 14.

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