

# Dr. Pernesssa C. Seele

March 2015 Calendar

Dr. Pernesssa C. Seele is founder and CEO of The Balm In Gilead, Inc., a not-for-profit, nongovernmental organization that aims to prevent diseases and improve the health status of people of the African diaspora.

Under Dr. Seele's leadership, The Balm In Gilead has supported the establishment of more than 12 national health offices within the national headquarters of Catholic, Protestant and Muslim communities in Africa and the United States. The Balm In Gilead has engaged nearly 10 million churchgoers throughout the United States in health-awareness campaigns.

As a pioneer in mobilizing and educating faith communities to become engaged in the fight against AIDS and other health disparities, Dr. Seele is known throughout the African diaspora. She is recognized for her extraordinary vision and ability to create partnerships among faith leaders of various cultures and religious doctrines. She helps them to become leaders in health promotion and disease prevention by providing comprehensive educational programs, and offering compassionate support to all persons affected by life-threatening diseases.

Dr. Seele also is the founder of the Every Child USATM Campaign, a campaign



designed to ensure that every child in the United States learns to read, has access to comprehensive health care and is exposed to opportunities that impact his/her future positively.

Dr. Seele has been recognized by TIME 100 as one of the most influential persons in the world. She received a doctorate of humane letters from the College of New Rochelle, New York; and bachelor and master of science degrees from Clark Atlanta University in Georgia in 1976 and 1979, respectively. Dr. Seele was inducted into Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. as an honorary member in 2010.