

# 2023

## *Jewels of Epilepsy*

# GALA

NOVEMBER 4TH, 2023 | CHARLESTON, SC

### FEATURING

- Silent Auction Items
- "Jewel" of the Month
- 2023 Honoree
- About The Founder
- And Much More!



EPITOME OF EPILEPSY

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at

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( BIDDING ENDS AT 7PM | NOV 4 )

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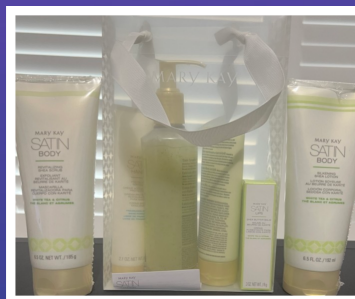
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**EPITOME OF EPILEPSY**  
EST. 2020

**Meet Rev. Melissa  
Harvin Stephens.**



She is a 17 year veteran teacher currently employed in Sumter County as a Reading Interventionist. Mrs. Stephens is also an associate minister in the African Methodist Church. In May 2022, she became apart of the Epilepsy/ Seizure Community. She strives to support others who suffer from seizures as well as educate our community about Epilepsy & Seizures.

**W E L C O M E**

TO  
EPITOME OF EPILEPSY'S

**2023**

*Jewels of Epilepsy Gala*

**Welcome**

Carolyn Murray

**Invocation**

Evette Stroud

**Purpose**

Jenae Wilson

**Proclamation**

**ANGELLA Hammer from the CDC**

**Video Presentation (EOE)**

**Music Selection "WB Entertainment"**

**Dinner**

**Speaker "Melissa Stephens"**

**Video Presentation**

Toni Brown Honoree

**Awards**

**Acknowledgements**

**Remarks**

**Dancing & Farewell**



# CAROLYN MURRAY



Carolyn Murray co-anchors the 4pm, 5pm, 6pm, and 11pm editions of Count On News 2 on WCBD-TV in Charleston. She also co-anchors the 10pm news on the Lowcountry CW Network, digital channel 2.2.

Although Carolyn was born in New York City, she says, “saltwater runs through my veins.” She is a 1984 graduate of Burke High School in Charleston and a 1988 graduate of the University of South Carolina in Columbia. Carolyn is also a Riley Fellow, and a member of the Diversity Leaders Institute class of 2010.

Carolyn began her journalism career in Charleston in 1988 as the news and public affairs director at WPAL-AM then became the news director at WMGL-FM in 1989. The same year, her career moved her in front of the camera as a news anchor and reporter at WCSC-TV, where she worked for 12 years. In 2001, Carolyn moved to Chicago to work as a consumer reporter at WBBM-TV. She returned to Charleston in 2003 as an evening anchor for WCBD-TV.

Carolyn has earned many journalism awards for anchoring and reporting. She was awarded Southeast Region Emmys in 2000, 2016, and 2020 for anchoring and reporting, as well as numerous awards from the South Carolina Broadcasters Association and South Carolina Associated Press for anchoring and reporting during her 30-year broadcasting career.

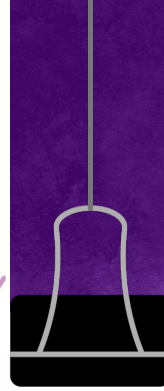
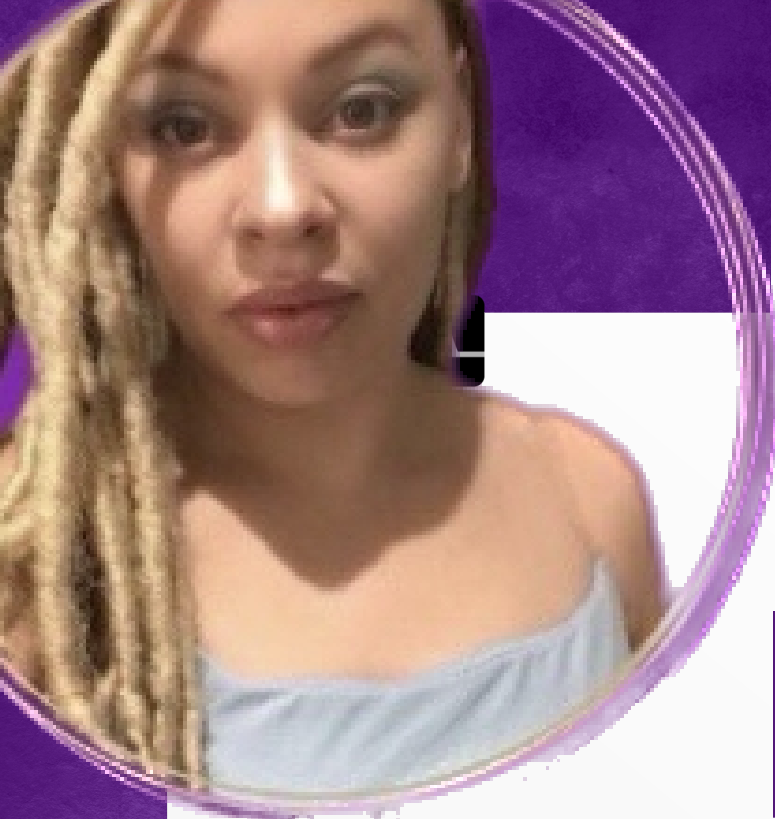
In 2021, Carolyn was recognized by the Radio Television Digital News Association of the Carolinas for Special Report-Emanuel AME: Faith, Fellowship and Forgiveness, 2021 (short) Podcast of the Year, and as 2021 TV News Anchor of the Year.

An effective and empathetic storyteller, Carolyn has interviewed leaders, entertainers and athletes of local, national and international renown including U.S. President Bill Clinton, U.S. Secretary of State and presidential candidate Hillary Clinton, the late Coretta Scott King, U.S. Congressman John Lewis, Oprah Winfrey, baseball legend Hank Aaron, and former astronaut and NASA Administrator Charles Bolden (USMC-Ret.). Carolyn has also flown with the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds and The U.S. Navy Blue Angels.

Carolyn serves on numerous boards including The International African American Museum, The City of Charleston Health and Wellness Committee, The First Tee of Greater Charleston, The Charleston Animal Society, The Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) Neurosciences Advisory Board, and Tricounty Family Ministries. She has formerly served on The MUSC Nursing School Advisory Board, the Mayor’s Office for Children, Youth and Families (City of Charleston), Junior League of Charleston, Junior League Community Advisory Board, YWCA Greater Charleston, the Salvation Army, and the Charleston Chapter of The Links, Incorporated. Carolyn is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated.

Carolyn, her husband Jimmy, and their daughter Reese live in North Charleston with their dog, Mike, and cat, Kirby. An avid weekend athlete, Carolyn has run 8 full marathons, 2 half marathons and 27 Cooper River Bridge Runs. She practices yoga and is a certified spin instructor and Barre instructor

**Be sure to say hello to Carolyn on social media – find her on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram**



## Jewel of The **MONTH**

**JENAE  
WILSON**

Jenae Wilson began her journey with self-care when she was diagnosed as an epileptic in 2011. She realized that she needed to slow down and after being deemed disabled due to her condition she was finally able to work on restoring her health. Jenae researched herbs as well as nutritional foods that work with certain diets. For almost a decade now she has been creating products and faithfully using them on herself and her family. Her self care line composes of Candles, Soaps, Bath teas & salts, lip and body scrubs and Body butters. These products not only ignite and excite your senses but are also proven to provide nourishment to your skin. These products were created with love to provide comfort and relax your entire self as you go through your day. They are special because the ingredients used in some of her products such as CBD have been known to be helpful for people that are walking their path with epilepsy. Naturally Nourished was specifically created to encourage a more active self care regimen to your routine. Self Care is Self love and it starts internally so the love can radiate outwardly.... Naturally.

# MEET ANGELLA HAMER



School nurses can expect to receive training, resources, and support from Angella on topics such as:

- Evidence-based strategies for effective management of epilepsy – Epilepsy basics
- Epilepsy crises and how to respond.
- Seizure first aid
- Sudden Unexpected Death of Someone with Epilepsy (SUDEP)
- The impact of social determinants of health, social needs, stigma on students with epilepsy – and how to respond

The individualized education program (IEP), developed under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), must address transition services requirements beginning not later than the first IEP to be in effect when the child turns 16, or younger if determined appropriate by the IEP Team, and must be updated annually thereafter. In addressing health needs for students with epilepsy, a school nurse applying NASN's Framework for School Nursing Practice focuses on the Principle of Care Coordination use the following practice components: Case management, Collaborative communication, motivational interview, and transition planning.

Thanks to Angella Hamer, a recognized school nurse leader, your state & school district has been chosen to participate. Angella is in the role of Epilepsy School Nurse Navigator (Navigator) – a key resource for you as you expand your school nursing practice to create a multi-tiered support system for students with epilepsy in your school(s).

# JEWELS OF EPILEPSY GALA

# 2023 HONOREE

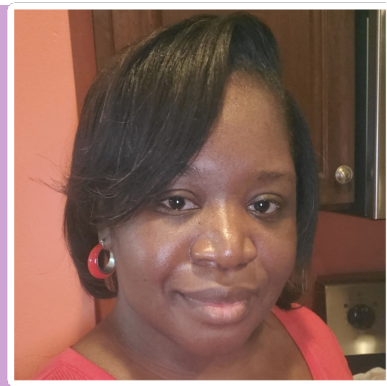
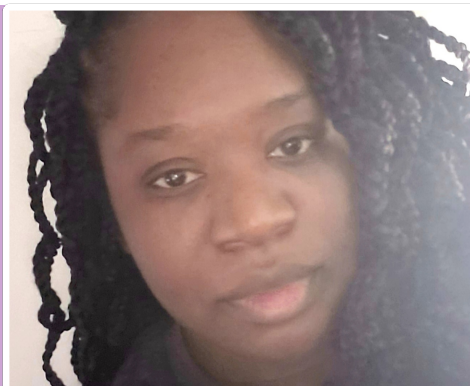
## MY STORY

This is the most difficult thing I've had to do. It's very emotional to write down my bio because I don't remember half my life. It's like a puzzle piece and I have to ask people to help me put the puzzle together..

I remember at the beginning of my mid 20s there was a fall and I had high Blood Pressure and I black out a lot. Then all of a sudden I was having 8 or more seizures of a day. The doctors couldn't figure out why. I was constantly in and out of the hospital and also went to the Mayo Clinic in Florida. I had to stop working and move back in with family for years. Someone had to be with me at all times. Chyna the dog would tell someone in the house when my seizures was starting. I felt like I was losing my independence.

The doctor found a cocktail of medication where the seizure stopped and I was able to be on my own again. I vowed to never get back in that spot. To keep my independence no matter what. I figured out my prodromal stages and my auras. I learned anything that would trigger me like lights, smells, and stress. I try to keep my anxiety down.

Through everything I went through I believe I'm stronger in every way. Yes, there are bad days but I do my best to push through to see the good days.



EPITOME OF EPILEPSY  
EST. 2020

# Meet JENVON CHERRY

Jenvon Cherry developed Epilepsy at the tender age of 6 years old. While in elementary school, she was stabbed in the eye by a fellow classmate. She was taken to the hospital and was given stitches and sent home. Two weeks later, Emma Baker, the baby sitter, had informed her Mother that she seemed to be tired, and slept all day. Later on that evening, She had a Grand mal Seizure at home. She was taken to the hospital, and after several MRI'S and CT scans The Doctors found the Pencil lead had broken off and lodged itself into the left Frontal lobe of the brain. Surgery was performed to remove the lead. The Doctors told my Parents that I would never be able to graduate from High school much less college because of the trauma to the brain area, which affected the learning capabilities. Well of course I defeated the odds. I graduated from High school and Benedict College with a Bachelor's Degree in Communication. I have been employed in the Educational Field for 20 years.

My purpose is to bring awareness to the African American Community through Education inspiration and advocacy. I would like to be able to go into the Educational institutions and the Workplace to Find a solution for training techniques for people with a Brain disorder. My accolades includes a Speaking Engagement at Carolina Voyager elementary school for Career Day here in Charleston. I have been Featured on Carolyn Murray podcast in March before my Epitome of Epitome walk at Hampton Park for Epilepsy Awareness day. I was a guest speaker on Low-country Live in October. I have been Featured in the Georgia State University news paper titled "The signal". The word 'Epitome' defines who I am. I may have Epilepsy, but Epilepsy doesn't have Me.

Jenon Cherry sits on the Epilepsy Foundation of SC Community Engagement Board. She also sits on the SK Life Science Creative Board for epilepsy awareness. Epitome of Epilepsy was featured on the latest issue of Epilepsy Advocate Magazine fall 2023. She was featured on Riecy G black history month spotlight on z93.3. JenVon Cherry was also featured on The Tammy Show. She was also featured on Carolyn Murray Let's Talk podcast. JenVon has formed several relationships to further help support her efforts in spreading epilepsy awareness in South Carolina.

Visit [US ONLINE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT EPITOME OF EPILEPSY](#)







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2023 JEWELS OF EPILEPSY GALA

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**EPITOME OF EPILEPSY**  
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JEWELS OF EPILEPSY GALA

NOVEMEER 4th, 2023

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Duane Harvin - Treasure

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