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**AFRICAN AMERICAN YOUTH SUMMIT ABOVE AND BEYOND THE GAP ISSUES TO
IMPROVE ACHIEVEMENT OF SCHOOL STUDENTS**

Concerned Black Women (CBW), Inc., will sponsor their first African American Youth Summit on Saturday, October 29, 2005, from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm at Huntingtown High School in Huntingtown, Maryland.

This Summit is part of an ongoing effort to help identify issues and propose solutions that cause gaps in achievement levels of some African American students in the Calvert County School System. The Summit will also highlight Honor Students.

Topics of discussions include: Rapping About The Issues: Is Anyone Out there Listening To Me?; You Are Already A Winner, So Why Get Stressed Out?; Discipline Without Screaming And Scolding; Impact Of The Black Church On Education; Taking Responsibility For Quality Education: A Shared Job; Having Fun With Math And Science and Next Steps: Where Do We Go From Here?

The program format will focus on combined plenary sessions with separate workshops for youth and adults. A distinguished panel of ministers and community leaders will speak about each topic. All sessions have been developed to allow audience participation. The WAIT Team, a production of 18 talented youths with music and dancing skills will provide entertainment along with Greater Mt. Zion's dance ministry. Renowned author and Calvert County resident Yolanda Powell, will be the keynote speaker at the closing plenary session. Admission to attend the Youth Summit is free. A continental breakfast and box lunch will be provided.

Doris J. Cammack Spencer, President of Concerned Black Women, states that there is no easy solution to closing the education gap of achievement. Involvement by all the community can make a difference in providing support to young people during their growing years and that includes providing them with a supportive environment and positive experiences to obtain an excellent education. Solving the educational gap in achievement requires everyone to get involved – the school, the community and the church. Too much tax money is spent on educating students to produce results that are not productive for all of our school children and for society. You got to “show up.”