

# LIFESTYLE



## Debra Fraser-Howze Honored for Efforts Against HIV in the Black Community

**Debra** Fraser-Howze, Vice President of External Affairs at OraSure Technologies and founder and former CEO of the National Black Leadership Committee on AIDS has been awarded the Scroll of Merit by the National Medical Association (NMA).

The Scroll of Merit is the highest award conferred by the NMA and is given in recognition of unique exceptional achievement in medicine, science, education or public service. The award was conferred on July 25th at the NMA's Annual Convention and Scientific Assembly in Las Vegas.

Ms. Fraser-Howze has been selected

for this high honor because of her important contributions to the fight against HIV/AIDS in the African American community. Ms. Fraser-Howze was the first to mobilize a broad coalition of African American Leaders that included clergy, political leaders, community based organizations and medical professionals in the fight against HIV/AIDS at a time when many were unaware of the disease or the danger to the community.

Ms. Fraser-Howze has been widely recognized for more than two decades of global leadership to communities of color regarding teenage pregnancy, social welfare, and HIV and AIDS. She advised two U.S. Presidents while

serving on the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS from 1995-2001. She was the Vice Chair of the HIV Human Services Planning Council in New York City and Chaired the National Institute of Health's Public Education Technology Committee. In 2003, she was appointed to the New York City Commission on AIDS and in 2007 to the New York State Governors Health Advisory Council.

Ms. Fraser-Howze holds a B.A. in Interpersonal Communications from Hunter College and a Master's in Public Administration from Baruch College.