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What's on your list today?.

LOCAL NEWS

Urban League Hires New Leader Portland executive stood out in national search

Regence executive Michael Alexander has accepted the position of President and Chief Executive Officer of the Urban League of Portland.

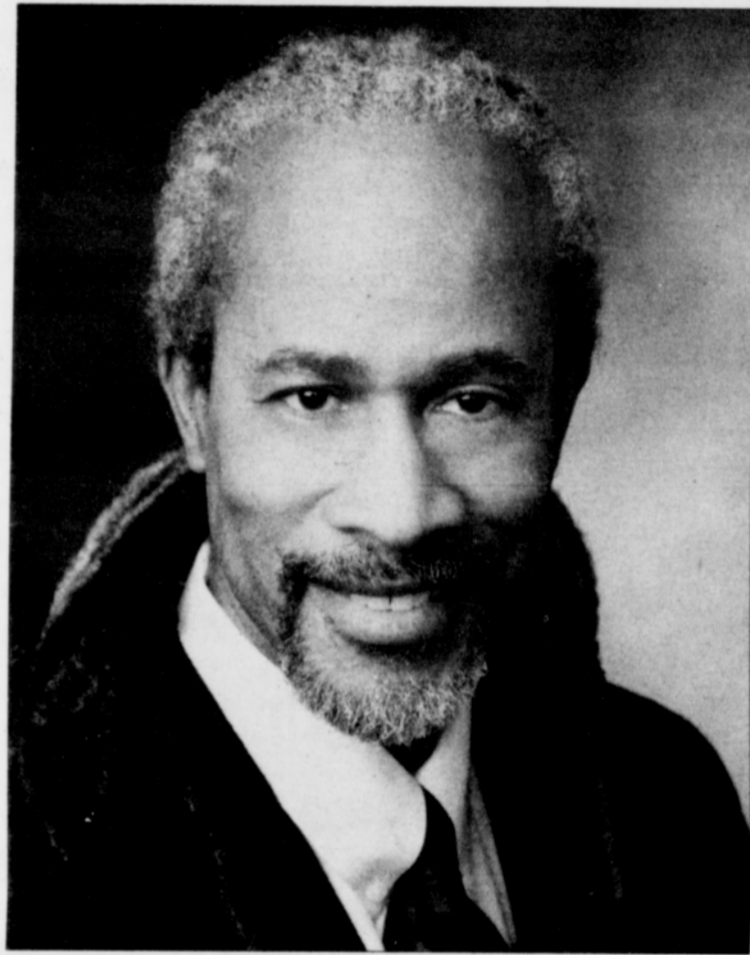
"I am very proud of the time and dedication our board, staff and community leaders have given to the search for our new CEO," said Lorenzo Poe, board chair for the Urban League of Portland. "We had talented candidates from around the country express interest, as well as respected leaders from right here in Portland."

Poe said Alexander stood out for his success as a community leader and in business.

The Urban League began its search for a new executive after the December resignation of former League president Marcus Mundy. The group has been led by two interim presidents this year - former US Bank executive, Quentin Strode, and former Tri-Met executive Bruce M. Watts.

Pending National Urban League approval, Alexander will serve as the organization's 13th present.

"This is a big win for The



Michael Alexander

Urban League of Portland and for all of the Greater Portland community who support their mission," said Mark Ganz, president and CEO of Cambia Health Solutions. "Michael is someone who respects and represents the interests of all people and a natural-born leader who serves with extraordinary vision, deep-rooted passion and the highest level of professionalism. He's certainly made our organization stronger, and I am confident that he will lead the Urban League with the same commitment and conviction."

"I am honored to have been

chosen from a very qualified candidate pool," Alexander said. "The Urban League is a critical voice in advocating and elevating the interests of Portlanders and Oregonians who want and deserve to share more fully in all this very special city has to offer. I am eager to join the league's staff, board of directors and partners in continuing to promote the important mission it has so diligently advanced since 1945."

A proven leader with an established career in the health care industry, Alexander assumes the Urban League position

after nearly seven years in management for Regence. Since moving to Portland in 2005, he has contributed to the oversight of several local organizations to include serving on the board of directors for Portland Parks, LifeWorks Northwest and the American Leadership Forum: Oregon Chapter, as well as the Campaign Cabinet for the United Way of the Columbia-Willamette.

"Mike Alexander is an inspired choice to lead the Urban League

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MLK Dream Race Sunday

The first annual MLK Dream Run, a series of running and walking events, along with a community celebration will be held Sunday, Aug. 5 from 6:30 a.m. to noon.

Named in honor of the late civil rights leader Dr. Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. and his dream for a more just America, the event is sponsored by the North-

Northeast Business Association

and several community partners.

The aim is to provide a fun and inspirational day to support the historically African-American and minority neighborhoods of north and northeast Portland and raise donations for the business group's Youth Entrepreneur and Leadership program.

The Sunday morning lineup will begin with a kickoff party and three races, including a 5, 10

and 15 kilometers, beginning at the vacant lot on the corner of Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and Alberta Street.

There will be race winners prize packages, runner raffles and giveaways, live music, a health fair, and an anniversary salute to King's "I Have a Dream" speech.

For more information and registration, visit mlkdreamrun.com.