

TV TANIKA GRAY VALBRUN

Tanika Gray Valbrun is an award-winning Journalist and Non-profit leader. After her personal struggles with uterine fibroids, Tanika's desire to support herself and other women inspired her to create The White Dress Project, a non-profit organization on a mission of to raise global awareness about the uterine fibroid epidemic through education, research, community, and advocacy.

By sharing her personal story, Tanika has encouraged thousands of women across the world to speak up, be their own best health advocate and no longer suffer in silence. As such, The White Dress Project is made up of women with impactful fibroid journeys, who are uniquely positioned to educate, empower, and support those who are managing life with fibroids.

Most women with fibroids do not like to wear white because of the heavy bleeding related to the condition. Tanika makes it her message to highlight that the "white dress" is not a fashion statement but a movement. It is an emblem of hope and strength for women who are suffering from fibroids and a reminder that we will find a cure. As the founder of The White Dress Project, Tanika has successfully worked with doctors, health advocates and elected officials in multiple states to get legislation passed declaring July as "Fibroids Awareness Month". Recognized as a thought leader and patient advocate for uterine health, she has also spoken at various events domestically and internationally.

Tanika's thought leadership has led to many partnerships between The White Dress Project, universities, consumer brand, medical industry, and policy makers to amplify awareness and education about uterine treatment options. Tanika has also partnered with physicians in South Africa and Nigeria to amplify patient advocacy specifically as it relates to uterine fibroids.

Additionally, working with national health advocates, doctors and Tony-award winning actress, Renee Elise Goldsberry, Tanika produced a stellar movie screening of the Oprah Winfrey produced and Emmy-nominated, *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*. The event highlighted the life of a medical icon, Henrietta Lacks, and brought together community members to amplify the importance of uterine health awareness.

In addition to encouraging women to be their own health advocates, Tanika works as a Senior Content Producer for CNN where she has been awarded three coveted Peabody Awards for her contributions in journalism. Tanika works closely with CNN's 1200 media affiliates and manages multiple projects including national and international newsgathering, and demonstrating strong editorial and legal judgment through investigating, pitching and developing stories to serve all of CNN's and HLN's platforms. She is the recipient of Georgia Trend's and Atlanta Business Chronicle's "40 under 40" Awards.

Tanika holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Mass Communications with a concentration in Broadcast Journalism from Florida International University and University of Maryland with a Certification in Radio and Television and Women's Entrepreneurship from Cornell University.

