

2022 CEnR Symposium Series:

"Strengthening Community-Academic Research Relationships"

Program 1:

Black Health & Racial Equity

October 25, 26, & 27

Acknowledgments

This symposium series is supported by the Office of the Vice President for Research at Wayne State University and sponsored by Wayne State University's Center for Health Equity and Community Knowledge in Urban Populations and Karmanos Cancer Institute's Office of Cancer Health Equity and Community Engagement.

The Wayne State University & Karmanos Cancer Institute Community Engaged Research Symposium Directors and Planning Committee wish to thank everyone who contributed their time and effort in making this event possible, including:



Faith-based Genetic Research Institute



WAYNE STATE
School of Medicine



WAYNE STATE
School of Social Work



WAYNE STATE
CHECK-UP
Center for Health Equity and Community
Knowledge in Urban Populations



CANCER INSTITUTE
Wayne State University

OFFICE OF CANCER HEALTH EQUITY
& COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Land Acknowledgment & The Legacy of Native Peoples

Wayne State University rests on Waawiyaataanong (Waa-we-yaa-tih-nong), also referred to as Detroit, the ancestral and contemporary homeland of the Three Fires Confederacy. These sovereign lands were granted by the Ojibwe (Oh-jib-way), Odawa (Oh-daa-waa), Potawatomi (Pow-tuh-waa-tuh-mee), and Wyandot nations, in 1807, through the Treaty of Detroit. Wayne State University affirms Indigenous sovereignty and honors all tribes with a connection to Detroit.

Radical Welcome

Welcoming Transgender/Non-binary/Gender Nonconforming folks

(Adapted from the 2019 Creating Change--National LGBT Task Force—conference program)

To create radical welcome for members of the Transgender, Non-binary, and Gender Nonconforming (Transgender, Transsexual, genderqueer and more) communities please remember that a person's purposeful gender expression or external appearance may not match their internal gender identity.

About pronouns:

- In this space, we are committed to not making assumptions about anyone's gender identity based on the way they look, sound, or behave.
- Ask "What pronouns do you use?"
- When in doubt use a person's name or gender neutral pronouns, for example, "they/them/theirs".
- Please call people what they ask you to call them and use the pronouns that people ask you to use.
- Remind yourself that some people may be expressing gender differently than the last time you encountered them.
- When you make a mistake about someone's pronoun, make the correction and move on.

Showing up:

Please listen to transgender people's needs and stories when they are volunteered. Respect people's privacy and boundaries and do not ask questions that would wouldn't ask of anyone else.

Introduction

Thank you for attending the Wayne State University and Karmanos Cancer Institute 2022 Annual Community-Engaged Research (CEnR) Symposium!

In 2018, 2019, and 2020, the CEnR Symposium convened hundreds of community members and community-based organizations, as well as WSU faculty, staff, and students. The symposium, highlighted existing community-academic research partnerships, developed new partnerships, and provided opportunities to discuss the benefits and challenges of CEnR and strategies for conducting this work.

In 2022, we're doing things a little differently. This year's meeting instead of one symposium, we have coordinated three mini-symposia with the objective of developing three new, long-term research and programming networks:

- LGBTQ Health Equity Network
- Black Health and Racial Equity Network
- Middle Eastern, North African, Refugee, and Immigrant (MENARI) Health Equity Network

These networks will serve as ongoing workgroups that will meet on a regular basis following the symposia in which community and academic partners will collaborate on key areas identified during the symposia with the support of pilot funding.

View the past CEnR symposia [here](#).

Register for our upcoming symposia [here](#).

Program 3: Middle Eastern and North African (MENA), Refugee, and Immigrant Health Equity

November 1 - 2

5:00 - 8:00 pm

Community Engaged Research (CEnR)

Community-engaged research (CEnR) is a process in which academic researchers work collaboratively with and through community members to identify and address issues affecting the well-being of communities. CEnR has been endorsed and recommended by many but applied by relatively few. This one-day symposium will provide opportunities to learn about and discuss the benefits gained from CEnR, as well as its challenges and strategies for conducting this CEnR successfully. This meeting will also be an opportunity to learn from and network with community members who have identified research priorities for their communities. Topics that will be addressed will include the following:

- How does community engagement contribute to stronger science?
- What are successful models of community-engaged scholarship that academic researchers can follow?
- How can academic institutions support community-engaged scholarship among faculty?
- What are the health research priorities within local Detroit communities?
- What kinds of local opportunities are there for community-engaged research?

The Wayne State University (WSU) School of Medicine Center for Health Equity and Community Knowledge in Urban Populations (CHECK-UP)

CHECK-UP was established in 2021 with the support of the WSU Office of the Vice President of Research (OVPR) to provide an infrastructure to accelerate partnerships between metropolitan Detroit communities and WSU's schools, colleges, centers, and departments to identify, investigate, and act upon the barriers and bridges to health equity in the region. CHECK-UP is driven by the imperative that WSU prioritize and promote shared leadership with community stakeholders in medical and behavioral research. Methodologies that build engagement and participation are central to CHECK-UP because of their promise in reducing health disparities, increasing the public relevance of WSU's research, and expanding the reach of scientific discoveries throughout community at large. CHECK-UP leadership includes Hayley Thompson, PhD, Director, Carrie Leach, PhD, Associate Director of Community Inclusion, and Lisa Braddix, MPH, Steering Committee Chair.

The Karmanos Cancer Institute (KCI) Office of Cancer Health Equity and Community Engagement (OCHECE)

OCHECE was established in 2017 with the overarching goal of connecting communities to KCI's science and KCI's science to communities. OCHECE coordinates community outreach and engagement activities across KCI's 46-county catchment area in Michigan, home to 6.7 million residents and is guided by a participatory research approach in which community stakeholders are actively engaged in research prioritization, implementation, and dissemination. Among OCHECE's many programs is Michigan Cancer HealthLink. Established in 2016, HealthLink is a network of Cancer Action Councils (CACs) organized as neighborhood-based and population-driven groups of cancer survivors, caregivers, and advocates who have been historically excluded from meaningful research collaborations. This infrastructure has provided a mechanism for community stakeholders to inform KCI's research agenda. Brittany Dowe, MPH, serves as OCHECE's Director and Hayley Thompson, PhD, serves as faculty supervisor.

**Wayne State University & Karmanos Cancer Institute
Fourth Annual Community-Engaged Research (CEnR) Symposium:
"Strengthening Community-Academic Research Relationships"
Program 2: Black Health & Racial Equity**

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25
"STRUCTURAL RACISM & IMPLICIT BIAS & HEALTH OUTCOMES"**

- 6:00 PM** **Radical Welcome**
Hayley S. Thompson, PhD
- Showing Up**
Carrie Leach, PhD
- Symposium Overview**
Black Health & Racial Equity Symposium Planning Committee Chairs: Winona Bynum, MPH, Rhonda Dailey, MD & Lisa Braddix, MPH
- 6:10 PM** **Ijeoma Opara**, MD, WSU School of Medicine
- 6:25 PM** **Rhonda Dailey**, MD, WSU School of Medicine
Vicki T Sapp, PhD, State University of New York at Fredonia
- 6:35 PM** **Toria Turner**, Detroit Health Department & Cardiovascular Health Action Council member
Henry Cade, MA, EdD, Cardiovascular Health Action Council member
- 6:45 PM** **Question & Answer**
- 6:55 PM** **Action-focused Breakout Rooms**
- 7:25 PM** **Call to Action & Agenda Setting**
- 7:35 PM** **Wrap-up**

**Wayne State University & Karmanos Cancer Institute
Fourth Annual Community-Engaged Research (CEnR) Symposium:
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Program 2: Black Health & Racial Equity**

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26
"FOOD ACCESS"**

- 6:00 PM** **Welcome**
Hayley S. Thompson, PhD
- Symposium Overview**
Black Health & Racial Equity Symposium Planning Committee Chairs: Winona Bynum, RDN, Rhonda Dailey, MD & Lisa Braddix, MPH
- 6:05 PM** **Winona Bynum**, RDN, Detroit Food Policy Council
Alex Hill, MA, WSU Department of Urban Studies & Planning
- 6:25 PM** **Randall Mosley**, MA, Director, Perry Outreach Center
- 6:35 PM** **Question & Answer**
- 6:45 PM** **Action-focused Breakout Rooms**
- 7:15 PM** **Call to Action & Agenda Setting**
- 7:25 PM** **Wrap-up**

**Wayne State University & Karmanos Cancer Institute
Fourth Annual Community-Engaged Research (CEnR) Symposium:
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Program 2: Black Health & Racial Equity**

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27
"THE DIGITAL DIVIDE"**

- 6:00 PM** **Welcome**
Hayley S. Thompson, PhD
- Symposium Overview**
Black Health & Racial Equity Symposium Planning Committee Chairs: Winona Bynum, RDN, Rhonda Dailey, MD & Lisa Braddix, MPH
- 6:05 PM** **Carrie Leach**, PhD, WSU Institute of Gerontology
- 6:15 PM** **Naimah Wade**, PhD, Digital Inclusion Program Manager, WSU Office for Teaching and Learning, Connect 313 Director of Research and Learning
- 6:25 PM** **Uri "Heru" House**, CEO, Motown Wireless
- 6:35 PM** **Question & Answer**
- 6:45 PM** **Action-focused Breakout Rooms**
- 7:15 PM** **Call to Action & Agenda Setting**
- 7:25 PM** **Evaluation & Wrap-up**

Winona Bynum, RDN, Symposium Co-Chair

Winona Bynum, R.D.N., is currently the executive director of the Detroit Food Policy Council, an education, advocacy and policy organization led by Detroiters committed to creating a sustainable, local food system that promotes food security, food justice and food sovereignty in the city of Detroit. Winona is a registered dietitian/nutritionist (RDN) and a graduate of Wayne State University Coordinated Program in Dietetics. Winona studied Public Health at Emory University Rollins School of Public Health. She is the chair of the National Organization of Blacks and Dietetics (NOBIDAN) for the 2021-2022 fiscal year. She served as president-elect/president of the Southeastern Michigan Dietetic Association 2018-2020.



Rhonda Dailey, MD, Symposium Co-Chair

Rhonda Dailey, M.D., is an Assistant Professor of Research in the Department of Family Medicine and Public Health Sciences (DFMPHS) in the School of Medicine and Scientific Director to the Office of Community Engaged Research (OCEnR), within the Office of the Vice President of Research, at Wayne State University. Formally trained in medicine, Dr. Dailey has over 20 years of experience in behavioral and health-disparities research and expertise in the recruitment and retention of minority populations and the engagement of medical professionals and community stakeholders in research. Her research work includes projects focused on community engaged research, perinatal health, health equity and disparities related to systemic racism and chronic disease (particularly asthma and cardiovascular disease), patient attitudes and beliefs about health, and healthcare quality.



Planning Committee

Donna Coulter, PhD

Donna M. Coulter, PhD works full-time for the Detroit Wayne Integrated Health Network where she is the Member Engagement Administrator. She has more than 40 years of service to communities of color and people with disabilities. She graduated from Georgia Southern University with a BS in Sociology. Dr. Donna has both her Master's and Ph.D. from Wayne State University in Educational Evaluation and Research. In her spare time, Donna enjoys touring homes and doing carpentry. Donna was educated in the Savannah Public School System. Shortly after graduating from Georgia Southern University in 1989, she moved to Detroit, MI where she continues to work. Donna Coulter grew up in Savannah, GA. Her mother was a baker and cook. Her father worked at a local plant. Her parents, who are now deceased, had six children, three boys and three girls. Donna is the fourth child and the middle girl. Her hero is Former President Jimmy and his wife, Roslynn Carter. In partnership with Habitat for Humanity, the couple has spent nearly 50 years building and renovating homes for low-income Americans to have an affordable place to stay. Donna is married to Branson Coulter. She has one daughter, three bonus children, and eight grandchildren. Her interests include doing home improvement, walking, and travelling. She has visited Senegal and The Gambia in West Africa, Paris, France, and several Mexican and Caribbean countries.



Lisa Rutledge

Lisa Rutledge is a long-time community health improvement professional and active volunteer with over 40 years of experience. A graduate of Michigan State University, Lisa has experience starting in specialty gynecology practices in patient care/health education and clinical research in the area of HPV. Next at Oakwood Healthcare, she oversaw programs for immunizations, school-based health, child passenger safety, domestic violence awareness, arts in health care, fitness and wellness services, access to care and other community benefit programs. Since 2012, she has been the Special Projects Manager at Western Wayne Family Health Centers, a community health center organization. There she works with community partners to create collaborations to improve the health and wellbeing of people in the area as well as doing public relations, grassroots advocacy, outreach, and other activities to help the health centers thrive. She is also an active community volunteer, serving on boards and committees for agencies such as The Information Center, Camp Fire Southeast Michigan, Everybody Ready, Personalized Nursing LightHouse, Western Wayne Cancer Action Council and others. Her specialty is bringing together people and organizations to maximize results and making connections.



Planning Committee

Cheryl Thompson Marsh

Cheryl Thompson Marsh has provided servant leadership as a healthcare advocate since the late 1980's. Since 1988, She has provided consultative services at the federal level to the Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA) and the Center for Disease Control & Prevention, as a Federal Contract Reviewer of grant funded national health facilities throughout the United States. Cheryl and her husband, Victor, were Founding Directors, and both served as Board Chair, of the Southeastern Michigan HIV/AIDS Council (SEM HAC). They led the fight against HIV/AIDS and for implementation of Ryan White CARE Act funding for a six-county member federal planning council. Cheryl has served as a leader in her children's school Parent Teacher Associations; and has also served as a Sunday School Teacher for more than 30 years in the African Methodist Episcopal Church including Oak Grove AME Church. Cheryl and her husband are proud parents of two adult sons and two grandchildren; son Victor II, served the Obama Administration as a U.S. Diplomat and is currently a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Rotman School of Management, The University of Toronto. Son John is a three-time Emmy-winning writer & sports producer. Cheryl remains active in her community through her membership in Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, where she serves on the Social Action and Outreach Committees. She also serves as the volunteer Statewide Representative for the Oral Health Progress and Equity Network (OPEN) as the liaison for local county health coalitions with state and national networks serving as the national advocacy point-person, focused on integrating oral health into an equitable, accessible, and affordable health care system throughout the State of Michigan. In 2021, Cheryl accepted the assignment to provide consultative services for the Faith Based Genetic Research Institute (FBGRI), Wayne State University and the Karmanos Cancer Institute, which comprises the Faith Community Research Network (FCRN). She serves as the liaison between the FCRN and the Church community. Her academic preparation includes a Fellowship in Executive Healthcare Management sponsored by the Johnson & Johnson Anderson School of Management, a certification from the University of South Florida in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, and a bachelor's from Eastern Michigan University.



Lisa Saigh

Lisa Saigh is the Wellness Clinic Manager at St. Patrick Senior Center (SPSC) in Midtown Detroit and a clinical instructor for undergraduate nursing students at Madonna University. She has been a nurse for 25 years, including over 10 years of clinical research experience. She earned a BSN at University of Detroit Mercy and she is working on a DNP in adult-gerontology primary care at Wayne State University. Lisa works with community-dwelling older adults, ages 55 through over 100 years old, focusing on healthy lifestyle promotion and maintaining independent living. Currently, Lisa is collaborating with SPSC, the Detroit Parks & Recreation Department and Perry Outreach Center to expand senior support services and improve food security for older adults living in Southwest Detroit. Lisa is also seeking new opportunities to connect SPSC's older adults with academic and community organizations, in order to promote community-oriented research and develop innovative senior programs.



Jason Carbone, PhD

Carbone joined the Wayne State University School of Social Work faculty in 2019. He is the director of the Joint MSW/MPH program and his research and teaching interests center on community-level social determinants of mental health. He received his PhD from the School of Social Work within the College for Public Health and Social Justice at Saint Louis University. Carbone has nearly a decade of professional social work experience working in community-based organizations. He is a former not-for-profit executive director with practice experience in community and economic development, community engagement and community building, and organizational management and development.



Angulique Outlaw, PhD

Dr. Angulique Y. Outlaw is the Interim Associate Dean for Postdoctoral Affairs at the Wayne State University (WSU) Graduate School. Additionally, she is an Associate Professor (Research) in the Department of Family Medicine and Public Health Sciences, Division of Behavioral Health, at the WSU Medical School. Dr. Outlaw is a pediatric psychologist with significant expertise in designing, implementing, and evaluating interventions for high-risk youth utilizing community-based participatory research (CBPR) practices. She has extensive CBPR expertise and experience with at-risk and youth living with HIV, authoring a book chapter about community-based intervention research with sexual and gender minority young men. Dr. Outlaw also has experience with multi-site evaluation studies via NIH-funded clinical trials, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, and HRSA Special Projects of National Significance. She was also the lead for the National Youth Community Advisory Board (NYCAB) for the Adolescent Medicine Trials Network for HIV/AIDS Interventions (ATN), as well as the lead for Community Engagement and Site PI for the NIH site grant to Florida State University for the ATN. Dr. Outlaw was the evaluator for a comprehensive service provision project for sexual minority men at risk for and living with HIV to improve the coordination of service providers, services, and trainers and technical assistance providers to ensure culturally, developmentally, and linguistically competent service provision. Finally, she is the director of a grant-funded, comprehensive continuum of prevention care program for at-risk adolescents and young adults and has several locally funded projects focusing on HIV prevention (testing, PrEP education, referral and linkage); group-level, skills building HIV prevention programming (primary and secondary prevention); and health promotion for adolescents and young adults living with HIV (tobacco reduction and/or cessation).



Planning Committee

Wael Sakr, MD

Wael Sakr, M.D., is the dean of the Wayne State University School of Medicine, and chair of the WSU Department of Pathology. Dr. Sakr oversees the Office of Medical Education, the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, the recruitment and evaluation of department chairs, the recruitment and evaluation of School of Medicine-based center directors, and the development and implementation of compensation models for faculty. Dr. Sakr is a nationally recognized academic pathologist with a track record of independent and collaborative National Institutes of Health funding and with seminal contributions in the field of genitourinary neoplasia, prostate cancer in particular. He has also assumed leadership roles in professional and community-based organizations, including the National Arab American Medical Association and the Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services. He has been interested in the histopathological and biological traits of preneoplastic changes of the prostate. His work contributed to a current consensus that high grade prostatic intraepithelial neoplasm is a precursor of prostate adenocarcinoma. Dr. Sakr has been involved in numerous clinical trials as an expert pathologist. In other clinical studies, he is evaluating genetic changes and expression profiling as markers for cancer diagnosis and prognosis. In addition, Dr. Sakr is an active investigator on several funded basic research projects on the underlying molecular mechanism of prostate tumor progression and metastasis.



Lauren Hamel, PhD

Lauren M. Hamel, PhD is Associate Professor of Oncology and Co-Program Leader of the Population Studies and Disparities Research Program at the Karmanos Cancer Institute and the Wayne State University School of Medicine in Detroit, Michigan. She is also the faculty director of KCI's Medical Interaction Research Archive (MIRA). Dr. Hamel is an expert in patient-physician communication, cancer treatment disparities, and in building and testing interventions to improve patient-physician communication. She was PI of two recently completed NIH-funded studies assessing nonverbal synchrony and nonverbal communication that occurs between Black patients with cancer and their oncologists during clinical interactions. She is investigating aspects of nonverbal communication as potential markers of racial attitudes (e.g., physician unconscious bias, patient suspicion of medical care) and predictors of interaction outcomes (R21MD011766; R03CA195147). Currently, Dr. Hamel is PI of an American Cancer Society Research Scholar Health Equity Grant (R01 equivalent; RSG-20-026-01-CPHPS) to test the effectiveness of a patient-focused intervention, the Discussions of Cost (DISCO) App, on patient-provider treatment cost discussions and other patient financial toxicity-related outcomes. She has published her work in 50+ articles in peer-reviewed scientific journals including Cancer, the Journal of Clinical Oncology, and JCO Oncology Practice, book chapters, and encyclopedia entries.



Guest Presenters

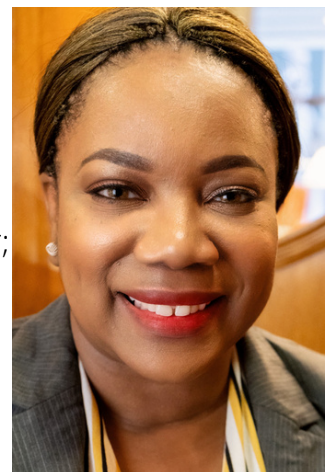
Ijeoma Opara, MD

Dr. Ijeoma Nnodim Opara is a double-board certified physician and Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine and Pediatrics at Wayne State University School of Medicine and Wayne Health. Her mission in life is to dismantle white supremacist delusion by eliminating antiBlack racism in medicine, healthcare, and public health while centering and celebrating Black brilliance, abundance, and joy. She is the founding director of the “Health Equity and Justice in Medicine” (HEJIM) initiative, co-founding director of Wayne State University Global Health Alliance, and co-created the Global Urban Health & Equity curriculum. She is a thought leader in Antiracism and antioppression, decolonization, and Black liberation work and focuses on the joy, abundance, and brilliance of Blackness. She is a member of the White House Office of Public Engagement Healthcare Leaders in Minority Health where she advises on antiracism, health justice, and health equity. As CEO and founder of OparaSpeaks, she provides individuals and organizations the tools to transform their systems into antiracist, just, equitable, and nurturing environments where Black brilliance thrives. She is a speaker, consultant, coach, & facilitator and hosts a weekly TwitterSpaces roundtable: Antiracism in Medicine Action Roundtable #AIMART, a transdisciplinary community of Black leadership to eliminate antiBlackness from medicine, healthcare, public health.



Vicki T. Sapp, PhD

Vicki T. Sapp, PhD currently serves as the CEO/Founder Sapp Consulting Group, LLC, Chief Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Affirmative Action, ADA Compliance Officer and Title IX Coordinator at the State University of New York at Fredonia and an Adjunct Assistant Professor in the Medical Education Department at Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine. Dr. Sapp is a native New Yorker from the South Bronx. She is a first-generation college graduate three times over; undergraduate, graduate, and doctorate degrees. Her research, scholarship and advocacy focus on leadership development, first-generation and student/professionals of color populations, college/career access, retention, success, mentorship, and JEDI initiatives in higher education and healthcare. Dr. Sapp is also a Title IX Resources Advisor, Emotional Intelligent Coach, Green Dot Sexual Assault Bystander Intervention and Mental Health First Aid Trainer. She has her Title IX Level One Coordinator Certificate, University of South Florida Diversity in the Workplace Certificate, and Cook Ross Implicit Bias Train the Trainer Certificate. In addition, she is a proud member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, independent consultant with Deal With It Management, LLC, BreatheDeep, Inc. and CEO/Founder of Sapp Consulting Group, LLC.



Guest Presenters

Toria Turner

Native Detroiter; CHEAC and ACHIEVE GREATER community member; Community Engagement Coordinator with SisterFriends Detroit at the Detroit Health Department; Sits on the LGBT+ Employee Engagement Resource Group for City of Detroit; Abortion Doula; Breastfeeding Educator; Mother of 2; Community activist and Community Organizer. I am committed to being a change agent for the rest of my life and my legacy will whisper just that to my children. One of my favorite quotes: "You have to act as if it were possible to radically transform the world. And you have to do it all the time."— Angela Davis



Henry Cade, MA, EdD

Henry L. Cade was born in Detroit, Michigan in the mid 1940's and attended Detroit Public Schools, graduating from Detroit Central High School, second in his Class, as Salutatorian. He received a scholarship from the Judge Wade McCree Higher Education Opportunities Committee which followed him through his four year tenure at Wayne State University. He majored in Special Education and received his BA Degree in 1968, just prior to assuming instructional duties at the Ralph J. Bunche Elementary School, Detroit Public Schools. He later acquired his MA in Training and Development at the United States International University in San Diego, CA; and completed coursework for his EdD at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, NJ. While still teaching Special Education students for Detroit Public Schools in the late 1960's, Henry initiated his Consulting journey which would span 50 years and include local, regional, national and international Consulting. Several of the International venues included Lebanon, Mexico City, Brazil and Dubai, United Arab Emirates. He spent seven years in New Jersey as both a Central Office Consultant with the Newark Public Schools and as an Assistant Director of Student Teaching with Kean University. Upon his return to Michigan, Henry continued his Consulting work with the following organizations: The Detroit Center for Professional Growth & Development, College of Education, Wayne State University; Adjunct Instructor, Lawrence Technological University; Twenty-two years with Wayne Regional Educational Service Agency; and rounded out his Educational Career with fifteen years as a Statewide Consultant with the Michigan Department of Education. Henry retired from MDE at the ripe young age of 75 in July 2021. Finally, Henry serves on six Ministries at his church, Fellowship Chapel, two Optimist Youth Clubs, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Incorporated, and most recently was asked to serve on two Community Advisory Boards for his Alma Mater, Wayne State University. Henry says he tries to reflect Servant Leadership through both his Words and his Actions.



Guest Presenters

Randall Mosley, MA

Randall Mosley earned a BS in Public Administration and Economics from Michigan State University, an MA in Liberal Studies in Technology from Eastern Michigan University, and an Education Specialist Certificate in Instructional Technology from Wayne State University. He was a retail banking manager at NBD for six years, an academic counselor at Eastern Michigan University and Wayne State University for seven years, a science teacher in a public middle school for four years, and he worked in the education office at Ford Motor Company for nine years. After retiring from his career in education and business, Randall returned to the neighborhood where he was raised and became the Director of the Perry Outreach Center. As the Christian service branch of the Ss. Andrew and Benedict, St. Andre Bessette, St. Mary Magdalen, and Christ the Good Shepherd parish families, Perry Outreach Center serves anyone in need in the Downriver area, with a mission of “serving our neighbors and building a healthy community where all may grow and prosper.” Randall is a widower with two grown sons and one lively grandson, who is six-years-old going on 42. Randall lives by the philosophy that the only important thing in life is our commitment to each other.



Alex Hill, MA

Alex B. Hill is Research Director for We The People - Michigan where he supports efforts in data literacy, counter-mapping, and research justice across the state. His work highlights the intersections of power, privilege, and race in regards to health equity, access to basic services, and the social and political determinants of health. He is Project Director of the Detroit Food Map Initiative, which has been mapping food access locations in Detroit since 2011. Alex started the website DETROITography (detroitography.com) in 2013 to bring together various Detroit cartographers and their work. He teaches in urban studies, public health, geography and data visualization. Alex is the author and cartographer of the books, Detroit in 50 Maps and Great Lakes in 50 Maps (forthcoming) from Belt Publishing.



Guest Presenters

Naimah Wade, PhD

Naimah Wade, PhD is the Program Manager of Digital Inclusion in the Office for Teaching and Learning. Her role involves developing strategic plans for community impact, showcasing research, and curating learning opportunities that promote digital empowerment in Detroit. These efforts are activated through Connect313, a collaborative city-wide strategy powered by public and private partnerships that include the City of Detroit, Microsoft, Rocket Community Fund and United Way. She is personally energized by creating transformative learning experiences that equalize opportunity and feels honored to work with the WSU community and faculty members whose teaching and research impact this critical work. Aside from work, she is joyfully raising 3 brilliant daughters with her husband/high-school sweetheart in their 100-year-old Detroit home. In her spare time, she enjoys long walks, day spa adventures, and volunteerism that is directed toward experiential learning for youth and programs that support the identity development of women.



Uri Heru House

Uri "Heru" House is a Detroit native and was educated by Detroit Public Schools and the African-centered institutions of Detroit. A graduate of Cass Technical High School and a proud HBCU alumni of Tuskegee University, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Physics and Engineering. Having an interest in science and technology since he was a child, he decided to dive deeper into the world of Information Technology. This led him to employment at an internet service provider (ISP) and him being instrumental in the expansion of a competitive local exchange carrier (CLEC), the technical name for an independent phone company. After the dot.com bubble burst, he founded Motown Wireless with a fellow Tuskegee graduate, and for over a decade, the company installed and serviced equipment, providing technology solutions to major corporations, small businesses and other community-based projects. He and his partners installed computer labs and implemented innovative and effective computer learning systems at two African-centered schools, Timbuktu Academy and Nsoroma Institute. As an advocate for digital access, he became a Digital Steward and went on to train community members to be Digital Stewards to "address Internet access in Detroit through neighborhood-governed community wireless networks." Working with multiple grassroots organizations to create the Equitable Internet Initiative, they received international attention for the creation of multiple wireless point-to-point and mesh networks in Detroit, Highland Park and now Hamtramck. During the construction of the wireless network infrastructures, he also co-founded a blockchain technology company with the intention of funding internet initiatives in Detroit using cryptocurrency. Being raised in a socially and politically intentional household, he also serves as a member of the Go Data Advisory Council whose goal is "to foster and create a more transparent, open, collaborative, participatory and accountable relationship between the City government and the people it serves, fostering a creative culture and innovation-driven economy". He has always had a passion for tech but he also enjoys sharing his passion for music as a DJ and music producer for 40 years. Seeking to introduce innovation and change the vibrations, "Heru" can be found in and around Detroit playing or making music that speaks to the listener and dancer. His home life has been graced with a fabulous wife and life partner of almost 25 years, Andrea "Hetheru" and a brilliant daughter, Isis, who will soon be graduating from Oakland University. His family created the man he is today.



Hayley Thompson, PhD, Symposium Leader

Hayley S. Thompson, PhD, is a professor in the Department of Oncology at Wayne State University and the Associate Center Director for Community Outreach and Engagement at the Karmanos Cancer Institute (KCI), an NCI-designated comprehensive cancer center. In this role, she established KCI's Office of Cancer Health Equity and Community Engagement (OCHECE) and serves as its faculty supervisor. She is also founding director of the emerging Wayne State University Center for Health Equity and Community Knowledge in Urban Populations (CHECK-UP). She is a clinical psychologist whose research addresses racial and ethnic disparities in cancer care and outcomes. Her primary focus is community-based intervention research, including investigations of cancer survivorship. She has received funding from the National Cancer Institute, the American Cancer Society, the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, the Patient-Centered Outcomes and Research Institute, and other agencies and foundations. She is currently a co-principal investigator on the NCI-funded African American Resilience in Surviving Cancer (ARISE) Study. Her research also addresses sociocultural assessment in diverse populations. She led the development of the Group-Based Medical Mistrust Scale (GBMMS), widely used in health disparities research, administered in over 100 published, peer-reviewed studies. She currently directs Michigan Cancer HealthLink, a community-academic partnership to build research capacity in diverse communities within Karmanos Cancer Institute's 46-county catchment area with 150 community members involved in contributing to Karmanos' research agenda. She is also Director of the Community Health Scholars Program within CHECK-UP, designed to support metro Detroit residents in building and applying research skills.



Carrie Leach, PhD, MPA, Symposium Leader

Carrie Leach is an Assistant Professor of Research at the Institute of Gerontology, Community Engagement Program Manager at the Center for Urban Responses to Environmental Stressors (CURES), and Associate Director for Community Inclusion at the Center for Health Equity and Community Knowledge in Urban Populations (CHECK-UP) at WSU. Dr. Leach has expertise in health communication, participatory and action research, digital and health literacy, and community-based and aging services delivery and communication. Her research, expertise, and driving passion are focused on improving communication inequities, decision making and public health by developing community-driven solutions derived from participatory processes. Her work at the IOG has focused on partnering with organizational leaders and community residents to evaluate and examine the needs of more than 5,500 older adults across Michigan to translate findings into actionable improvements in aging and community-based services practice and policy. At CURES she works with community stakeholders and researchers to co-construct multi-media materials aimed at improving environmental health literacy in Detroit. Those efforts resulted in disseminating health-protecting information to more than 5,000 Detroiters through face-to-face interactions and thousands more on-line. Her overarching aim is to foster University in-reach, so that the science community and expertise can be leveraged to the benefit of the public, and likewise, so researchers can learn through community engaged experiences and be better allies through their work.



Lisa Braddix, MPH, Symposium Leader

Lisa Braddix is the Center for Health Equity and Community Knowledge in Urban Populations (CHECK-UP) Steering Committee Chair. Lisa is a Program Manager with the Michigan Public Health Institute where she oversees projects that seek to eliminate health disparities in marginalized populations and fosters organizational collaboration to improve the health of communities throughout southeast Michigan. Lisa also serves as the Chairman for the Michigan Cancer Consortium Health Equity Committee and as Co-Chairman for the Healthy Pontiac We Can! Coalition. She has spent several years working in community health and is passionate about issues related to health disparities and health equity.



M. Safwan Badr, MD, MBA

Dr. Badr is the chair of the Wayne State University School of Medicine Department of Internal Medicine. A professor of Internal Medicine, Physiology and Biomedical Engineering, Dr. Badr is also a staff physician at the John D. Dingell VA Medical Center. He has mentored numerous trainees and junior faculty members who have launched successful academic careers. Dr. Badr is a co-director of CHECK-UP.



Alex Sass, MSW

Alex Sass is the manager of research and operations for CHECK-UP. In this position she supports the CEnR Symposium Planning Committees, CHECK-UP Research Networks, as well as the administrative side of CHECK-UP. Additionally, Alex works as a research assistant at Karmanos Cancer Institute, Office of Cancer Health Equity and Community Engagement (OCHECE) supporting the work of the Genesee County Cancer Action Council. While receiving her Master's of Social Work at the University of Michigan, her training focused on community-engaged research and health disparities. Alex also works as a research assistant under the NIA funded "Recruiting and Retaining Older African Americans into Research" funding the Healthier Black Elders of Flint program.



Asha Freeman, MPH

Asha Freeman is a Research Assistant in the Department of Oncology at Wayne State University School of Medicine and an affiliated staff member in the Office of Cancer Health Equity and Community Engagement (OCHECE) at the Karmanos Cancer Institute. In this role, she works closely with the Cancer Action Councils (CACs) and assists with developing an adaptable written manuscript compiled of CAC materials, knowledge, and best practices derived from the HealthLink Model. Additionally, Asha serves as a project manager for the Center for Health Equity and Community Knowledge in Urban Populations (CHECK-UP) at the Wayne State University School of Medicine. In this role, she works closely with a Total Health Foundation Grant in launching their Community Health Scholars Program.



Ali Fakh

Ali Fakh is a Research Assistant at Karmanos Cancer Institute, Office of Cancer Health Equity and Community Engagement (OCHECE) and Wayne State University School of Medicine (WSU SOM), Department of Oncology. Ali works closely with Cancer Action Councils (CACs) where he aims to better understand the cancer survivor and caregiver experience among minority communities. He also leads the economic burden of cancer care among Arab Americans research study. In addition, Ali serves as a program assistant for the Center for Health Equity and Community Knowledge in Urban Populations (CHECK-UP) at WSU SOM where he works to build research capacity among community members.





WAYNE STATE CHECK-UP Center for Health Equity and Community Knowledge in Urban Populations

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