

Sixth Annual National Conference on Health Disparities

*Reducing Health Disparities through Sustaining
and Strengthening Healthy Communities*

November 28 - December 1, 2012

Little Rock, AR





On September 25, 1957, nine African-American teenagers made history when they passed through the front door of Little Rock (AR) Central High School. The Little Rock Nine (Melba Pattillo, Elizabeth Eckford, Ernest Green, Gloria Ray, Carlotta Walls, Terrence Roberts, Jefferson Thomas, Minnijean Brown and Thelma Mothershed) are immortalized in a memorial on the grounds of the Arkansas State Capitol. Designed and sculpted by Little Rock artist John Deering, assisted by his wife Kathy, each life-sized figure includes a bronze plaque identifying the student it portrays and including a comment by that member of The Nine.



Foreword and Acknowledgments

The Sixth Annual National Conference on Health Disparities (NCHD) convened in Little Rock, AR, November 28-December 1, 2012. Its purpose: To present current information and perspectives on one of our nation's most pressing issues – health disparities – while recognizing the role social determinants, prevention and personal responsibility may play in programs that reduce health disparities. This publication serves as a Summary Report of the 2012 conference, and includes registration information for the upcoming Seventh Annual NCHD, scheduled for November 13-16, 2013, in St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands.

No such conference is possible without a major commitment of intellectual and logistical resources, including direct sponsorship and support. During the months leading up to the conference, its planning committee (pages 34-35) developed an ambitious, forward-thinking agenda and identified prospective presenters and panelists to address key issues. The final roster of presenters and panelists responded to the challenge by delivering information to an audience of over 325 attendees, including 60 student-presenters. Attendees lent diverse perspectives to the program.

Sponsored and supported by numerous corporate and civic entities, academic institutions and governmental agencies (pages 14-17), the conference was warmly received by the City of Little Rock and its residents, and could not have taken place without the energy and commitment of local organizers.

The NCHD collaboration of public and private initiative creates a unique dynamic that sharpens the focus on the broad social implications of health disparities. In its sixth year, the conference once again grew in diversity of participants in terms of age, race, gender, professional affiliation, geographic origin and occupation. This growth and diversity encourages NCHD organizers, who strongly believe that broad involvement from all sectors is a necessary precursor to reducing health disparities.

Highlighted by presentations from veteran leaders in the effort to reduce health disparities, the conference moved directly to an emphasis on the “social determinants” that contribute to and sustain disparities. From the remarkably innovative and scholarly research projects of the student participants, to the panels of front-line participants in the effort, to the “state of the union” briefing by elected officials, the message remained consistent: Health disparities must be addressed and reduced for our

nation to move forward as an international leader in health care and social justice.

Local, state and national elected officials shared a common assessment of the current political climate for providing the resources needed to address health disparities – one of cautious optimism. All acknowledged progress with the initiation of a much more inclusive national health care program. All expressed concern about the public's will to move forward with such programs. Their messages reinforced the need for our continued vigilance and efforts to “stay the course” on reducing disparities and health care in general.

For all of the optimism, creativity and energy expressed and exhibited in the conference, no participant suggested a simple solution. Consequently, it is essential that the broad range of backgrounds and interests present at the Sixth NCHD be further expanded. With this in mind, we have scheduled the Seventh Annual National Conference on Health Disparities, November 13-16, 2013, in St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands. This location will help us bring into even sharper focus the impact that the physical environment has on health disparities.

We look forward to engaging you in this ongoing process.

Dr. David Rivers

Director

*Public Information and Community Outreach
Medical University of South Carolina*

Special Thanks. *The program sponsors and supporters express personal thanks to the planning committee, speakers, panelists, consultants and volunteers for making the Conference a success. Special acknowledgement goes to Dr. W. Marvin Dulaney for his effort in the preparation of this report.*

Student Research Forum

Day One featured poster sessions and discussions of health disparities by over 60 students from 13 colleges and universities and diverse academic disciplines. Among the academic institutions represented were: the Medical University of South Carolina; University of Arkansas, Pine Bluff; Johnson C. Smith University; South Carolina State University; College of Charleston; Philander Smith College; Harvard School of Public Health; Morehouse School of Medicine; University of Miami; Georgia Southern University; University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences; University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, and California State University, Long Beach. Judges recognized six poster presentations for their excellence, and commended the work of all student presenters.

Undergraduate student winners were:

1st Place..... Madhulika Vulimiri, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

2nd Place..... Kai Carey, Philander Smith College

3rd Place..... Lakeshia Watson, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Graduate and Professional student winners were:

1st Place..... Brittney Mull, California State University, Long Beach

2nd Place..... Lizette Alvarez, California State University Long Beach

3rd Place Feana Devaraj, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences

Brittney Mull of California State University, Long Beach, was the winner in the Graduate and Professional Student category for her poster entitled, "Health Care Discrimination in Medical Settings: Perspectives of Latino Patients." As a graduate assistant to Dr. Laura Hoyt D'Anna, the principal investigator on the project, Ms. Mull interviewed 19 adult Latinos to measure discrimination in health care settings across racial and ethnic groups. Her research found that her subjects felt uncomfortable because they experienced longer waiting periods, felt neglected, were asked questions about their immigration status, and faced language barriers. Ms. Mull's research, which was part of a larger study, showed that discrimination affects people's access to health care and contributes to health disparities.



Undergraduate 1st Place: *Madhulika Vulimiri,*
with Drs. Ford, Rivers, Elders and Greene



Undergraduate 2nd Place: *Kai Carey,*
with Drs. Ford, Rivers, Elders and Greene



**Graduate and Professional Student
1st place:** *Brittney Mull*



Greetings and Opening Remarks

Several speakers shared their insights about what needs to be done to improve health care in America. Mayor Stodola opened by suggesting that the conference serve as a “bully pulpit” to address the issue of childhood obesity.

Dr. Halverson informed the audience of the largest health care problem in Arkansas: high blood pressure. He stated that over 50% of adults in Arkansas have high blood pressure, but only 50% of those have it under control. He cited efforts made by the Arkansas Department of Health to raise awareness of the problem in the state's African-American communities. The Department collaborated with African-American sororities to form Sisters United, an effort to improve health literacy.

Dr. Slaughter emphasized how MUSC is “building bridges” in the state of South Carolina to address health disparities by spreading the word about the necessity of primary care, prevention, community outreach and chronic disease management.

In his powerful and informative message, Dr. Maupin informed the audience that he had attended his first health disparities conference in 1972, and that the gap between the “sick care” that the poor received and the health care that the rich received at that time was even wider than it is now. He concluded that “it will take a village to raise the health of this nation,” and it will not happen until “our community embraces full optimal health, not as a mandate, but as a culture.”



Day Two started with greetings from representatives of the conference's sponsors and hosts. Mistress of Ceremonies, Ms. Carolyn Sawyer, introduced the following conference hosts and sponsors (left):

- Mayor Mark Stodola of Little Rock, AR
- Dr. Paul Halverson, Director of the Arkansas State Health Department
- Dr. Sabra Slaughter, Chief of Staff to the President of the Medical University of South Carolina
- Dr. John Maupin, President of Morehouse College of Medicine
- Dr. Marjorie Innocent of the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation
- Mr. Reggie White of CIGNA
- Ms. Idonia Trotter, Executive Director of the Arkansas Minority Health Commission
- Carolyn Sawyer, Communications Strategist, Tom Sawyer Company, Columbia, SC

Overview of Health Disparities

Dr. John Ruffin

*National Institute on Minority Health
and Health Disparities*



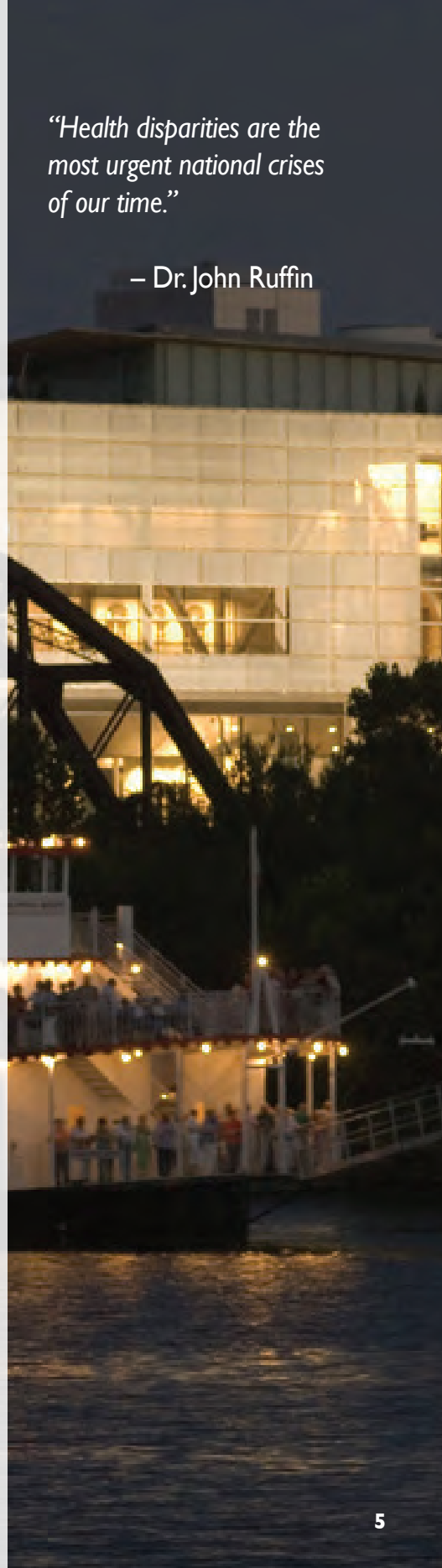
*“Health disparities are the
most urgent national crises
of our time.”*

– Dr. John Ruffin

Dr. Ruffin entitled his annual presentation “Health Disparities: Is This An Era of Optimism or Pessimism?” Pursuing the affirmative, he presented an optimistic update on the work of the National Institute and observed that, due to the annual national conference and the efforts of health professionals and researchers, health disparities are “on everybody’s radar.” He stated: “Health disparities are now a recognized field.” Still, he noted that the hardest part of his job is convincing people that health disparities are real and not made up. He feels that, through the efforts of the national conference, the Congressional Black Caucus and such advocates as former President Bill Clinton, the message is getting through to people who can make a difference.

Dr. Ruffin also reported on the NIMHD’s successful programs promoting research and collaboration among institutions working to address health disparities. For example, the NIMHD has created 100 Centers of Excellence to tackle health disparities. In 2012 alone, the NIMHD funded 38 health disparities centers. These centers promote collaboration between minority-serving and research-intensive institutions, such as Morgan State and Johns Hopkins universities; South Carolina State and MUSC; the University of South Carolina and Claflin University, and UNC Chapel Hill and Shaw University. These partnerships enable participating institutions to leverage expertise and expand research on health disparities.

Dr. Ruffin concluded his remarks by re-emphasizing his overall theme: that those who are engaged in reducing health disparities should be optimistic. He cited two ground-breaking NIMHD programs promoting health disparities research: the Community Based Participatory Research Program and the Health Disparities Loan Repayment Program. The former enables community-based groups to apply for NIMHD funding and develop programs that address health disparities with research institutions. The latter pays the education loans for students who engage in research on health disparities, and diversifies the work force in health professions.



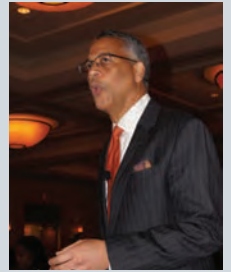
“Health is the place where all the social forces converge to express themselves in the greatest clarity and the most importance.”

– Dr. Reed V. Tuckson

Keynote Address

Dr. Reed V. Tuckson

*Executive Vice President, Chief of Medical Affairs
UnitedHealth Group*



Dr. Tuckson delivered a rousing, inspirational and informative presentation. He emphasized that conferences on health disparities should focus on innovation, new ideas and big ideas. Also, such conferences should bring more people to the table to discuss the problems we face in delivery of health care, which should not be “ghettoized.”

Health disparities are a national, American problem. All Americans will soon face rising costs, lower contributions from government and private companies, and the need for more contributions from individual. Thus, according to Dr. Tuckson: “We are in this challenge together.” Using the 1985 Malone-Heckler Task Force Report (The Report of the Secretary’s Task Force on Black and Minority Health) as his baseline, Dr. Tuckson recounted how the report attributed 60,000 premature deaths among minorities to health disparities. He cited the many causes of those deaths, including homicide, heart disease, stroke, suicide, cancer, diabetes, HIV and hypertension. He noted that these premature deaths were also related to the lack of prevention and access to quality health care.

But Dr. Tuckson did not just cite the terrible results of health disparities; he offered solutions. Among them:

1. People must believe they have a future and can live beyond the age of 21.
2. Innovation: People concerned about health disparities must learn community organizing or work with community organizers to reach and work with those communities most affected by health disparities.
3. Use data to address individual health care issues and health risk assessments, and use health screenings and online medical records to help patients.
4. Use new technology and tools — apps, mobile broadband and human genome data — to provide patients synchronous communication with clinicians.

Dr. Tuckson concluded his presentation with a report on a theme that he had pursued at several previous conferences: Black women, hair; and exercise. He reported that he had attended the annual Bonner Brothers Hair Show in Atlanta and offered a prize for the “Healthy Hair Competition” — for the best looking hairstyle conducive to exercise.





“Racism is a social determinant of health.”

– Dr. Gail C. Christopher

(L to R): Dr. David E. Rivers, Ms. Lisa F. Garcia, Dr. Brian Smedley, Dr. Daniel Rahn, Dr. Gail C. Christopher and Dr. Kurt C. Organista

Day Two Highlights: A Focus on Social Determinants

Another highlight of Day Two was the panel entitled *“The impact of social determinants in reducing health disparities and sustaining healthy communities, with a major emphasis on race, poverty, education and environmental issues.”*

Chaired by Dr. David Rivers of MUSC, the session addressed two of the major themes of the conference: how social determinants, such as race, poverty, education and environmental issues, affect health, and how to sustain and strengthen healthy communities. In his opening remarks, Dr. Rivers observed that the nation’s “sick care” system is very good at treating people after they are sick, but does very little to promote “well care” and prevention to reduce health disparities.

Dr. Rivers’ opening remarks were followed by a presentation by Lisa Garcia of the United States Environmental Protection Agency. Ms. Garcia stated that, to reduce health disparities, the EPA must be at the table to enforce environmental justice laws that stop the disproportionate location of polluting facilities in minority and low-income communities.



Ms. Garcia’s presentation segued perfectly into Dr. Brian Smedley’s discussion of “place matters,” showing how location (or zip code) in cities such as Albuquerque, NM, and New Orleans, LA, directly affects physical and mental health, as well as life expectancy, because the structural racism in areas of extreme poverty is literally killing people. Dr. Smedley cited a study by his organization, the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, entitled “Unequal Treatment,” that shows how people in poor communities pay more for basic services, including health care. He called it “medical apartheid.”

Dr. Daniel Rahn, Chancellor of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, followed Dr. Smedley’s presentation with an analysis of how social factors, such as low income, lack of education and obesity, contribute to the health outcomes of citizens of Arkansas much more than biological factors. He cited a study published by the Journal of the American Medical Association that emphasizes the importance of education in improving health outcomes.

Dr. Gail Christopher of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation contributed to the panel by addressing the three things that her foundation seeks to conquer in order to reduce and eliminate health disparities: poverty, obesity and racism.

Dr. Kurt C. Organista closed the panel by discussing his research on migrant Hispanic men. He found that the men in his study were less likely to engage in risky behaviors that led to health problems and diseases such as HIV if they were provided community resources, cultural understanding and English classes. He concluded that structural and environmental models should be considered equally valid in the reduction of health disparities.

Keynote Address

Dr. J. Nadine Gracia

*Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for
Minority Health*

*Acting Director, Office of Minority Health
U.S. Department of Health and Human
Services*



Day Three of the conference opened with a Keynote Address by Dr. J. Nadine Gracia from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Dr. Gracia observed that the conference was taking place in the city where the “Little Rock Nine” confronted the forces of segregation in 1957. She recounted how the nine students had the courage to overcome all of the racist obstacles that sought to thwart their admission to Central High School. She then juxtaposed their struggle 55 years earlier with the current struggle to overcome health disparities.

Dr. Gracia presented an optimistic picture, detailing the many initiatives led by the Department of Health and Human Services, in conjunction with the interagency task force on health disparities, to address the social determinants of health. She detailed the increase in funding for (and the number of) Community Health Centers; the \$128 million that Health and Human Services earmarked for New Access Point Awards; and the agency’s commitment to strengthening the health and human services work force by making a huge investment in the National Health Services Corps.

Overall, Dr. Gracia conveyed a message that the Department of Health and Human Services is attempting to achieve better health outcomes for all Americans by focusing on the broader social determinants of health.

Day Three Highlights: Dr. Elders Shares Her Thoughts

Dr. Joycelyn Elders

Former U.S. Surgeon General



The highlight of Day Three was a luncheon Keynote Address and PowerPoint presentation by former United States Surgeon General, Dr. Joycelyn Elders. Dr. Elders presented a potpourri of data related to health care, health disparities and the challenges facing health care providers in the 21st century. She focused on two key issues: how social determinants, in conjunction with social and economic policies, influence health outcomes; and why health care providers need cultural competency to improve the services that they provide their patients.

To illustrate the first issue, Dr. Elders presented a chart of “The Social Determinants Framework” that showed the impact of factors such as education, housing, income, racism and social concerns on health outcomes. She used a personal anecdote from her own family history, describing how her brother was placed at risk when he was sick because of the lack of a local health care provider; the distance the family had to travel to find a doctor; and the wait required to receive care because the white doctor would not serve “Negro patients” until he had served all of the white patients.

Dr. Elders also discussed the rationale for training health providers in cultural competency. She noted that culture influences not only how health care providers perceive the diseases and illnesses of their patients and their behavior and attitudes toward them; but also affects the treatments, therapies and interventions they prescribe. Dr. Elders concluded her well-received presentation by stating that she is a strong believer in universal health care and that there should be “Medicare for all.”



*Dr. Elders with participants in the
Student Research Forum*



World AIDS Day Update

Congresswoman Barbara Lee



Congresswoman Barbara Lee (CA-9) opened the fourth day of the conference with an update on and observations about "World AIDS Day." She provided conference participants with a shocking example of health disparity: While African-Americans are 14% of the population of the United States, they comprise 44% of newly diagnosed HIV/AIDS infections; and infections among African-American women have tripled.

Even so, Congresswoman Lee is optimistic that the impact of HIV/AIDS can be markedly reduced with improved treatment regimens and access to treatment, combined with prevention measures, thanks to the Affordable Care Act, signed into law by President Barack Obama. She stated that the Affordable Care Act is critical in the fight to end the HIV/AIDS epidemic because the law mandates that no one can be denied health insurance due to a previous health condition. Therefore, all people who are infected can receive treatment. Congresswoman Lee implored her audience to keep the pressure on their representatives in Congress to retain our nation's "social safety net" because there should not be "over 50 million people living in poverty in the wealthiest nation in the world."

"Fighting AIDS and fighting poverty must go hand-in-hand."

– Congresswoman Barbara Lee

Inspiration from a Cancer Survivor

Shondia McFadden-Sabari



Shondia McFadden-Sabari, a native of Timmonsville, SC, made one of the most inspiring presentations of the conference. In a moving account that included reflections on her faith, family and personal courage, Ms. McFadden-Sabari told conference participants about her struggle with breast cancer. To become a "breast cancer survivor," she underwent a double mastectomy. Despite the challenge of this major health crisis to her family and her self-image, she emerged with a renewed faith in God and her own ability to serve a higher purpose by carrying her message of personal triumph to others who are having similar experiences.

"Help me help somebody else."

– Shondia McFadden-Sabari



(L-R): Congresswoman Donna Christensen, Shondia McFadden-Sabari, Congresswoman Barbara Lee and Congresswoman Marcia Fudge



(L-R): Georgia State Representative Calvin Smyre, Arkansas State Senator Joyce Elliott, former Minnesota State Senator Mee Moua and Navajo Nation Vice President Rex Lee Jim

State and Local Leaders Tackle Health Disparities

The first panel of Day Four employed a roundtable format, with state and local leaders sharing their experiences with addressing health disparities.

Arkansas State Senator Joyce Elliott discussed the obstacles she faced in her efforts to have the Arkansas legislature pass a bill to require “cultural competency” for the state’s health care providers. Former Minnesota State Senator Mee Moua observed that health disparities are a “major civil rights issue” – especially for immigrants who often do not speak English and cannot ask for or understand what type of health care services they need without translators.

Navajo Nation Vice President Rex Lee Jim explained how the Affordable Care Act has divided the Navajo Nation into three states (Arizona, New Mexico and Utah) with different policies for administering Medicaid to those who need it. He called for implementation of a single policy for the Navajo Nation based on its sovereignty as an independent nation.

“The health care system continues to make immigrants feel like they are intruders into the system.”

– Former Minnesota State Senator Mee Moua

“Obesity in young children is a national security issue. We are at risk of having a generation of young children who will have shorter life spans than us.”

– Congresswoman Marcia Fudge



(L-R): Congresswoman Donna Christensen, Congresswoman Marcia Fudge and Congressman Raul Grijalva

A National Policy Focus: Congressional Leaders Discuss Health Disparities

The final panel featured Donna Christensen, MD (USVI) as moderator; with Congresswoman Marcia Fudge (OH-11), the chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, and Congressman Raul Grijalva (AZ-7), the co-chair of the Congressional Progressive Caucus. All three shared with the audience updates on the implementation of the Affordable Care Act and other actions by the United States Congress to address (or not address) health disparities.

Congresswoman Christensen informed the audience that supporters of the Affordable Care Act had to fight off over 100 bills by Republicans to repeal it. Similarly, Congresswoman Fudge stated that her Republican colleagues did not understand the ACA and they did not like it because of whom it served and who was responsible for it (President Obama). Despite the constant battle to defend the ACA, Congressman Grijalva reported that CBC, CPC and the Congressional Hispanic Caucus have been successful in assuring that Congress is addressing health disparities by implementing the provisions of the ACA, such as funding and continuing Community Health Centers. All three legislators agreed that they must keep the pressure on Congress and be supporters and leaders on health care.

Closing Address



Congressman James E. Clyburn (SC-6)
Assistant Democratic Leader, U.S. Congress

Congressman James E. Clyburn (SC-6) presented the closing Keynote Address for the Sixth Annual National Conference on Health Disparities. His thoughts brought closure to four days of informative sessions on health disparities, insightful commentary from health care leaders and practitioners, and updates on the latest research from students, health care practitioners and scholars.

Congressman Clyburn addressed legislative issues, such as the public option, the privatization of social security, the so-called "fiscal cliff," and the lie circulated during the 2012 presidential campaign by Governor Mitt Romney that President Obama was going to cut \$716 billion from the Medicare program. Congressman Clyburn corrected the lies and myths associated with all of these issues, offered his analysis of the status of the Affordable Care Act, and encouraged conference participants to continue to address health disparities.

Congressman Clyburn ended his inspirational and informative address by quoting the following from the Book of James: "Faith without works is dead." He continued: "James would feed the hungry, clothe them, and provide them health care."



Additional Program Highlights

Additional highlights from the National Conference on Health Disparities:

Ms. Audrey Rowe of the U. S. Department of Agriculture presented on the need to sustain the SNAP food stamp program to address "food insecurity" and "food deserts." Ms. Rowe made the point that "a healthy diet is necessary in order to help people reduce the risks of major chronic diseases."

Dr. Loretta Sweet Jemmott of the University of Pennsylvania and Dr. Britt Rios-Ellis of California State University, Long Beach, presented on successful programs to reduce HIV/AIDS infections and teenage pregnancy among at-risk populations.



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Sixth Annual National Conference on Health Disparities:
REDUCING HEALTH DISPARITIES THROUGH SUSTAINING
AND STRENGTHENING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES
November 28-December 1, 2012
Little Rock, AR

DAY ONE: WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2012

2:00 p.m.....Opening Remarks and Overview of Student Forum

Undergraduate and Graduate Student Forum Co-chairs:

- Dr. Marvella E. Ford, Professor, Department of Public Health Sciences; Associate Director for Cancer Disparities, Hollings Cancer Center, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC*
- Dr. Milford W. Greene, Co-chair, Student Research Forum Committee*

7:00 p.m.....Opening Reception
Arkansas Governor's Mansion

Welcome Remarks

- Mr. Bruce T. Moore, Little Rock City Manager, Little Rock, AR*
- Dr. Paul Halverson, Director, Arkansas State Health Department, Little Rock, AR*
- Dr. David E. Rivers, Conference Chairman, Assistant Professor and Public Information and Community Outreach Director, Medical University of South Carolina*

DAY TWO: THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2012

Peabody Grand Ballroom

8:45 a.m.....Opening Remarks

- Mistress of Ceremonies: Ms. Carolyn Sawyer, Communications Strategist, Tom Sawyer Company, Columbia, SC*
- The Honorable Mark Stodola, Mayor, City of Little Rock, AR*
- Mr. Paul Halverson, Director, Arkansas State Health Department, Little Rock, AR*
- Dr. Sabra Slaughter, Chief of Staff, Office of the President, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC*
- Dr. John Maupin, President, Morehouse School of Medicine, Atlanta, GA*
- Dr. Marjorie Innocent, Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Inc., Washington, DC*
- Mr. Reggie White, Regional Vice President of Government and Education Accounts, CIGNA Representative, Atlanta, GA*
- Ms. Idonia Trotter, Executive Director, Arkansas Minority Health Commission, Little Rock, AR*





AGENDA

9:15 a.m.....Video Presentation
Former President William J. Clinton, *42nd President of the United States*

9:30 a.m.....Overview of Health Disparities
Dr. John Ruffin, *Director of the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD), Bethesda, MD*

10:45 a.m.....Break

11:30 a.m.....Luncheon

12:00 p.m.....Introduction of Luncheon Speaker
Ms. Carolyn Sawyer, *Communications Strategist, Tom Sawyer Company, Columbia, SC*

Luncheon Speaker

Dr. Reed Tuckson, FACP, *Executive Vice-President and Chief of Medical Affairs at UnitedHealth Group, Minneapolis, MN*

1:30 p.m.

Panel One

The impact of social determinants in reducing health disparities and sustaining healthy communities with a major focus on race, poverty, education and environmental issues.

Moderator

Dr. David E. Rivers, *Assistant Professor and Public Information and Community Outreach Director, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC*

Panelists

Ms. Lisa F. Garcia, Esq., *Associate Assistant Administrator, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance, United States Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, DC*

Dr. Brian Smedley, *Vice President and Director of the Health Policy Institute of the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, Washington, DC*

Dr. Daniel Rahn, *Chancellor, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Little Rock, AR*

Dr. Gail C. Christopher, *Vice President for Programs, Food, Health & Well-Being, W.K. Kellogg Foundation, Battle Creek, MI*

Dr. Kurt C. Organista, *Professor, School of Social Welfare, University of California-Berkeley, Berkeley, CA*

3:00 p.m.....Break

AGENDA

3:15 p.m.

Panel Two

Translational research with proven results in reducing health disparities.

Moderator

Dr. Virginia D. Floyd, *Special Advisor to the President, Morehouse School of Medicine, Atlanta, GA*

Panelists

Dr. Loretta Sweet Jemmott, *van Ameringen Professor in Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing and Director for the Center for Health Disparities Research, University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing, Philadelphia, PA*

Dr. Veda N. Giri, *Clinical Genetics, Assistant Professor; Director, Prostate Cancer Risk Assessment, Assistant Professor in Cancer Prevention and Control, and Medical Oncology, Fox Chase Cancer Center, Philadelphia, PA*

Dr. Hector Balcazar, *Regional Dean, El Paso Regional Campus and Professor Division of Health Promotion and Behavioral Sciences, The University of Texas School of Public Health at Houston, El Paso, Texas*

Dr. Steve Lanier, *Associate Provost for Research, Professor, Department of Cell and Molecular Pharmacology, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC*

7:00 p.m. Reception

William J. Clinton Presidential Center

1200 President Clinton Avenue

Little Rock, AR

Greetings

Host

Dr. David E. Rivers, *Conference Chairman, Assistant Professor and Public Information and Community Outreach Director, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC*

The Honorable Mark Stodola, *Mayor, City of Little Rock*

Dr. Sabra Slaughter, *Chief of Staff, Office of the President, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC*

Dr. John Maupin, *President, Morehouse School of Medicine, Atlanta, GA*

Mr. Michael Rashid, *President & Chief Executive Officer, AmeriHealth Mercy, Philadelphia, PA*





DAY THREE: FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2012

Peabody Grand Ballroom

9:00 a.m..... Opening Remarks and Introduction of Keynote Speaker
Mistress of Ceremonies: Ms. Carolyn Sawyer, *Communications Strategist, Tom Sawyer Company, Columbia, SC*

Keynote Address

Dr. J. Nadine Gracia, *Deputy Assistant Secretary for Minority Health (Acting) and Acting Director of Minority Health, U. S. Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, DC*

9:15 a.m.

Panel Three

Public health as a priority in reducing health disparities with a major focus on program and workforce development.

Moderator

Dr. Marjorie Innocent, *Vice President of Research & Sponsored Programs, Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Inc., Washington, DC*

Panelists

Dr. Georges C. Benjamin, *Executive Director, American Public Health Association, Washington, DC*

Ms. Naomi Cottoms, *Executive Director, Tri-County Rural Health Network, Little Rock, AR*

10:30 a.m.....Break

10:45 a.m.

Panel Four

Prevention and personal responsibility as a major theme in reducing health disparities and sustaining healthy communities.

Moderator

Dr. Earlexia M. Norwood, *Northern Region Division Head, Family Medicine & Physician-in-Charge, Troy Medical Center, Henry Ford Health System, Troy, MI*

Panelists

Dr. Bambi W. Gaddist, *Co-Founder and Executive Director, SC HIV/AIDS Council, Columbia, SC*

Ms. Tonya Moody, *Vice President of the AmeriHealth Mercy Foundation and the Associate Vice President of Health Promotion and Program Development in the Public Affairs and Marketing Department at Keystone Mercy Health Plan, Philadelphia, PA*

Ms. Audrey Rowe, *Administrator for the Food and Nutrition Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Alexandria, VA*

Ms. Linda Fondren, *Owner of Shape Up Sisters, Shape UP Vicksburg, Founder, Vicksburg, MS*

12:00 p.m.....Break

12:15 p.m.....Introduction of Speaker

Ms. Carolyn Sawyer, *Communications Strategist, Tom Sawyer Company, Columbia, SC*

Luncheon Speaker

Dr. Joycelyn Elders, *Former U. S. Surgeon General, Little Rock, AR*

1:45 p.m.

Panel Five

Successful community-based programs for sustaining and strengthening healthy communities.

Moderator

Dr. Sabra Slaughter, *Chief of Staff, Office of the President, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC*

Panelists

Dr. Britt Rios-Ellis, *Professor and Director, National LaRaza, The Center for Latino Community, California State University Long Beach Foundation, Long Beach, CA*

Dr. Thomas Ellison, *Medical Services Director, Principal Investigator, PROJECT H.E.L.P. USA/MRC Bruno-Smithfield Community Health Center, Birmingham, AL*

Dr. Carolyn M. Jenkins, *Principal Investigator, REACH US: SEA-CEED, Professor, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC*

Ms. Terrisca Des Jardins, *Director, Southeast Michigan Beacon Community, Detroit, MI*

Rev. Corey D. Johnson, *Administrative Director of Community Health and Well-Being, Le Bonheur Children's Hospital, Memphis, TN*





AGENDA

3:00 p.m.

Panel Six

The importance of the private sector in reducing health disparities.

Moderator

Mr. Lloyd Moore, President, The Moore Companies, Miami, FL

Panelists

Dr. Ala Stanford Frey, Director of Pediatric Surgical Services, Abington Memorial Hospital, Attending Surgeon, Division of General, Thoracic and Fetal Surgery, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA

Dr. Beverly L. Perry, Vice President for External Affairs, Pepco Holdings, Inc., Washington, DC

Dr. Sherita Hill Golden, Associate Professor of Medicine and Epidemiology, Director, Inpatient Diabetes Management Service, Chairperson, JHH Glucose Management Committee, Division of Endocrinology and Metabolism, John Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD

Mr. Joe Quinn, Senior Director, Issue Management and Strategic Outreach, Walmart Corporate Affairs, Little Rock, AR

5:30 - 7:00 p.m.....Reception
Pinnacle Room at the Peabody

Host: The Greater Little Rock Chapter of the National Forum for Black Public Administrators

DAY FOUR: SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2012

Peabody Grand Ballroom

8:45 a.m.....Opening Remarks

Congresswoman Barbara Lee, Chair, Health Care Task Force of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, U.S. Congress, 9th District, CA

Ms. Shondia McFadden-Sabari, Cancer Survivor, Atlanta, GA

AGENDA

9:00 a.m.

Panel Seven

A roundtable discussion with state and local leaders on reducing health disparities.

Moderator

The Honorable Calvin Smyre, *Georgia House of Representatives, 132nd District, Columbus, GA*

Panelists

The Honorable Mee Moua, *Former Minnesota State Senator, President and Executive Director, Asian American Justice Center, Washington, DC*

Mr. Rex Lee Jim, *Navajo Nation Vice President, Window Rock, AZ*

The Honorable Joyce Elliott, *Arkansas State Senate, 33rd District, Little Rock, AR*

10:30 a.m.

Panel Eight

A roundtable discussion with Congressional leaders on health care and the reduction of health disparities.

Moderator

The Honorable Donna Christensen, MD, *Congressional Black Caucus Health Braintrust Chair, U.S. Congress, VI*

The Honorable Raul M. Grijalva, *Co-Chair of the Congressional Progressive Caucus, U. S. Congress, 7th District, AZ*

The Honorable Marcia Fudge, *Chair, Congressional Black Caucus, U. S. Congress, 11th District, OH*

11:15 a.m.....Remarks and Introduction of Keynote Speaker

Dr. Allen W. Parrott, *Presiding Elder of the Kingstree District in the 7th Episcopal District of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, Ladson, SC*

Keynote Address

The Honorable James E. Clyburn, *Assistant Democratic Leader, U.S. Congress, 6th District, SC*







PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Sixth Annual National Conference on Health Disparities REDUCING HEALTH DISPARITIES THROUGH SUSTAINING AND STRENGTHENING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

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Charleston, SC

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Assistant to the Commissioner
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Senior advisor to the President
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Atlanta, GA

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Associate Professor, Biostatistics,
Bioinformatics & Epidemiology
Director, Cancer Disparities Program
MUSC, Hollings Cancer Center
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Associate Director for Health Equity
Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention
National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral
Hepatitis, STD and TB Prevention
Centers for Disease Control and
Prevention
Atlanta, GA

Ms. Lena Moore

Deputy Executive Director
WJC Presidential Foundation
Little Rock, AR

Ms. Mee Moua

President and Executive Director
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Mr. Mitchell Neaves

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Medicine & Physician-In-Charge
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Dr. David E. Rivers

Assistant Professor and Public
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Director
Library Science & Informatics
Medical University of South Carolina
Charleston, SC

Dr. Sabra C. Slaughter

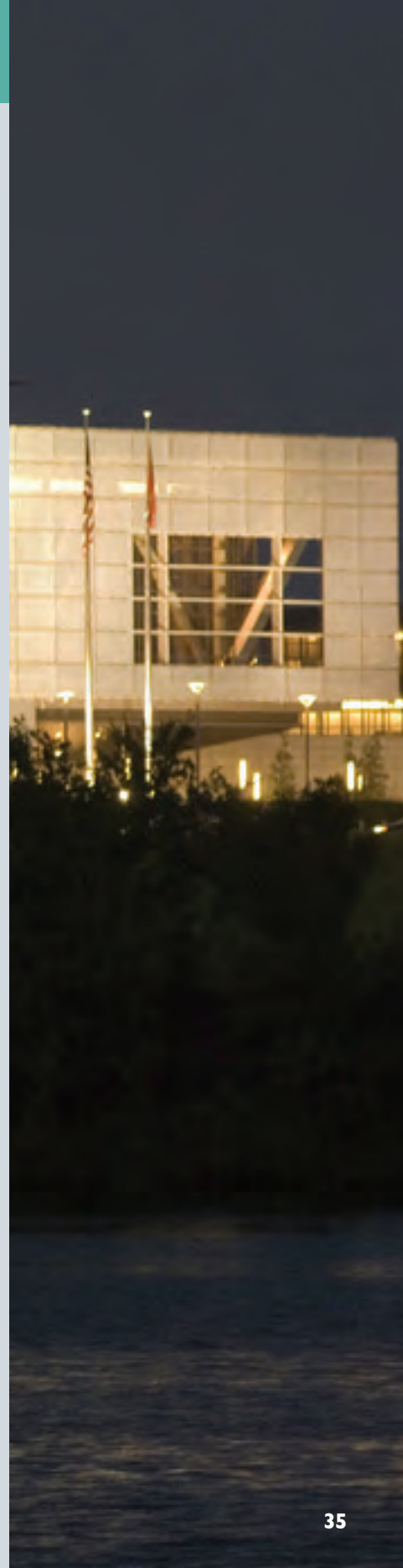
Chief of Staff, Office of the President
Medical University of South Carolina
Charleston, SC

Mr. Derrick Watchman

Chief Financial Officer
Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise
Church Rock, NM

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Vice President for Academic Affairs
Benedict College
Columbia, SC





November 13-16, 2013

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Ms. Eunice Bedminster

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Phone: 340-773-1311, Ext. 3000

Register at: www.nationalhealthdisparities.com

Registration Fee: \$150.00/person if before September 27, 2013

After September 27, 2013 \$200 /person

Hotel Rate if reserved by 5:00 pm on September 27, 2013:

\$197 Single/Double Room

\$221 Oceanview

Rate does not include \$30 daily resort fee, 10% tax

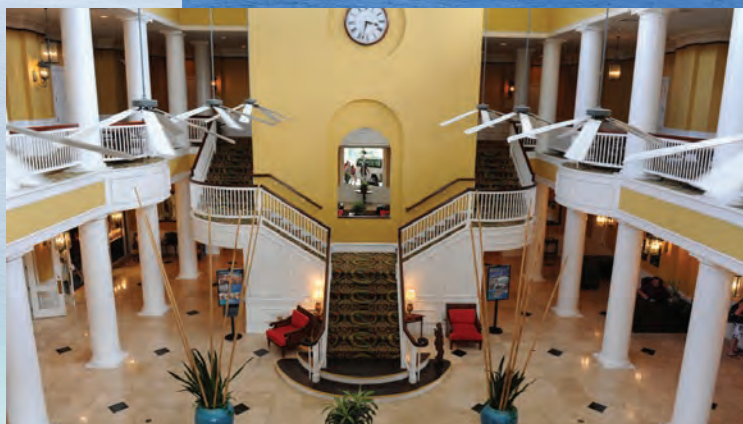


Exhibit Opportunities *(Limited Space Available)*

Rates:	Corporate/National Not For Profit	Community/Grass Roots
Incline 10'X10'	\$1,500	\$750
Corner 10'X10'	\$1,750	\$1,000

For exhibit opportunities, contact: **Ms. Garcia Williams** at **843-810-5137** or **willige@musc.edu**.

Register at: **www.nationalhealthdisparities.com**

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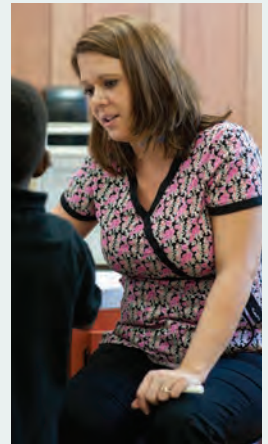


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Rural residents can't always come to us,
so we're taking health care to them.



What's the point of offering world-class care if patients can't access it? Southeastern states share a disproportionate burden of chronic maladies, a problem compounded by ethnic and socio-economic disparities in rural communities. So the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) developed programs like the MUSC Public Information and Community Outreach (PICO) Initiative and the Southeastern Virtual Institute for Health Equity and Wellness (SE VIEW), which are using the Internet and telemedicine to engage communities and treat chronic diseases. Visit www.musc.edu/seview

Changing What's Possible in Rural Health Care.

