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A Virtual Colloquium Addressing Health Equity in Virginia:

An Interdisciplinary and Intersectoral Strategy Dialogue



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PROGRAM OVERVIEW:

COVID-19 and other social factors have accelerated and sharpened the public's call for health equity. Health Equity relates to poverty, discrimination, education, safety, and housing, all of which impact overall wellbeing. This Colloquium is a forum for interdisciplinary and intersectoral participants to understand the state of health equity in Virginia, explore obstacles to fair and just health care, and to generate policy solutions that favor the health of all Virginians.

Colloquium participants will be able to:

- 1. Articulate a more comprehensive and standardized working definition of health equity.
- 2. Contribute to one or more policy initiatives that would advance Virginia's health agenda.
- 3. Use insights from national equity studies to develop a stronger personal mindset and ability to

- persuade others about the issue, strategy, and desired outcomes of improved health.
- 4. Build a coalition of interprofessional and intersectoral colleagues to gain perspective, share agendas, and influence social change.

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General Session: The Landscape and the Need for Health Equity				
8:00 – 8:10	Welcome from Program Directors: The Structure, Process, and Outcomes for the Day			
8:10 - 8:40	Janice Underwood, Ph.D., is chief diversity officer of the Commonwealth of Virginia, holds the distinction of being the first state cabinet-level appointee in the United States reporting to the Governor. Underwood will address "Framing and Explaining the Journey to the Health Equity Movement" through the lens of governance and procedural equity, resource allocation and placement, policy and solutions-oriented decision-making, building coalitions, and COVID-19. (Invited)			
8:45 – 9:15	Beth O'Connor, M.S., director of the Virginia Rural Health Association, will address "Virginia's Healthcare Landscape: Where You Live Matters." O'Connor acknowledges the unequal distribution of health resources, payment inequities, poverty, and other factors in rural Virginia and is part of the national coalition of rural health associations.			
9:20 – 11:20	Moderated Breakout Sessions: Virginia's Health Equity Landscape and Policy Solutions			
	Group I: Neighborhood (Housing)			
	Moderator: Sarah Raskin, Ph.D., medical anthropologist, with expertise in primary care and in the health care safety net.			
	Panelists:			
	Kate Howell, Ph.D, or Ben Teressa, Ph.D (invited) from the RVA Eviction Lab with the L. Douglas Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs. Both are experts in housing evictions and its impact, informing government officials, agencies, and advocates.			
	Harinder Dhindsa, M.D., M.P.H., M.B.A., is professor and chair/chief of emergency medicine and EMS at VCU Health System, intersecting with various populations experiencing health disparities.			
	Genevieve Beaird, Ph.D., RNC-OB, CNE, is a clinical assistant professor in VCU's School of Nursing, with expertise that includes community health and overall wellbeing.			
	Pamela Parsons, Ph.D., GNP-BC, FNAP FAAN, Associate Dean for Practice and Community Engagement and Associate Professor Judith B. Collins and Joseph M. Teefey Distinguished Professor. Dr. Parsons has focused her academic work on the field of aging and preventative care coordination, particularly for persons residing in subsidized public housing.			

PROGRAM AGENDA

9:20 - 11:20

Moderated Breakout Sessions: Virginia's Health Equity Landscape and Policy Solutions (cont)

Group II: Environmental Broadband



Moderator: Shelly Smith, DNP, RN, FNAP, clinical associate professor at the VCU School of Nursing and director of the translational fellows program with the L. Douglas Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs.

Panelists:

Vimal Kirti Mishra, M.D., is medical director for the Office of Telemedicine at VCU Health System, where he leads enterprise-wide teleservices to enhance access to care and improve clinical outcomes.

W. Scott Johnson, Esq., is the lobbyist and general counsel at the Medical Society of Virginia. His expertise includes deep knowledge of the political process to benefit the health and wellbeing of Virginians.

Evan Feinman, J.D., serves as the Governor's chief broadband advisor at the Commonwealth of Virginia with the aim to expand broadband internet services throughout the state.

Terry Jones, Ph.D., RN, is an associate professor in the VCU School of Nursing and concentration lead for the nursing leadership and organizational science graduate program. She is engaged in examining Virginia's utilization of telehealth services pre-COVID-19.

Group III: Economic Stability (Jobs, Unemployment, Poverty)



Moderator: Nakeina Douglas Glenn, Ph.D., director of the Grace E. Harris Leadership Institute and is a public policy analyst and expert in racial equity.

Panelists:

Sarin Adhikari, Ph.D., is a research associate at VCU's Center for Urban and Regional Analysis. His expertise addresses local economic development and metropolitan land use projections.

Rebecca Etz, Ph.D., is a cultural anthropologist who is an associate professor of Family Medicine and Population Health at VCU. She Co-Directs the Larry A. Green Center for the advancement of Primary Health Care for the Public Good.

Elsie Harper-Anderson, Ph.D., associate professor and Ph.D. program director, L. Douglas Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs, with expertise in labor employment and the regional economy.

Kimberly Davis, M.S., RN, CNE, directs VCU's Care Coordination Certificate Program which focuses on consideration of social determinants of health when planning care.

PROGRAM AGENDA

9:20 - 11:20

Moderated Breakout Sessions: Virginia's Health Equity Landscape and Policy Solutions (cont)

Group IV: Social: Opioid Epidemic



Moderator: Amy Cook, Ph.D., associate professor and chair, criminal justice programs at the L. Douglas Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs, with expertise in substance abuse, overdose and crime.

Panelists:

Delegate Dawn Adams, in addition to her role in politics, directs the Department of Behavioral Health and Development Services as a nurse practitioner and is a small business owner.

Sheriff Karl Leonard, M.S., has served as Chesterfield County's sheriff since 2014. His career in public service and law enforcement offers a unique perspective on addictive substances and their impact.

Paula Hill Collins, DNP, RN, clinical director of The Health Wagon, dedicated to serving vulnerable populations and is a champion for health care equity.

Georges Gay, M.D., is a Family Medicine Specialist who cares for patients in general practice and correctional care including those with addictions.

Anna Priday, M.S., CCRA, CCRC is the research regulatory manager for the Department of Internal Medicine/Division of Cardiology at the VCU School of Medicine. In doctoral studies at the L. Douglas Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs she is examining the policy implications for persons who are substance users when they are excluded from clinical trials.

Group V: Community Dwelling Elderly



Moderator: Holly Buchanan, DNP, ANP-BC, is an associate professor of nursing at James Madison University with expertise in scope of practice and access to care.

Panelists:

Senator Jen Kiggans, in addition to her political role where she serves on the Rehabilitation and Social Services Committee, is a nurse practitioner with expertise in adult-geriatric care.

Sheryl Garland, M.H.A., is chief of health impact for the VCU Health System with expertise in health equity and outreach.

Amol Karmarkar, Ph.D., PT, is a professor in the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Center for Rehabilitation Science and Engineering, and director of research for the Sheltering Arms Institute. He has expertise in leveraging big data, such as medical claims data sets.

Christian Bergman, M.D., is an assistant professor at VCU and chairs the Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine State Based Public Policy and Advocacy Subcommittee.

PROGRAM AGENDA

9:20 - 11:20

Moderated Breakout Sessions: Virginia's Health Equity Landscape and Policy Solutions (cont)

Group VI: Healthcare Access: Payment Parity

Moderator: Joel Bundy, M.D., chief quality and safety officer at Sentara Healthcare, with expertise in systems thinking, health metrics, and health equity.

Panelists:

Karen Kimsey, M.S.W., director, Department of Medical Assistance Services with expertise in complex care and Medicaid, addictions, and developmentally disabled.

Andrew Barnes, Ph.D., associate professor of health behavior and policy at VCU with expertise and training behavioral economics.

Beth Bortz, M.P.P, president and CEO at the Virginia Center for Health Innovations with expertise legislative analysis, quality improvement, and non-profit leadership.

Rebekah Compton, DNP, RN, FNP-BC, is director of ambulatory quality improvement and associate medical director of the UVA Family Medicine Primary Care Clinic. She has expertise in women's health and the care of refugees.



Group VII: Educational Opportunity

Moderator: David Naff, Ph.D., assistant director of research and evaluation for the Metropolitan Educational Research Consortium with expertise in educational equity, socioeconomic status and educational outcomes, and program evaluation.

Panelists:

Senator Siobhan Dunnavant, M.D., serves on the senate's Education and Health Committee. In addition to her political role, she runs a health-care business and practices in obstetrics and gynecology.

Mallory Hudson, M.S.N., B.S.N., RN-C, is a school nurse at Cold Harbor Elementary School with expertise in the health needs of children.

Michele Cosby, Psy.D., LCP, is in pediatric psychology at the Virginia Treatment Center for Children. She has expertise in family therapy, risk assessment, and crisis intervention.

Julie Cox, M.A., LPC, is a crisis clinician with the Chesterfield Community Services Board, specializing in suicide assessment and prevention.

PROGRAM AGENDA			
Promoting the Outcomes and Future Challenges			
11:20 – 11:35	Instant Recap – Highlights from Group Sessions.		
11:35 – 11:55	Jean Giddens, Ph.D., RN, FAAN, dean and professor, VCU School of Nursing. "The National Academy of Medicine and Health Equity: Cues to How Virginia Could Benefit from National Directives."		
11:55 – 12:15	Susan Gooden, Ph.D., dean and professor, L. Douglas Wilder School of Government & Public Affairs. "The Next Steps – Through the Lens of Interdisciplinary, Multi-Sector, and Community Engaged Policy Development."		

This program has been planned by the Affiliate Scholars associated with the Langston Center for Innovation in Quality and Safety. This group represents nursing, medicine, physical therapy, innovators, and a professional evaluator. The link to this group is: https://nursing.vcu.edu/langston-center/signature-programs/



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