



**Minority Fellowship  
Program**

Substance Abuse and Mental Health  
Services Administration  
American Nurses Association

**2021**

# **Virtual Intensive Summer Institute**

---

**AUGUST  
19-21**

---

Theme: Advancing  
Behavioral Health Equity  
among Ethnic and Racial Minority  
and Indigenous Populations

**Speakers and Moderators**

(All Sessions are held in EDT)

# SPEAKERS & MODERATORS

THURSDAY, AUGUST 19

## GRADUATION AND AWARDS CEREMONY



**ANA President Ernest Grant, PhD, RN, FAAN**

### **ANA President Ernest Grant, PhD, RN, FAAN**

**Dr. Ernest J. Grant** is the 36th president of the American Nurses Association (ANA), the nation's largest nurse's organization representing the interests of the nation's 4.2 million registered nurses.

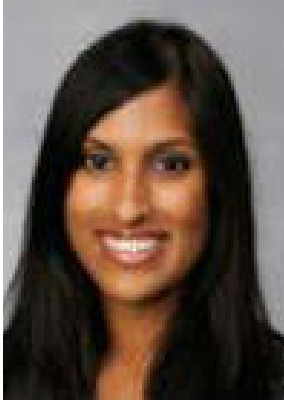
A distinguished leader, Dr. Grant has more than 30 years of nursing experience and is an internationally recognized burn-care and fire-safety expert. He previously served as the burn outreach coordinator for the North Carolina Jaycee Burn Center at University of North Carolina (UNC) Hospitals in Chapel Hill. In this role, Grant oversaw burn education for physicians, nurses, and other allied health care personnel and ran the center's nationally acclaimed burn prevention program, which promotes safety and works to reduce burn-related injuries through public education and the legislative process. Dr. Grant also serves as adjunct faculty for the UNC-Chapel

Hill School of Nursing, where he works with undergraduate and graduate nursing students in the classroom and clinical settings.

Dr. Grant is frequently sought out for his expertise as a clinician and educator. In addition to being a prolific speaker, he has conducted numerous burn-education courses with various branches of the U.S. military in preparation for troops' deployment to Iraq and Afghanistan. In 2002, President George W. Bush presented Grant with a Nurse of the Year Award for his work treating burn victims from the World Trade Center site. In 2013, Dr. Grant received the B.T. Fowler Lifetime Achievement Award from the North Carolina Fire and Life Safety Education Council for making a difference in preventing the devastating effects of fire and burn injuries and deaths within the state.

An active participant in professional organizations, Dr. Grant is a past chair of the National Fire Protection Association board of directors and served as second vice president of the American Burn Association board of trustees. He also holds membership in Sigma Theta Tau and Chi Eta Phi. Dr. Grant served as president of the North Carolina Nurses Association from 2009-11. In 2002, ANA honored Dr. Grant with the Honorary Nursing Practice Award for his contributions to the advancement of nursing practice through strength of character, commitment, and competence.

Dr. Grant holds a BSN degree from North Carolina Central University and MSN and PhD degrees from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. He was inducted as a fellow into the American Academy of Nursing in 2014. He is the first man to be elected to the office of president of the American Nurses Association.



Nima Chatur Sheth, MD,  
MPH

## Nima Chatur Sheth, M.D., MPH

---

### Senior Advisor, Center for Mental Health Services, SAMHSA

**Dr. Sheth** is a psychiatrist by training and has a strong public health background. Prior to her arrival at SAMHSA, she worked at Georgetown University Hospital as Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychiatry. During her time there she served as clinician, researcher, and educator, primarily focusing her efforts on improving care of the critically mentally ill and highly traumatized populations both nationally and internationally. She served as medical director of the partial hospitalization program, was regularly involved in the training of residents, and ran a busy clinic that primarily focused on severely ill and traumatized populations. Her research projects to date have largely focused on improving community mental health care programs and systems for underserved populations.

Dr. Sheth has also served as psychiatric consultant for various community clinics as well as led various trauma initiatives across organizations. This work has provided her with significant experience in the management of clinical and administrative processes for challenging and high-risk patient populations and effective practice of care across disciplines.

Dr. Sheth has special expertise in cultural psychiatry and the care of forced migrants and has provided numerous trainings on trauma-informed care for migrant populations to various NGOs and community organizations as well as to trainees. She has served as psychiatric consultant to the World Health Organization and worked in a number of international projects across the Middle East, advising on increasing mental health capacity, improving the quality of mental health services, strengthening referral networks, and coordinating collaborative and integrative care.

Dr. Sheth has extensive experience in working in interdisciplinary teams to solve the complex mental health problems that lie at the nexus of clinical, administrative, and policy issues, as well as advising on clinical considerations and overseeing efforts to increase access to quality mental health care for vulnerable populations.

## MODERATORS

**Bridgette M. Brawner, PhD, MDiv, APRN**

**Freida H. Outlaw, PhD, RN, APRN, FAAN**



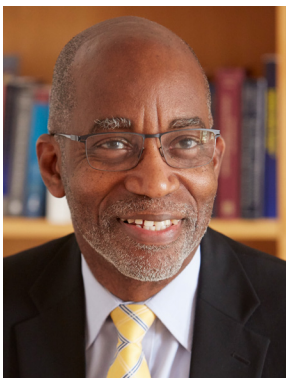
Ali R. Tayyeb, PhD, RN-BC,  
PHN

## Ali R. Tayyeb, PhD, RN-BC, PHN

---

**Dr. Tayyeb**, an Assistant Professor and U.S. Navy Veteran, works at California State University in Los Angeles. He will be sketch noting with purposeful words and doodle drawing selected sessions, in real time, through-out the three-day 2021 MFP/ANA Intensive Summer Institute.

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 20**



David R. Williams, *PhD, MPH*

## **David R. Williams, *PhD, MPH***

**Dr. David R. Williams** is the Florence and Laura Norman Professor of Public Health and Chair, Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences, at Harvard's T.H. Chan School of Public Health. He is also a Professor of African and African American Studies at Harvard University. His prior academic appointments were at Yale University and the University of Michigan. He holds an MPH from Loma Linda University and a PhD in sociology from the University of Michigan.

He is an internationally recognized authority on social influences on health. He has been invited to keynote scientific conferences in Europe, Africa, Australia, the Middle East, South America and across the U.S. The author

of more than 475 scientific papers, his research has enhanced our understanding of the ways in which race, socioeconomic status, stress, racism, health behavior and religious involvement can affect health.

He is an elected member of the National Academy of Medicine, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the National Academy of Sciences. He has received Distinguished Contribution Awards from the American Sociological Association, the American Psychological Association, and the New York Academy of Medicine. He was ranked as the Most Cited Black Scholar in the Social Sciences, worldwide, in 2008. In 2014, Thomson Reuters ranked him as one of the World's Most Influential Scientific Minds.

He has played a national leadership role in raising awareness levels of inequities in health and interventions to address them. He has served on 10 Committees for the National Academy of Sciences, as the staff director of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Commission to Build a Healthier America and as a key scientific advisor to the award-winning PBS film series, *Unnatural Causes: Is inequality Making Us Sick?* His research has been featured in the national print and television media and in his TED Talk.

## **MODERATOR**

**Brianna Singleton, MPH, RN, PHH, AGPCNP-BC**



Susan B. Hassmiller, *PhD, RN, FAAN*

## Susan B. Hassmiller, *PhD, RN, FAAN*

### Senior Adviser for Nursing

**Dr. Susan Hassmiller** is serving as the Senior Scholar-In-Residence and Senior Adviser to the President on Nursing at the National Academy of Medicine from January 2019 through August 2021. In this role, she serves as a key member of the leadership team for the report, *The Future of Nursing 2020-2030: Charting a Path to Achieve Health Equity*, released in May 2021. She is also the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Senior Adviser for Nursing, and in partnership with AARP, she directs the Foundation's Future of Nursing: Campaign for Action. This national initiative advances the recommendations of the Institute of Medicine report, *The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health*. Hassmiller served as the report's study director.

Dr. Hassmiller has worked in public health settings at the local, state, and national levels, including the Health Resources and Services Administration. She taught community health nursing at the University of Nebraska and George Mason University.

Dr. Hassmiller is an elected member of the National Academy of Medicine, a fellow in the American Academy of Nursing and sits on other advisory committees and boards, including the Hackensack Meridian Health System, UnitedHealth, Carrier Clinic, NursesEverywhere, and the American Red Cross. She is the recipient of many awards and four honorary doctorates, but most notably the Florence Nightingale Medal, the highest international honor given to a nurse by the International Committee of the Red Cross.

## MODERATOR

**Griselle Estrada, MSN, RN**

## DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION PANEL



Patricia K. Bradley, *PhD, RN, FAAN*

## Patricia K. Bradley, *PhD, RN, FAAN*

**Dr. Bradley**, Associate Professor and Associate Dean Inclusive Excellence, M. Louise Fitzpatrick College of Nursing, Villanova University, is a leading expert in psychiatric mental health nursing. She has a particular expertise in the psycho-social aspects of breast cancer screening, diagnosis, treatment, and survivorship among African American women. Dr. Pat, as the community calls her, has developed training programs and materials focusing on the needs of the African American community using a psychosocial-spiritual approach. Her current work focuses on diversity, equity, and inclusion, fostering cultural humility in students and healthcare providers, and eliminating health inequities. Dr. Bradley is a fellow in the American Academy of Nursing and serves as Chair of the Academy's Cultural Competence & Health Equity Expert Panel. She is also a member of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing's Diversity Equity and Inclusion Group.





Sheldon D. Fields, *PhD, RN, CRNP, FNP-BC, AACRN, FAANP, FNAP, FAAN*

## Sheldon D. Fields, *PhD, RN, CRNP, FNP-BC, AACRN, FAANP, FNAP, FAAN*

**Dr. Fields** is Research Professor and Associate Dean for Equity and Inclusion in the College of Nursing at Penn State University. He is also founder and CEO of “The S.D.F Group, LLC”, which is a health innovation consultant company ([www.thesdfgrp.com](http://www.thesdfgrp.com)). He has 30 years of experience in the health sector as an educator, researcher, clinician, administrator, consultant, health policy specialist, and entrepreneur / business owner. Dr. Fields is a well-known and respected HIV/AIDS prevention research scientist with a significant focus on young men of color. He is an Advanced AIDS Certified Registered Nurse and a Board-Certified Family Nurse Practitioner. He is a lifetime member of the National Black Nurses Association, Inc., (NBNA) and currently serves as

the organization’s national 1st Vice President (2020 – 2022). He was the first ever male Registered Nurse selected for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Fellowship Program in which he served as a policy adviser to then Senator Barbara Mikulski (D-MD) on the Senate HELP committee during the historic healthcare reform debates and passage of the Affordable Care Act.

Dr. Fields is a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing, the American Association of Nurse Practitioners, and the National Academies of Practice. He has held academic and administrative positions at Binghamton University, University of Rochester, Florida International University, Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science, New York Institute of Technology, and Long Island University-Brooklyn. Dr. Fields received his Ph.D., in Nursing Science from the University of Pennsylvania, his M.S., in Family Nursing and B.S., in Nursing from Binghamton University. He completed his post-doctoral work in the Center for AIDS Prevention Studies at the University of California San Francisco.

### Social Media Links

Penn state faculty link: <https://www.nursing.psu.edu/directory/fields/>

NBNA Officers link: <https://www.nbna.org/officers>

LinkedIN: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/sheldon-d-fields-phd-rn-crn-p-fnp-bc-aacrn-fnap-faanp-faan-a5255476/>

Wikipedia: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sheldon\\_D.\\_Fields](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sheldon_D._Fields)



Coretta M. Jenerette, *PhD, RN, AOCN, CNE, ANEF, FAAN*

## Coretta M. Jenerette, *PhD, RN, AOCN, CNE, ANEF, FAAN*

**Dr. Jenerette** received a Ph.D. and MSN from the University of South Carolina and her BSN from Clemson University. She completed a certificate in nursing education at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and is a certified nurse educator. She also completed post-doctoral fellowships at both Yale University and The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Shortly after entering the nursing profession, Dr. Jenerette was exposed to the plight of adults with sickle cell disease (SCD). She now knows that much of the inequity in care for individuals with SCD is due to structural and social determinants of health, implicit and explicit bias, lack of knowledge, myths about Black people, and racism. Her research focuses on

improving holistic health outcomes in sickle cell disease and for other vulnerable populations. In 2020, she was selected by Sickle Cell 101 as the National Sickle Cell Advocate of the Year.

She is a 2018 Macy Faculty Scholar, and her project, Simulation in Ph.D. Programs or SiPP®, is an initiative to blend Ph.D. students' conceptual understanding of social determinants of health and diversity and inclusion using experiential learning (simulation) to cultivate social justice advocates. Dr. Jenerette was recently inducted as a Fellow in the Academy of Nursing Education (ANEF), and she completed a certificate in Diversity and Inclusion from Cornell University.

Dr. Jenerette integrates her roles as the Associate Dean for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusivity, a researcher, an educator, and a servant leader.



Rolanda Johnson, PhD, RN, MSN

## Rolanda Johnson, PhD, RN, MSN

**Dr. Johnson** is associate dean for equity, diversity and inclusion, assistant dean for academics, and professor of nursing at Vanderbilt University School of Nursing (VUSN) located in Nashville, TN. Dr. Johnson oversees VUSN's efforts to support and foster an environment that is culturally appreciative and inclusive, particularly for historically underrepresented and marginalized groups and individuals. She has led the implementation of numerous programs and events to heighten the levels of equality, diversity, and inclusion throughout the school.

In her 25 years at VUSN, Dr. Johnson has provided leadership for a variety of initiatives, including serving as director of the Fisk University-Vanderbilt University Nursing Collaborative Program, re-establishing the school's

Black Student Nurses Affinity Group, and representing VUSN in campus-wide programs that included chairing the Provost's Task Force on Sexual Assault and serving on the Chancellor's Diversity and Inclusion Committee. Under Dr. Johnson's leadership, the active engagement of the Black Student Nurses Affinity Group has led to the establishment of numerous student affinity groups across race, gender, and sexual identity. In fall 2018, VUSN instituted holistic admissions in the student application process. Since implementation, the school has seen an annual increase in the percentage of enrolled diverse students to 25% of ethnic-racial students.

In her work as assistant dean for academics, Dr. Johnson is charged with assisting students with special curriculum needs or who experience academic difficulty.

Dr. Johnson's research has focused on the health behaviors of African Americans across socioeconomic status. Her most recent research studies have included the exploration of health behaviors of low-income community residents and the relationships among pharmacy deserts, adherence to medication regimens, and health outcomes. Dr. Johnson was a fellow in the SAMHSA Minority Fellowship Program (MFP) at the American Nurses Association between 1995-1998 and continues to work with MFP as an alum. She also works extensively with the American Association of Colleges of Nursing diversity efforts, including serving as a member of its Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Group, Inaugural Diversity Symposium Planning Committee, and Diversity Leadership Institute Advisory Team.

## MODERATOR

**Dante Barrett, MBA, RN, BSN**

# ACHIEVING HEALTH EQUITY AMONG INDIGENOUS GROUPS THROUGH NURSE LED INDIGENOUS RESEARCH



John R. Lowe, PhD, RN, FAAN

## John R. Lowe, PhD, RN, FAAN

---

**Dr. Lowe** is a professor and Joseph Blades Centennial Memorial Professorship Chair at the University of Texas at Austin. Dr. Lowe has developed and studies interventions for the prevention and reduction of substance use and other risk behaviors among Native American and Indigenous youth and young adults. These studies and other health programs are guided models that Dr. Lowe developed which include the Cherokee Self-Reliance, Native Self-Reliance, and Native-Reliance Models. Dr. Lowe also developed the first manualized Talking Circle evidence-based intervention to reduce substance use and other risk behaviors among Native American and Indigenous people. Dr. Lowe was the first Native American man to be inducted as a fellow in the American Academy of Nursing.



Odette Best, PhD, RN, FAAN

## Odette Best, PhD, RN, FAAN

---

**Dr. Best**, a member of the Gorreng Gorreng and Boonthamurra and Yugambah people, she is a Registered Nurse and a Professor in the School of Nursing and Midwifery at the University of Southern Queensland. She received her Doctor of Philosophy in 2012. Her research was titled *Yatdjulin: The Stories of Queensland Aboriginal Registered Nurses 1950-2005*.

The USQ School of Nursing and Midwifery is the first school in Australia to undertake cultural safety professional development. Odette has led this school-wide commitment and collaborated with external experts to deliver a cultural safety package for all school members to undertake.

She has also been active in the QNMU's First Nations Branch in advocating for cultural safety professional development. As the Associate Head - Indigenous Research within the School of Nursing and Midwifery, it is Odette's mandate to increase the visibility and outputs of Indigenous nurse-led research.

In 2019, USQ held the second International Indigenous Nurse-led Research Summit, of which Odette was the Australian Convenor. This brought together 150 mostly Indigenous nurses from across the globe to share their research, strengthen networks and create collaborative projects globally.

Her own research has been to develop the historiography of Indigenous women as nurses and midwives, particularly under protectionist and segregation policies between the 1890s and 1950s. She is published in this work and regularly presents at conferences and curates' exhibitions such as the Unmasked exhibition at Her Place Museum in Melbourne. She is a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing (2018) and a Fellow of the Australian College of Nursing (2021).





R. Lisa Bourque Bearskin,  
*PhD, RN*

## R. Lisa Bourque Bearskin, *PhD, RN*

**Dr. Lisa Bourque Bearskin** is a member of Beaver Lake Cree Nation who works as a Clinical Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Nursing, University of Alberta. As a single mother of two sets of twins, Dr. Bourque Bearskin has been a practicing nurse for over 25 years. She is passionate about addressing health inequities and health disparities in Aboriginal Health and advocates for cultural safe practice guided by Indigenous ways of knowing and being.

Dr. Bourque Bearskin has worked for First Nations, Inuit Health as a Community Health Nurse and for Alberta Health Services as clinical nurse specialist. She has developed and delivered an Aboriginal Licensed Practical Nursing Program with Masckwacis Cree Nation in partnership with NorQuest College, taught in the Arctic Nursing program (BScN) in Nunavut and teaches in the Collaborative

Baccalaureate Nursing Program at the University of Alberta. Including teaching in the first mandatory Aboriginal education course delivered to all Education students by the Indigenous Peoples Education Program in the Department of Educational Policy Studies at the University of Alberta.

In her role as President of the Aboriginal Nurses Association she strongly supports the vision of nurses who lead and advance Indigenous knowledge in nursing practice, education research and policy development. She has worked with the Faculty of Nursing since 2005 and has been a strong supporter of nursing leadership in delivering Primary Health Care's Services to vulnerable populations. Her teaching philosophy is ground in critical self-reflexive lifelong learning that supports the development of nurses' observational gaze through the wonderment of questioning.



Terryann Clark, *PhD, RN, MPH*

## Terryann Clark, *PhD, RN, MPH*

**Dr. Clark (TC)** is an Indigenous nurse from New Zealand from the Ngāpuhi Iwi (tribe), and mother of two children. She is an Associate Professor School of Nursing, University of Auckland, New Zealand / Child and Youth public health promotion coordinator for Mahitahi Hauora Primary Healthcare Organisation, Whangarei, New Zealand.

TC trained as a nurse 30 years ago at Manukau Technical Institute, completed a Masters in Public health at Auckland University and did a PhD and Fellowship in Adolescent Health at the University of Minnesota. She also completed the Indigenous social determinants of wellbeing three-year training programme at Johns Hopkins Centre for American Indian Health. As a nurse, she has worked as a Maori community health worker, sexual health nurse, adolescent nurse specialist and youth mental health nurse.

TC is a founding member of the New Zealand Adolescent Health Research Group since 1998 and has led the Youth'12 and co-led the Youth'19 national youth health and wellbeing surveys ([www.youth19.ac.nz](http://www.youth19.ac.nz)). She also currently leads an HRC project exploring whanaungatanga and rangatahi thriving (traditional family relationships and how this impacts youth outcomes). TC has over 80 peer-reviewed publications, written 65 published research reports and has over 3200 citations. She has been the lead investigator in over \$3.1 million in research contracts and named co-investigator on seven other large research projects in her career, totalling over 10 million dollars.

Her major research and clinical interests are youth health, indigenous health, mental health, sexual health, advocacy, and healthy youth development with a strong focus on addressing inequity. TC serves on several national advisory groups including a National Youth Health Leadership Group for the Ministry of Health, External advisory group for the student wellbeing project with the Ministry of Education and was recently part of the Maori Expert Advisory Group for the New Zealand Health and Disability Review and reform. She is most proud of the advocacy and influence her research has had on New Zealand policy and service delivery.



Eugenia Millender, *PhD, RN, PMHNP-BC, CDE*

## Eugenia Millender, *PhD, RN, PMHNP-BC, CDE*

---

**Dr. Millender** is the Co-Founding Director and Associate Director of the Center for Population Sciences and Health Equity at Florida State University. This research center was created to lead and implement community-engaged, scientific, operational research and practice using population sciences principles and tools to promote health equity among marginalized, underserved, and vulnerable populations nationally and internationally. She is also an Associate Professor at the College of Nursing, Florida State University. Previously, Dr. Millender was a Research Associate at the Center for Indigenous Nursing Research for Health Equity (INRHE) at Florida State University. In 2014, she founded the Florida Atlantic University

Christine E. College of Nursing Nurse-led community health center in West Palm Beach, Florida. This center is grounded on caring philosophy and dedicated to increasing access to quality and culturally sensitive integrated care for underserved populations while serving as a vibrant laboratory for current and future practitioners and scientists.

Dr. Millender's research program investigates ways to reduce mental health disparities related to stress and trauma among indigenous and vulnerable populations. Dr. Millender's research focuses on studying the efficacy of culturally relevant surveillance and interventions in community settings to mitigate or prevent mental health and co-occurring cardiovascular disease disparities. She explores how stress, trauma, depression, and socio-cultural determinants influence trans-generational psychological and physical health disparities among minority and underserved groups. She works with grassroots organizations and interdisciplinary teams to understand how depression, anxiety, stress, and trauma are expressed through gene-environment interaction.

As an indigenous Afro-Latina nurse scientist, Dr. Eugenia Millender's career is dedicated to increasing access to quality care, decreasing co-occurring mental disparities and cardiovascular disease, and providing culturally appropriate care. Dr. Millender currently serves on several boards and leadership positions, such as the American Psychiatric Nurses Association (APNA) as Member-At-Large. She is also a Global Alliance for Behavioral Health and Social Justice Global Mental Health Task Force member to promote social justice and human rights and reduce behavioral health disparities. She is also a Florida State University Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA) Steering Committee member. In addition, Dr. Millender serves on several community boards, including the Center for Child Counseling (Vice-chair; 2013-present), EmpowHER of the Palm Beaches (advisory board; 2017-present), and the Mental Health Council of Leon County (advisory board; 2018-present).

## **MODERATOR**

**Amelia Lee, MSN, RN**

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 20**

## **HEALTH AND WELLNESS WORKSHOP: RACE AND TRAUMA**



Broderick Sawyer, PhD

### **Broderick Sawyer, PhD**

**Dr. Broderick Sawyer** is a clinical psychologist, meditation teacher, and activist working in CT, NY, and KY. Dr. Sawyer specializes in helping historically oppressed racial groups achieve a positive self-image by re-working unconscious internalized racist messages, developing emotional intelligence with mindfulness and compassion, and finding authentic relationships. His work is inspired by his clinical training, personal and ongoing experiences of anti-Black racism, and personal practice and study of meditation.

Earning his PhD from the University of Louisville and completing his internship at Stony Brook University, Dr. Sawyer received integrative clinical training, with a broad array of treatment perspectives. He is well versed in many treatment orientations, including but not limited to: Mindfulness and acceptance,

compassion-focused, cognitive behavioral therapy, acceptance and commitment therapy, brief relational psychodynamic, attachment, liberation psychology, and Buddhist psychology. Using his eclectic focus, he has experience working with race-based stress and trauma, anxiety, depression, trauma, obsessive-compulsive disorder, and eating disorders. Dr. Sawyer has also written a variety of scientific articles and book chapters on racial health disparities in psychology.

Dr. Sawyer has an enthusiastic interest in mindfulness and compassion-based meditation, and has taught and practiced for almost 6 years. He spends much free time reading Eastern philosophy to continue to enhance his own meditation practice and understanding. His spirited personal interest allows him to authentically engage in his own practice, while also able to teach others at varying levels of skill. When teaching about healing racial trauma, Dr. Sawyer strongly encourages mindfulness and compassion-based practices.

In terms of his current activities, Dr. Sawyer offers diversity and mental health consultation to organizations, provides lectures and keynotes, teaches mindfulness and compassion-based meditation, provides workshops, and a variety of customizable trainings. Lastly, he is in the process of publishing a self-help book on healing racial trauma. For more information or to contact Dr. Sawyer you can head to his website: [Brodericksawyer.com](http://Brodericksawyer.com)

## **MODERATOR**

**Joi Henry, DNP, MSN, RN, CNL**

# MEHARRY MEDICAL COLLEGE COVID 19 VACCINE COMMUNITY EXPERIENCE



Amber DuVentre, MS, CNP

## Amber DuVentre, MS, CNP

**Ms. DuVentre** currently serves as risk manager for Meharry Medical College and Logistics Lead for Nashville's COVID -19 testing and vaccination sites, in Nashville Tennessee.

Her previous work appointments include provider relations navigator for LifePoint Health, director of community and corporate relations for Saint Thomas Health, director of program implementation for the Governor's Foundation for Health and Wellness, where she worked toward faith-based efforts, chief of staff in the Office of the President at Meharry Medical College and program coordinator of the HBCU Wellness Project, also at Meharry. Prior to joining Meharry, Ms. DuVentre worked for her alma mater, Murray State

University, as the coordinator of Domestic and Graduate Recruitment, recruiting students throughout the Midwest and Southeast regions.

She earned her Bachelor of Science degree in organizational communication with an emphasis in youth and nonprofit leadership, as well as a Master of Science degree in human development and leadership with an emphasis in public administration from Murray State University.

Amber has unparalleled experience in competitive public speaking, leadership training and city planning. She holds membership in several professional organizations. She has also contributed to two public speaking textbooks. She is active with various organizations and agencies that focus on literacy, college planning, homelessness, and food insecurities.



Julie Gray, D.D.S.

## Julie Gray, D.D.S.

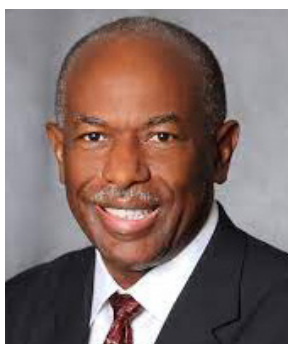
As a general dentist, business owner and educator, Dr. Julie A. Gray has served patients, families, and communities by delivering health care in the Nashville community since 1999. She is currently an Associate Dean of Community Based Education at Meharry Medical College, School of Dentistry and has a dental practice in Berry Hill.

Dr. Gray is currently the Associate Dean of Community Based Collaborations. Her primary duties and responsibilities include expanding the reach of the Dental School, while developing sustainable impactful programs. Since the onset of the pandemic in March 2020, Dr. Gray has overseen the Meharry Medical College Community Assessment sites, one of the first mass operational plans established in the country.

Dr. Gray earned her Doctor of Dental Surgery Degree from Meharry Medical College, School of Dentistry in 1999. She attended the General Practice Residency Program at Meharry Medical College from 2000-2001. After receiving her license, Dr. Gray practiced in a corporate dental setting from 2002-2005 before purchasing a private practice in 2005. She joined the Department of Restorative Dentistry at Meharry Medical College School of Dentistry as an Assistant Professor on a part-time basis in 2010. She became full time in 2013. Serving as Dean of Student Affairs, Dr. Gray has built a portfolio of student engagement, retention, advocacy, leadership support and community service. She is the Course Director and instructor for the Expanded Function Dental Assistant program in Restorative Dentistry (EFDA), which expands the reach to dental assistants in Tennessee.

Dr. Gray continues to serve in numerous professional and social organizations in which she belongs and has a long-standing commitment to inspiring others to reach their passion.

Dr. Gray is a native of Houston, Texas and was inspired to join the field of dentistry after attending a dental summer program. Dr. Gray is married to Phillip Gray II, DDS, has two children, Jillian, aged 20, and Phillip Gray III (Trey), aged 17, and a Yorkie named, Sammie. She cares for her mother who has lived with her family since 2005. She has a sincere passion for serving and a love for the community that she serves.



James E. K. Hildreth, *Ph.D., M.D.*

## James E. K. Hildreth, *PhD, M.D.*

**Dr. Hildreth** is the 12th president and chief executive officer of Meharry Medical College, the nation's largest private, independent historically black academic health sciences center. Dr. Hildreth obtained a B.A. in chemistry from Harvard University and was selected as the first African-American Rhodes scholar from Arkansas. He obtained a Ph.D in immunology from Oxford University. He obtained an M.D. from Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and took a leave of absence from medical school for a postdoctoral fellowship in pharmacology at Johns Hopkins.

Dr. Hildreth is an internationally recognized researcher in HIV and has received numerous awards for his research and advocacy for diversity

in healthcare and research. He is a member of the National Academy of Medicine and has served on several national advisory boards. Dr. Hildreth currently serves on the Advisory Council to the NIH Director, the Veteran's Administration National Academic Affiliations Council and the board of directors of the Association of Academic Health Centers. In September of 2020 Dr. Hildreth was appointed to the FDA Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee, the panel that reviews COVID-19 vaccines for approval. In February of 2021, he was appointed by President Biden to the COVID-19 Health Equity Task Force.



Patrick Johnson, *BA*

## Patrick Johnson, *BA*

**Mr. Johnson** serves as the Senior Associate Vice President for Institutional Advancement at Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee. In that role, he helped the College advance the President's strategic vision by cementing relationships with major corporations and foundations, including Amgen, Wal Mart and Vertex Pharmaceuticals as well as the Cal Turner Family Foundation, The Kresge Foundation, and The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Leading a team of 26, he built the development infrastructure for a \$200 million comprehensive initiative supporting clinical programs, training experiences and community engagement opportunities through affiliations with a range of nonprofit, private and government healthcare organizations. Patrick was notably adept at

guiding the leadership across the college's schools to identify and create targeted strategies to align support for specific priorities. In June 2020 he became a Co-Founder at ReCOVer-Health, LLC Concierge COVID management solutions, which provides risk mitigation management solutions to the business community, as it relates to epidemiological challenges.

## MODERATOR

**Jovon Taylor, MSN-ED, RN, APRN, PMHNP-BC**



## Closing Talking Circle MFP/ANA Fellow's Reflections

---

Dante Barrett, MBA, BSN, RN

Marlene Brennen, DNP, FNP-BC, PMHNP-BC, APRN

Caesar Rangel, BSN, RN

Melissa Smith, MSN, RN-BC, PMHNP-BC

### MODERATOR

John R. Lowe, PhD, RN, FAAN

### MODERATORS BIOS

*(All session moderators and volunteers for the Fellows' Talking Circle Reflections are current and alumni Fellows of the MFP/ANA)*



Bridgette Brawner, PhD,  
MDiv, APRN

### Bridgette Brawner, PhD, MDiv, APRN

---

**Dr. Brawner** is a Professor at the M. Louise Fitzpatrick College of Nursing at Villanova University. She is slated to become the Richard and Marianne Kreider Endowed Professor in Nursing for Vulnerable Populations in January 2022. Up until August 2021, she was a tenured Associate Professor in the School of Nursing, and a Senior Fellow in the Leonard Davis Institute of Health Economics and the Center for Public Health Initiatives, at the University of Pennsylvania. She graduated Cum Laude from Villanova University in 2003 with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and she earned a Master of Science in Nursing from Penn as a Psychiatric-Mental Health Advanced Practice Registered Nurse in 2005 specializing in working with children and families. Dr. Brawner earned a Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing from Penn in 2009 and was selected as

the University's inaugural Distinguished Postdoctoral Fellow immediately upon completion of the degree. In 2011, Dr. Brawner was selected as one of four scholars from across the nation to serve as a two-year Visiting Research Fellow at the Yale University Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS (CIRA) through the Research Education Institute for Diverse Scholars (REIDS). Most recently, she completed a Master of Divinity in 2017 at the Palmer Theological Seminary of Eastern University. A recognized behavioral science and intervention development expert, she has worked on a myriad of HIV/sexually transmitted infection (STI) risk reduction programs both locally and internationally. Dr. Brawner is a dedicated community-based researcher who believes "the populations we serve must be an integral component of our work, before our grants are even written." Her clinical practice ranges from working with youth who are infected with and affected by HIV/AIDS, to partnering with behavioral health providers to develop standardized methods of sexual health assessment and intervention for adolescents with mental illnesses.



Freida H. Outlaw, PhD, RN,  
APRN, FAAN

## Freida H. Outlaw, PhD, RN, APRN, FAAN

### MFP/ANA Executive Academic Consultant

**Dr. Freida Hopkins Outlaw** has over forty years of experience as a clinician, researcher, educator, and policy maker in public mental health and substance abuse. She is currently the academic consultant for the SAMHSA Minority Fellowship Program at the American Nurses Association. Prior, she was an Associate Professor, Meharry Medical College and the Director of the Meharry Youth Health and Wellness Center, a health care delivery system with a special focus on LGBTQ youth. Prior to this appointment, for eight years she was the assistant commissioner, Division of Special Populations, Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services. In this role, she focused

on developing policies and initiatives that improved treatment for children and adolescents with mental health and substance abuse issues. In addition, she provided leadership in securing thirty-two million dollars of federal funding to support transforming the state's mental health system for children and their families and was part of the leadership that was instrumental in passing legislation to create the Children's Mental Health Council that was required to develop a plan for a statewide system of care implementation, which continues today.

Dr. Outlaw was also an Associate Professor, and Director of the Graduate Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing Program, University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing for a number of years.

She received her Baccalaureate in Nursing from Berea College, Masters in Psychiatric Nursing from Boston College, and a PhD. from The Catholic University of America and completed her postdoctoral study at the University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Outlaw has written in the areas of cultural diversity, management of aggression, seclusion and restraint, the role of religion, spirituality, and the meaning of prayer for people with cancer, the use of the Geriatric Depression Scale with older African Americans, Black women and depression, children's mental health, and the recruitment of African Americans into clinical trials, mental health parity and health policy. She is an editor of the 7th Edition of Policy and Politics in Nursing and Health Care which won the American Nurses Association's Book of the Year Award in 2015. Her most recent publications have focused on Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and trauma informed care, the mental health needs of minority LGBTQ youth and the social construction of racial whiteness in nursing education in historically and predominately white schools of nursing.

Dr. Outlaw is a member of the American Academy of Nursing and a member of the Psychiatric Mental Health Expert Panel.

## GRADUATE FELLOW MODERATORS AND TALKING CIRCLE PARTICIPANTS



Dante Barrett, MBA, RN, BSN

### **Dante Barrett, MBA, RN, BSN**

**Mr. Barrett** is a first-year Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP) student at Anderson University in South Carolina. Previously, Mr. Barrett earned a Master of Business Administration in Healthcare Management from Western Governors University and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the Medical University of South Carolina. Currently, Mr. Barrett works as a staff nurse on an adult inpatient unit mental health unit at a Veterans Health Administration hospital. This unit focuses on the care of veterans being treated for an acute mental health crisis, substance use disorders, and therapeutic adherence to pharmacological treatment.

Prior to Nursing, Mr. Barrett worked as a public health advisor with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and served in the U.S. Air Force

as an emergency medical technician. Mr. Barrett plans to use the Advanced Practice Nursing degree to serve the African American community in the treatment of substance use disorders and to maximize the mental health care and treatment of members of the community incarcerated at the local, state, and federal levels.

Mr. Barrett is a member of the American Nurses Association.



Marlene Brennen, DNP, FNP-BC, PMHNP-BC, APRN

### **Marlene Brennen, DNP, FNP-BC, PMHNP-BC, APRN**

**Marlene Brennen, DNP, FNP-BC, PMHNP-BC, APRN** is pursuing a PhD at Florida Atlantic University, Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing (FAU) where she is an Assistant Professor teaching at both the graduate and undergraduate levels. Her PhD research phenomenon of interest is stress-driven epigenomics among African American pregnant women. In 2016, Dr. Brennen attended the Summer Genetic Institute (SGI), an intensive month of education and laboratory training on genetics and genomics, at the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR) and gained knowledge that informs her research focus.

Dr. Brennen obtained her Associate Degree in nursing from SUNY Morrisville, in New York and a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from the Pennsylvania

State University where her thesis focused on the relationship of health care behaviors, health perception, and the use of health care service of urban African Americans. In 2012, she earned the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree from Florida Atlantic University. Her quality improvement project focused on the lifestyle management of African American women with hypertension.

Dr. Brennen began her nursing career practicing medical-surgical nursing, then pediatric nursing in New York City. She later practiced as an advanced registered nurse practitioner in primary care. She is an active member of the Florida Nurses Association, the Southern Nursing Research Society, the Renfrew Center, and the Association of Black Nursing Faculty (ABNF) where she has presented both podium and poster presentations.



Griselle Estrada, MSN, RN

## Griselle Estrada, MSN, RN

---

**Griselle Estrada, MSN, RN** is a psychiatric mental health nurse, and nurse educator. Currently, she is fully dedicated to completing her PhD in Nursing with a focus on Transcultural Nursing. She expects to graduate in 2021. Ms. Estrada aims to bring additional research focus on suicide prevention and mental health promotion in the U.S. Hispanic population.

She obtained a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Puerto Rico. She began her career as a medical-surgical nurse in Puerto Rico before moving to the US. Years of volunteer service as a ministry leader in the faith community helped her to identify a need for Spanish-speaking mental health professionals. She changed her career path, received a Master of Science in Nursing at the University of Miami, and became a psychiatric-mental health

nurse practitioner. In 2006, Ms. Estrada recognized her love of teaching and transitioned into being a full-time nurse educator.

She is an active member of the National Association of Hispanic Nurses, serving on the Executive Board of her local chapter and on the Membership Committee at the national level. Ms. Estrada is passionate about mentoring, raising awareness about mental health issues, and serving the Hispanic community.



Joi B. Henry, DNP, MSN, RN, CNL

## Joi B. Henry, DNP, MSN, RN, CNL

---

**Joi B. Henry, DNP, MSN, RN, CNL**, a recipient of the state of Illinois 2021 '40 Under 40' Emerging Nurse Leaders Award, also graduated with her Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree as a Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP) at Rush University College of Nursing. Her DNP quality improvement project focused on mental health awareness and education for minority adolescents in the Chicagoland area. Ms. Henry's goal is to bolster mental health awareness for adolescent minorities through education and early intervention. Her long-term goal is to expand the availability of culturally informed mental health care and increase awareness and availability of early intervention services in minority and underserved communities. She is also passionate about mentoring and promoting cultural diversity within the healthcare system.

She began her career as a substance abuse nurse working with patients addicted to opiates and undergoing medication-assisted treatment. Currently, she works as a classroom nurse at a therapeutic day school providing individualized care to students with autism spectrum disorder as well as other social and emotional disorders. She received a Bachelors' degree in Biology at Monmouth College and a Generalist Entry Master's (GEM) degree from Rush University College of Nursing in 2016. During her time as a GEM student, she was a Robert Wood Johnson scholar as well as a mentor. As a student, she presented at the 2016 American Public Health Association's national conference and published her first integrative review of fatherhood interventions.

She is a member of Sigma Theta Tau Gamma Chapter, American Public Health Association, the American Nurses Association, and the American Psychiatric Nurses Association.



Amelia Lee, MSN, RN

## Amelia Lee, MSN, RN

---

**Amelia Lee, MSN, RN** is a 2021 graduate of the Psychiatric Mental Health Practitioner (PMHNP) program at Vanderbilt University School of Nursing. She plans to work with those who are underserved, with a focus on Korean American and immigrant populations. She has ambitions of becoming part of the movement to break the stigma surrounding mental health and provide greater access to mental health care to those who may not speak English as their first language.

She served as the co-president of VUSN's Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) Student Nurses Group and as the AAPI representative on VUSN Graduate Council. Prior to enrolling at VUSN, Ms. Lee was a research assistant at the Building Knowledge Lab, which sought to discover how

children and adults learn new information. She received her B.A. from VUSN, double majoring in Psychology and Child Development. After receiving her undergraduate degree, she worked as a mental health case manager at a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) where she facilitated bi-directional physical and mental health care.



Caesar Rangel, BSN, RN

## Caesar Rangel, BSN, RN

---

**Caesar Rangel, BSN, RN** is a first-year Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP) student at Walden University School of Nursing. After previously working in medical-surgical telemetry and trauma ICU, Mr. Rangel made the decision to explore psychiatric nursing. He discovered through his exploration a passion for the mental health and substance use community. He currently serves on interdisciplinary team as a Forensic Assertive Community Treatment Care (FACT) bilingual nurse in Phoenix, AZ. Mr. Rangel enjoys working with multigenerational and culturally diverse groups, with an emphasis on advocating for individuals in underserved communities.

Prior to his enrollment at Walden University, Mr. Rangel completed both Certified Nursing Assistant and Licensed Practical Nurse Programs.

Most recently he completed his BSN degree at Grand Canyon University, earning Dean's List and President's List recommendations, allowing for induction into the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing. Mr. Rangel currently serves as Nominations Chair on the National Association of Hispanic Nurses (NAHN) Phoenix chapter board of directors. Serving in this leadership role has allowed Mr. Rangel to further his commitment to helping close the gap in healthcare disparities. He is determined to be a transformational leader and make positive changes within the mental health community and healthcare profession. It is his mission to be a lifelong learner, provide exceptional patient care, and become the best PMHNP he can be.

Mr. Rangel has had the privilege of performing the National Anthem at several MLB spring training games and opened NAHN's 2017 annual conference.





Brianna Singleton, MPH, RN, PHH, AGPCNP-BC

## **Brianna Singleton, MPH, RN, PHH, AGPCNP-BC**

**Brianna Singleton, MPH, RN, PHH, AGPCNP-BC** is pursuing a PhD at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF). Her research focuses on the unique experience of occupational burnout among machine-based workers in the transportation industry. Little is known about the mental burden machine-based workers face, nor is there sufficient research understanding why there are higher rates of tobacco and substance use in this population. As an Adult-Geriatric Primary Care Nurse Practitioner with a specialty in Occupational and Environmental Health and nurse researcher, Ms. Singleton recognizes that building partnerships with local and national organizations, specifically industries that have high concentrations of workers who are vulnerable to increased morbidity and mortality because of their race, ethnicity,

socioeconomic status, immigration status, or disability, is vital in achieving health equity, social equality, and a healthier Earth.

Ms. Singleton is currently working as a nurse practitioner at an occupational health clinic, St. James Infirmary, which provides services exclusively for current and former sex workers. She also works as a nurse practitioner at San Francisco Community Health Center, a federally qualified health center that provides holistic and integrated care using a compassionate and harm-reduction praxis. Her desire is to provide high-quality patient as a nurse practitioner and to conduct evidence-based research as a nurse scientist to improve the quality of life and health outcomes of people who have been marginalized by institutional racism and social inequality.

She received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Interdisciplinary Studies from the University of California, Riverside, and a Master of Public Health degree from the University of San Francisco. She is a proud alum of UCSF's Master's Entry Program in Nursing and Master of Science in Nursing program.



Melissa A. Smith, PMHNP-BC, MSN, RN-BC

## **Melissa A. Smith, PMHNP-BC, MSN, RN-BC**

**Melissa A. Smith, PMHNP-BC, MSN, RN-BC**, is pursuing a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree at the University of South Alabama. Her research goal is to develop and integrate a standardized mental healthcare model.

She is a Mental Health Educator and Prevention and Management of Disruptive Behavior Program Coordinator for a Veterans Administration (VA) Medical Center.

Ms. Smith obtained an Associate Degree in Nursing from Mercer County Community College. She started her career as a staff nurse with Trenton Psychiatric Hospital while completing her Bachelor of Science in Nursing

(BSN) and Master of Science in Nursing Education from Thomas Edison State University. She is passionate about mentoring, increasing competence of care for minorities with mental illness and eradicating stigma. She looks forward to implementing change in the treatment of persons with mental illness.

Ms. Smith is a member of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association, the American Nurses Association, and the Eastern Nursing Research Society.



Jovon Taylor, *MSN-ED, RN, APRN, PMHNP-BC*

## **Jovon Taylor, *MSN-ED, RN, APRN, PMHNP-BC***

---

**Jovon Taylor, MSN-ED, RN, APRN, PMHNP-BC**, is currently in her second-year of pursuing a PhD at Georgia State University in Atlanta, GA. Her research interest is understanding resilience factors in substance abuse abstinence among African American survivors of childhood abuse.

Mrs. Taylor is a masters-prepared nurse educator with over a decade of experience educating ADN and BSN nursing students and serving as a unit-based preceptor/mentor to licensed nurses and new nurse graduates.

Currently, Mrs. Taylor is employed as a board-certified Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner, providing behavioral healthcare to children, adolescents, and adults in metropolitan Atlanta.