

# Empowerline Forum Series



## Fostering Health Equity in Our Communities

**Thursday, June 27, 2019 | 8:30 AM – 3:00 PM**

Atlanta Technical College | Cleveland L. Dennard Conference Center  
1560 Metropolitan Parkway SW | Atlanta, GA 30310



Atlanta Regional Commission



WELL DESIGNED WELL BEING  
POWERED BY ARC

— ARC ANNUAL PARTNERS —

VISIONARY



Georgia Power

UBER

INNOVATOR



DELTA

## — AGENDA —

- 8:30 am **Registration and Coffee**
- 9:00 am **Welcome**  
*Doug Hooker*, Executive Director, ARC
- Opening Remarks**  
*Odetta MacLeish-White*, Managing Director, TransFormation Alliance
- 9:10 am **Cultural Competency**  
*McKenzie Wren*, Chief Engagement Officer, Culture on Purpose
- 10:00 am **The Impact of Health Inequity**  
*Mike Carnathan*, Manager, Research & Analytics, ARC  
*Robyn N. Bussey*, Community Health Strategist, ARCHI
- 11:00 am **Break**
- 11:15 am **Health Equity: Perspectives and Challenges**  
*Mary Anne Adams*, Founding Executive Director, ZAMI NOBLA: National Organization of Black Lesbians on Aging  
*Jemea Dorsey*, CEO, Center for Black Women's Wellness  
*Jeff Graham*, Executive Director, Georgia Equality  
*Keun Kim*, Chief Compliance Officer, Center for Pan-Asian Community Services  
*Darlene Xiomora Rodriguez, Ph.D.*, Assistant Professor, Social Work and Human Services, Kennesaw State University  
*Moderator: Cynthia Burke*, Program Manager, Aging & Independence Services, ARC
- 12:30 pm **Lunch Break**
- 1:30 pm **Looking Ahead**  
*Odetta MacLeish-White*, Managing Director, TransFormation Alliance
- 1:40 pm **Keynote and Interactive Activity: Barriers, Facilitators, and Plans for the Future**  
*Chivon Mingo, Ph.D.*, Assistant Professor, Gerontology Institute, Georgia State University
- 2:55 pm **Closing Remarks: Continuing the Health Equity Journey**  
*Sue Burgess*, Assistant Manager, Aging & Independence Services, ARC

## — BIOS —

### **Mary Anne Adams**

Mary Anne Adams, MSW, is President and CEO of The Adams Research Group, a consulting firm specializing in community-based participatory research, capacity building, and organizational development. She is also founding director of ZAMI NOBLA, a national organization of black lesbians on aging promoting social justice, human rights and social/health equity access through service, advocacy, and research.

### **Sue Burgess**

Sue Burgess serves as the Assistant Manager of the Aging & Independence Services Group at ARC. Her responsibilities include program planning, implementation, and operations of the Long Term Services and Support Unit. She provides program oversight of the Aging & Disability Resource Center, Nursing Home Transitions, and intake for the Elderly & Disabled Medicaid Waiver program. She is involved in program development and represents ARC on several stakeholder committees.

### **Cynthia Burke**

Cynthia Burke leads the Quality Team for the Aging & Independence Services group at ARC. Her work includes performance oversight and continuous quality improvement to meet contractual and programmatic goals. Additionally, she oversees data analytics connecting the impact of service provision on improved quality of life and overall health.

### **Robyn N. Bussey**

Robyn N. Bussey is a Community Health Strategist for ARCHI, facilitating ARCHI's Community Change portfolio. Robyn engages communities to assess the health of their neighborhoods and works with residents and organizations to build coalitions that design and drive the work of community health improvement.

### **Mike Carnathan**

Mike Carnathan is the Manager of the Research & Analytics Group at the ARC and is one of the founders of Neighborhood Nexus, a community intelligence system that provides data, tools, and expertise to the Atlanta region to create opportunity for all its citizens. He has worked with numerous community groups, as well as statewide and local education agencies, to help them better understand the neighborhoods in which they work.

### **Jemea Dorsey**

Jemea Dorsey currently serves as the Chief Executive Officer for the Center for Black Women's Wellness, a community-based family service center committed to improving the health and wellbeing of underserved Black women and their families in Atlanta, GA.

### **Jeff Graham**

Jeff Graham is the Executive Director of Georgia Equality, an organization that works to advance fairness, safety, and opportunity for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities throughout Georgia. Jeff has been involved in a wide variety of grassroots and legislative advocacy campaigns, and over the past 24 years has served as either an executive director or board member to a number of local and national organizations working on issues related to gay and transgender rights, access to healthcare, community empowerment, and HIV/AIDS.



## **Doug Hooker**

Doug Hooker leads the ARC, the agency which coordinates local government policy and planning for metro Atlanta to enhance the region's economic competitiveness. ARC convenes local government officials, their community partners, and residents, to develop strategies for improving the region's quality of life and address challenges brought on by the rapidly emerging future.

## **Keun Kim**

Keun Kim is the Chief Compliance Officer at the Center for Pan Asian Community Services (CPACS), a nonprofit organization serving underserved individuals from Limited English Proficient (LEP) communities since 1980. CPACS currently provides social, community, and health services to over 3,000 individuals per month. Its Community Health Center sees over 6,000 patients a year.

## **Odetta MacLeish-White**

Odetta MacLeish-White is the Managing Director of the TransFormation Alliance, a partnership of nonprofits, government agencies, and businesses working to strengthen communities through transit. TFA's work is driven by racial equity and seeks to partner with residents of impacted communities in shaping better health, climate, and economic outcomes through arts & culture-based community engagement, and by improving housing, transit and jobs access.

## **Chivon Mingo**

Dr. Chivon Mingo is currently an Assistant Professor and Director of Undergraduate Studies in the Gerontology Institute and Affiliate Faculty in the Department of African American Studies at Georgia State University. Dr. Mingo is passionate about engaging with community partners as a way to better serve the aging population and remains connected with Aging Services in the Atlanta, Georgia Metropolitan Area.

## **Darlene Xiomora Rodriguez**

Dr. Darlene Xiomara Rodriguez is an Assistant Professor in Social Work and Human Services at Kennesaw State University's (KSU) WellStar College of Health and Human Services. She is one of KSU's inaugural Diversity Fellows through the Office of Diversity and Inclusion's Center for Diversity Leadership and Engagement. She is the co-principal investigator for the Atlanta Immigrant Crossroads Project, which led to various community-university partnerships and community-based participatory research projects on best practices for immigrant integration.

## **McKenzie Wren**

McKenzie Wren, MPH, is a skilled facilitator who believes in the power of community to create its own answers. As a change maker specializing in culture, she has an expansive portfolio of work helping her clients access their wisdom to catapult their growth and the growth of their organizations. She helps businesses, schools, and nonprofits create culture on purpose: intentional culture that supports collaboration, inclusion, and success. She often incorporates storytelling, theater techniques, and the visual arts into her work.

