Healthy Lives - Healthy Communities
Friday, April 29, 2016

SPEAKER BIOS

OPENING SPEAKER
Philanthropic Theories of Change
Reverend Starsky D. Wilson

The Reverend Starsky D. Wilson is a pastor, philanthropist and activist pursuing God’s vision of community marked by justice, peace and love. He is president & CEO of Deaconess Foundation, pastor of Saint John’s Church (The Beloved Community) and co-chair of the Ferguson Commission. Deaconess is a faith-based grant making organization devoted to making child well-being a civic priority in the St. Louis region. From a corpus of approximately $50 million, the foundation has invested more than $75 million to advance its mission in the area. Starsky’s leadership has birthed a dynamic community capacity building model, aligning policy advocacy, organizing and community engagement with grantmaking.

Through Saint John’s, Wilson has led congregational activism on myriad issues, including youth violence prevention, Medicaid expansion, public school accreditation, voter mobilization, capping payday lending and raising the minimum wage, while more than quadrupling worship attendance and annual giving. There he established The Beloved Community Conference to resource local social justice ministries and Sojourner’s Truth: A Celebration of Preaching Women.

In 2014, Missouri Governor Jay Nixon appointed Rev. Wilson co-chair of the Ferguson Commission, a group of sixteen citizens empowered to study the underlying conditions and make public policy recommendations to help the region progress through issues exposed by the tragic death of Michael Brown, Jr. On September 14, 2015 they released the groundbreaking ‘Forward Through Ferguson: A Path Toward Racial Equity’ Report, calling for sweeping changes in policing, the courts, child well-being and economic mobility.

Starsky serves national boards for Grantmakers for Effective Organizations, the United Church of Christ Cornerstone Fund, Chicago Theological Seminary, the Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference and the National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy and local ones for the United Way, St. Louis Regional Chamber, Teach for America-St. Louis and the Mayor’s Commission on Children, Youth and Families.

Starsky earned a bachelor of arts in political science from Xavier University of Louisiana, master of divinity from Eden Theological Seminary and is currently pursuing the doctor of ministry degree from Duke University’s Divinity School. A member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. and Eta Boule of Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity, Starsky is married to Dr. LaToya Smith Wilson, a dentist at St. Louis Children’s Hospital. They are raising four children in the city of St. Louis.

In recent years, Rev. Wilson’s leadership has been honored with numerous awards including:

• 2016 Saint Louis University’s Martin L. King, Jr. Community Leadership Award

FEATURED SPEAKER
Ensuring Success for All: Reducing Disparities to Improve Graduation
Robert Murphy, MEd

Currently, Mr. Murphy led Maryland’s discipline reform, dropout prevention, and alternative programs efforts at the Maryland State Department of Education. He has been instrumental in reducing Maryland’s number of suspensions by 50% over the last 8 years thus reducing Maryland’s dropouts over the past 7 years. He just completed developing the regulatory guidance for changes in Maryland’s Discipline regulations and the new State Code of Discipline Policy that was adopted by the Maryland State Board of Education in July of 2014. Mr. Murphy also has been named by the Governor Martin O’Malley to the Maryland Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council.

Mr. Murphy also created the Dropout Resource Guide, which is a first of its kind and has been used by America’s Promise Alliance and legislators to develop policy. The Resource Guide highlights Evidenced Based Practices, the Dropout Assessment Toolkit, Maryland’s Alternative Education Standards, and local school system interventions. Mr. Murphy co-leads Maryland’s African American male workgroup which allows him the opportunity to travel and lead discussions on improving the performance of African American male elementary, middle, and high school students.

Robert has provided training to the Mid Atlantic Equity Consortium, American Institute for Research, National Association of School Boards of Education, University of Saskatchewan, Tulsa Chamber of Commerce, America’s Promise Alliance, The Regional educational Laboratory, the Council of State Governments, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), East Durham Children’s Initiative (EDCI), and many other organizations.
**SHORTAGE IN RICH LAND: Stories from the Missouri Bootheel**

**Kristofor Husted**

Kristofor Husted is the Harvest Public Media reporter for KBIA in Columbia, Mo. He covers agriculture, food production and policy. Before landing in the Midwest in 2012, Husted reported for the science desk at NPR in Washington. There, he covered health, food and environmental issues. His work has appeared on NPR’s health and food blogs, as well as on Morning Edition, All Things Considered, Marketplace and in the Kansas City Star.

Husted was a 2013 fellow with the Institute for Journalism and Natural Resources and a 2015 fellow for the Institute for Journalism and Justice. Husted’s work has won a regional Edward R. Murrow. He was also part of the 2014 National Murrow Award winning team and 2015 Online Journalism Award winning team for best website at KBIA. His short documentary, “Angela’s Garden,” was nominated for a NATAS Student Achievement Award by the Television Academy.

Husted was born in Napa, Calif., and received his B.S. in cell biology from UC Davis. He earned an M.S. in journalism from Medill at Northwestern University, where he was honored as a Comer scholar for environmental journalism.

**Bram Sable-Smith**

Bram Sable-Smith is lead reporter on the KBIA Health & Wealth Desk. He’s been reporting for KBIA since 2014, beginning on the Civics Desk before moving to Health & Wealth in December 2014. Sable-Smith is also a contributor to Side Effects Public Media, a regional health journalism collaborative and his work has also appeared on NPR’s Morning Edition, All Things Considered and NPR.org.

His reporting from Ferguson, Missouri was part of the KBIA documentary Youth in Ferguson: I Want More For My City, which was honored by the Missouri Broadcasters Association and winner of a 2014 national Edward R. Murrow Award for feature reporting. His reporting on health disparities in the Missouri Bootheel region for Shortage in Richland – also a collaboration with KBIA colleagues – was honored with the Missouri Public Health Association’s 2015 Media Award and contributed to KBIA’s general excellence award from the Online News Association.

Sable-Smith is an alumnus of Washington University in St. Louis and Waterford Khamalba United World College of Southern Africa. Before joining KBIA, he studied radio at the Salt Institute for Documentary Studies in Portland, Maine after stints with the St. Louis Beacon, KDHX and as a Coro Fellow in Public Affairs in St. Louis.

**PANEL SPEAKERS**

**Exploring Structural Inequities and Prejudice in Systems that Impact Health**

**Tiffany Anderson**

Dr. Tiffany Anderson, a Kansas resident for many years, has been a public school educator for 22 years and the majority of that time has been as a superintendent. She has also led schools in various roles that include being a principal, assistant superintendent, and a chief academic officer. She has improved achievement and closed achievement gaps in rural, urban and in suburban public school districts. After successfully serving as an assistant superintendent and overseeing desegregation in the 23,000 Rock-wood School District in St. Louis County, Dr. Anderson began her role as the first female and first African American superintendent in Montgomery County Public Schools in Virginia, a district that served 23 schools in 4 different localities. During her tenure, the district moved from having 7 schools accredited to having all schools accredited under her leadership. Additionally, under her leadership, multiple schools were recognized under the Virginia Governor’s Competence to Excellence Award. Dr. Anderson led numerous initiatives aimed at college preparation while in Montgomery County. Most notably, her work in closing the achievement gaps and her early college initiatives improved the district’s programs and course offerings. When Dr. Anderson moved back to Missouri, she continued her work with eliminating achievement gaps in leading University Academy, a college prep academy that she led to being accredited with distinction. In July 2012, Dr. Anderson joined the Jennings School District as Superintendent. Since joining Jennings, under Dr. Anderson’s leadership, the district moved from meeting 57% of the state accreditation standards in 2012 to meeting 81% in 2015 which exceeds the 70% state benchmark standards for full accreditation. She also led the district to a 92% 4 year graduation rate, in the 100% free lunch community. Additionally, the district’s 2 million dollar deficit was eliminated her first year and budget surpluses were consistently achieved since her arrival in 2012. On July 1, 2016 Dr. Anderson will be the first African American female leading the 14,000 Topeka Public Schools, in Topeka, Kansas.

**Carla London, MBA**

Carla London has fourteen years of experience in public education and is currently responsible for monitoring discipline and attendance patterns at the district level with a goal of ensuring the rates of disproportionality continue to decrease. She is also a member of the Health Disparities Action Team for the Boone County Health Department, whose goal is to ensure that services are available to the entire community and eliminate health disparities between the various groups who make up the community. She was previously a medical social worker at a premier children's hospital in Texas, during which time she worked to ensure that necessary services were provided to families in crisis.

**Gwendolyn Grant, MBA**

Gwendolyn Grant is the Publisher and Editor-in-Chief of the 2015 State of Black Kansas City; Picture of Health, which provides a panoramic view of the prevailing issues that undergird the gaps between blacks and whites in health, economics, education, and social justice in the Greater Kansas City. In addition to a collection of essays on education, economics, social justice, and civic engagement, the publication features a special section on urban health, which zooms in on healthcare disparities and related topics. She has served as President of the Urban League since 2001. Additionally, she has more than 30 years of experience in non-profit leadership and management.

**Theresa Reyes-Cummings, MPA**

Theresa Reyes-Cummings, MPA, is the Director of Program Development for the Jackson County Community Mental Health Fund, where she provides grant writing and program development assistance, conducts research and training for the development of mental health programs, cultural competency and services in Jackson County, Missouri. Theresa has 25 years working in nonprofit and government management. She has her Master’s Public Administration from the University of Kansas.
Nancy Cambria, MA
Nancy Cambria has reported on children and family issues for the St. Louis Post-Dispatch for nine years and most recently wrote the special report “The Crisis Within: How toxic stress and trauma endanger our children.” The report followed several families in Ferguson, Mo. and detailed how the stress of poverty, crime and violence contributed to toxic stress within their households and endangered the future health and developmental outcomes of children. The report further detailed “solutions that work,” providing a blueprint of programs that help protect children from toxic stress.

Moving Towards Health Equity: Successes and Challenges
Nancy Kelley, MA
Nancy Kelley serves as program director of the Expanding Coverage initiative at Missouri Foundation for Health. In this role, she works in partnership with the more than 900 members of the Cover Missouri Coalition to reach the goal of less than 5 percent uninsured in Missouri by raising awareness, facilitating enrollment, and increasing health insurance literacy.

Additionally, Kelley focuses on collaborative leadership to bring about positive change with colleagues and community partners, promoting the importance of bringing the right people to the table to share knowledge, resources, and effort. She adheres to the belief that when we connect, contribute, and learn together, we can achieve common goals for the good of the community.

Kelley is experienced in the areas of advocacy, health reform, and nonprofit services. She possesses more than 16 years of leadership experience, including in the role of executive director of the Center for Women in Transition and the Phoenix Crisis Center. She holds a Master of Arts degree from Southern Illinois University – Edwardsville.

Kelley resides in St. Louis with her husband and teenage son while enjoying the beautiful hiking trails all over the state of Missouri.

Doris Boeckman
Doris is co-founder of Community Asset Builders, LLC, formed in 2001. Community Asset Builders, LLC is Missouri-certified Women-owned Business enterprise that provides a variety of services to include, but is not limited to, community assessment, strategic planning, and resource development to primarily non-profit organizations. Doris is the founder and co-administrator of HealthTran, a program administered by the Missouri Rural Health Association with funding from the Missouri Foundation for Health and the Missouri Department of Transportation through Section 5310 funding. HealthTran, a pilot receiving national attention, links health care coordination and transportation mobility management services to create a simple, effective approach to improving access to care. Doris is also the Missouri Rides to Wellness Director for the Missouri Department of Transportation through Section 5310 funding. HealthTran, a pilot receiving national attention, links health care coordination and transportation mobility management services to create a simple, effective approach to improving access to care. Doris is also the Missouri Rides to Wellness Director for the Missouri Department of Transportation through Section 5310 funding. HealthTran, a pilot receiving national attention, links health care coordination and transportation mobility management services to create a simple, effective approach to improving access to care.

Doris has extensive experience in planning, resource development and operational management. Prior to 2001, she was an Interventions Specialist for the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (1999-2001); Director of Community Health for the Missouri Hospital Association (1996-1999), Grant Administrator of the Missouri Infertility Prevention Program for the Missouri Family Health Council (1994-1996); and Executive Assistant to Director of the Missouri Medicaid Program through three administrations (1980-1994). She has a BS Degree in Business Administration from Lincoln University, Jefferson City, MO.

Engaging Communities in Reducing Health Disparities
Melissa Robinson, MBA
Melissa Robinson is the President of the Black Health Care Coalition in Kansas City. She is responsible for leading the organization to fulfill strategic goals, maintain sustainable community partnerships and play a major role in community efforts that create health equity for all. Melissa Robinson is leading efforts to address the social determinates of health; ensuring the organization is making a significant impact on reducing health disparities in the areas of hypertension, infant mortality, diabetes, breast and prostate cancer and childhood asthma.

Robinson obtained a Bachelors of Science degree at the University of Missouri-Kansas City and a Masters of Business Administration from Webster University in Saint Louis, Missouri. Robinson recently completed coursework for Community Health Worker certification and is trained to teach Mental Health First Aid.

Sarah Gentry, MSW
Sarah Gentry is the Policy Director at Missouri Health Care for All, a non-profit 501(c)3 founded by faith and community organizations dedicated to the principle that every Missourian deserves access to affordable, quality health care. She has previously worked in public policy with the National Multiple Sclerosis Society and Missouri Foundation for Health. Sarah holds a BSW from Missouri State University and MSW from Washington University in St. Louis.

Sarah Howard
For more than 23 years, Ms. Nina Howard has served as a director and manager for Samuel U. Rodgers Health Center. Ms. Howard currently serves as the Director of Access and Engagement. In this role, Ms. Howard is instrumental in assessing community need for services, developing systems, processes and programs to increase access to care for individuals without adequate health insurance coverage, as well as developing community partnerships to promote the vision and mission of Rodgers Health.

Prior to serving in this position, Ms. Howard managed various programs focused on improving the health of women and children, as well as newly arrived Americans.

Ms. Howard assumed the role as host for the on-air radio talk show, “Highlights on Health” in 2006, with KPRT Gospel 1950, which still airs today, 16 years later. Ms. Howard has been recognized as one of the Kansas City Globe’s “Kansas City’s 100 Most Influential” in 2010. Today, she serves as an active member of the Urban Summit, as chair for the Health Cell.

Ms. Howard is remembered as the organizer of the annual city-wide health fair, which drew more than 50,000 individuals over a 10 year period, averaging 5,000 people attending during a one-day event for health screenings and education.
Ms. Howard’s commitment to the community is unparalleled, as witness by her work at Rodgers Health and Jackson County, working with individuals and groups to improve lives. Ms. Howard is the proud parent of five children, grandparent of 12 grandchildren and great-grandparent of 2, whom she loves and adores.

Laurel Walter-Baumstark, MD

Jessica Henman, CNM, CMP
Jessica is a 2010 graduate of Frontier Nursing University, and got most of her midwifery training at a busy birth center/hospital/home birth practice in Pennsylvania. She has been married 20 years, and is mom to 3 fabulous kids. Prior to becoming a midwife, Jessica worked internationally in humanitarian aid, worked as a staff nurse at Missouri Baptist Medical Center, and was a childbirth educator and doula here in St Louis. Jessica is very active in family and church life and supports the midwifery and mothering communities through her role on the Boards of the Missouri Midwives Association and The Sparrows Nest Maternity Home. Jessica has dreamed for many years of a place where moms and midwives could partner together for normal pregnancy and birth, and is thrilled that Birth and Wellness Center now exists to fulfill that dream.

Brittany “Tru” Campbell, CLC, CD
Brittany “True” Campbell is a midwife student at the Midwives College of Utah and has a passion for empowering women during their childbearing years. Tru began her midwifery studies in 2013 in Ghana, West Africa and is currently completing her clinicals at the Birth & Wellness Center in O’Fallon, Mo. Tru has been with her partner Free for 10 years and is a mom to three amazing boys. Prior to becoming a midwife student, Tru taught Yoga & Reiki classes, and worked with women by hosting monthly sister circles and assisting in births as a traditional doula. Tru is very active in her community through her business The Cosmic Grove and her goal is to bring awareness towards healthy and natural birthing options available, with a focus on the African-American community, through quality care and traditional methods. Tru serves on the board of The St. Louis Breastfeeding Coalition, is a member of the Perinatal Task Force, and is a volunteer for I Am: Breastfeeding.

Moving Towards Health Equity: Successes and Challenges
David Martineau, MSW
David Martineau, MSW, began at NCCJ in St. Louis in 2009 as Program Director, and developed the Inclusion Institute for Healthcare, an unparalleled educational model bridging cultural competency, inclusion, and equity which has reached more than 200 leaders in the field. He also created the FaciliTrainer Certification Program to help build capacity in healthcare institutions to sustain quality cultural competence initiatives over time. Dave has over 20 years of experience in social justice education, group facilitation, social services, and positive youth development.

Elizabeth Fuchs, MSW
Elizabeth Fuchs, Manager of Public Policy, started in the spring of 2016 with over 15 years of experience working in St. Louis’ LGBTQQIAA community. Born and raised in the beautiful city of St. Louis, Elizabeth obtained both her Bachelor’s and Master’s Degrees in Social Work from the University of Missouri St. Louis (UMSL) with a graduate certificate in Nonprofit Management and Leadership. While a student, Elizabeth interned with then, SAGE Metro St. Louis now, SAGE of PROMO Fund, and upon graduation began employment at St. Louis Effort for AIDS (EFA). At EFA, Elizabeth worked closely with local organizations and state officials to examine how questions about gender are being asked at the state in relationship to the lack of HIV prevalence data for people who are living with HIV and identify as transgender. Her research is informing best practices for asking a two-part gender question, which she presented at the first Transgender Spectrum Conference in St. Louis and the 27th Annual HIV/AIDS and Social Work conference in New Orleans. Elizabeth’s is a passionate social justice practitioner, and proud to be in this role exploring the intersectionalities in life that effect our community members…all of us.

Kenneth Haller, MD
Kenneth Haller, MD, F.A.A.P., is an Associate Professor of Pediatrics at the Saint Louis University School of Medicine and SSM Cardinal Glennon Children’s Medical Center. He is the President of the Missouri Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics and serves on the board of the Missouri Foundation for Health, an independent philanthropic foundation dedicated to improving healthcare for underserved persons across the state of Missouri. His special interests include toxic stress in children, cultural competency, health literacy, the relationship of medicine to the arts, the effects of philanthropic foundation and large-scale policy changes on the health of our community, and the relationship of medicine to the arts, the effects of media on children, and the special health needs of LGBT youth.

Regional Health Equity Partnerships
Clay Goddard, MPH
Clay joined the Springfield-Greene County Health Department in 1996 and has served in a number of roles in City government. He left the Health Department to serve as Director of Information Systems in 2005 and returned to public health in 2007 to serve as Assistant Director. His education includes a Masters degree in Public Administration and a Bachelors degree in Political Science from Missouri State University. He is a graduate of the Missouri Public Health Leadership Institute and Leadership Springfield. He also serves as an adjunct faculty member with Drury University.

Tania Sharp, MHA
Tania Sharp holds a Master’s degree in Health Administration, University of MO, Columbia. She has led and expanded a vertically integrated healthcare network serving 11 rural counties in Northcentral Missouri, during which she assisted three rural hospitals in achieving Critical Access Hospital designation. For the last 17 years, she has managed Heartland Physicians Corporation, a rural multispecialty independent provider association, serving MO, IA, and KS. Her expertise includes strategic planning, board development, managed care contracting, provider credentialing, group purchasing, and provider network development. She is a licensed MO Insurance Producer in Life, Health, Property and Casualty product lines.
Gary Harbison, MA

Gary Harbison has served as the Executive Director of the Missouri Coalition for Oral Health since the agency reorganized in late 2011. He previously worked as the Chief of the Bureau of Special Health Care Needs and the Maternal & Child Health Title V Director of Special Health Care Needs with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Gary was the Mental Health Director for the state of Kansas. He served as Special Assistant with the Missouri Department of Mental Health, where he worked on a variety of projects, many of which involved performance management. Gary worked in community mental health, psychiatric rehabilitation and hospital-based psychiatric services. He worked as an individual, marital and family psychotherapist. He has a Master of Arts Degree in Psychological Counseling and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Psychology, both from Southeast Missouri State University. Gary is a fellow of the American College of Mental Health Administration.

John Dane, DDS, FAAHD, DABSCD

John Dane, DDS is the Missouri Dental Director and has 38 years of experience practicing dentistry as the Dental Director of a safety net clinic at Truman Medical Center Lakewood in Kansas City, MO. Dr. Dane is also a Medicaid provider and Consultant to MO HealthNet.