



HEALTH EQUITY INSTITUTE 2018

A TALE OF TWO UNION COUNTIES

APRIL 27, 2018
2330 CONCORD AVENUE
MONROE, NC 28110
9:00AM - 4:00PM

UNION COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES





HEALTH EQUITY INSTITUTE 2018

9:00AM REGISTRATION & BREAKFAST

9:30AM WELCOME
STEVE RAMSEY

ICEBREAKER
JENNIFER GREENLEE

OPENING REMARKS & INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER
DENNIS JOYNER, UNION COUNTY HEALTH DIRECTOR

10:00AM AM PLENARY: HEALTH EQUITY IN CONTEXT
CORNELL WRIGHT, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
NC OFFICE OF MINORITY HEALTH & HEALTH DISPARITIES

11:15AM BREAKOUT SESSION #1

12:00PM LUNCH

12:45PM MENTAL HEALTH PANEL: LORI FOX, JOY ROBBINS
TIARA VINSON, JOHN GIAMPAOLO

1:20PM BREAK

1:30PM BREAKOUT SESSION #2

2:15PM BREAKOUT SESSION #3

3:00PM BREAK

3:10PM PM PLENARY: STATE OF THE COUNTY HEALTH REPORT
DR. AUDREA CAESAR, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SUPPORT & OUTREACH

3:50PM CLOSING REMARKS/ADJOURN
DALE LOUDER, LAB DIRECTOR, UNION COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

PROGRAM



HEALTH EQUITY INSTITUTE 2018

BREAKOUT 1 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM

SUSTAINING EMPLOYMENT THROUGH ENTREPRENEURSHIP (B225)

PRESENTER: Tonia Woodbury, MBA, VP - SUPPLIER DIVERSITY MANAGER, WELLS FARGO

Entrepreneurship has been proven to provide a pathway to economic stability and growth for many who are either unemployed or underemployed. How can tax revenue, job creation and wealth development impact the health of those in the most vulnerable of our communities? Small businesses (business with fewer than 500 employees) account for more than 60% of the jobs created over a 4 year period; and they also make up over 98% of all businesses in the US. Gainful employment and comparable living wages, open the door for health education and support as well as individual accountability. Learn how considering entrepreneurship can lead to positive community impact and health education engagement.

VILLAGE HeartBEAT: THE DEEP ROOTS OF FAITH BASED COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (A107)

PRESENTER: Cheryl Emanuel, Mecklenburg County Public Health

Faith-based organizations are trusted entities within many communities. With their unique position in the community, they have the ability to be invaluable in achieving health equity. They provide spiritual refuge, renewal and have served as powerful vehicles for social, economic and political change. In the same vein, public health mission is to promote, serve, and protect providing a host of services to a diverse, disadvantage and often indigent populations. While these institutions share many, collaborations between the two have evolved slowly. This legacy of caring, shared between public health and faith-based organizations, is a focused premise of Village HeartBEAT. Learn how considering faith-based organizations as mutually beneficial partners can lead to improved health outcomes and health equity.

THE LINK BETWEEN HOUSING CONDITIONS AND HEALTH (B202)

PRESENTER: Traci Colley, MSEH, REHS - Environmental Health Manager, Union County

The link between health and housing is well established. Florence Nightingale once said “The connection between health and the dwelling of the population is one of the most important that exists.” It is estimated that people spend 50-80% of their time indoors. Children, elderly and those with compromised immune systems are most impacted by poor housing conditions. Examples of health-related housing concerns include: excessive moisture/mold, unsafe drinking water, improper sewage disposal, lead hazards, asthma triggers, pests, carbon monoxide/fire hazards and chemicals. These issues are impacted by a wide range of environmental factors associated with a home’s design, construction, age and maintenance as well as actions and behaviors of the home’s occupants. Learn ways to address unsafe housing conditions, improve health outcomes and positively affect the community.



BREAKOUT 2 1:30 PM - 2:10 PM

THE HIGH COST OF CANCER TREATMENT & MEDICATION (B202)

PRESENTER: Christi Phillips, Union County Human Services

This presentation explores how colon cancer, treatments, and medication cost can be debilitating to the underinsured/ poverty stricken residence. Data, resources, and solutions that can be shared with individuals in need will be discussed. Each attendee will learn how to make a difference both in local and state arenas, how to network, and how to make positive changes that will ultimately change lives.

SCHOOLS & JUVENILE JUSTICE PANEL: HELPING TROUBLED YOUTH TURN THE CORNER (A107)

PANELISTS: Yohance Prince, Dr. Michael Harvey, Meschelle King, Calvin Vaughan

An in-depth discussion on the relationship between the schools and the juvenile justice system and how the community can be a part of the solution of helping troubled youth on to the path to success. Issues, resources and recommendations will be presented.

FOOD INSECURITY: A SCHOOL FAITH BASED PARTNERSHIP (B225)

PRESENTER: Dr. Catherine Wright, Wingate University

Food is the most vital resource, next only to oxygen and clean, drinkable water and therefore exploring health inequalities must include looking at food insecurity. North Carolina, and more specifically Union county, is home to some of the most fertile land as well as to some of the most economically and socially distressed communities. Hence, this discussion about health inequality will focus on the unique food-school-faith partnership that has been cultivated in the Wingate/Monroe area to address health inequality via community garden initiatives. This presentation will look at the level of food insecurity in our area, the reasons for this phenomenon, the preliminary data collected that shows the early impacts of our garden initiatives, and the future research collaborations between Wingate University, Heart for Monroe, Wingate UMC, and other organizations to measure the perceived impacts of access to fresh produce on health, social capital, and spirituality.



BREAKOUT 3 **2:15 PM - 3:00 PM**

SOCIOECONOMIC PREDICTORS OF OPIOID ADDICTION (A107)

PRESENTERS: Dr. Lauri Saleeby, Wingate University

Lillian Martinez, Wingate University

An exploration of socioeconomic indicators of opioid addiction and how naloxone improves outcomes. Research on needle exchange programs and methadone clinics will be presented.

REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE (B202)

PRESENTERS: Cathy Henderson & Lugenia Grider, Mecklenburg County Public Health

Reproductive justice is a concept that links reproductive rights with social justice. The paradigms that combine the empowerment of women with reproduction have since been categorized into three frameworks: reproductive health, reproductive rights, and reproductive justice. The reproductive justice framework utilizes an intersectional analysis of women's experiences and focuses on changing the structural inequalities that affect women's reproductive health and their ability to control their reproductive lives. We will present the Reproductive Justice Framework inclusive of an equity lens in family planning, breastfeeding and parenting support.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES: COMMUNITY PARAMEDICINE PROGRAM (B225)

PRESENTER: Bryan Edwards, Director, Union County EMS

Union Emergency Medical Service (EMS) is the provider of prehospital Emergency Medical Care for the citizens of Union County. Starting back in 1985 with a total of 3 ambulances and 12 EMTs. Today, the Service has expanded to over 175 EMTs, Paramedics and Ancillary and logistical support personnel. In 2017, Union EMS responded to approximately 25K calls for assistance. In addition to providing advanced emergency medical care and transport services, the agency also provides coverage for area sports events, Community Paramedicine service, and other assistance teams such as SWAT, HAZ-MAT, etc. Union EMS sees on average a 5-10% growth in volume annually.



HEALTH EQUITY INSTITUTE 2018

CORNELL P. WRIGHT, MPA



Cornell P. Wright, MPA is a subject-matter expert in the areas of health equity and disparities, minority health, and community engagement. Wright currently serves as the Executive Director of the North Carolina Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities under the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services.

Wright is an active member in the health community, serving various groups, organizations and boards including; the Patient Centered Outcome Research Institute (PCORI) where he serves on the Communication and Dissemination Advisory Panel, and the Southeastern Health Equity Council (SHEC), as part of the National Partnership for Action to End Health Disparities (NPA), serving as the Co-Chair to the Social Determinants of Health Committee.

Wright has received numerous awards and recognitions for his extraordinary contributions to health from; National Institutes of Health, Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, North Carolina Central University, and National Minority Quality Forum. Most recently, Wright served as the closing keynote speaker for the first annual North Carolina Sexual Health Conference, where his presentation, "From the Color Purple to Purple Rain: Exploring the Historical Context of Sexual Violence, Sexual Expression, and Sexual Health Equity", provided a unique and innovative approach to public health messaging through the use of interactive media including music, poetry, and visuals to intimately connect with his audience. This presentation was recently turned into a TEDxTalk, "#ColorPurpleRain: Sexual Health Equity in Context" at "TEDxUNC."

In 2017 Wright was named the Spectacular Magazine Man of the Year in Health and was awarded the "Sexual Health Equity Champion Award" at the 2017 North Carolina Sexual Health Conference."

AM PLENARY SPEAKER



DR. AUDREA CAESAR



Dr. Audrea Caesar is a 16 year veteran of the health and human services industry. She is a Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) who has served as an operations leader, organizational scientist, advocate for health equity, and an educator. Currently Dr. Caesar is the Division Director of Community Support and Outreach for Union County Human Services. Additionally, she is an Adjunct Professor in the Master of Public Administration (MPA) program at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and is an instructor in the College of Health & Human Services at Central Piedmont Community College. Her research interests include stress, racial and ethnic health disparities, social determinants of health and a host of topics in organizational behavior.

Dr. Caesar has led a number of community based health initiatives focused on underserved populations. In 2012, while working for Mecklenburg County Department of Social Services, she led her team to a National Association of Counties (NACo) Best Practice Award in Consumer Relations. Her work was recognized publicly when she was appointed in 2012 to the Center for International Understanding (Now Go Global) Latino Initiative sending her and 27 other Public Health Leaders from across the state to Mexico City, and Puebla, MX. In 2014, she was appointed to the Charlotte Task Force on immigration. Dr. Caesar has been a speaker at several events including the North Carolina Public Health Association in 2016. In 2017 Dr. Caesar was invited to present her original research "The Supervisor/Employee Relationship and Employee Perceptions of Workplace Stress" examining the unique challenges faced by health & human services employees at the American Public Health Association's (APHA) Annual Meeting in Atlanta, GA. Dr. Caesar is the chair of the Union County Health Equity Collaborative and is the visionary behind today's event.



MENTAL HEALTH PANELISTS

JOY ROBBINS, MENTAL HEALTH THERAPIST - CREATIVE COUNSELING GROUP

A Henderson, North Carolina native, Joy Robbins received her Bachelor of Arts in psychology at Wake Forest University. She worked as a change management consultant for one of the large consulting firms before obtaining her Masters of Arts in Counseling from UNC Charlotte to follow her heart of service. She has used her gifts and talents at Florence Crittenton Services, Union County Public Schools, Novant Health and Carolinas Healthcare System. For 10 years, Joy has owned a thriving private practice in Union County, serving children, adolescents and adults. Joy is currently the Clinical Program Coordinator for the Employee Assistance Program at Carolinas Healthcare, now Atrium Health. She is a Licensed Professional Counselor Supervisor in the state of North Carolina. She also serves on the University Relations Committee for the Licensed Professional Counselors Association of North Carolina. She has written the manuscript for her first book, "On My Couch: A Therapist's Journal", that will be on shelves later in 2018

LORI FOX, LICENSED CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKER - UNION FAMILY SERVICES

Lori is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker having earned her Master of Social Work at the University of Maryland at Baltimore. She has over 20 years of clinical experience in psychotherapy and in supervising associate clinicians. She enjoys working with adults, children, couples, and families. Lori has extensive experience in mental health issues such as depression and anxiety with a focus on recovery from trauma. She specializes in helping to address childhood challenges through parenting solutions, including working with IDD diagnoses. Lori believes in the power of relationships to lead a person toward self-actualization. I have a warm compassionate style and view each person as full of potential to live their best lives and change the world.



MENTAL HEALTH PANELISTS

JOHN GIAMPAOLO, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SPECIALIST CARDINAL INNOVATIONS

John is a Community Engagement Specialist for Cardinal Innovations Healthcare who works with communities to promote awareness, reduce stigma, and create change. After spending more than 25 years in the behavioral healthcare field in both direct services and community relations, John believes that solid relationships and community presence creates healthier communities. John is a certified trainer for Mental Health First Aid and Question Persuade Refer (QPR). John holds a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from Florida International University.

TIARA VINSON, SOCIAL WORKER CHARLOTTE HOUSING AUTHORITY

With over 15 years working with diverse groups, individuals and families, Tiara Vinson strives to promote mental wellness as it is the cornerstone to an optimum quality of life. Tiara received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice at Livingstone College in 2001. However, while working with adult male offenders in a North Carolina correctional institution she discovered undiagnosed mental illness played a critical role in the behavioral responses for many of those incarcerated. Since her discovery, Tiara has obtained a Master of Social Work degree from Johnson C. Smith University and is a Provisional Licensed Clinical Social Worker. She has utilized her compassion to educate others about early warning signs, symptoms of mental illness and treatment options in various settings such as, juvenile residential housing, working with individuals experiencing poverty and those living with substance use disorders. She is a member of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) and National Association of Black Social Workers (NABSW). In her spare time, Tiara enjoys outdoor activities and exploring new adventures. She is an active member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated, and she loves to spend time with her sisters serving all mankind. Tiara is currently in pursuit of full licensure as a Clinical Social Worker.



JUVENILE JUSTICE PANELISTS

CALVIN VAUGHN, CHIEF COURT COUNSELOR

NC DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, JUVENILE JUSTICE DIVISION

Calvin is Chief Court Counselor of Judicial District 20 (Anson, Union, Richmond, and Stanly counties) with the Department of Public Safety; Division of Juvenile Justice. Calvin's educational background includes an Associate of Science in Criminal Justice from Durham Tech Community College . He later earned a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice , and a Master of Science in Criminal Justice with a concentration in Juvenile Justice and Family Counseling from North Carolina Central University. Calvin is a proud Eagle. Calvin is a twelve year veteran of the United States Army where he received a number of medals and awards. Calvin attends the Inheritance Church of Christ in Charlotte, NC and works on the leadership staff. He is a proud member of Prince Hall Mason; Golden Key Honor Society; Alpha Phi Sigma National Criminal Justice Honor Society; National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice. Calvin has served on a number of boards and committees.

MESCHELLE KING, MS, APC

Meschelle is an Associate Professional Counselor in private practice in Atlanta, GA. Her experience has been with children, adolescents and adults. She has helped clients dealing with trauma, abuse, homelessness and relationship issues. Meschelle has been in the mental health field for approximately 4 years. Ms. King's educational journey began in the field of Finance when she completed her undergraduate degree at Cleveland State University with a Bachelor in Business Administration. After some time in the financial industry her desire to help others became overwhelming and therefore, she completed a Master of Science in Counseling Psychology at Capella University.



JUVENILE JUSTICE PANELISTS

DEPUTY YOHANCE PRINCE, SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER

UNION COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Deputy Yohance Yusuf Prince has been with the Union County Sheriff's Office since 2010. Deputy Prince is currently serving in the community resources bureau as a School Resource Officer. Deputy Prince was selected as the Union County Public Schools 2015-16 School Resource Officer of the Year for his outstanding service to Forrest Hills High School. Deputy Prince has previously served as a Narcotics Detective and a Corporal in the detention bureau. Prior to entering law enforcement Prince worked for 11 plus years in youth facilities with at risk youth. Prince is married and has 6 children 2 girls and 4 boys. Prince is originally from Queens New York and been a resident of Union County since 2000.

DR. MICHAEL HARVEY, PRINCIPAL, MONROE HIGH SCHOOL

Dr. Michael Harvey was previously the principal at Benton Heights Elementary School of the Arts serving as principal for six years. In September 2011 he accepted the position as principal of Monroe Middle School. He has worked in the Monroe community for 18 years as an educator and administrator. He is passionate about working with the students, teachers, and with the Monroe community. Dr. Harvey graduated with a B.S.E. in Physical Education from SUNY Cortland, a MA in Educational Leadership from Winthrop University, and his Ed. D from Wingate University in August of 2011. He has spoken at various conferences locally and across the state of North Carolina. In his tenure at Benton Heights Elementary School of the Arts he was able to accomplish some of the highest growth scores in the county. At Benton Heights he raised the school's composite score 13%. At Monroe Middle Dr. Harvey has improved the growth composite from -9 to a positive 10. Dr. Harvey believes that students should have exposure to enriching academic opportunities that engage and excite students. The three E's will lead students, teachers and the community to the fourth "E"- Excellence!



DR. CATHERINE WRIGHT, WINGATE UNIVERSITY

Catherine Wright received her B.Sc. in Zoology and B.Ed. from the University of Toronto in Canada and her doctorate from Regis College (Toronto School of Theology). She has presented at many forums in Canada, Ireland, and in North Carolina concerning social and ecological justice issues and her areas of specialization include ecotheology, contemporary Christian ethics, sustainability, and suffering. Currently, she is a member of the Religion and Philosophy department at Wingate University teaching Global Perspectives in Ethics as well as religion and science, sustainability, ecojustice and ecoliteracy seminars. In 2017 she published “Creation, God, and Humanity: Engaging the Mystery of Suffering within the Sacred Cosmos” and this summer she is working on aquaponics and WU Community garden projects with undergraduate students, Wingate UMC, and Heart for Monroe to address food insecurity and health inequality.

CHRISTI PHILLIPS, UNION COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES

Christi Phillips is a 20 year veteran in the health and human service field, with disciplines including, but not limited to, domestic violence, cancer prevention and awareness, crisis intervention and advocacy, and child maltreatment intervention. She is completing her Master’s Degree in Social Work at the University of Phoenix. She is currently working as a Nurturing Parenting Facilitator, where she helps in the treatment and intervention with families in need. She serves on the Union County Violence Prevention Task Force, the Union County Health Equity Institute, is a board member of the Children’s Memorial Park, and is an interpreter for the deaf community. In September 2016, Christi Phillips was diagnosed with stage 3 Colon Cancer and is now enjoying remission. As a single parent of two amazing teenagers, she understands the debilitating cost of medical care for those who are uninsured and underinsured. She is passionate about helping others find resources and networking within the community for the necessary support and needed services.



LUGENIA GRIDER, MECKLENBURG COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

Lugenia Grider (affectionately known as Genia) is the Breastfeeding Education Coordinator for Improving Community Outcomes for Maternal & Child Health (ICO4MCH) a public health collaborative between Mecklenburg and Union Counties. Lead Advisor of the local Queen City Cocoa B.E.A.N.S (Breastfeeding, Education, Advocacy, Normalcy and Support) a sponsored organization of the North Carolina Breastfeeding Coalition (NCBC), whose primary goal is to educate African American families and empower the Charlotte community to embrace breastfeeding as a cultural and social norm. Formerly served on the Board of Reaching Our Sisters Everywhere (R.O.S.E). In addition, an advisory committee member of the Mary Rose Tully Training Initiative. As well as participates on several quality improvement task forces at Novant Health Greater Charlotte market including Baby Friendly Steps 3 & 10 and Project Manager for the Pathway 2 Lactation Program at Johnson C. Smith University a Historical Black College & University (HBCU) to address inequitable access to the International Board Certified Lactation Consultant profession. She is a nationally recognized Women's Health Educator, expert DONA Trained Birth Doula, Lamaze Certified Childbirth Educator Trainer and the founder of The Center for Women's Health & Maternity Services. As an educator, she has more than 16 years of experience training, educating and empowering women, families and medical professionals. Her skills allow her to seamlessly interact across lines of difference - including race, ethnicity, affectional-orientation and socio-economic levels. Genia specializes in balancing evidence-based medical practices with complementary therapies for a holistic care approach, specifically in the areas of preconception health, pregnancy, childbirth practices, postpartum, newborn care, breastfeeding and women's sexual health.



CHERYL EMANUEL, MECKLENBURG COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

Cheryl Silver Emanuel has given 32 years of her professional career to public health and community development, leading and managing health promotion prevention initiatives with a focus on improving the health and quality of life for racial/ethnic minorities through policy development, community engagement, program implementation, cultural diversity training, access to care and resources dissemination. Briefly, other career experiences: teen pregnancy prevention, infant mortality, HIV/AIDS/STIs (including managing the Ryan White Program), substance abuse issues and chronic diseases. Other previous consulting experiences include serving as a program consultant for the Research Triangle Institute - Health and Social Policy Division, and the MUSC - REACH Legacy Project. Currently, she serves as the Senior Health Manager for the Mecklenburg County Health Department's (MCHD) Office of Community Engagement and on her department's executive team. In her role with MCHD, she is responsible for identifying, engaging and implementing strategies for reducing disparities and increasing equity related to health promotion and health outcomes in Mecklenburg County. Our work with FBOs, including our Village HeartBEAT program focus on chronic disease prevention in churches was awarded in (February 2016) the Community Outreach Champion Award recognition from the CDC-Millions Hearts Initiative for our work with FBOs, and (September 2018) for the "Healthy Cities Counties Challenge Spot Light Award. She has a deep passion and a commitment to serve the most vulnerable populations regardless of race, gender, age or socioeconomic status.

DR. LAURI SALEEBY, WINGATE UNIVERSITY

Lauri Saleeby received a Bachelor's Degree in biology from Wingate University in 2003 and a doctor of pharmacy degree from Wingate University School of Pharmacy in 2007. She has worked in retail pharmacy including management positions for 10 years. She is currently employed as a clinical pharmacist at the Union County Department of Health and Human Services Division of Public Health working primarily with high risk maternity patients and family planning. Additionally, Lauri is an adjunct professor at Wingate University School of Pharmacy where she facilitates case studies with P2 and P3 pharmacy students. She has a passion for medical missions just having returned from Lebanon this past month where she was a member of a dental/medical team that served Syrian refugees.



TONIA WOODBURY, WELLS FARGO, VP SUPPLIER DIVERSITY MANAGER

Tonia Woodbury is a nationally renowned speaker on diversity and inclusion trends, relationship building and personal and business branding. With more than 20 years of experience in financial services, marketing and human resources, she is an expert in supply chain management, marketing communications and consensus-building in the areas of supplier diversity, HR training and technology for high-growth companies. As Vice President and Supplier Diversity Manager at Wells Fargo, Woodbury helps manage the strategic approach to diverse supplier inclusion efforts for four internal Lines of Business including one of the largest, the Consumer Lending Group. Prior to this promotion, Woodbury managed the strategic direction for corporate sponsorships and supplier diversity outreach activities, as well as development of the company's overall marketing and communications strategy for supplier diversity. Ms. Woodbury serves on the board of the Women Presidents' Educational Organization – NY; and in 2017 was appointed to the Business Advisory Committee for the City of Charlotte. She is a member of the National Black MBA Association, the local chapter of the Project Management Institute, Delta Sigma Theta, Sorority Inc. Charlotte Alumnae Chapter and a Life Member of the South Carolina State University Alumni Association. Tonia earned her B.S. in Business Administration from South Carolina State University and her MBA in Marketing from Clark Atlanta University.

BRYAN EDWARDS, DIRECTOR, UNION EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Bryan began his career in the mid 80s by taking an EMT class while a teenager. Becoming interested in the field as a career he quickly started a job as an EMT. Almost immediately he began taking Paramedic classes and obtained his Credentials in '90. Bryan was fortunate enough to get a job with Union EMS in '91 and remained there as a Paramedic until 1999. It was then that he moved to Mecklenburg County EMS and remained there for over 16 years moving through the ranks up to the Position of Operations Manager. In early 2015, he was approached about taking on the role of EMS Chief for Union EMS. After much thought and prayer, Bryan eagerly accepted the challenge and has remained in this position ever since. He considers it being able to finally 'come home'. Bryan obtained his AAS from Gaston College in 2003 in EMS and from Western Carolina University in 2006 with a BS in Emergency Care. I returned to Western Carolina University and graduated again in 2010, this time with a Masters Degree in Healthcare Administration with a concentration in Emergency Medical Services. Bryan is married to his wonderful wife Annette who is an RN and has two great kids; Joshua 12 and Mallory 10.



TRACI COLLEY, MSEH, REHS

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH MANAGER, UNION COUNTY

Traci Colley is Environmental Health Manager with the Public Health Division of Union County NC. She earned a Bachelor's Degree in Earth Science-Geology from the University of North Carolina-Charlotte and Master of Science in Environmental Health (Magna cum laude) from East Carolina University before becoming Environmental Health Division Manager in 2015. She has twenty-four years of field and management experience and has conducted advanced research on arsenic in private well water supplies, indoor air quality and children's environmental health issues. She developed and implemented the Children's Environmental Health Program in Union County. She was awarded training grants from the National Environmental Health Association/EPA and CDC/NC Division of Public Health, Children's Environmental Health Branch for Indoor Air Quality/Asthma, Tools for Schools and the Healthy Homes Program. In addition to being a Registered Environmental Health Specialist, she is a Certified Healthy Homes Specialist through the National Environmental Health Association. She is a member of the Board of Directors for Safe Kids and Communities of Union County and Advisory Council Member for the School Health Advisory Council and the Union County Cooperative Extension Family and Consumer Sciences Program. She is also a member of the North Carolina Lead Ad Hoc Task Force and Local Emergency Planning Committee.

She has been married to her best friend Jamie for 25 years and they have three wonderful kids: Will, Aaron and Susannah. When not cheering at soccer games, she can be found running, reading or hiking in a national park.

CATHY HENDERSON, MECKLENBURG COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

A native of Charlotte, North Carolina, Cathy has had a career-long reputation centered on shaping programs to increase positive outcomes for children and families. She holds an undergraduate degree in Psychology and Master's degrees in Theological Studies (counseling concentration) and Organizational Development (conflict resolution concentration). With 6 years in direct services and 15 years in leadership, Cathy is a catalyst for positive change and has been recognized for her program development, winning communication and collaborative relationship-building skills. She carries a charisma born from passion for life and compassion for people. One of her greatest joys is seeing people experience a "light bulb" moment that sparks motivation and action.

Cathy currently works as a Maternal and Child Health Program Supervisor with Mecklenburg County Public Health. Her team focuses on improving outcomes for Birth-5 children and their families.



PLANNING COMMITTEE

DR. AUDREA CAESAR, CHAIR

ALISA ETTERS

CHRISTI PHILLIPS

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HEALTH EQUITY INSTITUTE 2018



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