



NIHCM
FOUNDATION

Homelessness & COVID-19: A Merger of Two Epidemics

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

(In order of appearance on the program)

Cait Ellis, MPA is a Program Manager for the National Institute for Health Care Management (NIHCM) Foundation in Washington, D.C. In this role, Ms. Ellis conducts research and analysis to inform and improve management strategies for health care leaders in the public and private sector. She also provides support for NIHCM's broad programming portfolio, including webinars, data visualizations, events, grants and awards. Ms. Ellis works across a wide range of topics, including the opioid crisis and mental health, rural health, and maternal and child health.

Prior to joining NIHCM, Ms. Ellis held several political and nonprofit internships and fellowships. Originally from California, Ms. Ellis received her Master's in Public Affairs with a concentration in Policy Analysis from the School of Public and Environmental Affairs at Indiana University, Bloomington, and she holds a BA in Politics from Willamette University.

Bobby Watts MPH, MS, CPH is the CEO of the National Health Care for the Homeless Council, which supports the 300 Health Care for the Homeless Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) programs and 100 Medical Respite programs with training, technical assistance, policy analysis and advocacy to end homelessness.

Bobby has more than 25 years' experience in administration, direct service, and implementation of homeless health services. He served as the executive director of New York City's Care for the Homeless from 2005-2017. Under his tenure, the FQHC agency tripled in size, added major programs and initiatives –including a shelter for 200 mentally ill and medically frail women and became licensed as a Diagnostic and Treatment Center in New York State. He has served on numerous boards, governmental task forces, and workgroups, and as an inaugural member of the NYS Interagency Council on Homelessness, where he co-chaired its Health Committee.

He is a graduate of Cornell University and Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health where he earned a Master's in Public Health in health administration and an M.S. in epidemiology. He also has a Certificate of Theological Studies from Alliance Theological Seminary in Nyack, NY.

Rev. Dr. Lorina Marshall-Blake, MGA, FAAN is president of the Independence Blue Cross Foundation (Foundation), leading strategic, programmatic, and operational efforts to fulfill the Foundation's mission to lead sustainable solutions that improve the health and wellness of the community. While overseeing grant-making work for Foundation, Marshall-Blake steered the Foundation to be a collaborator, innovator, convener of

diverse organizations, and thought leader in addressing emerging health needs in southeastern Pennsylvania.

Marshall-Blake is devoted to her church and community. She serves as an associate minister at the Vine Memorial Baptist Church in Philadelphia. In addition, she is affiliated with more than 30 professional and civic organizations, including the Anti-Defamation League and the United Negro College Fund, and is the 28th President of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Omega Omega Chapter. She has been recognized for her leadership and community service by diverse organizations such as the NAACP, the Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania, the Philadelphia Tribune, and the United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey. She has also been recognized with numerous awards and was listed among the Philadelphia Business Journal's Power 100, an exclusive list recognizing area leaders who are shaping the future of Greater Philadelphia. Marshall-Blake serves on more than 25 non-profit boards and committees of local, state, and national organizations including Blue Cross Blue Shield Association -- Corporate Responsibility Committee, Chamber's Paradigm Award & Scholarship Committee, the Urban Affairs Coalition, and the Urban League of Philadelphia. She also serves on Drexel University's College of Nursing and Health Professions Executive Advisory Council and Rutgers School of Nursing-Camden Dean's Leadership Circle.

Marshall-Blake holds a bachelor's degree in human services from Antioch College, a master's in government administration from the University of Pennsylvania and an honorary doctorate of Humanities from Albright College. She is an Honorary Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing and was appointed to the National Advisory Council on Nursing Education and Practice in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Christa Price, LMSW received her MSW from the Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College community organizing program in 2015. Since then she has been committed to advancing social justice and promoting social reform through macro social work and policy advocacy. At True Colors United, Christa works primarily on integrating technology solutions into our programmatic work. Prior to school she spent two years in working in China with the Peace Corps. Christa currently lives in the Bronx with her partner and two cats.