

**Mental Health:  
Policy, Clinical, and  
Spiritual Implications**

*Engaging Communities to Reduce  
the Mental Health Stigma*

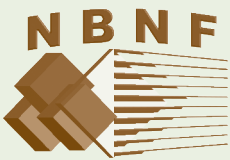
November 5, 2009  
5:30 PM - 8:30 PM

*Texas Southern University  
Barbara Jordan - Mickey Leland  
School of Public Affairs*

## *Program Objectives*

- *Provide an overview of mental health and its relationship to spirituality and the relevancy in the faith-based, academic, clinical, and policy making communities;*
  - *Discuss important health policy implications around mental health;*
  - *Discuss effective tools for clergy that enable them to assist in counseling for depression;*
  - *Encourage faith leadership to make information on faith-based prevention of suicide and depression available on request to practicing clergy; and*
  - *Understand the impact of health policy and legislation on the faith-based community as an integral service option in mental health.*
- 

## *About the Foundation*



The National Black Nurses Foundation, Inc. (NBNF) is engaged in activities that include health literacy, health authority models to increase access to care, nurse leadership development, reforming healthcare workforce regulations and the decrease of chronic diseases and related risk factors in underserved, underrepresented and at risk populations.

The Foundation undertakes the responsibility of improving the state of nurses, particularly African-American nurses through cooperative relationship with other similar international nursing, community, faith-based, professional and consumer organizations across ethnic nurse populations.

OUR MISSION is to convene alliances and develop programs around clinical, and policy measures to improve the quality of life for underserved, underprivileged, and underrepresented at-risk populations. We achieve our mission through education, research, and policy implications as these programs highlight the impact of the nursing shortage and leadership in the United States and its territories.

For more information visit [www.nbnfoundation.us](http://www.nbnfoundation.us)

# Agenda

## **Opening and Introductions**

Kermit G. Payne

*President, The 1Joshua Group, LLC*

## **Greetings from Texas Southern University**

## **Program Overview**

C. Alicia Georges, EdD, RN, FAAN

*President, National Black Nurses Foundation, Inc.*

## **Greetings**

State Representative Garnet F. Coleman - *District 147*

## **Keynote Presentation**

### **Mental Health: The Burden of Disease on Healthcare Disparities and Policy – Implications for Parity in Health Care**

M. Joycelyn Elders, MD, MS

### **Clinical Implications: Understanding Depression and Bipolarism to Reduce the Stigma Associated with Mental Health**

Rahn K. Bailey, MD, FAPA

## **Policy & Community Partnerships for Improved Mental Health Outcomes – A Panel Discussion**

The Reverend Remus E. Wright, MDiv

Eduardo J. Sanchez, MD, MPH

Robin Peyson, MHSA

## **What's Working in Our Community**

Ural H. Hill, MDiv, PhD, LPC

## **A Call to Action**

Stephen L. Williams, MEd, MPA

## **Closing**

C. Alicia Georges, EdD, RN, FAAN



**M. JOYCELYN ELDERS, MD, MS**, the first person in the state of Arkansas to become board certified in pediatric endocrinology, was the 15th Surgeon General of the United States, the first African American and only the second woman to head the U.S. Public Health Service. In 1993, President Clinton appointed Dr. Elders U.S. Surgeon General. During her fifteen months in office she faced skepticism regarding her progressive policies yet continued to bring controversial issues up for debate. As she later concluded, change can only come about when the Surgeon General can get people to listen and talk about difficult subjects.



**RAHN K. BAILEY, MD, FAPA**, is a dual board certified forensic psychiatrist. He currently serves as Chair and Interim Executive Director for the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tenn. Dr. Bailey is a member of the Administrative Council of the American Academy of Psychiatry and Law (AAPL). He previously served as the Chairperson for the Katrina Response Effort of the National Medical Association. In this capacity, he led teams of physicians in treating the mental health needs of those displaced by the devastating hurricanes. Dr. Bailey is a national forensic expert, who has testified and participated in civil, racial discrimination, and criminal cases both locally and nationally. He has been retained for his expertise in forensic psychiatry by the State of Texas, where he conducts evaluations on Sexually Violent Predators (SVP).



**NAPOLEON B. HIGGINS, JR., MD** is President of the Black Psychiatrists of America and works with the American Psychiatric Association in many capacities to promote mental health for all persons. A psychiatrist in the Houston/Clear Lake City Area, he also serves as CEO and President of Bay Pointe Behavioral Health Service, Inc. Dr. Huggins practices at Clear Lake Regional Hospital where he serves as Medical Director of Consultation and Liaison Services and Medical Director of Hold My Hand Residential Treatment Center. Higgins has worked with and founded many programs that help to direct inner city young men and women to aspire to go to college and complete their educational goals. He has worked with countless community mentoring programs and has special interest in trauma, racism, and inner city issues including how they affect minority and disadvantaged children.



**URAL H. HILL, MDiv, PhD, LPC** is a Counselor Educator at Texas Southern University where he teaches graduate students in the College of Education. Dr. Hill is Project Director for the Texas Southern H.O.T.E.P. Mental Health Pilot. He has served as a trainer and on the board of advisors for the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change and as an organizer for the National March Committee. His research interests include Black Psychology & Resiliency the Reduction of Recidivism rates of At Risk Adolescents when exposed to positive mentoring. He has worked in Historically Black Colleges and Universities for 15 years. Dr. Hill is especially interested in how the Faith Community, Clinicians, Researchers, and Scholars Synergize.



**ROBIN PEYSON, MHA**, has a background in mental health, public health and substance abuse. Her professional career has been in the public arena, developing, managing, and integrating public health, mental health and substance abuse treatment programs and policy. Prior to accepting the position as Executive Director of NAMI Texas, she spent over seven years as a service systems development specialist and assistant director for the Children's Community Mental Health division of what is now the Texas Department of State Health Services. For the previous 15 years, she held a variety of positions working on alcohol and drug abuse, high-risk teens, and child and adolescent mental health programs. She started her career with several health care planning, marketing, and consulting positions.



**EDUARDO J. SANCHEZ., MD, MPH** serves as Vice President and Chief Medical Officer for BlueCross BlueShield of Texas. Before joining BlueCross BlueShield of Texas, he served as Director of the Institute for Health Policy at The University of Texas (UT) School of Public Health. Prior to that, Dr. Sanchez served as Commissioner of the Texas Department of State Health Services from 2004 to 2006 and the Texas Department of Health from 2001 to 2004. He served as the city/county local health officer and Chief Medical Officer for the Austin-Travis County Health and Human Services Department from 1994 to 1998.

Dr. Sanchez is serving as Chair of the Advisory Committee to the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and as Chair of the National Commission on Prevention Priorities (NCPPI). Dr. Sanchez served on the IOM Committee on Progress in Preventing Childhood Obesity, and he currently serves as co-chair of the National Governors' Association Childhood Obesity Advisory Council and as a member of the IOM Standing Committee on Childhood Obesity.



**STEPHEN L. WILLIAMS, MEd, MPA** is the Director of the Houston Department of Health and Human Services and is actively involved in public health issues at the local, state, and national levels. He is the President for the Texas Association of Local Health Officials Board. Williams serves on the National Commission on Prevention Priorities, Texas Agri-Life Extension Services Urban Advisory Board, Houston/Harris County Homeless Coalition Board, and the Harris County Healthcare Alliance Board. Mr. Williams is also former Executive Manager for the Travis County Health and Human Services and Veteran Services and served as Administrator of Public Health and Deputy Director of Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services Department.



**THE REVEREND REMUS E. WRIGHT, MDiv** is Senior Pastor of The Fountain of Praise. With over 100 active ministries, The Fountain of Praise is making a difference in the lives of its parishioners and the community. Pastor Wright is an active participant in the Harvard University Summer Leadership Institute Program for Economic Development through which he has been certified as a developer of faith-based community development programs. He has served on the boards of Madison High School Community Relations and the Westland YMCA. Pastor Wright also serves as a Spiritual Advisor to the Fort Bend County Sheriff's Department, as well as many entertainers and professional athletes. As an active participant in both foreign and local missions, he was instrumental in establishing three churches in Zimbabwe while supporting The Fountain of Praise - Nigeria, The Fountain of Praise in Cachoeira, Bahia, Brazil and local churches in Houston.

## *Partner Organizations*

**Association of Black Cardiologists**

**Association of Black Health-Systems Pharmacists**

**Black Nurses Association of Greater Houston**

**Black Psychiatrists of America**

**City of Houston Department of Health and Human Services**

**Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance of Greater Houston**

**Gateway to Care**

**Hilton Publishing**

**Houston Association of Black Psychologists**

**The Mental Health and Mental Retardation Authority of Harris County**

**Morehouse School of Medicine - Department of Medicine**

**National Alliance on Mental Illness – Fort Bend**

**National Alliance on Mental Illness – Metropolitan Houston**

**National Alliance on Mental Illness – Texas**

**National Black Nurses Association**

**Prairie View A & M University – College of Nursing**

**Real Urban Counselors**

**Texas Southern University**

**The 1Joshua Group, LLC**

---

## *Supporter*

Funding for this activity was made possible, by support from

**AstraZeneca** 

AstraZeneca is a major international healthcare business engaged in research, development, manufacturing and marketing of prescription pharmaceuticals and supplier for healthcare services. AstraZeneca is one of the world's leading pharmaceutical companies with healthcare sales of US \$29.55 billion and is a leader in gastrointestinal, cardiovascular, neuroscience, respiratory, oncology and infection product sales. AstraZeneca is listed in the Dow Jones Sustainability Index (Global) as well as the FTSE4Good Index.

---

## *Co-Sponsor*

**Texas Southern University - H.O.T.E.P Mental Health Pilot**

---

**NBNF Association Management provided by The 1Joshua Group, LLC**  
1513 East Cleveland Avenue - Building 100-B, Suite 110 - Atlanta, GA 30344  
(Voice) 404.559.6191 (Fax) 404.559.6198 (Web) [www.the1joshuagroup.com](http://www.the1joshuagroup.com)