# EXPLORING OPTIMAL HEALTH for ADOLESCENTS



Charleston, South Carolina

June 14 - 16, 2023









# ABOUT FACT FORWARD

Fact Forward has led a statewide effort to advocate for teen reproductive health since 1994. Due in part to our work over the past 25 years, the teen birth rate in South Carolina has declined 70%...but there's still more work to do. STIs are on the rise, and unintended pregnancies among young adults are up. We changed our name to Fact Forward in 2019 to reflect our broader commitment to reproductive health because our work has expanded beyond the single issue of teen pregnancy and beyond the borders of our state.

#### **OUR MISSION**

Fact Forward's mission is to improve the health and economic well-being of individuals, communities, the state of South Carolina, and beyond by preventing teen pregnancy and advancing adolescent reproductive health.



#### WELCOME LETTER FROM THE CEO

I am delighted to extend my warmest welcome to every one of you to the 24th annual Summer Institute. The theme, "Exploring Optimal Health for Adolescents," resonates deeply with the core values of our organization and reflects Fact Forwards' relationship with many of you. By equipping professionals and advocates with innovative tools and resources, we can help shape a future where all youth and young adults can have a healthy, bright, self-determined future. Over the next few days, we will have an incredible lineup of speakers, panel discussions, and interactive sessions that will provide valuable insights, research findings, and best practices from the field. Fact Forward aims to foster an environment of open dialogue where we can learn from one another and share innovative approaches to tackle the challenges we face. I also want to thank our sponsors, who have generously supported this conference. Their unwavering commitment to advancing sexual and reproductive health for all youth and young adults is instrumental in making this event possible. By investing in education, access to healthcare, comprehensive sex education, and supportive environments, we can empower our youth to make healthy choices and fulfill their potential.

We wish you a stimulating, inspiring, and worthwhile experience at our 2023 conference.

Sincerely,

E.A. "Beth" De Santis, MSN CEO, Fact Forward



# **Thank you**

# **TO OUR SUPPORTERS**

# **Boyd-Sellers Family**











# **AGENDA AT A GLANCE**

Wednesday, June 14				
11 AM - 12:15 PM	Pre-Conference Breakout Session			
1:15 PM - 2:30 PM	Pre-Conference Breakout Session			
3:00 PM - 4:15 PM	Conference Opening Keynote			
4:30 PM - 5:30 PM	General Session			
5:45 PM - 8:00 PM	Networking Reception			
Thursday, June 15				
8:00 AM - 9:00 AM	Breakfast			
8:45 AM - 10 AM	Breakout Sessions			
10:15 AM - 11:15 AM	Conference General Session			
11:45 AM -12:15 PM	Lunch			
12:30 PM -1:45 PM	Conference Keynote			
2:00 PM - 2:30 PM	Networking with Leading to Change			
2:30 PM - 3:45 PM	Breakout Sessions			
4:00 PM - 5:15 PM	Breakout Sessions			
Friday, June 16				
8:00 AM - 9:00 AM	Breakfast Buffet			
9:00 AM - 11:15 AM	Conference Awards and Panel Discussion			
11:15 AM	Conference Closing			

# **CONTINUING EDUCATION UNITS**

Continuing Professional Education Category	Hours
General Hours	9.75
AHEC	9.75
Counselors & Therapists	9.75
Medical Assistants	9.75
Nursing	9.75
Social Workers	4.5

AHEC: This program is approved for 9.75 CEU's (9.75 clock hours) of continuing education by Mid-Carolina AHEC, Inc. and meets the SC AHEC Best Practices Standards. Participants must attend 90% of the program in order to receive a certificate of attendance. No partial credit will be given.

COUNSELORS & THERAPISTS: This program has been pre-approved for 9.75 hours of continuing education by SC AHEC under its accreditation by the SC Board of Examiners for Licensure of Professional Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapists and **Psycho-Educational Specialists** 

MEDICAL ASSISTANTS: This program qualifies for 9.75 hours of NON AAMA continuing education for recertification.

NURSING: Mid-Carolina AHEC is approved as a provider of nursing continuing professional development by South Carolina Nurses Association, an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation. This nursing continuing education activity approval # 2110-022PR-131 has been approved for 9.75 hours.

SOCIAL WORKERS: This program has been approved by the SC Board of Social Work Examiners for 4.5 clock hours of social work continuing education and 5.25 hours of NON-social work continuing education.

# **EXPLORE CHARLESTON**

There is so much to do in the Charleston area! Beautiful parks, gardens, and historical sites are nearby, as well as great shopping and restaurants. There is access to museums, theatre, art galleries, and much more.

#### Charleston City Market 188 Meeting Street

The City Market is one of the nation's oldest public markets and the cultural heart of Charleston. Established in the 1790s, the city market is home to more than 300 vibrant entrepreneurs, and open every day of the year except December 25th. No matter what time of day or season you plan to visit, there is something to see, do, taste, and take home as a souvenir from the Charleston City Market!

#### Tanger Outlets Charleston 4840 Tanger Outlet Blvd

The Tanger Outlets near our hotel is a shopping mall chain featuring a variety of brand-name and designer outlet stores. It's less than 10 minutes away!

#### Folly Beach County Park 1100 West Ashley Avenue

On the west end of the island, situated between the Atlantic Ocean and the Folly River, beachgoers will find Folly Beach County Park. Lifeguards are on duty seasonally along a beautiful beachfront designated swimming area. Skimmer Flats, a major Eastern Brown Pelican rookery, is visible at the west end of the park.

#### Popular Restaurants:

Rodney Scott's BBQ Church and Union Gillie's Seafood Hyman's Seafood The Darling Oyster Bar Amen Street Fish and Raw Bar Poogan's Porch Callie's Hot Little Biscuit **COAST Bar and Grill** 

# **MEET THE KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

Loretta Ross is an awardwinning, nationallyrecognized expert on racism and racial justice, women's rights, and human rights. Her work emphasizes the intersectionality of social justice issues and how intersectionality can fuel transformation.

Ross is a 2022 MacArthur Fellow and associate professor at Smith College (Northampton, MA) in the Program for the Study of Women and Gender. teaching courses on white supremacy, race and culture in America, human rights, and calling in the calling out culture.



# **PROFESSOR LORETTA ROSS**

She was a co-founder and the National Coordinator, from 2005 to 2012, of the SisterSong Women of Color Reproductive Justice Collective, a network of women of color and allied organizations that organize women of color in the reproductive justice movement. Loretta has also co-written three books on reproductive justice. Her current book, Calling In the Calling Out Culture, was published in 2021. Ross appears regularly in major media outlets about the issues of our day. She was recently featured in a New York Times piece, "What if Instead of Calling People Out, We Called Them In?" Ross is a rape survivor, was forced to raise a child born of incest, and is a survivor of sterilization abuse. She is a model of how to survive and thrive despite the traumas that disproportionately affect low-income women of color. She is a nationally-recognized trainer on using the transformative power of Reproductive Justice to build a Human Rights movement that includes everyone.

Ross serves as a consultant for Smith College, collecting oral histories of feminists of color for the Sophia Smith Collection which also contains her personal archives.

# MEET THE FEATURED SPEAKERS



TANYA BASS, PHD, MS, MED, CHES, CSE



DR. JAMES WADLEY



JUSTINE ANG FONTE, M.ED, MPH

Tanya Bass, Ph.D., MS, MEd, CHES®, CSE (she/her/hers) is the "Foundress" of the North Carolina Sexual Health Conference (NCSEXCON). She is an award-winning sexuality educator and subject matter expert in reproductive health and health equity. Dr. Bass is an alumna of North Carolina Central University's (NCCU) Department of Public Health Education, where she has served as an adjunct instructor for several years and is currently the lead instructor for Human Sexuality. She is also an adjunct instructor at East Carolina University in the Department of Health Education and Promotion. She completed her Ph.D. in Education at Widener University in the Center for Human Sexuality Studies. Dr. Bass remains committed to seeking professional development and is a member of the NC Society for Public Health Educators, the Women of Color Sexual Health Network (WoCSHN), the Association of Black Sexologists and Clinicians (ABSC), and the American Association of Sexuality Educators, Counselors, and Therapist.

Dr. James Wadley is a Professor and Chair of the Counseling and Human Services department at Lincoln University. He is also the Director of the Sex Therapy Program at Council for Relationships (Philadelphia, USA). Dr. Wadley is a scholar-practitioner; licensed professional counselor; AAS[1]ECT Certified Sex Therapist Supervisor; and maintains a private practice in the States of Pennsylvania and New Jersey. He is also the founding Editor in Chief of the Journal of Black Sexuality and Relationships published through the University of Nebraska Press.

In 2016, he helped developed curricula and conducted a sexuality education course at the University of Muhimbili in Tanzania for the nursing and midwifery program. Later that year, he developed and taught an applied research methods course at Cape Peninsula University of Technology in Cape Town, South Africa. In 2017, Dr. Wadley's work and advocacy domestically and abroad enabled him to complete his first documentary, Raw to Reel: Race, Drugs, and Sex in Trenton, New Jersey, which captures some of the challenges that emerge in addiction and recovery. In 2018, Dr. Wadley co-edited The Art of Sex Therapy Supervision (Routledge) which is a book devoted to the clinical experiences of supervisors and supervisees in the field of sex therapy. The book won AASECT's 2019 Book of the Year Award. His new book, The Handbook of Sexuality Leadership: Inspiring Community Engagement, Social Empowerment, and Transformational Influence (Routledge) carves a new path for sexuality educators, counselors, and therapists in that it serves as an invitation for re-conceptualizing the consultative roles that sexuality professionals engage in. In 2020, Dr. Wadley earned a Performance Leadership Certificate from Cornell University and his MBA was earned from Keystone College in 2021. Both credentials have enabled him to engage leaders in courageous and transformative dialogue about corporate social responsibility and strategic change. These credentials and a wealth of domestic and international clinical experiences, has catapulted him to be one of the nation's best couples, family, and sexuality therapists and consultants.

Justine Ang Fonte is the child of Philippine immigrants and an award-winning health educator, speaker, and consultant. She received her Master's in Education in Teaching from the University of Hawai'i and her Master's in Public Health in Sexuality from Columbia University. She has been featured in The New York Times, The Atlantic, NPR, Glamour, and the BBC docuseries, Planet Sex, for her notable teaching career in health education. According to a Buzzfeed list, one of 13 sex educators who teaches people what they really need to know when it comes to sex. On Instagram, she's known as "Your Friendly Ghostwriter," composing the texts you avoid sending about setting your boundaries.

# Wednesday, June 14

8:30 AM - 2:30 PM

# **SECOND GENERATION SUMMIT**

Room: Opal One

\*Prior Registration Required: www.sc2gen.org

# 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM

#### **BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

# You Want Me to Put That Where? **Usage of Self-Collected Swabs for STI Testing**

Lawana Brown, WHNP Room: Yellow Topaz

The CDC recommends that patients under the age 25 be tested for sexually transmitted infections (STI) annually. Many patients avoid testing due to cost and convenience. Can the use of self-collected vaginal swabs help remove these barriers to testing? What does the literature say? What are you doing in your clinical practice? What do patients say about it? In this resourceful session, participants will discuss the effectiveness of self-collected vaginal swabs for STI testing, patients' response to self-collection, and how clinicians can introduce and use self-collection in their practice.

#### Co-Designing Optimal Sexual and Reproductive Health Interventions With and for Adolescents

Amanda Geppert, C.Phil., MPH Room: Blue Topaz

Adolescents face many barriers in the receipt of sexual and reproductive health care including limited autonomy, confidentiality concerns, and financial constraints. In addition, medical mistrust, biases, and coercion affect the provision of contraceptive care, especially among Black, brown, and low-income populations. These conditions call on youth serving professionals to design sexual and reproductive healthcare interventions with the expertise and input of adolescents marginalized by race, class, gender, and sexuality. Design approaches—human-centered design, co-design, participatory design, among others—and methods are used to engage individuals and communities most affected by an issue in the development of novel, person-centered, systems-oriented, and effective responses, increasingly so in the context of health care. This interactive session will offer an opportunity for participants to learn about adolescent-identified critical components of sexual and reproductive care; engage with design methods that can be used to collaborate with adolescents; and rapidly brainstorm prototypes, and test concepts that seek to address persistent forms of exclusion.

# 1:15 PM - 2:30 PM

# **BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

#### Innovations in Adolescent Sexual Health

Katrina James, MPH, CHES, FPHW and Brittany Wearing, MPH, CHES

Room: Emerald Ballroom

Do you ever feel like communicating data can be challenging? Data visualization and data storytelling is a unique way to communicate information to your organization and other professionals. In this session, participants will be able to understand what a data story is, how data visualization tells a good story, and how to identify different types of data visualizations to use in their work. These tips will enhance youth serving professionals by providing additional tools to be able to communicate data in a unique and understandable way for everyone.

# Data Storytelling: How to Tell Your Story through **Data Visualization**

Mallory Gibson, BA and Brittany Sydnor, BA, CHES Room: Yellow Topaz

Do you ever feel like communicating data can be challenging? Data visualization and data storytelling is a unique way to communicate information to your organization and other professionals. In this session, participants will be able to understand what a data story is, how data visualization tells a good story, and how to identify different types of data visualizations to use in their work. These tips will enhance youth serving professionals by providing additional tools to be able to communicate data in a unique and understandable way for everyone.

# Exploring the Needs of Adolescents and Their Caregivers in SC: A Review of a Statewide Adolescent Needs Assessment

Kayce Singletary, LMSW, MPH, CHES Room: Blue Topaz

Children's Trust is a statewide, intermediary organization focused on the prevention of child abuse and neglect. Children's Trust has traditionally focused on programmatic efforts in the early and middle childhood space, but we know that adolescence is a time of unique challenges for families. In 2022, Children's Trust sought to better understand the needs of adolescents and their caregivers in South Carolina. This presentation will provide an overview of the results of the adolescent needs assessment, including identified priorities within South Carolina and among each of the four public health regions.

# 3:00 PM - 4:15 PM

### **GENERAL SESSION**

# **Summer Institute 2023 Conference Opening Keynote**

Justine Ang-Fonte, M.Ed, MPH Room: Emerald Ballroom

# 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM

#### **GENERAL SESSION**

# "Unlocking the Circles of Sexuality ": A Toolkit for Facilitation

Dr. Tanya Bass, PhD, MS, MEd, CHES, CSE Room: Emerald Ballroom

This workshop "Unlocking the Circles of Sexuality" is designed to provide participants with a deeper understanding of a sexuality model to enhance their work with a range of audiences. Through a series of interactive exercises and discussions, participants will explore the "Circles of Sexuality" and learn how to utilize the model as a framework for facilitating sessions and learning experiences.

# 5:45 PM - 8:00 PM NETWORKING RECEPTION

Location: Hotel Courtyard



Half of American teens are active sexually. Many teens have sex at young ages, which increase the risk of STDs and teen pregnancy.

WE ARE COMMITTED TO HELPING YOUNG PARENTS NAVIGATE, LEARN, AND LEAD HEALTHY FAMILIES

We designed an innovative platform to support a community of young parents who lack access to support and guidance as young and first-time parents

Scan The QR Code
To Gain Access To Our





#### **HOW IT WORKS:**

Our platform is simpe to sign up for and can easily start accessing innovative features

- 1. First, parents sign up from any device with an internet connection.
- 2. Start exploring the dashboard.
- 3. Take the "Hip Introduction" course to learn more about HIP and our mission.
- 4. Users will also be encouraged to start joining Groups, contribute to Forums, and discover resources.

#### Who should join HIP (Healthy Influential Parents)?

Expectant and Parenting young adults 19 and under

HIP helps support young parents to lead a Healthy Influential life! Our App provides resources for the following:

#### Personal Health Sexual Health

STI and STP prevention Reproductive health Mental and behavioral health Social and emotional well being

#### **Family Health**

Nutrition counseling and services Mental and behavioral health

#### **Parenting Support**

Networking

Communication Skills

Parenting education and resources (including co-parenting)
Stress management support





# Thank You to the following **Network Partners**

- A.I.R. Consulting and Coaching Services
- Alpha Academy
- Alpha Leadership Educational & Prevention Foundation
- Benedict College
- Big Homie Lil Homie
- Breathe Youth Empowerment
- Claflin University
- Community Resources Depot
- Community Wellness Group
- Cooperative Health Center
- Divine Nine Foundation
- Dr. Shirley McClerklin Motley
- Dominant Advantage

- Dr. Beth Sundstrom (College of Charleston)
- Dr. Kylie McBride
- Gurls Empowerment Network (GEN)
- J.U.M.P.S.
- Kyle Greene
- LB Creative, LLC
- Little River Medical Center
- Low Country Youth Services
- Medical Ministries
- OCAB Community Action Agency, Inc.
- Orangeburg DHEC
- PASOS

- Richland DHEC
- Samuel Bellamy
- SC Alpha Phi
- SC Department of Juvenile Justice
- South Carolina State University
- Successteam
- Tandem Health
- The Hive Community Circle
- The TUCK Project
- Thembi Anaiya
- The Weight of Words Society Inc.

#### About emPOWERed SC

emPOWERed SC is an initiative created by Fact Forward that aims to improve sexual and reproductive health for teens and young adults. emPOWERed SC focuses on providing youth in South Carolina the opportunity to thrive by increasing their experience with and access to sexual health services. Thank you to our network partners for helping Fact Forward explore, test, refine and implement different innovations.

# The Impact

543 Youth Reached

231 Parents/Caregivers Reached

1,051 Community Members Reached





Learn more about the innovations that we developed here:









# **Thursday, June 15**

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM

**BREAKFAST** 

Room: Emerald Pre-function

# 7:30 AM - 12:30 PM & 2PM - 5 PM

**REGISTRATION OPEN** 

# 8:45 AM - 10 AM

#### **BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

# Breaking the Cycle: Building Health Equity Through Menstrual Health Education

Kelcy Jackson and Shakti Naidoo, BA, BS, MS Room: Blue Topaz

Do you work with adolescent menstruators? Are you interested in deepening your knowledge of menstrual health and engaging in stigma-free conversations about this vital health topic? If so, join us as we introduce you to the Period Education Project (PEP). Our "PEP Rallies" are national, community-based menstrual health education workshops that offer evidence-based, judgment free education designed to directly combat the health inequities seen with limited access to menstrual health knowledge. During this session, attendees will have the opportunity to test their medical knowledge, practice difficult conversations, and learn about period poverty and educational resources specific to their communities. You will leave this session with greater confidence and improved skills to combat menstrual health stigma and assist future generations in making informed decisions about their health. There has never been a more important time for young people and their advocates to understand menstrual health.

# THRIVE: Facilitating Trauma-Informed Sex Ed With Youth in Child Welfare

Guadalupe Muñoz, BS and Denise Lewis, BA Room: Yellow Topaz

The Texas Foster Youth Health Initiative brings together the fields of child welfare and sexual health education with the goal that youth in care feel connected, safe, and empowered to make informed decisions about their sexual health and relationships. The Initiative has created a statewide innovation network to develop interventions for youth in care, caregivers, and professionals. This session will explore the development of THRIVE,

a trauma-informed sexual health curriculum developed

to meet the sexuality and relationship education needs among youth in foster care. Join us to hear how insights from the child welfare community shaped THRIVE and learn strategies for integrating trauma-informed principles and youth voice and experience into the development and implementation of your programming. Sustainable sexual health interventions require continued collaboration within the community, youth, caregivers, and professionals to improve systems and outcomes. Our hope is that participants leave our session feeling more confident applying trauma-informed practices and meaningfully integrating youth voices into their program development through interagency collaboration.

# Creating an Easy Yet Effective Sex Educator Professional Development Plan

Paige McLeod, BS Room: Opal One

This session will focus on creating individualized professional development plans for sex educators using a systematic process that identifies priority content knowledge and skills, prioritizes identified learning gaps, and creates a personalized plan to address those priority gaps. During the hands-on session we'll explore the free Spark\*ED tools, including the Sex Educator Needs Assessment tool, discuss ways to adapt the tool to meet your organization's priorities for sex education staff, and review how to apply the tool with your staff. We'll then explore how to identify and access resources to meet specific training needs and provide a free professional development resource list which is primarily focused on free, self-directed training. Participants will end the session by exploring how to personalize a planning template to meet the specific sex education professional development needs of each educator.

# **Thursday, June 15**

# 8:45 AM - 10:00 AM

# **BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

# 12 TOOLS IN 75 MINUTES: Free Resources to Raise Our Youth Engagement Game!

Leading to Change: Eric Rowles, Fred Baker, and Courtney Tidwell

Room: Emerald Ballroom

If you are working with young people and presenting any kind of adolescent health content and programming, this "roll up our sleeves and start the day" session is for you! Get ready for a LIGHTNING round of proven tools and

strategies to raise your youth engagement game. We'll cover the BEST of technology (like a free gamification app for 2000 participants), program design (how to use the roller coaster method to life), and media (including FREE mashed-up mixes of today's music) and movies (to make your health curriculum come alive). You'll leave with your head spinning, a listing of FREE resources, and NEW ideas to take back to your program! Hold on as this presentation will roll at warp speed and showcase 12 FREE resources that you'll be excited to use immediately.

# 10:15 AM - 11:15 AM

# **GENERAL SESSION**

Dr. James Wadley, Ph.D Room: Emerald Ballroom

# 11:45 AM - 1:45 PM

#### **GENERAL SESSION**

Summer Institute 2023 Conference Keynote & Lunch

Professor Loretta Ross Room: Emerald Ballroom

# 2:00 PM - 2:30 PM

#### **GENERAL SESSION**

# THE \$3000 NETWORKING THROWDOWN: It's a Summer Institute Showdown!

Leading to Change: Fred Baker, Eric Rowles, and Courtney Tidwell

Room: Emerald Pre-Function

Are you ready to put your Summer Institute experiences into action? Can you rally for this afternoon and bring your A-Game into the Emerald Pre-Function area? Don't miss this one-chance-opportunity to not only network with amazing Summer Institute attendees, but also put into play your passion for youth, innovation for education, and friendly competitive spirit. One lucky (and skilled) attendee will walk with a \$3000 (yes, three thousand) voucher for FREE onsite training at their location in the Fall. You've got to be present to play....and willing to win it all!

# 2:30 PM - 3:45 PM

# **BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

The Basics: LGBTQ+ Allies, Part #1

Cami Armijo-Grover, BS, MPAff Room: Yellow Topaz

At least 9.5% of youth aged 13-17, and 20% of Gen Z adults identify as LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender) in the US. Significant health and educational disparities exist in these populations including increased incidence of depression, suicidal ideation, illicit drug use, lower GPAs and harassment and assault at school. Additionally, 1/3 of teachers report hearing other teachers use homophobic remarks at school. We have the power to change this, to help ensure our schools are a safe, equitable space where all student's identities are affirmed.

Part #1: The Basics, is an interactive session that focuses on building a groundwork of understanding by clarifying common vocabulary relevant to working with LGBTQ+ youth and how to correctly ask for and use pronouns. We'll also discuss how to effectively address pushback from parents, administrators and general community members. This session is for all who work in education, regardless of role or student ages.

# Mastering Professional Development within and Beyond the Classroom: Experiences from a Long-Standing Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program

Sydney Brown and Ryann Martinek Room: Emerald One

During this breakout session presenters from the Institute of Women and Ethnic Studies of New Orleans, LA will discuss the importance of professional development as a critical tool for health educators and teen pregnancy prevention (TPP) programs to deliver high quality, relevant programs, and interventions for adolescents while meeting grant deliverables. This interactive session will engage participants to think outside of the box and consider what professional development within the field of adolescent sexual health can look like both internally at an organization and externally. Presenters will share examples of effective professional development strategies, including team enrichment sessions, in-depth summer intensives, strategic planning meetings with teachers, and curriculum adaptations to meet the needs of students.

# Community Care for Mission Driven Organizations

Cesar Mantilla, MSW Room: Blue Topaz

Organizations in the public and nonprofit sectors typically have a mandate to serve those with the greatest need, often with the fewest resources. Constrained by funder caps and requirements, leaders in these sectors are compelled to draw on the wells of staff passion, empathy, and time to meet deliverables, often resulting in dissatisfaction, disengagement, and burnout. As a result, many nonprofit organizations and public agencies have been roiled by challenges that continue to hinder their ability to fulfill their missions effectively to this day. In the last several years, self-care and resilience have been promoted as a salve for the challenges experienced by staff. While helpful, these strategies have limited utility, as they tend to focus on individual-level solutions to the exclusion of a critical analysis of the role of the organization in promoting staff wellness. This session will identify some of the pressing challenges commonly experienced by leaders in the nonprofit and public sectors and explore how these impair organizations' ability to carry out their mission. Building on a community care model to complement individual level strategies, the session will offer strategies to mitigate the impact of the aforementioned challenges on staff satisfaction and retention. Participants will learn organizational practices to promote staff wellness. Additionally, participants will work in groups to explore solutions specific to their organizations.

# An Integrated Approach to treating Non-Suicidal Self Injury (NSSI) in Adolescents

Lottie Jones, Hannah Hulsey-Comer, and Christina Hahn Room: Emerald Three

Non suicidal self-injury (NSSI) is a common mental health threat among adolescents. Often pediatricians/primary care physicians are the first line of response to NSSI in this population. Utilizing an integrated approach to address these issues provide the patient with expedited access to quality mental health treatment, as well as improved continuity of care. This breakout session will clearly define NSSI, how it impacts the brain, and discuss evidence-based interventions through an interdisciplinary approach.

# **Thursday, June 15**

# 2:30 PM - 3:45 PM

# **BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

# **Gentlemen Respecting and Interacting in Truth** (G.R.I.T.): An Introspective of Health Black Masculinity

Corey Ingram, MSW, LMSW Room: Opal One

A great way for black adolescents to redefine their health is to obtain knowledge of self along with understanding the attributes and characteristics of healthy black masculinity. Ideally, this session provides information to create healthier lives for black males spiritually, emotionally, intellectually, and physically. The intersectionality of race and interpersonal violence creates a very interesting dichotomy concerning stereotypes established about men of color and the idea of male privilege. This session challenges those stereotypes and social norms. There's an important discussion pertaining to healthy masculinity from the perspective of men of color, which should be addressed, given that men of color do not fully benefit from the same male privileges as their white counterparts. Given the current climate surrounding issues such as workplace culture, interpersonal violence, social justice, inequality, police reform, and more being raised by players in the National Football League (NFL) along with countless community organizations, this is a very pivotal time to engage men of color in this discussion.

Participants will be able to discuss dominant stories, discuss the history of race and rape in the U.S. as well as describe its effects on society, along with learning some strategies to engage and retain men of color in these types of programs. The interactive activity at the beginning of the presentation provides an opportunity for participants to think outside the box as it relates to male programming, garnering resources and creating allies to provide male programming, especially to men of color, even in areas with very limited resources.

# Beyond Farms and Flags: The Successes and Challenges of Advocating for Sexual Health in **Rural Communities**

Annie Smith and Beth Marshall Room: Emerald Two

Rural youth are not a monolith, and yet, many face shared structural and systemic barriers that make it harder to access quality sexual and reproductive health care and education. When compared to their urban counterparts, youth living in rural areas have fewer healthcare options, longer distances to reach providers, less—if any—public transportation options, higher poverty rates, and lower rates of insurance coverage, amongst other challenges. The results of these inequitable systems and structures can lead to disparities in sexual and reproductive health outcomes. So, where do we come in? True You Maryland, a project that is working to advance adolescent sexual health across 6 rural communities, does so by assembling diverse teams, with the goal of reducing STI and birth rates among young people. From face value, a state like Maryland is seen as a progressive refuge. The state has passed a number of laws that support adolescent sexual and reproductive health. The project faces similar challenges in its rural communities as other states due to political and ideological divides. In this session, presenters will discuss the tactics used, with varying success, to advance the sexual and reproductive health of rural youth. Let's all come together and share our experiences and lessons learned working in rural communities so that rural youth—no matter where they live—have the same opportunities to be fully informed, access care, and lead healthy lives.

# 3:45 PM - 4:00 PM **AFTERNOON SNACK BREAK**

Room: Emerald Pre-function

# 4:00 PM -5:15 PM

#### **BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

#### The Single Parent Phenomenon

Marc Himes, MSW Room: Blue Topaz

Children and adolescents from single parent homes are more likely to live in poverty, struggle in school, and become sexually active at an earlier age. In fact, the likelihood of negative outcomes for young people in nearly every area increases when they come from a home without both parents. This session looks at this unique phenomenon and its impact on families, the community, and society. Participants will explore the single parent dynamic and discover how family structure influences youth outcomes. They will also discuss how this dynamic impacts their work and what can be done to minimize its impact.

# Putting the Basics into Practice: Education Allies Part #2

Cami Armijo-Grover, BS, MPAff Room: Yellow Topaz

In a recent study, fewer than 1/5 of LGBTQ+ students report that school staff intervenes most or all of the time when someone at school makes a homophobic remark. However, having homophobic harassment policies in place (and staff knowing the policies), leads to fewer instances of homophobia, biphobia and transphobia which creates a safer environment for all students. The focus of this session is to help educators strengthen ally development through inclusive language, active listening, bystander intervention and working with families. This session will not only teach specific, practical ways to intervene in instances of homophobia and transphobia, but also discuss best practices for creating an inclusive environment. This session will also give attendees the opportunity to practice correcting sex ed lesson plans to make them more inclusive of all gender and sexual orientation identities, as well as practice common scenarios that may occur in schools. While Part #2 will focus broadly on best practices for all classrooms, special attention will be given to how to make sexual health lessons (at all ages) more inclusive.

# The Myth of the Talk: A Foundational Approach for Family Communication About Sexuality

Lauren Barineau, MPH, CHES Room: Emerald One

As a field, we know a person's understanding of sexuality starts early. However, we often overlook capacity building strategies to support families in having positive and proactive conversations about sex. This session frames family conversations as foundational to enhancing young people's sexual wellbeing, rather than a small piece of the solution. Participants will explore the nuances of data related to family communication about sex, discuss new approaches to engaging families, and walk away with ideas for how to partner with families in their work, with specific resources for implementation.

# Restructuring for Youth Voice and Meaningfully Engagement in SRH Programming: Five Principles to Guide Practice

Pamela Drake, PhD Session Room: Emerald Two

The YEN – Youth Engagement Network – is an OPA-funded Tier 2 Innovation Project. The goal of the YEN is to create a network of youth and youth-serving adults who work together to add to the knowledge base on how to meaningfully engage youth in programs that seek to improve the sexual and reproductive health outcomes of young people. We are particularly focused on giving voice to LGBTQ youth and young men of color as well as youth in rural communities. This session will introduce the YEN, walk participants through the GCM process, present 5 principles. Also, during this session, speakers will provide an opportunity to explore barriers to implementing the principles, successful real-world application of the principles, capacity building needs for adults and agencies, and measurement ideas.

# **Accessibility on Sexual Health Education**

Jessica Balac, MAT Room: Opal One

This session examines sex education with a disability lens and will help participants feel more prepared when providing this education to youth with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Needs of the IDD (those with an intellectual or developmental disability) population are routinely not considered when implementing sex education. Often, this population is excluded from the topic of sex education entirely. This session will begin by exploring common barriers youth with IDD face in accessing comprehensive sex education with an opportunity for participants to hear from youth and self-advocates on this issue. Informed by these perspectives, presenters will review general guidelines and best practices when teaching the IDD community. Participants learn specific strategies and tools educators can use to explain complex sexual health concepts in classrooms with IDD learners. This well-rounded presentation will leave participants feeling knowledgeable and motivated to incorporate more inclusive teaching practices.

# Friday, June 16

# 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM **BREAKFAST**

Room: Emerald Ballroom

9:00 AM - 9:45 AM

#### **GENERAL SESSION**

**Summer Institute 2023 Conference Awards** 

Room: Fmerald Ballroom

10:00 AM - 11:15 AM

# **GENERAL SESSION**

Men Facing the FACTS: Navigating Sexual/Reproductive Health **Education and Services for Black Males- Panel Discussion** 

Fred Baker (Moderator) Room: Emerald Ballroom

11:15 AM - 11:30 AM

# **GENERAL SESSION**

Conference Announcements, Door Prizes, and Conference Closing

Room: Emerald Ballroom

# The Murray L. Vincent Outstanding Prevention Professional Award:

The Murray L. Vincent Outstanding Prevention Professional Award is the highest and most distinguished award given by Fact Forward. In honor of Dr. Murray Vincent, the award recognizes an individual who has significantly impacted the prevention of adolescent pregnancy in South Carolina while exemplifying the characteristics of the award's namesake. Recipients of the award will receive a \$500 stipend to continue their prevention work and a lifetime scholarship to the Summer Institute.

# FORMER AWARD WINNERS



**2022-Carol Burdette** CEO, United Way of Anderson County



2021-Genie Fogle Educator, Lake Marion High School and Technology Center



**2020-Sherry Coutain**Family Life Educator, Family
Outreach of Horry County



**2019-Kristen Fouts**Anderson School District Three



2018-Melanie Dees
Director of the Diamonds
Teen Pregnancy
Prevention Program



**2017-Joan Johnakin**Founding Director of the
Coalition for Family
Enrichment



2016-Suzan Alexander 2015-Darnell SCDHEC McPherson



McPherson Former
Darlington County First Steps Decide`



**2014-Sarah Brown**Former CEO of Power to Decide`



**2013-Shedron Williams** SC Representative for District 122 (Beaufort, Hampton & Jasper Counties)



**2012-Stacey McPhail** PRISMA Health



**2011-Carol Singletary** Fact Forward



**2010-Aimee Lassor** *Communities in Schools* 



**2009-Rev. Don Flowers**Fact Forward Emeritus
Board Member



**2008-Michelle Nimmons** *Bamberg School District* 

# The Carol Singletary **Community Impact Award**



The Carol Singletary Community Impact Award recognizes an individual or group who has demonstrated a commitment to mobilizing their community to improve the lives of young people in South Carolina. To qualify for the award, nominees must be a resident(s) of South Carolina and demonstrate the following:

- A champion for all youth
- An organization that strives for cross-sector collaboration
- A devotion to teaching youth
- Remains steadfast in the pursuit of justice and equality for all people

This year's award winner is The Coalition for Family Enrichment in Marlboro County, an active advocate for children, youth, and families. The 501 (C)(3) is a nonprofit, grassroots, faith-based, charitable, community organization, created for the purpose of strengthening families and building stronger communities in Marlboro County.

#### Here are some examples of their commitment:

The Coalition for Family Enrichment in Marlboro primary purpose has always been to work to make better the lives of the young people and their families. It is the belief that working with young people is half of the solution. To work toward solving the problem they must have the ability to work with the entire nuclear family.

The background of the people who are a part of the Coalition has been primary in education and social work. Through their work this organization is a voice for young people and their families. One of the initial collaborations started with Tea Time with Teens, developed by Marian R. David, one of the Coalition's board members. Other collaborations include working with various community agencies and organizations. Which includes the following: The Marlboro County School District, the Community Development Corporation of Marlboro County, municipal and county government, the Children's Defense Fund, the Faith Communities, and many others.

The Coalition's devotion to teaching young people is evident in the work they provided in five different communities in Marlboro County using a grant awarded from Fact Forward. Each community implemented the EBC Making a Difference (MAD). At the end of the grant, several of the communities continue to implement the MAD program for additional youth in their community. The members continue to provide activities and support that have an influence on the youth's self-esteem and their educational pursuits.

The recipient remains steadfast in the pursuit of justice and equality for all the people in their community through the sponsoring "Come to the Table for Children", where local community leaders and parents come to the table to be a voice for the children and the well-being of their future.

# **The Tier 1 Project**

On behalf of Fact Forward, we thank and highlight our partners Aiken Youth Empowerment, a program of Helping Hands, First Steps of Darlington County, and United Way of Anderson County, for their tenacity and commitment to providing sexual and reporductive health education to youth in their respective counties. During the last three years, we have faced uncertainty and barriers such as Covid-19, which required new strategies to reach and provide reproductive health programs to teens. However, it also allowed our partners to collaborate and pivot.

They provided Plan A, a 23-minute trauma-informed, medically accurate, inclusive entertainment-education video intervention that allows young people to learn, ask questions, and follow-up with a Community Health worker for referalls if necessary. Because of their dedication and ongoing committment to positively impact the lives of youth in their communities, our amazing partners reached over 550 youth. Celebrate these outstanding individuals and organizations with Fact Forward!

# INVITING ALL BIPOC EDUCATORS & EXPERTS TO TAKE UP



SUPPORTIVE PROFESSIONAL ADVANCEMENT COLLECTIVE ENGAGEMENT



JOIN THE CREW: TinyURL.com/SPACEbySLAM

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