Healthy Communities: Las Vegas

Building Systems to Integrate Community Development and Health

Conference Materials

Agenda

Speaker Biographies

Attendance List

The Culinary Training Academy 710 W. Lake Mead Blvd. North Las Vegas, NV 89030

Thursday, January 19, 2012











United Way of Southern Nevada

Healthy Communities Conference: Las Vegas Building Systems to Integrate Community Development and Health

http://www.frbsf.org/cdinvestments/conferences/healthy-communities/2012-las-vegas-nv/

Conference Summary

As the connections between health and community development become increasingly apparent, foundations, health institutions, government, community development organizations, private sector lenders and others have been experimenting with new ways to collaborate and leverage resources. This conference will highlight promising new models of cross-sector collaboration, explore new and innovative funding streams, and establish a blueprint for bringing it all together in Las Vegas.

Jan Bontrager

Ian Galloway

Lisa Morris Hibbler

City of Las Vegas

GPS Capital Partners

Lisa Richter

Principal

Regional Manager, Community Development

Senior Associate, Community Development

Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco

Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco

Conference Steering Committee

Denise Tanata Ashby Senior Scholar The Lincy Institute, UNLV

David Erickson Senior Researcher, Community Development Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco

Nancy Hamilton

Vice President, Community Development Wells Fargo Bank

Angela Quinn Managing Director Building Hope Nevada

Deborah Williams

Manager, Office of Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Southern Nevada Health District

Co-Sponsored By:

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation The Lincy Institute, UNLV Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco Nevada Bankers Collaborative **Cyndy Gustafson** Principal Strategic Progress

United Way of Southern Nevada

Vice President, Community Development

Ken LoBene Director HUD-Las Vegas

Joselyn Cousins

Geoff Spataro CRA Officer Bank of Nevada

United Way of Southern Nevada

Center for Community Development Investments

Deputy Director, Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services

Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco www.frbsf.org/cdinvestments

Center Staff

Joy Hoffmann, FRBSF Group Vice President Scott Turner, Vice President John Olson, Senior Advisor David Erickson, Center Director Ian Galloway, Senior Research Associate



Advisory Committee

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Betsy Zeidman, Robert F. Kennedy Center for Justice and Human Rights

Healthy Communities Initiative

Washington, DC | Los Angeles, CA | Boston, MA | New York, NY | Houston, TX | Las Vegas, NV

http://www.frbsf.org/cdinvestments/conferences/healthy-communities/

The Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation created the Healthy Communities Initiative to explore how the health and community development sectors can collaborate to promote better health outcomes for low-income people and communities by addressing issues concerning the social determinants on health. A key component of the Healthy Communities Initiative is a conference series covering the following topics:

New Resources. As traditional health funders begin to understand the strong integration between health outcomes and physical environments, there are many new potential partnerships between health-oriented foundations (Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, The Pew Charitable Trusts, Kaiser Family Foundation, The California Endowment, and others in the Grantmakers In Health group) and new government programs (Healthy Foods Financing Initiative, Sustainable Communities, anti-childhood obesity programs like Let's Move!, charter school financing, early care programs). Harmonizing these new funding streams with the traditional community development programs (investment and lending motivated by the Community Reinvestment Act, New Markets Tax Credits, Low Income Housing Tax Credits, etc) will be both a challenge and an opportunity.

New Partners. The important work of the affordable housing and community development sector could be much more effective when joined with other partners (e.g., early care and education programs, nutrition programs, and the like). To do this requires sharing of knowledge between many sectors, with health and community development being the most immediately promising.

New Ideas. The health sector has a much more sophisticated approach to data collection and outcomes measurement. Community development could learn much in this area. Similarly, as the health sector tries to improve nutrition and recreation opportunities in low-income neighborhoods, it can learn from the sophisticated and networked approach community development uses to implement its programs.

Long-term Cost Savings. At a recent community development conference at the San Francisco Fed, HUD's Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research Raphael Bostic asserted that one of the main benefits to Promise and Choice Neighborhoods is better health and subsequent cost savings. These conferences will look for ways to demonstrate those savings.

Conference Series Schedule (2010-12)

Federal Reserve Board Washington, DC July 13, 2010 Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco Los Angeles, CA September 29, 2010

Federal Reserve Bank of New York New York, NY June 13, 2011 Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas Houston, TX September 28, 2011 Federal Reserve Bank of Boston Boston, MA April 20, 2011

The Pew Charitable Trusts Washington, DC November 7, 2011

Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco Las Vegas, NV January 19, 2012

Conference Agenda

8:30 – 9:00am Registration and Continental Breakfast

9:00 – 9:30am Welcome and Opening Remarks

David Erickson Center for Community Development Investments Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco

9:30 – 10:15am Morning Keynote

David Williams Professor and Robert Wood Johnson Senior Fellow in Residence Harvard University

10:15 – 10:45am Morning Break

10:45am – 12:00pm Working Together: Regional Models, Lessons, and Strategies for Scale

Moderator: Maureen Schafer Peckman

Chief Emerging Business Officer Cleveland Clinic Nevada

India Pierce Lee

Program Director, Neighborhoods, Housing, and Community Development Cleveland Foundation

Jeff Edmondson

Managing Director Strive Network

Mariano Diaz

Western Regional Vice President LISC Sustainable Communities Initiative

12:00 – 1:15pm Lunch Keynote

Introduction: Deborah Williams

Manager, Office of Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Southern Nevada Health District

Robin Hacke

Director of Capital Formation Living Cities

1:15 – 2:15pm What's Happening in Las Vegas Now?

Moderator: Lisa Morris Hibbler

Deputy Director, Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services Department City of Las Vegas

Denise Tanata Ashby Senior Scholar

The Lincy Institute, UNLV

Cass Palmer

President and CEO United Way of Southern Nevada

Dr. Lawrence Sands Chief Health Officer Southern Nevada Health District

2:15 – 2:45pm Afternoon Break

2:45 – 3:45pm Financing Healthy Communities

Moderator: Gian Brosco President Nevada Comm

Nevada Community Foundation
Cyndy Gustafson

Principal Strategic Progress

Holly Lyman

Director, Women's Care Center Catholic Healthcare West

Tracy Ericson

Vice President, Community Lending and Investment Wells Fargo Bank

3:45 – 4:30pm Bring It All Together in Las Vegas: A Facilitated Conversation

Facilitator:

or: Lisa Richter Principal GPS Capital Partners

4:30 – 4:45pm Closing and Next Steps

Joselyn Cousins

Vice President, Community Development United Way of Southern Nevada

4:45 – 6:00pm Reception

Speaker Biographies



Denise Tanata Ashby is currently a Senior Scholar in Health at the Lincy Institute at UNLV and previously served as the Executive Director of the Nevada Institute for Children's Research and Policy (NICRP) in the School of Community Health Sciences at UNLV. Ms. Tanata Ashby received her Bachelor's Degree in Women's Studies from UNLV, with a minor

in Sociology and received her Juris Doctorate from the William S. Boyd School of Law at UNLV. Her primary areas of research are child welfare, children's health, juvenile justice and early childhood education. Ms. Tanata Ashby has over twelve years experience conducting applied research and policy analysis on children's issues in Nevada, with an emphasis on evaluation research and data collection intended to improve policy and practice.



Gian Brosco is the President of the Nevada Community Foundation. Prior to joining Nevada Community Foundation, Gian worked at The Rhode Island Community Foundation as senior development officer and gift planning advisor and served as philanthropic service officer/vice president for the Philanthropic Management Group of the U.S. Trust Bank of

America, where he counseled institutional and private clients and provided expertise for Bank of America on the subjects of philanthropy, planned giving, investment policy, fiduciary and tax matters. An experienced attorney, Gian received his Bachelor of Arts in English from Georgetown University and completed his Juris Doctor from the New England School of Law in 1990. Admitted to the Bars in Rhode Island and Texas, Gian has spoken extensively on the subjects of philanthropy and social change and is a member of the Tax-Exempt Organization Committee of the American Bar Association.



Joselyn Cousins is Vice President of Community Development for United Way of Southern Nevada. Cousins' primary role includes engaging and building relationships with diverse community partners, supporting collaborative based strategies and creating innovative programs that drive positive community change in the areas of education, financial stability,

health, immediate needs and volunteering. Previously, Cousins served as the Community Development Manager, Senior Vice President for Bank of Nevada for over six years, where she developed and coordinated all community development activities to ensure the Bank adhered to and complied with banking regulations established as part of the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA). Prior to that, she was the Community Relations Officer, Vice President for Citibank. At Citibank Cousins initiated and implemented innovative community development programs that demonstrated a continued leadership role in Nevada. She has also served on numerous boards and committees involved in community development service.

Mariano Diaz is the Western Regional Vice President for Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) responsible for LISC operations in Los Angeles, the San Francisco/Bay Area, San Diego, Washington State, Phoenix, and Houston. Prior he worked for the San Diego Foundation where he was responsible for the strategic planning, implementation of community improvement programs and supporting grants in the areas of human services; science and technology; environment; arts and culture; and civil society. Prior to that, Diaz was global director for the Nike Foundation and community affairs operations. Diaz was Owner/ principal of Esme & Associates. Mariano earned a masters from Harvard University and a bachelors from the University of California, Santa Barbara



Jeff Edmondson is managing director of the Strive Network, a national cradle-to-career initiative that brings together leaders in Pre-K-12 schools, higher education, business and industry, community organizations, government leaders, parents and other stakeholders who are committed to helping children succeed from birth through careers. Edmondson

most recently served as executive director of the Strive Partnership in Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky, a partnership of postsecondary, K-12, business, philanthropic, non-profit, and civic organizations in Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky aimed at increasing educational aspirations, achievement, and attainment of students throughout the region. The Strive Network was formed using lessons learned from the development of the partnership, and are currently being applied in cities across the country through a collaborative relationship with Living Cities and the Coalition of Urban Serving Universities to help ensure resources in these regions are efficiently and effectively supporting the success of every child. He also served as the foundation officer for KnowledgeWorks Foundation. In this role, Edmondson was responsible for assisting the President & CEO by leading and providing support for priority initiatives, communicating on the vision and strategies of the Foundation locally and nationally, and managing the relationship with the Board of Directors. Prior to joining the foundation, Edmondson served as a Program Assistant at the 21st Century School Fund where he conducted research, published papers, and wrote legislation on local and national policy issues related to school facilities. Edmondson also worked as the Peaceable Schools Coordinator at Woodrow Wilson Senior High School, the largest public secondary school in Washington, D.C. In this role he was an advocate for teachers and students in the school, built partnerships between the school and organizations and businesses in the community to improve student outcomes, and trained students and staff in mediation and other alternative conflict resolution techniques. Edmondson has a bachelor's of science in biology from University of Richmond and a master's in public policy from Johns Hopkins University. In addition, he served as a volunteer and supervisor for three years in Peace Corps Gabon, Central Africa.



David J. Erickson, directs the Center for Community Development Investments at the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco and edits the Federal Reserve journal Community Development Investment Review. His research areas in the Community Development Department of the Federal Reserve include community development finance, affordable

housing, economic development, and institutional changes that benefit low-income communities. He recently served as an editor of a joint research project with the Brookings Metropolitan Policy Program studying areas of concentrated poverty in the United States and was also an editor of a collection of research papers and essays on the Community Reinvestment Act, which was recently translated into Chinese by the People's Bank of China. Dr. Erickson has a Ph.D. in history from UC Berkeley, with a focus on economic history and public policy. He also holds a master's degree in public policy from the Goldman School of Public Policy at Berkeley and an undergraduate degree from Dartmouth College. His book on the history of community development, The Housing Policy Revolution: Networks and Neighborhoods, was published in 2009 by the Urban Institute Press.

Tracy Ericson is a Vice President and the West Region Deal Team Manager for the Wells Fargo Community Lending and Investment (CLI) group where she originates, underwrites, and manages a portfolio of New Markets Tax Credit (NMTC) investments. Tracy joined Wells Fargo in 2000, since that time has held positions in a range of departments including Capital Markets, Commercial Banking, and several positions within CLI including Low Income Housing Tax Credits investments, private equity, and equity-equivalent investments to non-profit organizations. She is a graduate of Wells Fargo's Wholesale Banking Credit Management Training Program and a recipient of the Wells Fargo Golden Spoke award. Tracy holds a Masters in Business Administration from Columbia University and University of California, Berkeley. She received a Bachelor of Science in International Business and a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish at the University of Denver. Tracy is actively involved in her local community on the Board of Directors of Compass Family Services and a member of the Chamber of Commerce's Leadership San Francisco program. She lives in San Francisco where she enjoys spending time with her family and friends.



Cyndy Ortiz Gustafson founded Strategic Progress in 2002. Ms. Ortiz Gustafson is a native Nevadan who has worked in public service and community development since her graduation from Washington State University with a Master's Degree in Political Science with an emphasis in Public Law in 1998. Ms. Ortiz Gustafson specializes in public policy strate-

gy, program and project development, grant research and writing, and regional planning initiative development and coordination. Strategic Progress is a strategy company as well as a grant writing company, raising over \$18 million in the last five years alone.



Robin Hacke is Director of Capital Formation at Living Cities, a pioneering partnership among 22 major foundations and financial institutions that invests in revitalizing America's cities. Members of Living Cities include leading foundations such as Ford, Gates, MacArthur and Rockefeller, as well as banks and insurance companies such as JP Morgan

Chase, Bank of America, Prudential, and MetLife. At Living Cities, Ms. Hacke manages the department that is responsible for developing initiatives to aggregate and deploy investment capital in low-income and underserved urban communities. These efforts include the Integration Initiative, the Living Cities Catalyst Fund, and research and investment in the area of equitable transit-oriented development. In her previous role as a venture capitalist and entrepreneur, Ms. Hacke raised over \$72 million from institutional, corporate and individual investors in two funds and built a portfolio of investments in 20 start-up companies. She has spent most of her career guiding the growth of technology companies as a manager, consultant and director. She founded and ran a strategy consulting firm that worked with 110 clients, and she currently serves as a director and Audit Committee Chair of Alvarion, a wireless communications company traded on Nasdaq. Before entering the tech sector, Robin was a banker in the Public Finance Department at Shearson Lehman Brothers, where she structured mortgage-backed bonds. She earned an MBA from Harvard Business School and a BA magna cum laude in Government from Harvard-Radcliffe College.



Lisa Morris Hibbler is Deputy Director of the city of Las Vegas Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services Department. In this capacity, she manages \$17 million in programs and services related to housing assistance, youth afterschool programs, neighborhood organizing, Safekey, seniors, Senior Citizen Law Project, and community initiatives including,

but not limited to, foreclosure prevention and ending homelessness. Dr. Hibbler was recognized as an influential leader in the 2008 Who's Who in Black Las Vegas and is a Leadership Las Vegas 2007 alumnus. She was named 2005 Emerging Public Administrator of the Year by the National Forum of Black Public Administrators (NFBPA), Las Vegas Chapter. She is also a member of American Society for Public Administrators (ASPA), NFB-PA, American Planning Association, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., and a 28-year member of the American Legion Auxiliary, Post 229. Dr. Hibbler holds a Bachelors Degree in Environmental Studies and a Masters Degree in Public Administration from the University of Nevada Las Vegas and a Doctorate in Public Administration from the University of La Verne, California. She is currently completing her Judicial Administration Graduate Certification at Michigan State University.



India Pierce Lee is the Program Director for Neighborhoods, Housing, and Community Development at the Cleveland Foundation. India has more than 23 years of experience in housing, community and economic development. She helps lead the foundation's Greater University Circle Initiative, a unique multi-institutional partnership engaged in catalytic

projects to revitalize neighborhoods that include transportation, community wealth building, employer-assisted housing, and community engagement. Prior to joining the Cleveland Foundation, India served as Senior Vice President of Programs at Neighborhood Progress Inc. (NPI), where she led several joint initiatives, including the Cleveland Neighborhood Partnership Program. She was also Senior Program Director with the Northeast Ohio Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC), Director of The Empowerment Zone with the City of Cleveland's department of Economic Development, and Executive Director of Mt. Pleasant NOW Development Corporation. Prior to that, she worked as an air traffic control specialist. In 2009, India completed the prestigious Loeb Fellowship from the Graduate School of Design at Harvard University. She spent 10 months on the Harvard campus studying best practices in neighborhood revitalization, with a special interest in sustainability. India has been recognized for outstanding service to Cleveland throughout her career, including receiving a key to the City of Cleveland from former Mayor Michael

Speaker Biographies

White. She received the 2011 John Logue Employee Ownership Excellence Award and was named one of Crain's Cleveland Business "Women of Note". India has also been named as one of the 500 Most Influential Women in Northeast Ohio by Northern Ohio Live magazine and is both an alumnus of the Leadership Cleveland Class of 2002 and a Louis Stokes Fellow from the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences at Case Western Reserve University. India earned a Bachelors of Science in Management from Cleveland's Dyke College and a Master of Science in Social Administration from Case Western Reserve University.



Holly Lyman is the Director of the Barbara Greenspun Women's Care Centers of Excellence and Community Outreach at Catholic Healthcare West's St. Rose Dominican Hospitals. Ms. Lyman has dedicated the past 20 years to improving the health of southern Nevadans by designing and implementing prevention, screening and disease management

programs. At St. Rose she has had the opportunity to generate over 400,000 educational encounters through thousands of programs at the Barbara Greenspun Women's Care Center and implemented in-patient and out-patient lactation services and a WIC clinic to serve new mothers and babies. She also oversees 8 Community Outreach Departments and \$1.4 million in grant funding. Currently, Ms. Lyman also serves on the Nevada Cancer Coalition Board as the Chair of the Prevention Subcommittee, the Nevada Tobacco Prevention Coalition, the Southern Nevada Immunization Coalition and the Maternal Child Health Coalition. Previously, while at PacifiCare (now UnitedHealthcare) Ms. Lyman served as the Regional Health Management Manager for Arizona and Nevada where she implemented disease management programs for CHF, COPD, ESRD, Diabetes and AMI and designed interventions and programs for Smoking Cessation, Healthy Pregnancy, Depression Management, mammography and Flu and Pneumonia immunization. She also served as the Chair of the Appeals Committee and the Foundation Allocation Committee. Ms. Lyman received a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management and is working toward completing the MPH program at UNLV.



Maureen Schafer Peckman has led Cleveland Clinic Nevada as its Chief Emerging Business Officer since 2010. Cleveland Clinic established their presence in Las Vegas, Nevada in 2009 after Peckman, as the CEO of Keep Memory Alive (KMA), led the \$100 million acquisition of the organization which today is known as the Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Cenand its support organization KMA. As Chief

ter for Brain Health and its support organization KMA. As Chief Emerging Business Officer, Peckman coordinates future Nevada and western U.S. expansion, development and partnership opportunities for the Cleveland Clinic. Peckman joined KMA in 2007 as its Chief Operating Officer, during a time when the organization was in the first stages of an \$80 million construction project with world renowned architect Frank Gehry. Over the next two years, Peckman was elevated to CEO and built an internal operations team that enabled construction and future medical operating requirements to be met. Nationally, Peckman is a member of the National Foundation for Fitness, Sports and Nutrition appointed by the Secretary of Health and Human Services in consultation with the leadership of the Congress and is an advisory member of the O'Connor Judicial Selection Initiative, a board founded and Chaired by former Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor that protects judicial independence. Peckman is the Chairman of the Chairman's Council for Conservation International, an organization with a presence in 150 countries working to enhance human wellbeing and life on the planet in partnership with governments, institutions and corporations. She also leads a community-based leaders organization, the Council for a Better Nevada, an organization comprising Nevada's leading CEOs and industry leaders whose purpose is to engage private, public and non-profit sector resources to positively impact Nevada issues of critical community interest. Ms. Peckman has been member of the Nevada Commission on Homeland Security since 2003, whose mission is to advise the governor on matters pertaining to the prevention, mitigation and response to terrorismrelated events. Locally, Peckman serves on the Agassi Charter Academy school board, Agassi Foundation, and is Chairman of the Nevada Community Foundation. Peckman graduated from the George Washington University in Washington D.C., where she pursued her undergraduate B.S. degree in Exercise Science in the School of Public Health and Human Services while on a soccer scholarship and was also a member of the women's lightweight varsity crew team. Past pursuits include competing in the Hawaii Ironman world championships, competitive cycling and ultra distance marathons. Born in Indiana and raised outside of Chicago, she has lived in Las Vegas since 1999 and has a daughter.



Lisa Richter is principal and co-founder of GPS Capital Partners, LLC, a consultancy that assists foundations, banks and institutional investors in the design and execution of profitable investment strategy that enhances public good. Her work spans asset classes, return expectations and issue areas, frequently incorporating place-based and sector focus to in-

crease equitable access to opportunities, including health, education and sustainable community development. Lisa co-designed and serves as lead trainer for the PRI Institute sponsored by the PRI Makers Network, co-authored Equity Advancing Equity (an analysis of impact investing for community foundations) and recently published a guide to health-focused impact investing with Grantmakers In Health. She brings over two decades of fund management and development finance experience from the National Community Investment Fund and ShoreBank and has served as advisor to the Bank of America National Community Advisory Council, Wall Street Without Walls, 2009 Clinton Global Initiative, and New Frontiers in Philanthropy (a project of the Center for Civil Society Studies at Johns Hopkins University), vice-chair of the Community Development Financial Institutions Coalition, director of the Social Investment Forum, and steering committee member of the New Markets Tax Credit Coalition. She holds a bachelor's degree and an MBA from the University of Chicago.



Cass Palmer is the President and Chief Executive Officer of the United Way of Southern Nevada. Mr. Palmer oversees staff and administers United Way's activities designed to advocate its community-based agenda of advancing the common good by focusing on education, income and health Mr. Palmer brings more than 23 years of experience in

the gaming and hospitality industry, government and political arenas, non-profit organizations and union environments to his new role. Before joining United Way, Mr. Palmer was the Senior Vice President, Chief Human Resource officer at Tropicana Entertainment Inc. During his tenure, he played an integral part in restructuring Tropicana Entertainment, which was the first major company in the gaming industry to successfully complete Chapter 11 reorganization. Mr. Palmer has also worked as the Corporate Vice President of Human Resources for Olympia Gaming LLC/ Southern Highlands Development Corporation, the Corporate Vice President of Human Resources for Boyd Gaming Corporation and the Senior Vice President of Human Resources at Bally's/Park Place Entertainment.



Dr. Lawrence Sands was appointed Chief Health Officer for the Southern Nevada Health District, in March 2007, previously serving as its Community Health Division Director and Assistant Health Officer. As the district's chief executive and medical officer he brings to the job over 20 years of experience in public health, preventive medicine

and health planning and administration. Dr. Sands is Board Certified by the American Board of Preventive Medicine; a Clark County Medical Society Delegate to the Nevada State Medical Association (NSMA); and a diplomat to the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners. He has been an active member of various professional and civic organizations throughout his career including serving as president for the Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association. Currently, he is President of the Nevada Public Health Foundation and serves on the boards of the United Way of Southern Nevada, the American Red Cross of Southern Nevada, and the newly formed Clinics in Schools. He is a frequent presenter at various professional education conferences and has received several awards in recognition of his work as a public health physician including the Nevada State Medical Association's President's Award and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Award for Maternal, Infant and Child Health Epidemiology. He received his Bachelor of Science Degree with Distinction in Zoology from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, his D.O. from Midwestern University/Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine and his Master of Public Health (M.P.H.) in health planning and administration from the University of Michigan School of Public Health.



Dr. David R. Williams, is the Florence and Laura Norman Professor of Public Health at the Harvard School of Public Health and Professor of African and African American Studies and an Affiliate of the Sociology Department at Harvard University. His first 6 years as a faculty member were at Yale University where he held appointments in both Sociol-

ogy and Public Health. The next 14 years were at the University of Michigan where he served as the Harold Cruse Collegiate Professor of Sociology, a Senior Research Scientist at the Institute of Social Research and a Professor of Epidemiology in the School of Public Health. He holds a master's degree in public health from Loma Linda University and a Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Michigan. He is an internationally recognized authority on social influences on health. His research has focused on trends and determinants of socioeconomic and racial disparities in health, the effects of racism on health and the ways in which religious involvement can affect health. He is the author of more than 150 scholarly papers in scientific journals and edited collections and his research has appeared in leading journals in sociology, psychology, medicine, public health and epidemiology. He has served as a member of the editorial board of 8 scientific journals and as a reviewer for more than 50 others. According to ISI Essential Science Indicators, he was one of the Top 10 Most Cited Researchers in the Social Sciences during the decade 1995 to 2005. The Journal of Black Issues in Higher Education, ranked him as the 2nd Most Cited Black Scholar in the Social Sciences in 2006. In 2001, he was elected as a member of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences. In 2004, he received one of the inaugural Decade of Behavior Research Awards and in 2007 he was elected to membership in the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He has been involved in the development of health policy at the national level in the U.S. He has served on the Department of Health and Human Services' National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics and on six panels for the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences. He has held elected and appointed positions in professional organizations, such as the American Sociological Association, Academy Health and the American Public Health Association. Currently, he is a member of the of the MacArthur Foundation's Research Network on Socioeconomic Status and Health. His current research includes studying the health of Black Caribbean immigrants in the U.S., examining how race-related stressors (racial discrimination in the U.S. and exposure to torture during Apartheid in South Africa) can affect health, and assessing the ways in which religious involvement is related to health.



Deborah Williams is the Manager of the Office of Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (OCDPHP) at the Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD). The OCDPHP team works to improve the health of the community by working collaboratively with community partners to educate, motivate, and increase skills among people to maintain

healthy and safe lifestyles. OCDPHP programs encourage people to get moving, be safe, eat better, and live smoke-free. Prior to accepting her current position with SNHD in August 2005, Deb worked for the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) for 23 years. She began her career in the KDHE Health and Environmental Laboratories as a virologist. After almost 11 years of confirming vaccine preventable outbreaks of mumps and measles Deb decided to make a career change to a more proactive role in disease prevention. She has worked with HIV community planning, trauma system development, public health improvement planning and most recently with chronic disease prevention. As Director of Special Studies in the Office of Health Promotion at KDHE from 2000 - 2005, Deb managed statewide programs for arthritis, diabetes, heart disease and stroke, nutrition and physical activity, and community health interventions. Deb holds a Bachelor of Arts in Microbiology and a Master of Public Administration (MPA) from the University of Kansas and a Master of Public Health (MPH) from Wichita State University. She also is a Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES).

Attendees

Dulcinea Almazan

President and CEO Boys & Girls Clubs of Las Vegas dalmazan@bgclv.org

Tiffany Alston

Assistant Director of Family Services Sunrise Children's Foundation tiffany@sunrisechildren.org

Mauricia Baca

Executive Director Outside Las Vegas Foundation mbaca@outsidelasvegas.org

David Baird

Director School of Architecture, UNLV david.baird@unlv.edu

Jen Berger

Healthy Homes Specialist UNLV bergerj2@unlv.nevada.edu

Jocelyn Bluitt-Fisher

Director of Corporate Philanthropy MGM Resorts International jbluitt@mgmresorts.com

Bobbette Bond

Director of Public Policy Culinary Health Fund bbond@culinaryhealthfund.org

Jan Bontrager

Regional Manager, Community Development Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco jan.bontrager@sf.frb.org

Kelly Brockman

Senrior Vice President and Community Relations Officer Nevada State Bank kelly.brockman@nsbank.com

Gian Brosco

President Nevada Community Foundation gian.brosco@nevadacf.org

Diana Bryson Dikes

Sales Development Center Citibank diana.brysondikes@citi.com

Nicole Bungum

Supervisor Southern Nevada Health District bungum@snhdmail.org

Maria Castillo-Couch

Senior Neighborhood Specialist City of Las Vegas mccouch@lasvegasnevada.gov

Thomas Chase

Chief Executive Officer Nevada Health Centers, Inc. tchase@nvrhc.org

Leonard Chide

President and Executive Director NHS of Southern Nevada, Inc Ichide@nwsn.org

Kevin Cloud

Executive Director GB Henderson Education Foundation kcloud@gbhendersonfoundation.org

Barbara Coggins

Program Manager Family Promise of Las Vegas housingmanager@familypromiselv.com

Laurel Cole

Director Building Hope Nevada Icole@buildinghopenevada.og

Tom Coleman

Medical Epidemiologist, Chronic Disease and Injury Southern Nevada Health District colemant@snhdmail.org

Chanda Cook

Sourthern Nevada Regional Director Workforce Connections chandacook@mac.com

Cassandra Cotton

Community Outreach Nathan Adelson Hospice ccotton@nah.org

Joselyn Cousins

Vice President, Community Development United Way of Southern Nevada JoselynC@uwsn.org

Ramona Denby-Brinson

Associate Professor The Lincy Institute, UNLV ramona.denby@unlv.edu

Mariano Diaz

Western Regional Vice President Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) mdiaz@lisc.org

Roy Durnal

Community Affairs Specialist FDIC rdurnal@fdic.gov

Dana Earhart Litif

Vice President 1-2-1 Philanthropic Services dearhart@121-services.com

Jeff Edmondson

Managing Director Strive edmondsonj@strivenetwork.org

David Erickson

Senior Researcher Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco david.erickson@sf.frb.org

Tracy Ericson

Vice President Wells Fargo tracy.l.ericson@wellsfargo.com

Dianne Farkas

Executive Director Family to Family Connection diannef2f@hotmail.com

lan Galloway

Senior Associate Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco ian.galloway@sf.frb.org

Stephanie Garcia-Vause

Director of Community Development City of Henderson stephanie.garcia-vause@cityofhenderson.com

Shawn Gerstenberger

Professor and Chair UNLV shawn.gerstenberger@unlv.edu

Arash Ghafoori

Interim Executive Director Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth arash@nphy.org

Karen Gordon

Pediatric Services Coordinator UMC-Childrens Hospital of Nevada karen.gordon@umcsn.com

Perry Gross

PhD Student Walden University perry.gross@waldenu.edu

Michael Guss

Program Manager Western Nevada Development District mguss@wndd.org

Cyndy Gustafson

Principal Strategic Progress, LLC cyndy@strategicprogress.com

Robin Hacke

Director of Capital Formation Living Cities rhacke@livingcities.org

Nancy Hamilton

Vice President, Community Development Wells Fargo nancy.hamilton@wellsfargo.com

Michelle Hammond

Community Outreach Coordinator GB Henderson Education Foundation mhammond@gbhendersonfoundation.org

Robin Harris

Principal Andre Agassi College Prep Academy robin_harris@agassiprep.net

Stephen K. Harsin

Director, Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services City of Las Vegas cmross@lasvegasnevada.gov

Susan Howard

District Community Affairs Officer Office of the Comptroller of the Currency susan.howard@occ.treas.gov

Toby Hyman

Social Services Program Specialist Nevada Dept. of Health and Human Services thyman@dhhs.nv.gov

Florence Jameson

President VMSN florncj@me.com

Gard Jameson

Treasurer Volunteers in Medicine gardj@me.com

Michele Johnson

President and CEO CCCS of Nevada michele@cccsnevada.org

Leslie Johnstone

Executive Director Health Services Coalition ljohnstone@lvhsc.org

Timothy Jones

Board Chairman Southern Nevada District Board of Health Itjones@cox.net

Lucy Klinkhammer

Community Relations The Lincy Institute, UNLV Iucy.klinkhammer@unlv.edu

Brian Knudsen

Administrative Officer City of Las Vegas bknudsen@lasvegasnevada.gov

Attendees

Noah Kohn

Medical Director Clinics In Schools drnoah@clinicsinschools.org

Rae Lathrop

Community Outreach and Volunteer Coordinator Outside Las Vegas Foundation rlathrop@outsidelasvegas.org

India Pierce Lee

Program Director Cleveland Foundation ilee@clevefdn.org

Terry Lindemann

Executive Director Family Promise of Las Vegas director@familypromiselv.com

Bob Linden Owner Shred-it Las Vegas bob.linden@shredit.com

Steve Linder Vice President, Community Development HSBC Bank Nevada, N.A. steve.t.linder@us.hsbc.com

Darian Litif Major Gifts Officer Nathan Adelson Hospice dlitif@nah.org

Monica Lounsbery Director, Physical Activity Policy Research Program UNLV

monica.lounsbery@unlv.edu

Michael Lubbe

CEO YMCA of Southern Nevada mlubbe@lasvegasymca.org

Maren Manning

Program Director, Henderson Summer GB Henderson Education Foundation mmanning@gbhendersonfoundation.org

Sue Markham Resident Service Manager Nevada HAND smarkham@nevadahand.org

Erika Marquez

Healthy Homes Coordinator UNLV erika.marquez@unlv.edu

Shelley Marquez

Vice President Wells Fargo shelley.marquez@wellsfargo.com

Wayne Marsee

Director of Communications Access to Healthcare Network wmarsee@accesstohealthcare.org

Martha Martin

Community Development and Housing Planner Pima County martha.martin@pima.gov

Bruce McAnnany

Board Treasurer Nevada Hand bmcannany@live.com

Thomas McCoy

Nevada Director of Government Relations American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network tom.mccoy@cancer.org

Nancy Menzel

Associate Professor UNLV nancy.menzel@unlv.edu

Janice Miller

Regional Representative Office of U.S. Senator Harry Reid janice_miller@reid.senate.gov

Sandy Miller

Community Volunteer Sandy Miller Elementary School xnvgv@yahoo.com

Christina Moon

Development Officer Volunteers in Medicine cmoon@vmsn.org

Sherie Moore

Field Office Manager Alta Planning + Design sheriemoore@altaplanning.com

Susana Morales Konishi

Project Manger UC Berkeley, School of Public Health susanamk@berkeley.edu

Lisa Morris Hibbler

Deputy Director, Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services City of Las Vegas cmross@lasvegasnevada.gov

Michael Mullin

President Nevada HAND mtmullin@nevadahand.org

Zulma Muñoz

Las Vegas Branch Manager Access to Healthcare Network zmunoz@accesstohealthcare.org

Fatma Nasoz

Senior Resident Scholar The Lincy Institute, UNLV fatma.nasoz@unlv.edu

John Onyema

Board Member - Physician Southern Nevada Health District onyema@medscape.com

Cass Palmer

President and CEO United Way of Southern Nevada cassp@uwsn.org

Mike Pawlak

Manager Clark County Community Resources Management mjp@ClarkCountyNV.gov

Tom Perrigo

Chief Sustainability Officer City of Las Vegas tperrigo@lasvegasnevada.gov

Kelly Peterson Senior Vice President and Market Leader Bank of America Merrill Lynch laurence.k.peterson@baml.com

Danja Petro

Senior Transportation Planner Atkins dpetro@atkinsglobal.com

Jennifer Pharr

Graduate Assistant UNLV pharrj@unlv.nevada.edu

Cloyd Phillips

Executive Director Community Services Agency cphillips@csareno.org

Thomas Piechota

Associate Vice President UNLV thomas.piechota@unlv.edu

Beth Posey

Community Services Analyst City of North Las Vegas poseyb@cityofnorthlasvegas.com

Angela Quinn

Managing Director Building Hope Nevada aquinn@buildinghopenevada.org

Ron Radil

Executive Director Western Nevada Development District rjradil@wndd.org

Margarita Rebollal

Executive Director Community Services of Nevada mvreb@csnv.org

Jerry Reeves

Vice President, Medical Affairs HealthInsight Nevada jreeves@healthinsight.org

Mayra Reza

Community Outreach Coordinator Access to Healthcare Network mreza@accesstohealthcare.org

Lisa Richter

Principal GPS Capital Partners Irichter@gpscapitalpartners.com

Sean Robertson

Principal Planner City of Henderson sean.robertson@cityofhenderson.com

Richard Rojas

Planner City of Henderson richard.rojas@cityofhenderson.com

Christopher Roller

Senior Government Relations Director American Heart Association christopher.roller@heart.org

Hayden Ross

Safe Routes to School Program Facilitator Clark County School District haylv1@aol.com

Brittney Sandler

Senior Caseworker and Regional Representative Office of U.S. Senator Dean Heller brittney_sandler@heller.senate.gov

Lawrence Sands

Chief Health Officer Southern Nevada Health District sands@snhdmail.org

Maureen Schafer-Peckman

Chief Emerging Business Officer Cleveland Clinic Nevada jacobsj4@ccf.org

Jacob Snow

General Manager Regional Transportation Commission snowj@rtcsnv.com

Kathy Somers

Housing and Neighborhood Services Manager City of North Las Vegas somersk@cityofnorthlasvegas.com

Attendees

Geoff Spataro

CRA Officer Bank of Nevada gspataro@bankofnevada.com

Denise Tanata Ashby

Senior Scholar The Lincy Institute, UNLV denise.tanata@unlv.edu

Kathi Thomas-Gibson

Outreach Coordinator City of North Las Vegas thomas-gibsonk@cityofnorthlasvegas.com

Angela Triche

Director of Programs Sunrise Children's Foundation abtriche@sunrisechildren.org

Jodi Tyson

Research and Public Policy Manager Three Square Food Bank jtyson@threesquare.org

Melissa Varelis

Regional Representative Office of U.S. Senator Harry Reid melissa_varelis@reid.senate.gov

Betty Villegas

Housing Program Manager Pima County Government betty.villegas@pima.gov

Stefanie Vititoe

Branch Manager and Vice President Citibank stefanie.a.vititoe@citi.com

William White

Assistant Vice President and Manager Bank of America william.m.white@bankofamerica.com

Deborah Williams

Manager, Office of Chronic Disease Prevention Southern Nevada Health District williamsd@snhdmail.org

Marilyn Wills

Director Governor's Health Advocate, Consumer Health Assistance mgwills@govcha.nv.gov

Paula Zier

Program Coordinator Clark County School District zierpaula@interact.ccsd.net

Cree Zischke

Region Executive JPMorgan Chase cree.zischke@jpmchase.com

Kimberly Zollinger

Health Educator and Wellness Director UHC/Clark County School District futworks@yahoo.com





