



***Building Sustainable Partnerships to Increase Access to Care***

**1:00 - 3:00 April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

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**1:00 – 1:10**

**Introduction**

**Noel Brathwaite, PhD, MSPH**

Director

Maryland Department of Health, Office of Minority  
Health and Health Disparities

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**1:10 – 1:30**

**Opening Remarks**

Office of Senator Shirley Nathan-Pulliam (invited)

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**1:30 – 2:30**

**Panel Discussion**

*Moderator:*

**Cheri Wilson, MA, MHS, CPHQ**

*Panel Speakers:*

**Ashyrra C. Dotson**, President and CEO, Eastern  
Shore Wellness Solutions, Inc.

**Maha Sampath**, MHSA, PMP, Chief of Staff, Bon  
Secours Baltimore Health System

**Sadie Peters**, MD, MHS, Medical Director Maryland  
Department of Health, Center for Chronic Disease  
Prevention and Control

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**2:30 – 2:50**

**Question and Answer Forum**

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**2:50 – 3:00**

**Closing Remarks**

*Moderator:*

**Cheri Wilson, MA, MHS, CPHQ**

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## Building Sustainable Partnerships to Increase Access to Care

### Panelists:

Rural Area-Nonprofit Sector: Ashyrra C. Dotson, President and CEO, Eastern Shore Wellness Solution Inc.

Hospital: Maha Sampath, MHSA, PMP, Chief of Staff, Bon Secours Baltimore

Government: Sadie Peters, MD, MHS, Medical Director Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Control at MDH

### Moderator:

Cheri Wilson, MA, MHS, CPHQ

### Issue:

Increasing access to care

### What are the social determinants of health (SDOH)?

- “The **circumstances** in which people are **born, grow up, live, work and age**, and the systems put in place to deal with illness. These circumstances are in turn shaped by a wider set of forces: **economics, social policies, and politics**” (World Health Organization (WHO). “Commission on Social Determinants of Health: Key Concepts, [http://www.who.int/social\\_determinants/thecommission/finalreport/key\\_concepts/en/](http://www.who.int/social_determinants/thecommission/finalreport/key_concepts/en/)

### Questions for All Panelists:

1. What was your target population?
2. How did your organization or agency determine what SDOHs needed to be addressed?
3. From your sector’s vantage point (rural, hospital, and government), how have your programs been able to address the SDOHs?
4. How did you create the partnerships necessary to improve access to care?
5. Have those partnerships been sustainable?
6. How were your programs funded? Has the funding continued? Will your programs be sustainable for the long-term and how?
  - a. If your funding has ended, have you been able to maintain those partnerships and programs?
7. What barriers have you encountered?
8. What do you wish you would have known before and/or what advice would you give to agencies and organizations that are striving to increase access to care?

## BIOGRAPHIES

Moderator:

### **Cheri C. Wilson, MA, MHS, CPHQ**

Cheri C. Wilson received a BA in Russian from Howard University, an MA in Russian Area Studies from the University of Minnesota, was a PhD candidate (ABD) in Russian history at the University of **Minnesota** and received an MHS in Health Finance and Management from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. She is multilingual—fluent in Russian, speaks French and Spanish with a reading knowledge of German.

Ms. Wilson is a nationally recognized diversity and inclusion, cultural and linguistic competence, and health equity subject matter expert. She is currently a Senior Research Scientist in the Health Determinants & Disparities Practice at General Dynamics Information Technology. Previously, she served as the Director, Corporate Office of Diversity & Inclusion at RWJ Barnabas Health in New Jersey, an Assistant Scientist in the Johns Hopkins Center for Health Disparities Solutions, and an Acting Assistant Director of the Quality Improvement Department at The Johns Hopkins Hospital.

Ms. Wilson is a Certified Professional in Healthcare Quality (CPHQ), a Past President of the Maryland Association for Healthcare Quality, and a Lean Six Sigma Green Belt. Cheri Wilson educates clinical and support staff in healthcare, health, behavioral health, human and social service organizations, public health, medical, and nursing students, K-12 students as well as community members. She has presented at national, state, and local conferences on the issues of cultural and linguistic competence, unconscious/implicit bias, overcoming language barriers, health and healthcare disparities, health equity, and the social determinants of health.

The focus of her work is primarily upon the intersection between cultural competence, health and healthcare disparities, health equity and patient safety and healthcare quality. Ms. Wilson is particularly interested in health and healthcare disparities and health equity as they relate to racial/ethnic, language, and gender and sexual minorities and the provision of culturally competent patient-centered care in language understandable to all patients.

Panelist:

**Maha Sampath**  
***Chief of Staff***  
***Bon Secours Baltimore Health System***

Maha Sampath is the Chief of Staff at Bon Secours Baltimore Health System (BSBHS). She works closely with the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) on the development, implementation and evaluation of various and complex health system initiatives. Maha will provide project coordination and support for Bon Secours Baltimore's local system goals. She will support development, supervision, efficiency, cost effectiveness, and the evaluation of current and new services and programs. Prior to this role, Maha was the Director of the Health Enterprise Zone (HEZ). She oversaw the grant program funded by Maryland's Department of Health, which is aimed at decreasing disparities in cardiovascular disease in medically underserved populations in West Baltimore.

Prior to taking on this role, she was the Manager of Strategic Performance and worked alongside the CEO and Chief Operating Officer. Maha's focus areas included strategic planning, special operational projects, and stewardship. Prior to joining BSBHS, Maha worked as a Project Manager focusing on system-wide initiatives at the corporate office at Bon Secours Health System Inc. She also led the Administrative Residency program and was the Co-Chair for the corporate office's Diversity & Inclusion Council. Maha received her bachelor's degree in Psychology and Social Behavior from University of California, Irvine and earned her Master's in Health Services Administration at The George Washington University. She is also the President of the Baltimore Chapter of the National Association of Health Services Executives (NAHSE).

**Dr. Sadie Peters, MD, MHS**

Sadie Peters began her work as the Medical Director at the Maryland Department of Health's Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Control (CCDPC) in 2016. An Internist who spent 8 years in clinical work at Johns Hopkins Community Physicians before joining the public health sector, Dr. Peters has seen first-hand the challenges in transforming the medical sector's focus on individuals to a more comprehensive focus on population health. She is very interested in innovative interventions that expand community level preventive health services that positively improve the quality of life and health of vulnerable populations. Her role includes collaborative chronic disease prevention planning, programmatic guidance for CCDPC projects, and partner engagement and cultivation to promote best practices in chronic disease prevention and management.

Dr. Peters graduated from Dartmouth College with a bachelor's degree, holds a Master's degree in Social Anthropology from Northeastern University, a medical degree from Howard University, and a Master in Health Science Degree in Health Education from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. She is Board Certified in Internal Medicine and an alumna of the General Internal Medicine Fellowship at Johns Hopkins University.

## **Ashyrra C. Dotson**

A native of Dorchester County, MD has been a positive advocate for Minority Health and Health disparities for the past 13 years. Ms. Dotson has made great strides during her tenure with Associated Black Charities as the Community Health Strategist and Program Director for all Dorchester County programs and services *and* has established lasting partnerships within the community as well as developing strong inroads with Faith and community-based organizations.

Mrs. Dotson manages multiple grant programs including the Minority Outreach and Technical Assistance, all of which have allowed ABC to continue to gain tremendous experience and build valuable collaborative relationships that support the outreach efforts of identifying and developing solutions for Health Equity and closing the disparity gaps among marginalized populations in and around Dorchester County. In addition to the above, Ashyrra has aided ABC in building a framework for education and outreach in the areas of Hypertension, Diabetes and Obesity awareness through the reduction of socio-economic barriers that impact communities of color.

Ashyrra has completed the intense Community Leadership Training under the Satcher Health Leadership Institute at Morehouse College in Atlanta, GA and has her Master's in Social-Psychology. Mrs. Dotson is supported in her work by her husband of 28 years, her 4 wonderful children and 10 beautiful grandchildren.

Finally, as of January 1, 2018, because of her dedication and commitment to making a healthier Dorchester, she and her partner, Joyce Opher are forming "Eastern Shore Wellness Solutions – a community-based health education, training and awareness non-profit, the employs Community Health Workers trained to guide community members in advocating for and managing their own preventable health care issues