

The 2nd Annual Community Engagement Ambassador Institute

Day 2 - Faith-Based Wellness & Community Resilience



Friday, March 27, 2026

8:00–9:00 AM

Registration, Continental Networking Breakfast, & Vendor Expo

9:00–9:15 AM

Welcome and Connect to Purpose

Speakers:

Gwendolyn Devins, MPH, CCHW

Community Engagement Manager, Mecklenburg County Public Health

Kimberly Scott, DrPH, MPH, CHES

Interim Director, Mecklenburg County Public Health

9:15–9:45 AM

Morning Keynote Address

Speaker: Sonyia Richardson, PhD, MSW, LCSW

Assistant Professor at the UNC School of Social Work and UNC Department of Psychiatry;

Founder and CEO of Another Level Counseling and Consultation, Charlotte, NC

9:45–10:30 AM

Session 1: *Mental Health Stigma in Faith Communities*

Title: Wellness for Faith Community Leaders and Congregations

Speaker: Vikki T. Gaskin-Butler, MDiv, PhD, PLLC

Licensed Psychologist; Founder of Rest and Re-create, LLC,

10:30–10:45 AM

Break, Networking, Vendor Expo, & Travel to Breakouts

10:45 AM–11:30 PM

Session 2: *The Role of Faith Leaders and the Integration of Wellness Strategies into Worship and Ministry*

(Choose ONE Session to Attend)

Option 1 Title: Ministry That Lasts: Supporting Leader and Congregational Well-Being

Speaker: Crystal Currie, PhD, LCMHC

Healthcare Executive, ThriveWell Strategies and Compass Life Skills & Counseling

Option 2 Title: The 8 Dimensions of Wellness: I AM

Speaker: Yolonda P. Holmes, PhD

Founder & Owner, D'Vyn Wisdom, LLC

11:30–11:35 AM — Transition

Travel to next breakout

The 2nd Annual Community Engagement Ambassador Institute

Day 2 - Faith-Based Wellness & Community Resilience

11:35–12:20 PM

Session 3: *Methods to Launching and Maximizing Wellness Initiatives in Faith Settings*

(Choose ONE Session to Attend)

Option 1 Title: Gathering Together: Meeting the Needs of Our Communities

Speaker: Keisha Lewis, OTR/L, MS, CDCES, CAPS

Founder of Welldom, LLC, Occupational Therapist, Certified Diabetes Care and Education Specialist

Option 2 Title: Let's Talk Safety – Prevention. Preparedness. Partnership. (Panel Discussion)

Speakers: Multiple Community Speakers

12:20–12:50 PM — Networking Lunch & Vendor Expo

12:50 – 1:20 PM — Drums 4 Life Presentation

1:20–2:00 PM — Health Education and Wellness Session

Health Education: Hands-Only CPR Demonstration

Aubrielle Wallace, MPH, CCHW

Public Health Educator, Mecklenburg County Public Health

Wellness Session

Charlene Whitaker-Brown, DNP, MSN, FNP-C, PMHNP-BC, RN

CEO & Founder, The Mindheart Institute and Wellness Center

2:00–2:45 PM

Session 4: *Bridge Builders - Congregational Wellness Ambassadors and Best Practices*

Title: Mental Wellness & The Black Church – Let's Connect

Speaker: Tabatha S. Howard, MSW, LCSW

Mental Health Clinician, Mecklenburg County Department of Social Services

Clinical and Contractual Services

2:45–3:00 PM — Break

Visit Exhibitors / Travel Main Conference Room

3:00–3:30 PM

Closing Keynote Address

Speaker: Victor Armstrong, MSW

Vice President for Health Equity & Engagement

The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention

3:30–4:00 PM — Closing Remarks & Evaluation

4:00 PM — Adjourn