Ms. Valarie Worthy

Valarie Clark Worthy has been a registered nurse for over 34 years and employed by Duke University Health System for 14 years. Currently, she is a Patient Navigator Manager at the Duke Cancer Institute. A 17-year breast cancer survivor, she understands the importance of early detection and is passionate about getting that message out to the community. In 2003, she helped organize the local chapter of Sisters Network, Inc., a survivorship organization for African American women with breast cancer. In addition to her work with the American Cancer Society, Duke, and Sisters Network Triangle NC, Valarie is active in health ministry in Durham, NC at the River Church.

Mr. Cornell Wright, MPA

Cornell P. Wright is a subject-matter expert in the areas of health equity and disparities, minority health, and community engagement. Wright is currently the Executive Director of the North Carolina Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities under the NC Department of Health and Human Services within the Division of Public Health. Wright is an active member of the health community, serving on various boards. Wright has received numerous awards and recognitions for his extraordinary contributions to health from National Institute of Health, Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, North Carolina Central University, and National Minority Quality Forum.

Dr. Nadine Barrett Ph.D., MA, MS

Dr. Barrett has devoted her career to reducing health disparities for disadvantaged and vulnerable populations for over 15 years. She has served as inaugural Director of the Office of Health Equity and Disparities at the Duke Cancer Institute; faculty in the Department of Community and Family Medicine’s Division of Community Health; and Director of the Duke CTSA Community Connections Core, Center for Community and Population Health Improvement. As a medical sociologist, Dr. Barrett develops partnerships and collaborations to improve community health outcomes. Numerous awards and honors include the American Sociology Association’s Minority Fellowship Doctoral Award and the NIH Postdoctoral Fellowship in Health Services Research at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill.

Pastor Steve Sims

Pastor Steve Sims has served for twelve years as the Executive Pastor of The River Church of Durham, North Carolina. Pastor Sims oversees the daily administration of the church: staff pastors, executive and administrative assistants, financial officers, facilities and building maintenance personnel and other support staff. Pastor Sims also serves as the Chief Liaison for the Bishop’s Council of River Fellowship International (RFI). He works closely with The River’s senior leader, Pastor Ronald L. Godbee, and Bishop Joby and Pastor Sheryl Brady, internationally known conference speakers and campus pastors of the Potter’s House North Dallas, Texas.
Program
AACT I, II Dinner Lecture Series

6:00-6:10: Valarie Worthy - Welcome, Introduction of 50 Hoops

Ed and Pat Sanders, Founders of 50 Hoops—AACT I, II Program Overview
Pastor Steven Sims - Introduction of Pastor Godbee

Pastor Ronald Godbee - Invocation
Senior Minister, The River Church Durham

6:10 Dinner Service Begins: Panel, Physicians, and Moderator served first

6:15 Valarie Worthy: Introduction of Celebrity Guest Emcee
6:20-6:30: Melissa Wade - Mistress of Ceremony

Introduction of ALL Panels (Bios)

AACT I - Panel
6:30-6:40: Dr. Kevin Thomas - Heart Disease
6:40-6:50: Dr. Brandi Reeves - Multiple Myeloma
6:50-7:00: Dr. Gretchen Kimmick - Breast Cancer
7:00-7:10: Dr. Leroy Darkes - Prostate Cancer

AACT II - Clinical Trials Presentation
Why is African American participation in clinical trials important to new drug discoveries?

7:10-7:20: Dr. Christopher Granger - Cardiovascular Trial
7:20-7:30: Dr. Brandi Reeves - Multiple Myeloma Trials
7:30-7:40: Dr. Rebecca Shelby - Breast Trials
7:40-7:50: Dr. Thomas Polascik - Prostate Cancer trials and update

7:50-8:10: Melissa Wade - Facilitator: Q&A

OPEN FORUM- Audience Q&A on Heart Disease, Multiple Myeloma, Breast & Prostate Cancer
Treatment Options, Clinical Trials: Myths, Facts, and Fiction. Let’s talk about it--What these trials mean

50 Hoops - Presentations of Certificates of appreciation to Panel, Advisory Team

8:10-8:20: Mr. Cornell Wright - Recognition of special guests
(Surveys COLLECTED for PRIZE tickets in background)
DRAWINGS for Prizes (Tickets with completed Surveys)

8:20 – 8:25- Remarks: Dr. Nadine Barrett - Duke Cancer Institute, Sponsor
8:25–Pastor Ronald Godbee - Closing remarks, Benediction

ADJOURN
Please see site doctors to schedule a private consultation about clinical trials