50th Year Commemoration Symposium

Marching Toward Health Equity & Social Justice: Lessons Learned Since 1969

THURSDAY, MAY 9
8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

CHARLESTON GAILLARD CENTER
95 Calhoun St., Charleston

Registration Required: Call (843) 789-1760
7 a.m.  
Registration check-in and coffee

8:10 a.m.  
**Opening and acknowledgement of special guests:** Toni Flowers, Roper St. Francis Healthcare Diversity & Inclusion Consultant; Anton Gunn, MUSC Health Executive Director of Community Health Innovation and Chief Diversity & Inclusion Officer

Dr. Mary “Toni” Flowers is an accomplished healthcare executive with nearly 30 years of industry experience. She is an award-winning diversity professional with certifications from such prestigious universities as Cornell and Georgetown. Most recently, she was named among Becker’s Top 68 (2019) and 50 (2018) African American Healthcare Leaders in the country. She serves as a consultant and subject matter expert for the AHA’s Institute for Diversity & Health Equity and the Health Research and Education Trust’s Hospital Improvement & Innovation Network. Dr. Flowers is a nurse and medical anthropologist. She has traveled as a Medical Missionary for over 20 years providing treatment and training to village health workers in countries throughout Africa, South America and The West Indies. Through her various experiences working as a nurse, a quality improvement professional for The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid and as a system Vice President, she offers a comprehensive perspective on healthcare and health equity issues to audiences across the country.

Anton J. Gunn is a former senior advisor to President Barack Obama and the world’s leading authority on Socially Conscious Leadership. He has a Masters Degree in Social Work from the University of South Carolina and was a Resident Fellow at Harvard University. He is the bestselling author of The Presidential Principles and has been featured in TIME magazine, Inc. Magazine, the Wall Street Journal, BBC News, NPR and on Good Morning America. As an international speaker and consultant, he has worked with organizations like Microsoft, KPMG, Verizon Wireless, ACHE, Aetna, American College of Surgeons, the Financial Regulatory Authority, and the Boeing Company. From playing SEC Football and being the first African American in history elected to the South Carolina legislature from his district early in his career, to now working as the Executive Director of Community Health Innovation & Chief Diversity Officer of MUSC Health and serving on multiple boards, he has spent his life helping people build diverse high performing teams and world-class leadership culture.

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*Roper St. Francis Healthcare is accredited by the South Carolina Medical Association to provide Continuing Medical Education for physicians.*
Welcome: Lorraine Lutton, Roper St. Francis Healthcare President & Chief Executive Officer; Dr. Patrick Cawley, CEO of MUSC Health

Lorraine Lutton, a senior healthcare leader known for her progressive leadership and focus on patient access and outcomes, serves as President and Chief Executive Officer of Roper St. Francis Healthcare. Under Lutton’s leadership, Roper St. Francis Healthcare has been honored as one of the Top 15 Health Systems in the country for its overall performance. In addition, Bon Secours St. Francis Hospital and Roper Hospital earned five out of five stars for overall hospital performance by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services – an honor only 6.4 percent of hospitals nationwide earn. Prior to her 2016 appointment and full endorsement by the Roper St. Francis Board of Trustees, Lutton spent 24 years with the BayCare Health System in Tampa, Florida, a community-based healthcare system made of 14 not-for-profit hospitals and outpatient facilities with more than 25,000 employees. Lutton most recently served as president of St. Joseph’s Hospital, the healthcare system’s flagship facility with 529 licensed beds.

Dr. Patrick J. Cawley is the chief executive officer of MUSC Health and vice president for health affairs of MUSC. In this role, he oversees all clinical matters as they relate to MUSC. During his leadership, MUSC has significantly expanded its clinical enterprise with a new children’s hospital, multiple ambulatory sites, development of additional clinical affiliates, and numerous novel joint ventures. Additionally, MUSC has become a national leader in telehealth and has continued as South Carolina’s #1 hospital/health system per U.S. News and World Report. Under Dr. Cawley’s leadership, MUSC continues to receive a number of quality awards across all domains of quality: safety, effectiveness, efficiency, equity, timeliness and patient centeredness.

Purpose: Dr. Brian Cuddy, Neurosurgeon and Chairman of Roper St. Francis Healthcare Board of Directors

Dr. Cuddy graduated from Albany Medical College and completed his internship in general surgery and residency in neurological surgery at MUSC. Following completion of his residency training, he completed a fellowship in spinal surgery at the Medical College of Wisconsin. He is board certified in neurological surgery and holds an appointment as Clinical Professor of Neurosurgery at MUSC and an Adjunct Associate Professor of Bioengineering at Clemson University. In July of 2000, he was appointed by the South Carolina governor as Chairman of the South Carolina Spinal Cord Injury Research Fund. He is an active member of several national neurosurgical societies and is a past President of the South Carolina Spine Society. Dr. Cuddy has served as Chief of Staff for Bon Secours St. Francis Hospital and Chairman of the Roper St. Francis Physician Partners Board. He is Chairman of the Roper St. Francis Board of Directors.
8:35 a.m.  **Local Perspective of Health Disparities: Dr. Thaddeus Bell, Founder of Closing the Gap in Healthcare**

Dr. Thaddeus J. Bell has been a Family Practice Physician in Charleston since 1986. He is Clinical Associate Professor of Family Medicine and the Associate Dean for Diversity in the College of Medicine at MUSC. Dr. Bell was appointed in 1996 as Director of University Diversity and Executive Assistant to the President for University Diversity at MUSC. In 1995, he received the Outstanding African American in South Carolina for Southern Bell Black History Calendar, and in 1995 was inducted in the South Carolina Black Hall of Fame for 100 Black Men of South Carolina. Dr. Bell received the South Carolina State University Distinguished Graduate Award in 1993, and in 1992 he received the Medical University of South Carolina Outstanding Alumnus Award. Dr. Bell is also a World-Class Runner in Masters Track and Field.

8:45 a.m.  **Symposium overview and introduction of guest speakers: Toni Flowers**

8:55 a.m.  **Guest speaker: John M. Flack, MD, MPH, FAHA, MACP, FASH, Professor and Chief Hypertension Specialized Services, Southern Illinois University, School of Medicine**

**Hypertension Care: The Win-Win Equation of Quality + State of the Art Care = Health Equity and Optimal Outcomes for All**

Dr. John Flack is a board certified Internal Medicine specialist and an internationally renowned hypertension specialist/cardiovascular epidemiologist. He is a widely recognized clinical/research expert in hypertension in African Americans. Dr. Flack is the president of the American Hypertension Specialist Certification Program. He has published over 200 peer-reviewed manuscripts and book chapters and is an associate editor for the American Journal of Hypertension. He has been repeatedly named to the Top Doctor, Best Doctor and Super Doctors list. Previously he served a stint as a voting member of the FDA-Cardio Renal Advisory Board. Dr. Flack was recently conferred the status of Masters by the American College of Physicians (ACP); he also is a current member of the ACP Board of Regents.

10 a.m.  **Break**
10:10 a.m.  **Guest speaker:** Robert C. Like, MD, MS, Professor and Director of the Center for Healthy Families and Cultural Diversity in the Department of Family Medicine and Community Health at Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School.

**Addressing the Social Determinants of Health in Clinical Practice**

Dr. Robert Like received his medical degree from Harvard Medical School in 1979 and completed his residency and master's degree fellowship training in family medicine from Case Western Reserve University in 1984. He is a family physician with a background in medical anthropology and has carried our fieldwork throughout the world. He has served as a member of the DHHS Office of Minority Health's CLAS Standards National Project Advisory Committee; co-chair of the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine’s Group on Multicultural Health Care and Education; and as the Medical Society of New Jersey representative to the AMA/NMA/NHMA Commission to End Health Care Disparities. He is dedicated to leadership, advocacy and excellence in promoting culturally-responsive, quality healthcare for diverse populations.

11:10 a.m.  **Guest speaker:** Gloria Ramsey, JD, RN, FNAP, FAAN

**Associate Dean for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at Johns Hopkins School of Nursing**

**Marching Toward Health Equity & Social Justice: Nurses Making a Difference**

Gloria Ramsey is the first person to serve in her current role at Johns Hopkins School of Nursing. She is nationally recognized for her expertise in policy and research. Ramsey most recently served as an associate professor in the Daniel K. Inouye Graduate School of Nursing with secondary inter-professional appointments in the Departments of Medical and Clinical Psychology and Preventive Medicine and Biostatistics at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU). She has made significant contributions in continuing education and training in military healthcare settings as a member of the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center Ethics Committee, faculty of its Medical Ethics Short Course, and as an End-of-Life Nursing Education Consortium (ELNEC) Core and Veterans trainer. She was also a designated subject matter expert of the Defense Medical Ethics Center established at USU.

12:10 p.m.  Lunch

1 p.m.  Panel discussion & questions from the audience

1:55 p.m.  **Wrap-up and symposium closing remarks:** Dr. Brian Cuddy

2 p.m.  Refreshments and break
Keynote address: Andrew Young, Former United States Ambassador to the United Nations

Andrew Young is a prominent civil rights leader and former politician. He became an ordained minister after graduating from Hartford Theological Seminary in 1955 and took a job as a pastor in Thomasville, Ga., where he first became active in the Civil Rights movement. He organized voter registration drives in the African American community, enduring death threats along the way. He became an assistant to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. early in King’s career, working closely to teach nonviolent organizing strategies. Young gained a reputation as a negotiator and a strategist. At the time of King’s death in 1968, Young had become the executive director of King’s organization, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, where he organized desegregation efforts throughout the South, including the May 1963 march in Birmingham, where participants were viciously attacked by police dogs. In the early 1970s, Young was elected to Congress, representing the region of Atlanta, Ga. During the administration of President Jimmy Carter in the late 1970s, Young was appointed to be the U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations. In the 1980s, he was elected twice as mayor of Atlanta. In the 1990s, he was instrumental in bringing the Olympic Games to Atlanta. In the 2000s, Young served as the president of the National Council of Churches and as co-chair of GoodWorks International.