

# Kansas Nonprofit Forum: Celebrating Impact, Fostering Connections

## AGENDA

Tuesday, September 17, 2024

- 1:00 p.m. **Welcome**  
*Kari M. Bruffett*, President and CEO, Kansas Health Institute  
*Valerie Black*, Director of Community Partnerships, Kansas Health Foundation
- 1:10 p.m. **Keynote Presentation: *Love Your Community: Cultivating Community Health***  
*Lisse Regehr*, President and CEO, Thrive Allen County
- 1:30 p.m. **Keynote Presentation: *No Cap Community Transformation with No Cape***  
*Johnathan Sublet*, Founder and Interim Director, SENT Topeka
- 1:50 p.m. **Kansas Health Institute Overview**
- 1:55 p.m. **Lightning Round Breakout Sessions**
- **Designing Low-Resource Program Evaluations** | *Wyatt Beckman, M.P.H.*, Senior Analyst, Kansas Health Institute
  - **Generative AI: Opportunities to Leverage for Everyday Work** | *Tatiana Lin, M.A.*, Director of Business Strategy and Innovation, Kansas Health Institute
  - **Transforming Data into Actionable Insights** | *Wen-Chieh Lin, Ph.D.*, Director of Research, Kansas Health Institute
  - **Practical Strategies for Integrating Equity in Your Work** | *Sheena Schmidt, M.P.P.*, Senior Analyst and Strategy Team Leader, Kansas Health Institute
  - **Legislative Monitoring: Keeping Up with Health Legislation** | *Linda Sheppard, J.D.*, Senior Analyst and Strategy Team Leader, Kansas Health Institute
- 2:25 p.m. **Closing Remarks**
- 2:30 p.m. **Adjourn**

# ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

## WELCOME



**Valerie Black-Turner** serves as director of community partnerships for the Kansas Health Foundation (KHF) and has been with KHF since 2004.

Black-Turner's responsibilities include building and maintaining trustworthy relationships with community organizations and agencies whose missions align with the foundation's values and who serve communities impacted by racial and health inequities in Kansas. Much of her time is spent working directly with the Building Power and Equity Partnership (BPEP) Initiative, including coaching and developing many of the nonprofit organizations receiving grants and technical assistance from KHF.

Before becoming a Community Impact Officer, previous roles at KHF include Senior Community Organizer and Information Technology Officer. Black-Turner received her bachelor's degree in business administration from Wichita State University, with an emphasis in business management and received a master's degree in divinity from Phillips Theological Seminary. She is a member of Dellrose United Methodist Church and serves as assistant pastor.

## LOVE YOUR COMMUNITY: *CULTIVATING COMMUNITY HEALTH*



**Lisse Regehr** is the President and CEO of Thrive Allen County, a nonprofit organization that works to improve quality of life and economic conditions in Allen County, Kansas. Thrive Allen County is a countywide organization that has been instrumental in the development of more than 60 miles of new trails and routes within the past decade; lowering the uninsured rate in Allen County from 21 percent in 2013, to 9 percent in 2018; the implementation of public and safety-net transportation for Allen County residents; the creation of a free, rural bike-share program replicated throughout the nation; and overseeing the statewide Kansas CARES program that assists uninsured residents throughout Kansas apply for affordable health insurance. During Regehr's leadership, Thrive has served as the administrator for Allen County's Strengthening People and Revitalizing Kansas (SPARK) and American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. In addition, Regehr co-created Thrive Kansas, which exists to build capacity in rural Kansas communities to improve quality of life and bring about rural revitalization efforts.

## NO CAP COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION WITH NO CAPE



**Johnathan Sublet** is the Servant Pastor at the multi-cultural Fellowship Hi-Crest Church in Topeka. His passion to walk alongside others and help them live into their innate worth drive everything he does – from serving as the Founder and Chairman of the Board of SENT, Inc., to serving on a variety of community organizations focused on community development, health, housing, education, racial reconciliation, and economic empowerment. Currently, Sublet lives in the Hi-Crest Neighborhood of Topeka, with his wife, Tricia, and children, Silas, Toby and Claudette.

## LIGHTNING ROUND BREAKOUT SESSIONS



### Designing Low-Resource Program Evaluations

**Wyatt J. Beckman, M.P.H.**, Kansas Health Institute (KHI) Senior Analyst, provides research and technical support related to KHI's work on population health.

Beckman has a leading role in KHI's activities and projects focused on rural health. He has contributed to KHI studies on social isolation, e-cigarettes, suicide prevention, telehealth, prescription drugs, and the response of local governments to COVID-19. Beckman also provided research support to the Center for Sharing Public Health Services, a national initiative formerly managed by KHI and funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, which focuses on resource sharing arrangements as a strategy to improve public health effectiveness and efficiency.



### Generative AI: Opportunities to Leverage for Everyday Work

**Tatiana Y. Lin, M.A.**, Kansas Health Institute (KHI) Director of Business Strategy and Innovation, spearheads business development operations and champions the advancement of KHI's mission through innovative initiatives and programs. She collaborates with a diverse range of public, private and philanthropic partners.

Lin joined KHI in 2007, following a fellowship at the Kansas Legislative Research Department. Throughout her tenure, she has led the Population Health Strategy and KHI's technical assistance efforts. Over the past 15 years, she has played a pivotal role in strengthening the Kansas public health system at both state and local levels. Her work includes research and analysis on critical issues such as medical marijuana, food insecurity and population health strategies for hospitals. She has provided technical assistance and facilitation services to state-level task forces focusing on behavioral health and crisis standards of care, as well as education on evidence-based practices, assessment of policy impacts on health and equity, data resources, community engagement and artificial intelligence (AI). With more than a decade of experience, Lin has been at the forefront of initiatives on Health in All Policies and Health Impact Assessments, evaluating the potential health implications of policies in sectors like transportation, agriculture or housing. Most recently, she has been working closely with six communities as part of the Pathways to a Healthy Kansas initiative, funded by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas. She has been assisting them in developing a system to track policies, establishing protocols to integrate this tracking process into their operations, and evaluating the health impacts of these policies.



### Transforming Data into Actionable Insights

**Wen-Chieh Lin, Ph.D.**, Kansas Health Institute (KHI) Director of Research, manages the data assets of KHI, guides research methods and analytic skill development of staff, and oversees our quality assurance process and research support functions. He participates in the development and execution of a strategic vision for statewide data resources in partnership with key partners.

Lin focuses on improving health care access, delivery and outcomes for underserved and vulnerable populations. He applies advanced statistical analysis to information from large administrative data sets (Medicare and Medicaid claims data, all-payer claims databases and outcomes assessment data) to evaluate policies and programs. His work has been funded by state and federal agencies, including the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Massachusetts Department of Public Health and the Office of Medicaid.

## LIGHTNING ROUND BREAKOUT SESSIONS, cont.



### **Practical Strategies for Integrating Equity in Your Work**

***Sheena L. Schmidt, M.P.P.***, Kansas Health Institute (KHI) Senior Analyst & Strategy Team Leader, leads strategic planning and programmatic activities related to access to care, including Medicaid and other publicly funded programs, the health care workforce and rural health issues.



### **Legislative Monitoring: *Keeping Up with Health Legislation***

***Linda J. Sheppard, J.D.***, Kansas Health Institute (KHI) Senior Analyst & Strategy Team Leader, works on state and federal health policy, with a specific focus on health insurance coverage and the Kansas health insurance market, quality and cost of health care services, delivery and payment models, and the overall impact of federal and state legislation on health care in Kansas. Since 2016, Sheppard also has directed KHI's legislative monitoring portfolio that tracks the work of Congress, federal agencies and the Kansas Legislature, including monitoring introduced and enacted health-related legislation, as well as rules, regulations and guidance.