

Speaker Biographies

Connie Gayle White, MD, MS, FACOG

Deputy Commissioner for Clinical Affairs
Kentucky Department for Public Health

Doctor White practiced OB/GYN in Frankfort, Kentucky, for over twenty years. She retired from clinical medicine and joined the Kentucky Department for Public Health (KDPH) as the Director, Division of Women's Health, in 2009. She moved to the College of Public Health at the University of Kentucky (UK) in 2011 in the Department for Health Behavior and then came back to KDPH as Deputy Commissioner of Clinical Affairs in 2011.

She is Principal Investigator for multiple grants that included chronic diseases to substance use disorder. She is the medical advisor to the Kentucky Perinatal Quality Collaborative-a common table for providers, birthing hospitals, and insurers to improve the quality of maternal and newborn care in Kentucky.

Other FYI information:

- BS in Chemistry from Kentucky Wesleyan College
- MS in Toxicology from the University of Kentucky
- Researcher in Teratology at the National Center for Toxicological Research in Arkansas
- Medical school training at UK
- OB/GYN residency at University of Louisville
- Board certified in OB/GYN by the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Has held numerous offices in American College of OB/GYN (ACOG) District V and is currently the District V Advocate for Public Health

Carolyn Burns, MD

Carolyn Burns, MD is a Board- Certified Pathologist (AP/CP) and served as Medical Director/Chief of Pathology of the Jewish Hospital Healthcare System, Dept. of Pathology in Louisville, KY. from 1991-2011. This included medical directorship of Surgical Pathology, the Clinical Laboratory, and the Transfusion/Tissue Services for the 5-hospital system. She has previously been an Asst. Clinical Professor in the Dept. of Pathology at the University of Louisville and on the Advisory Board and guest lecturer for the Bellarmine University Clinical Laboratory Science Program.

After earning her Microbiology undergraduate degree and her subsequent Medical Degree, Dr. Burns completed an internship in General Surgery followed by Pathology residency at the University of Louisville.

Dr. Burns is the current President for the Society for the Advancement of Patient Blood Management (SABM), having previously served as Secretary, Treasurer, and Newsletter editor-in-chief. Dr. Burns is an active member of several medical societies including the Association for the Advancement of Blood and

Biotherapies, College of American Pathologists, and the American Society of Clinical Pathologists. She is a board member for the Kentucky Association of Blood Banks.

Dr. Burns is a passionate advocate for Patient Blood Management (PBM) and Blood Health. She has been published in peer-reviewed journals and textbooks and has been an invited speaker within the United States, Europe, Asia, and Africa on varied topics such as anemia management, coagulation management, blood conservation strategies and patient-centered care.

Dr. Burns is a Patient Blood Management physician advisor/consultant working with numerous hospitals and industry partners around the globe. She is the CMO of Collaborative Clinical Consulting, LLC, a company providing PBM education, implementation services, and perioperative initiatives.

Kelly McCants, MD

Executive Medical Director, Norton Heart & Vascular Institute, Advanced Heart Failure & Recovery Program

Executive Director, Norton Institute for Health Equity

As executive medical director of the Norton Heart & Vascular Institute Advanced Heart Failure and Recovery Program and executive director of the Institute for Health Equity, a Part of Norton Healthcare, Kelly C. McCants, M.D., is passionate about serving patients facing difficult health challenges and addressing health disparities. Dr. McCants believes being able to serve is the greatest gift.

Dr. McCants earned his medical degree from Meharry Medical College, Nashville, Tennessee, and completed his internship, residency, and fellowship at the University of Louisville. Growing up in Jacksonville, Florida, and Tuscaloosa, Alabama, Dr. McCants said he drew inspiration from his mother and older brother. He is the first physician and only the fourth college graduate among 54 members of his extended family.

As an African American and a physician, Dr. McCants is deeply aware of structural racism and inequities, as he has experienced them personally. This helps him understand issues and concerns from a patient and provider perspective. Through work with heart failure patients, Dr. McCants learned the power of addressing socioeconomic dynamics to help patients achieve recovery.

Ursula Mullins, PhD

Chief of Performance and Innovation

Dare to Care Food Bank

Dr. Ursula Mullins has been a proud public servant of Louisville for years in various capacities in local city government, state government and most recently the non-profit field. Much of her work includes performance management, coaching and consulting, strategic planning, project management. Her leadership roles include Director of the Youth Detention Center, Executive Advisor to the Secretary of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services, and Director of the Office of Performance Improvement. She currently fills the inaugural role of Chief Performance & Innovation Officer at Dare to Care Food Bank.

In her roles, she has managed continuous improvement projects ranging from parks to public safety, led strategic planning efforts for the City of Louisville, and steered research for strategies on vacant and abandoned property, the impact of the heroin epidemic on the jail, as well as violent crime reduction. She enjoys using her passion for process improvement and data to serve and improve the lives of the most vulnerable among us – whether they be houseless citizens, those incarcerated, or those facing food insecurity to name a few.

Ursula earned her undergraduate degree from Tennessee State University and her Master of Science and PhD in Developmental Psychology from the University of Kentucky. Her postdoctoral fellowship was completed at the UK Center for Drug and Alcohol Research (CDAR). She is a proponent of lifelong learning and as such has earned professional certifications, is a founding member of the Metro Motivators Club of Toastmasters International, and a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated.

Sarah Moyer, MD

Chief Medical Officer

Humana Healthy Horizons

Dr. Sarah Moyer is the Chief Medical Officer for Humana Healthy Horizons in Kentucky, Humana's Kentucky Medicaid business. Previously, she served as the Director of Louisville Metro Department of Public Health and Wellness throughout the Covid-19 pandemic and opioid epidemic, and as the Quality Improvement Director while faculty at University of Louisville School of Medicine, Department of Family and Geriatric Medicine. Dr. Moyer, a board-certified family physician, believes engaging all parts of the community to implement bold, innovative ideas will lead to improved health outcomes for everyone. Dr. Moyer received her Master's in Public Health from Dartmouth College, her Medical Degree from Temple University and completed her residency at Wake Forest University. She now calls Louisville, KY home, and enjoys spending her free time with her husband and four children.

Maria Braman, MD, MBA

Chief Medical Officer

Appalachian Regional Healthcare

Maria Braman moved to Eastern, KY in March 2016 to join Appalachian Regional Healthcare as the Vice President of Medical Affairs and currently serves as Chief Medical Officer of the system. During her tenure at ARH, Dr Braman's notable accomplishments include the establishments of a tele-ICU program that reduced mortality by more than 25%; the creation of a centralized command center that has facilitated patient transport and reduced leakage by approximately 20%; the establishment of the 1st ARH graduate Medical Residency program in Harlan and Whitesburg, KY; and the introduction of one of the first rural hospital at home programs nationally. She is also very proud of the ARH physician leadership development program that has resulted in over 40 successful graduates who support the continued growth and development of ARH.

Dr Braman obtained her medical degree from George Washington University School of Medicine in Washington, D.C. She completed both Anatomic and Clinical Pathology Residencies and served as Chief

Resident at the largest Hospital in the DC, MedStar Washington Hospital Center. After completing her Residency, Dr. Braman pursued an additional 2-year Fellowship in Surgical/Breast Pathology at the University of Michigan. Upon completion of her Fellowship, Dr. Braman moved to Montana where she joined a private pathology practice and owned a Molecular Diagnostics Laboratory. She collaborated with St Peter's Hospital to establish the 1st Nationally Accredited Breast Cancer Program in the state of Montana. This resulted in significantly improving breast cancer treatment and preventing breast cancer deaths in the region.

In 2012 Dr. Braman joined St Peter's Hospital Executive team as the Vice President of Medical Affairs. During her tenure at St Peter's, she led the organization to gain Leapfrog Grade A recognition as a top provider of quality healthcare in the country. She is a fierce advocate of patient centered care. She is passionate about using her medical knowledge to drive clinical quality improvements to benefit patients and improve outcomes.

Dr. Braman's passion to drive quality outcomes, coupled with her entrepreneurial spirit led her to pursue and complete her MBA at Notre Dame University in May 2018. Her growing passion for the Appalachian region and desire to support the continued economic growth of this region are what led her to completing a fellowship with the Appalachian Leadership Institute.

Dr. Braman considers herself fortunate to be able to pursue her passion of delivering high quality healthcare to rural America.

Jennifer Gray, MD

Chief Medical Officer

Fairview Community Health Center

Doctor Jennifer Gray serves as the Chief Medical Officer for Fairview Community Health Center in Bowling Green, Kentucky and has been in this position since 2001. Fairview is a Federally Qualified Health Center serving over 14,000 patients including a large refugee population.

Doctor Gray obtained her Bachelor of Science at Western Kentucky University and her medical degree from the University of Louisville School of Medicine. She was a member of the first class of the family medicine residency program in Glasgow.