

**Building Healthy Communities Conference:
“Supporting Community-Led Change for Health”
The Stewart Hotel NYC
December 3, 2018
#nyshealthevent**

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

David Sandman, PhD
President and CEO
New York State Health Foundation
🐦 @DavidSandman1

David Sandman is the President and Chief Executive Officer of the New York State Health Foundation (NYSHealth), a private foundation dedicated to improving the health of all New Yorkers, especially the most vulnerable. Since 2006, NYSHealth has invested more than \$136 million in initiatives to improve health care and the public health system in New York State. Equally important, the Foundation is committed to sharing the results and lessons of its grantmaking; informing policy and practice through timely, credible analysis and commentary; and serving as a convener of health care leaders and stakeholders throughout New York State.

Dr. Sandman was named President and CEO in 2016, after serving as NYSHealth’s Senior Vice President. Previously, Dr. Sandman was appointed by the Governor of New York as executive director of the Commission on Health Care Facilities in the 21st Century, also known as the “Berger Commission.” Earlier, Dr. Sandman was managing director of Manatt Health Solutions, a vice president at Harris Interactive, and assistant vice president at the Commonwealth Fund. Dr. Sandman received his Bachelor of Arts degree, Phi Beta Kappa, from Haverford College, and his Master of Public Administration degree and Ph.D. from New York University's Wagner School of Public Service. He is a Fellow of the New York Academy of Medicine and a member of the Herman Biggs Society; he also serves on Philanthropy New York's Board of Directors.

Angela Glover Blackwell
Founder in Residence
PolicyLink
🐦 @agb4equity @policylink

Angela Glover Blackwell, Founder in Residence, started PolicyLink in 1999. Under Ms. Blackwell’s leadership, PolicyLink gained national prominence in the movement to use public policy to improve access and opportunity for all low-income people and communities of color, particularly in the areas of health, housing, transportation, and infrastructure.

Prior to founding PolicyLink, Ms. Blackwell served as senior vice president at the Rockefeller Foundation. A lawyer by training, she gained national recognition as founder of the Urban Strategies Council in Oakland, CA. From 1977 to 1987, Ms. Blackwell was a partner at Public Advocates. She is the co-author of *Uncommon Common Ground: Race and America's Future*,

and the author of “The Curb-Cut Effect,” which was published in the *Stanford Social Innovation Review* in 2017.

As a leading voice in the movement for equity in America, Ms. Blackwell is a frequent speaker at major conferences and a commentator for some of the nation’s top news organizations. She serves on numerous boards, and she also advises the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve as one of 15 members of its Community Advisory Council.

Sharrie McIntosh, MHA
Vice President for Programs
New York State Health Foundation

As Vice President for Programs at NYSHealth, Sharrie McIntosh oversees the Foundation’s priority areas, Empowering Health Care Consumers and Building Healthy Communities, as well as its focus on Veterans’ Health and its Special Projects Fund. Ms. McIntosh plays a leadership role in further developing the Foundation’s program areas and ensuring the quality and accountability of its grantmaking through program and grantee evaluations. As a member of the leadership team, she assists in developing and implementing the Foundation’s goals and strategies; identifying emerging opportunities and strategic niches; and building partnerships with other foundations and key stakeholders.

Prior to joining NYSHealth, Ms. McIntosh worked as senior vice president and chief program officer at The Arnold P. Gold Foundation, where she managed the portfolio of programs focused on humanizing health care for patients and health care professionals, as well as implemented strategic priorities and cultivated partnerships and collaborations. She also was a vice president at The Lewin Group, a premier health and human services consulting firm, where she worked with a wide range of clients, including government agencies, hospitals, and foundations, on improving access to care for vulnerable populations, delivering culturally responsive care, and program design and evaluation. Ms. McIntosh also worked as the affiliations administrator at the New York University School of Medicine/Langone Medical Center, where she was responsible for managing its affiliation agreement with NYC Health + Hospitals. Ms. McIntosh received a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Virginia and a Master in Health Administration degree from Pennsylvania State University.

Bronwyn Starr, MPH
Program Officer
New York State Health Foundation

As Program Officer, Bronwyn Starr focuses on NYSHealth’s priority area on building healthy communities, which leads neighborhood-level and policy interventions to increase residents’ access to healthy, affordable food options, improve the built environment, and link communities with healthy lifestyle programming. Ms. Starr also has managed projects to support county health departments in reducing health disparities and preventing chronic disease; expand primary care access and capacity in the most rural parts of New York State; and increase recruitment and retention of New York State’s primary care workforce.

Prior to joining NYSHealth, Ms. Starr led a program at the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene that helped primary care providers improve medication adherence for their patients. She previously worked in the international health sector with Catholic Relief Services and Planned Parenthood, and was a New York City emergency medical technician for 10 years.


Ms. Starr holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from the University of Oregon and a Master of Public Health degree from New York University. She serves on the steering committee for Community Food Funders.

Theresa Brereton, MS, RDN, CDN, CDE
Nutrition Supervisor
East New York and Cumberland Gotham Health Centers

Theresa Brereton is a registered dietitian and certified diabetes educator. She is a Nutrition Supervisor at the East New York and Cumberland Gotham Health Centers. Before joining the NYC Health + Hospitals system, she served as director of food and nutrition at Sheepshead Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, where she administered operational, fiscal, and clinical oversight at the 200-bed facility. She also provided leadership and clinical oversight to more than 35 registered dietitians in her role as clinical nutrition manager at Visiting Nurse Service of New York.

Ms. Brereton is a certified peer leader and master trainer for chronic disease and diabetes self-management. She has been providing nutritional counseling for more than 30 years, and as an expert in the field of diabetes, she provides counseling to persons with prediabetes, diabetes, weight management issues, and other chronic diseases. As a community educator and clinician, she has presented at various forums. Ms. Brereton's goals are to educate, empower, and encourage participants to make sustainable lifestyle changes. Her unique coaching skills have driven significant results toward improving quality of life.

Ms. Brereton holds a Master in Administrative Dietetics and Nutrition degree from New York University and a Bachelor of Science degree in Nutrition from Hunter-Bellevue School of Allied Health. She is a member of many professional organizations.

Linda Bryant, MBA
Founder and President
Project EATS
 @ProjectEATS

Linda Bryant is the Founder and President of Active Citizen Project and Project EATS, originally from Columbus, OH. She developed Active Citizen Project while filming the 2004 presidential elections and developed Project EATS during the 2008 global food crisis. Ms. Bryant is a Guggenheim Fellow and a Peabody Award recipient. She was Founder and Director of Just Above Midtown, Inc., a New York City nonprofit artists' space. Ms. Bryant has a Master of Business Administration degree from Columbia University and a Bachelor of Arts degree in painting from Spelman College.

Alexander Wright, JD
President
African Heritage Food Co-op
🐦 @BuffaloAHFC

Alexander J. Wright is the President and Co-Founder of the African Heritage Food Co-Op. The mission of the Co-Op is to create community ownership, combat food deserts, and eliminate price gouging in the poorest areas of the Buffalo. Mr. Wright oversees the daily operations and is the visionary driving force behind the project. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Management and a Juris Doctor degree from the University at Buffalo. Before the Co-Op, Mr. Wright managed many nonprofit organizations and operated his own business consulting firm.

Nupur Chaudhury, MPH, MUP
Program Officer
New York State Health Foundation
🐦 @CautionChaud

As Program Officer, Nupur Chaudhury focuses on NYSEHealth's priority area on building healthy communities, which leads neighborhood-level and policy interventions to increase residents' access to healthy, affordable food options, improve the built environment, and link communities with healthy lifestyle programming.

Ms. Chaudhury brings a background in community-based health, urban planning, and community organizing. Prior to joining NYSEHealth, Ms. Chaudhury was the director of neighborhood health development at the Center for Health Equity, New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. In her role there, she led the expansion of the Shop Healthy program, aimed at changing the food retail environment in the City's poorest neighborhoods, and was also part of the planning team developing the City's Neighborhood Health Action Centers. She has also worked with Rebuild by Design as a resiliency planner post-Hurricane Sandy by building and strengthening neighborhood coalitions in New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut. Prior to that, Ms. Chaudhury was the first health coordinator for the Brownsville Partnership, developing its agenda linking the built environment, health, and violence to its work on active living and healthy eating.


Ms. Chaudhury holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Bryn Mawr College, a Master of Urban Planning degree from New York University, and a Master of Public Health degree from Columbia University. She is a member of the American Public Health Association and American Planning Association, as well as serves on the boards of Made in Brownsville and University of Orange.

Erin Barnes, MEM
Co-Founder and CEO
ioby

 @erinargyle @ioby

Erin Barnes is Co-Founder and CEO of ioby, which mobilizes neighbors with good ideas to become powerful citizen leaders who plan, fund, and make positive change in their own communities. In 2018, Ms. Barnes was accepted into the inaugural class of Obama Foundation Fellows for her contributions to creating a wave of civic innovation through her work at ioby. In 2012, the Rockefeller Foundation awarded Ms. Barnes and her co-founders at ioby the Jane Jacobs Medal for New Technology and Innovation. Ms. Barnes met her co-founders while in graduate school at the Yale University School of Forestry and Environmental Studies. Before ioby, Ms. Barnes was an editor at *Men's Journal* magazine, a freelance writer, and contributor to Al Gore's book, *Our Choice*. She conducted field research on water and fisheries markets in Nicaragua and the Amazon, and worked as a community organizer at the Save Our Wild Salmon Coalition. Ms. Barnes has a Bachelor of Arts degree in English and American Studies from the University of Virginia and a Master of Environmental Management degree from Yale University. She lives in Brooklyn, NY, and serves on the boards of EcoDistricts and Resource Media.

James Brodick
Director, Community Justice Centers
Center for Court Innovation

 @courttinnovation

James Brodick is the Director, Community Justice Centers at the Center for Court Innovation. Mr. Brodick supervises the Brownsville Community Justice Center, Midtown Community Court, Harlem Community Justice Center, Staten Island Youth Justice Center, and the Red Hook Community Justice Center. Mr. Brodick manages senior leadership across New York City and is responsible for overseeing the Center's long-range planning and day-to-day operations. In this role, Mr. Brodick leads an interdisciplinary team of senior staff members who assess and link defendants with services; monitor compliance; oversee community restitution and early diversion projects; provide on-site social services; and collaborate with government and community stakeholders to promote principles of community courts, procedural justice, and community engagement. Since joining the Center in 1998, Mr. Brodick has held many leadership roles, including director of the Red Hook Community Justice Center and NYC Community Cleanup. He is also the lead planner and director of the Brownsville Community Justice Center. Mr. Brodick is a graduate of Saint John's University and is a New York State-certified mediator.

Tara Singh, MPH
Director of Programs, Building Healthy Communities and Mayor's Action Plan for
Neighborhood Safety
Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice

Tara Singh is the Director of Programs for Building Healthy Communities and the Mayor's Action Plan for Neighborhood Safety. She works on place-based initiatives that bring responsive

and holistic support to historically underserved neighborhoods in New York City. During her time with Building Healthy Communities, a Mayoral initiative that was launched in 2015 by the Fund for Public Health and the Mayor's Office of Strategic Partnership, she has worked to pair City programming with private funding to amplify community-driven efforts and increase access to fresh food, physical activity, and safe public spaces. Moving forward, her work is focused on bridging residents from 15 public housing developments with longstanding disparities in health and safety with the improved neighborhood-level food and recreation assets, as well as opportunities for wellness, community development, and economic security.

Previously, Ms. Singh worked in the Research and Policy Support Group of the Department of Education and the Community Health Care Association of New York State. Her passion for community health and safety stems from her time as a health educator and community health organizer in the Montefiore School Health Program of the Bronx. She holds a Master of Public Health degree and is currently an evening student at Fordham Law School.