

# Fourth Annual Connecticut Racial Disparities in Maternal Morbidity and Mortality Conference

October 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022

## Schedule of Events

### Day 1 – October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022

#### 8:30am-8:45am

Welcome and Introductory Remarks from Alison Tylistczak, LCSW, March of Dimes and Dr. Christopher Morosky, UCONN Health

#### 8:45am-9:00am

Blessing and Centering - Reverend Marilyn Kendrix

#### 9:00am-10:00am

**Day One Plenary Presentation: The Lived Experience of Severe Maternal Morbidity Among Black Women, Dr. Lucinda Canty, PhD, CNM, FACNM**



Dr. Lucinda Canty is a certified nurse-midwife and an Associate Professor of Nursing at the University of MASS Amherst. She received her BSN from Columbia University and her MSN from Yale University, specializing in nurse-midwifery, and her Ph.D. from the University of Connecticut. Her research interests include the prevention of maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity, reducing racial and ethnic health disparities in reproductive health, and eliminating racism in nursing and midwifery. She is an artist, poet, and historian. She provides women's health care at Planned Parenthood of Southern New England. She currently hosts web discussions Overdue Reckoning on Racism in Nursing. She is the founder of

Lucinda's House, a Black Maternal Health Collective to eliminate racial disparities in maternal health through community collaboration and programs that provide support and education.

#### 10:00am-11:30am

**Day 1 Workshop 1: Maternal Substance Use and Access to Treatment**

Panel Presenters:

Shelly Nolan, Director of Women's Services, Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services;  
Statewide Services Division, Office of the Commissioner

Bridget Aliaga-Briand, MPH. SEPI CT (formally SEI-FASD) Program Manager, Wheeler  
Clinic/Connecticut Clearinghouse

## **Day 1 Workshop 2: Interpersonal Violence Screening and Support Services**

Panel Presenters:

Ashley Starr Frechette, MPH. Director of Health Professional Outreach; Connecticut Coalition  
Against Domestic Violence

Devon M. Rayment, MA. Health Professional Outreach Project Manager, Connecticut Coalition  
Against Domestic Violence

Dr. Iva Kosutic, PHD

Director; Partners in Social Research, LLC

**11:30am – 11:45am**

Break

**11:45am – 12:00pm**

**Video: Diversifying the Lactation Field: A Collaborative Effort**

**12:00pm – 12:30pm**

**Mission Impact Highlight: DSS and the Connecticut Maternity Care Bundle**

Speaker: Commissioner Deidre Gifford, Connecticut Department of Social Services

**12:30pm**

**End and Closing Remarks**

## **Day 2 – October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

**8:30am-8:45am**

Welcome and Introductory Remarks from Alison Tylistczak, LCSW, March of Dimes and Dr.  
Christopher Morosky, UCONN Health

**8:45am-9:00am**

Video - Devona's Story

**9:00am-10:00am**

**Day Two Plenary Presentation: What Black Birthing Bodies Need in Pregnancy, Birth, and Postpartum – Autumn Cloud-Ingram, LCSW**



Autumn truly enjoys supporting families and helping them to adapt to the challenges of parenthood. Autumn is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Certified Parent Educator in Circle of Security-Parenting and The Positive Parenting Program, Certified Childbirth Educator, and Evidence Based Birth® Instructor, and full spectrum doula. In addition, Autumn is a strong advocate for maternal mental health and improving birth outcomes. Autumn is the founder of ParenTechnique, LLC which provides therapy to families in the perinatal period as well as childbirth and postpartum education and consultation. She also loves empowering families through pregnancy and birth by teaching the Evidence Based Birth® Childbirth Class. Her passion lies in reproductive justice and improving health outcomes by changing

the healthcare system for birthing people and their babies. Autumn continues to serve as an advocate for evidence-based pregnancy and postpartum care and educating families on their right to informed consent. Autumn is currently the chair of Postpartum Support International's Connecticut Chapter Resource and professional Development Committee. Autumn's organization, ParenTechnique, LLC is the founder of The Perinatal L.A.B. Collective.

**10:00am-11:30am**

**Day 2 Workshop 1: Hypertensive Disorders in Pregnancy**

**Panel Presenters:**

**Dr. Christian Pettker, MD**

Chief of Obstetrics, Yale New Haven Hospital; Chief Patient Safety Officer and Associate Chief Quality Officer, Yale-New Haven Health and Yale Medicine; Professor, Section of Maternal Fetal Medicine; Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology & Reproductive Sciences; Yale School of Medicine

**Dr. Audrey Merriam, MD, MS**

Assistant Professor of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences; Yale School of Medicine

**Cynthia Hayes**

Director of Operations, Earth's Natural Touch Birthcare and Beyond

## **Day 2 Workshop 2: Perinatal Mental Health**

### Panel Presenters:

#### **Dr. Ariadna Forray, MD**

Chief, Section of Psychological Medicine; Director, Center for the Wellbeing of Women and Mothers; Associate Professor of Psychiatry, Yale School of Medicine; Yale New Haven Hospital

#### **Dr. Iva Kosutic, PHD**

Director; Partners in Social Research, LLC

**11:30am – 11:45am**

Break

**11:45am – 12:00pm**

**Video: Addressing Disparities in Maternal and Child Health in Connecticut Using Community-Based Partnerships and Collaborations**

**12:00pm – 12:30pm**

**Mission Impact Highlight: Legislative Efforts in Connecticut Improving Health Outcomes for Moms and Babies**

**Speaker: Representative Jillian Gilchrest, MSW**

State Representative, 18<sup>th</sup> District

**12:30pm**

**End and Closing Remarks**