

## Wednesday Keynote Speakers

**Cara V. James, Ph.D.**, is the Director of the Office of Minority Health at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). Prior to joining the Office of Minority Health at CMS, Dr. James was the Director of the Disparities Policy Project and the Director of the Barbara Jordan Health Policy Scholars Program at the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, where she was responsible for addressing a broad array of health and access to care issues for racial and ethnic minorities and other underserved populations, including the potential impact of the Affordable Care Act, analyses of state-level disparities in health and access to care, and disparities in access to care among individuals living in health professional shortage areas. Prior to joining the staff at Kaiser, she worked at Harvard University and The Picker Institute. She is a member of the Institute of Medicine's (IOM) Roundtable on the Promotion of Health Equity and the Elimination of Health Disparities and has served on several IOM committees including the Committee on Leading Health Indicators for Healthy People 2020. She has published several peer-reviewed articles and other publications, and was a co-author for one of the background chapters for the IOM Report Unequal Treatment. Dr. James received her Ph.D. in Health Policy and her B.A. in Psychology from Harvard University.



**Dr. Linda Rae Murray** has spent her career serving the medically underserved. She has worked in a variety of settings including practicing Occupational Medicine at a Workers Clinic in Canada, Residency Director for occupational medicine at Meharry Medical College, and Bureau Chief for the Chicago Department of Health under Mayor Harold Washington. Dr. Murray served as Medical Director of the federally funded health center, Winfield Moody, serving Cabrini Green Public Housing Project in Chicago. Dr. Murray has been an active member of a wide range of local and national organizations including serving as a member of the Board of Scientific Counselors for the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), and the Board of Scientific Counselors for the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and the Board of Directors of Trinity Health (a large Catholic Health system). She serves on the National Advisory Committee on Occupational Safety & Health (NACOSH).

In 1997, Dr. Murray returned to the Cook County Health System where she served as Chief Medical Officer -Primary Care for the twenty-three primary care and community health centers comprising the Ambulatory & Community Health Network of the Cook County Bureau of Health Services. The Cook County Bureau of Health is one of the nation's largest public system of medical care and operates three hospitals, the public health department for suburban Cook County, health services at the county jail and the network of health centers (ACHN) operated by the County. Today she serves as the Chief Medical Officer for the Cook County Department of Public Health of the Cook County Health & Hospital System, the state certified public health agency for suburban Cook County. She practices as a general internist at Woodlawn Health Center, is an attending physician in the Division of Occupational and Environmental Medicine at Cook County Hospital and an adjunct Assistant Professor at the University of Illinois at Chicago School of Public Health (Occupational & Environmental Health and the Health Policy & Administration Departments). She plays a leadership role in many organizations including NACCHO's (National Association of City & County Health Officers) Health Equity & Social Justice Team, the national executive board of American Public Health Association and serves on the board of the Chicago-based Health and Medicine Policy Research Group. She remains passionate about increasing the number of Black and Latino health professionals and serves as the co-chair for the Urban Health Program Community Advisory Committee at the University of Illinois.

In November 2010, Dr. Murray became President of the American Public Health Association. She has been a voice for social justice and health care as a basic human right for more than forty years.

## Wednesday Luncheon Speakers



**Kathy Chan** currently serves as the Associate Director/Director of Policy and Advocacy for the Illinois Maternal and Child Health Coalition (IMCHC), and provides leadership on advocacy efforts, as well as policy analysis for IMCHC and its four projects. From 2002 to 2006, Ms. Chan worked at IMCHC on Covering Kids and Families where she built statewide and local coalitions and created and implemented strategies to help families more easily access public health insurance programs. Her efforts helped Illinois gain recognition as a national leader in enrollment. To date, more than 2.8 million parents and children in Illinois have public insurance coverage.

Ms. Chan worked briefly in state government with the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services, where she assisted with strategic enrollment efforts and the implementation of All Kids. She currently serves as board chair of IFLOSS, a statewide organization working to improve the oral health status of residents and remains an active volunteer with the Young Nonprofit Professionals Network of Chicago. She graduated with a B.A. in English from Northwestern University and began her career as an organizer with Green Corps, a field school for environmental organizing.



**Tessie Guillermo** is President and CEO of ZeroDivide, which invests in nonprofit organizations, and provides consultation and advisory services to foundations, business, and government agencies to help develop and implement innovative technology programs that support underserved communities. In 2011, ZeroDivide began taking active steps to address the pending gap between the digital divide and health disparities by developing community eHealth program.

Ms. Guillermo has been involved in technology adaptation since 1987, when she had her first experience managing the installation of a patient information management system at a community health center in Oakland, California. Before ZeroDivide, Ms. Guillermo served for 15 years as CEO of the Asian and Pacific Islander American Health Forum, a leading national health policy/advocacy organization with offices in San Francisco and Washington, DC. In 2000, Ms. Guillermo was appointed by former President Bill Clinton to serve as an inaugural member of the President's Advisory Commission on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

She currently serves as Board Chair for the California Endowment and Board Secretary for Dignity Health. She is also a board member of the Lucile Packard Foundation for Children's Health, the Nonprofit Finance Fund and Northern California Grantmakers (NCG). Ms. Guillermo is an alumna of the University of California, Berkeley and California State University, East Bay, with a B.A. in Economics. She is a graduate of the Gallup Leadership Institute and was a 1997 Fellow of the Asian Pacific American Women's Leadership Institute.



**Mildred Williamson, Ph.D., M.S.W.**, is the Section Chief of the HIV/AIDS program at the Illinois Department of Public Health. The majority of her work experience is in program planning, implementation, evaluation, and management within non-profit organizations. This includes administering prevention/early intervention/primary and specialty health care delivery services in both community outpatient and hospital based safety net/public sector settings. HIV/AIDS, maternal child health and chronic illness programs have been her specialty areas; minority, underserved populations have been her populations of focus. Dr. Williamson's educational training is in social service administration and policy with an emphasis on maternal child health social work inclusive of community engagement, board development, health/social policy analysis, grant writing and grant management.

Dr. Williamson received her B.A. from Loyola University, Chicago, and her masters and Ph.D. in social work from the University of Chicago.

## Thursday Plenary Speaker



**Thomas A. LaVeist, Ph.D.**, is the William C. and Nancy F. Richardson Professor in Health Policy and Director of the Hopkins Center for Health Disparities Solutions at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. He received his bachelor's degree from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, Ph.D. in medical sociology from the University of Michigan and postdoctoral fellowship in public health at the Michigan School of Public Health. His dissertation was awarded the 1989 Roberta G. Simmons Outstanding Dissertation Award by the American Sociological Association.

He frequently lectures on minority health and health policy at leading universities and professional conferences and workshops. Dr. LaVeist consults often with federal agencies and healthcare organizations on minority health and cultural competency issues and racial disparities in health, and he has conducted several important studies. His research has been funded by the National Institutes of Health, National

Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities, Center for Disease Control, and the Agency for Healthcare Research.

In addition to his work as a public health researcher, Dr. LaVeist has conducted research on African Americans in higher education. He has published two books with the Tom Joyner Foundation, written a college guide for African Americans, and developed the analytic methods for the Black Enterprise list of the top 50 colleges for African Americans.

Dr. LaVeist has published more than 100 articles in scientific journals, including *Health Affairs*, *Journal of General Internal Medicine*, *American Journal of Public Health*, *American Journal of Epidemiology*, *American Journal of Sociology*, *Milbank Quarterly*, *Medical Care*, *Journal of the American College of Cardiology*, *Ethnicity and Disease*, *Health Services Research*, and *Social Science & Medicine*.

He has also written articles for "Newsweek" magazine, "Black Enterprise" magazine, and the "Baltimore Sun." The second edition of his edited volume, *Race, Ethnicity and Health* (Jossey-Bass Publishers) was published fall 2012. His textbook, *Minority Populations and Health: An Introduction to Race, Ethnicity and Health in the United States*, was published April 2005 (Jossey-Bass Publishers). He is also the author of "The DayStar Guide to Colleges for African American Students," and co-author of "8 Steps to Help Black Families Pay for College."

Courses taught at Johns Hopkins include: "Health Policy 1," "Seminar in Health Disparities," and "Cultural Factors in Public Health."

Website/Blog:  
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# Chef Judson Todd Allen

“The Architect of Flavor”™



Chicago native, Judson Todd Allen is the CEO and Executive Chef of **Healthy Infused Cuisine, LLC**. A premiere cuisine company that specializes in personal, private and event chef services catering to clients' desires for healthier food choices without compromising taste. Those clients mostly consist of corporate executives from National Broadcasting Corporation (NBC) and National Association of Health Services Executives to moguls in entertainment, such as national radio and daytime TV talk show host Steve Harvey.

Judson realized early in life a passionate love for food. It led him to earn a degree in Food Science & Human Nutrition at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Additionally, Judson has traveled the world in search of hidden culinary treasures. While in Paris, he studied at the world-renowned Le Cordon Bleu, as well as the Ritz.

Known as the 'Architect of Flavor™', Chef Judson's mission is to design powerhouse flavors that change the way people think and feel about healthier foods. Judson struggled with weight throughout his childhood and now maintains a weight loss of 135lbs championing children causes.

Supporting his mission, the Season 8 Food Network Star Alum, debuted his own live cooking platform at Kenmore Live Studios in Chicago. As expected, Judson enjoyed the highest rated onsite attendance and online viewers via social media in the history of Kenmore's interactive live events.

Judson possesses an unparalleled desire to dispel the myth that healthier food is boring and unpalatable. He continues to share his knowledge and enthusiasm for food locally and nationally by contributing culinary information as a food contributor to friend Steve Harvey, "The Steve Harvey Show" and food restricted talk show veteran Ricki Lake of "The New Ricki Lake Show", along with others.

In December 2012, Chef Judson introduced his signature All Purpose Habanero Hot Sauce and made Ricki Lake's favorite things. This all natural product is often used as an awesome ingredient for marinades and toppings for almost anything because of its "Less Hot with More Flavor" taste. For more info about Chef Judson Todd Allen and his prized Hot Sauce, visit him at [www.JudsonToddAllen.com](http://www.JudsonToddAllen.com).