

Authentic Community Engagement to Support Equity

Speaker Biographies

Elsa Falkenburger is a principal research associate in the Metropolitan Housing and Communities Policy Center at the Urban Institute and director of the Community Engagement Resource Center (CERC). Her portfolio includes codirecting the Contextual Analysis and Methods of Participatory Engagement (CAMPE) project for the Office of Planning Research and Evaluation in the US Department of Health and Human Services, and a participatory evaluation of the Melville Trust's Partnership for Equitable and Resilient Communities (PERC) initiative in four cities. Elsa formerly co-lead the Promoting Adolescent Sexual Health and Safety (PASS) project, a sustained partnership with the DC Housing Authority and community based organizations and residents to design and evaluate health programming for teens. She regularly provides technical assistance and trainings and develops practical guides to implementing community engaged, participatory methods as part of her commitment to ensuring research is restorative rather than extractive, and contributes to sustainable results for community residents and stakeholders. Elsa collaborates with various organizations around institutionalizing the incorporation of community members as fellow experts as an anti-racist strategy focused on community autonomy and power. Falkenburger was formerly the program manager for the Housing Opportunity and Services Together demonstration, has worked with several Promise Neighborhoods, and was part of a team that evaluated the Resident Opportunity and Self-Sufficiency program at the US Department of Housing and Urban Development. Before joining Urban, Falkenburger worked at the Washington Office on Latin America, a policy organizations focused on supporting socially US interactions with Latin America. During graduate school, she worked at the KDK-Harman Foundation, helping grantees develop logic models and performance indicators for evaluating and improving educational programs for marginalized communities. Falkenburger has a BA in economics from Boston College and an MPA from the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas at Austin.

Edwina Jackson is the President & CEO of Impact Counseling and Consulting. Impact Counseling and Consulting, LLC supports companies and organizations in the healthcare industry by providing tailored solutions to address their unique challenges. The organizations goal is to educate and empower healthcare companies to deliver efficient, cost-effective, and high-quality care to their patients and through their community outreach services. For over 20 years, Dr. Edwina Jackson has provided services to individuals, organizations and the community. In Dr. Jackson's individual work she has provided case management, counseling, housing and employment opportunities to people with intellectual disabilities, veterans, seniors, youth, people battling with homelessness, HIV/AIDS, mental health challenges, chronic diseases and COVID-19. In the community, Dr. Jackson has had the opportunity to manage assisted living facilities, behavior treatment facilities, community training homes, and home care agencies. Dr. Jackson has utilized her community organizing and practical skills to assist rural community build partnerships and collaboration with the faith-based community, hospitals and healthcare providers to increase access to healthcare. Throughout her career, Dr. Jackson has enjoyed entrepreneurship which consisted of owning two organizations. At the higher education level, Dr. Jackson has enjoyed working at the University of South Carolina as an adjunct faculty and as a field instructor teaching practical skills to aspiring social workers. Dr. Jackson has conducted public speaking events centered on diverse topics that cripple our societies and been a presenter at universities and healthcare associations. Dr. Jackson's research, "Rural Collaboration: Applying CBPR Principals To Address Access to Healthcare" has been the catalyst for her healthcare platform utilized to transform healthcare organizations and rural communities. Dr. Jackson earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Clemson University, a Master's degree in Social Work from the University of South Carolina and a Doctor of Education in Organizational Leadership from Northeastern University. Dr. Jackson holds the license of a master level social worker, licensed community residential

care facility administrator and many advanced certifications: paralegal, grant writing, alcohol and drug abuse, gerontology, and military matters. Dr. Jackson is currently a candidate for LISW-CP and the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in the Workplace Certificate from USF Office of Corporate Training and Professional Education. Dr. Jackson identifies herself at home as a believer, wife, mother and NeNe. Dr. Jackson enjoys worship, family, baseball, traveling, jazz, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. events and helping others. Dr. Jackson's mantra is: "May the work that I've done speak for me"! (2Tim 4:6)

Rashid (Ra) Mosley is a senior policy program manager in the Center on Nonprofits and Philanthropy at the Urban Institute. His research focuses on organizational leadership and development, fund development, philanthropy, health, and inclusion, diversity, equity, and action. He engages in actionable and applied research that will bridge Urban's growing focus on community-engaged methods, research to action, technical assistance, and philanthropic advising. Mosely is a scholar-practitioner with more than 15 years of academic and social-sector experience. He joined Urban after concluding his tenure at Northeastern University's College of Professional Studies, where he held several roles, including faculty lead for the organizational leadership doctoral concentration, faculty director for the adult and organizational learning sector, and affiliated faculty member in the university's Center for the Future of Higher Education and Talent Strategy. As a practitioner, he was the national managing director on foundation relations and community engagement at the American Diabetes Association. He has also held positions with the United Way of Greater Atlanta. Mosley holds an MS in administration with a concentration in leadership from Central Michigan University and an EdD in human and organizational learning from the George Washington University.

Lauren A. Smith is the chief health equity and strategy officer for the CDC Foundation and a member of the executive team. In this role, Smith brings more than 25 years working at the intersection of health care delivery and management, public policy and public health fields. As chief health equity and strategy officer, Smith partners with the CDC Foundation's other senior leaders to develop and drive strategic efforts to embed health equity across the full range of the Foundation's activities with an explicit focus on addressing systemic racism and other structural inequities and their impact on vulnerable populations' health, wellbeing and resiliency. In addition, she leads activities to build organizational capacity to integrate health equity into the Foundation's practice, process, action, innovation and organizational performance to elevate the importance of and deepen the Foundation's health equity impact. Smith also serves as a principal advisor to the board of directors, the CEO and the executive team on the Foundation's overall strategic opportunities, risks and tradeoffs related to health equity strategy and implementation.

Tené Traylor is vice president for nonprofits and philanthropy at the Urban Institute. She brings national expertise in place-based philanthropy, equity, and civic leadership, particularly in the South, where she has honed a distinguished career in the nonprofit and philanthropic sector. She joined Urban after concluding her tenure at The Kendeda Fund, where she oversaw several grantmaking portfolios totaling \$8 million annually. Before joining Kendeda, Traylor was a senior program officer at the Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta. She led community development and neighborhood transformation grantmaking (including the Neighborhood Fund) for 10 years, launched several related programs and initiatives, and helped transform the foundation's grantmaking approach from programmatic to general or core support. She has also held positions with the United Way for Greater Atlanta and the Zeist Foundation Inc. Traylor holds a bachelor's degree in political science from Georgia State University and a master of public administration degree in public policy and nonprofit administration from the University of Georgia.