



Public Health Institute

Public Health Forum
April 27, 2023
9:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Gateway Dining & Events Center

FORUM AGENDA

- 8:15 AM – 9:00 AM** **Breakfast**
- 9:00 AM - 9:30 AM** **Welcome**
Leslie Crocker (presiding), Chair VSU Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation
- Opening Remarks & Acknowledgments**
Dr. Makola M. Abdullah, President- Virginia State University
Dr. Donald E. Palm III, Executive Vice President and Provost-Virginia State University
Dr. Derrick Scott, Dean- Virginia State University College of Natural & Health Sciences
Tara Dickerson, Executive Director-Virginia State University Public Health Institute
- 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM** **Opening Keynote – *Mental Health versus Mental Illness***
Dr. Shedrick McCall, Associate Professor-Virginia State University Psychology Department
- 10:30 AM – 11:00 AM** **Information Session-*Virginia Veteran and Family Support***
Stephanie Gaines, Peer Support Specialist-Department of Veterans Services
- 11:00 AM – 11:45 AM** **Veteran Panel Discussion-*The Next Battleground***
Delano Medley (Moderator), Peer Support Specialist- (US Army)
Richard Acevedo, Physician Assistant-Retired (US Army)
Dr. Billy Bible, Associate Professor-Retired (US Marine Corps)
Frieda Priest, Physician Assistant-Retired (US Army)
William O’Neal, Physician Assistant- (US Navy)



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11:45 AM – 12:30 PM Lunch

12:30 PM – 1:00 PM **Information Session – COVID19: Impact on Alzheimer's and Dementia**
Alisa Lofton, Executive Director-Alzheimer's Association

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM **Keynote Speaker-Navigating Strong Black Womanhood and Mental Wellness**
Dr. Christin Haynes, Professor-Virginia State University Family & Consumer Sciences Department

2:00 PM – 2:45 PM **Care Provider Panel Discussion-Too Big To Ignore: The Growing Mental Health Crisis**
Nkanta Hines, Sr. (Moderator), CEO- Capital Strategy Group
Dr. Cynthia Ellison, Director-VSU Student Health Services/Trojan Health and Wellness
Dr. Sumac Diaz, Physician-Chesterfield Health District
Dr. Octavia Wynn, SMC Associate Chief Nursing Officer-Bon Secours
Charonta Pegram, Resident in Counseling-Dulles Psychological Services
Dr. Jessica Brooks, Licensed Clinical Psychologist/Assistant Professor-VSU

2:45 PM – 3:00 PM **Closing Remarks**
Tara Dickerson

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