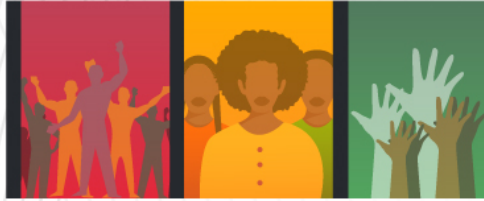


BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2021



Feb. 17 | 12 pm – 1:15 pm

A Historic Pandemic: Fireside Chat on Leadership Lessons and Reflections with Black Leaders.



Few could have predicted how deeply COVID-19 would upend life and work. Leaders across the globe have had to lead at a time of uncertainty and complexity. We have also learned that a crisis is an opportune time to live one's core values. Join us on Feb. 17 at noon for a fireside chat with Black leaders to discuss personal leadership lessons, joy, resilience, advice, and reflections. To access the webinar, go [here](#).



Moderator: Janet Sullivan is DHHS' Senior Director for Human Capital, Diversity and Inclusion. Janet's pronouns are she, her and hers. She is a certified leadership coach, diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) and human resources leader. For over 20 years, she has served as a trusted advisor in her roles as head of Human Resources for multiple organizations in financial services, technology, and nonprofit agencies. In these roles, Janet implemented a multitude of diversity and inclusion initiatives to foster inclusive work cultures. She has also driven learning and development programs to build key leadership skills and diversity, equity and inclusion acumen for leaders and staff. Janet is responsible for further strengthening and accelerating DHHS' efforts to foster an inclusive culture. She holds a BA in Psychology, MA in Strategic HR and Executive Certificate in Leadership Coaching.



Panelist: Debra Farrington received a BA in Psychology and Master's in Social Work degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She is a licensed clinical social worker with more than 30 years of experience in community-based services for children and adults with behavioral health needs. Debra joined the Medicaid program in October 2016. Presently, as NC Medicaid's chief of staff, Debra provides support and leadership on overall program vision, strategic direction and engagement with people supported by and providers of Medicaid services. As chief of staff, Debra places a high priority on supporting staff who are responsible for NC Medicaid, which is regarded as a leader in the nation.



Panelist: Dr. Cardra E. Burns has worked in public health for 18 years in both Georgia and North Carolina. She is currently the Senior Deputy Director for DHHS' Division of Public Health. Dr. Burns is also an Associate Professor with Baker College and Ashford University. She is involved in various local, state, and national public health initiatives that focus on improving the health of North Carolina's citizens.



Panelist: Ben Money is DHHS' Deputy Secretary for Health Services. His portfolio includes the Division of Public Health, Division of Health Services Regulation, the Office of Minority Health, and the Office of Rural Health. Prior to joining the department in July 2019, he led the NC Community Health Center Association. Mr. Money's 37-year career in health care began in community mental health and includes 11 years in local public health and 18 years with community health centers. Ben is originally from Massachusetts and has lived in NC for 36 years.



Panelist: Dr. Michelle Laws is DHHS' Assistant Director of Consumer Support Services and Community Stakeholder Engagement and Chair of the DEI Council for the DHHS' Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services. Dr. Laws holds a BA in Mass Communications from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, an MA in Sociology from North Carolina Central University (Magna Cum Laude), and a PhD in Social and Behavioral Sciences from Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine, Department of Health Behavior and Policy (Phi Kappa Phi). Dr. Laws has played a critical role as a lead for DHHS' Historically Marginalized Populations COVID Response Workgroup.



NC Department of Health and Human Services • Office of Diversity and Inclusion

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