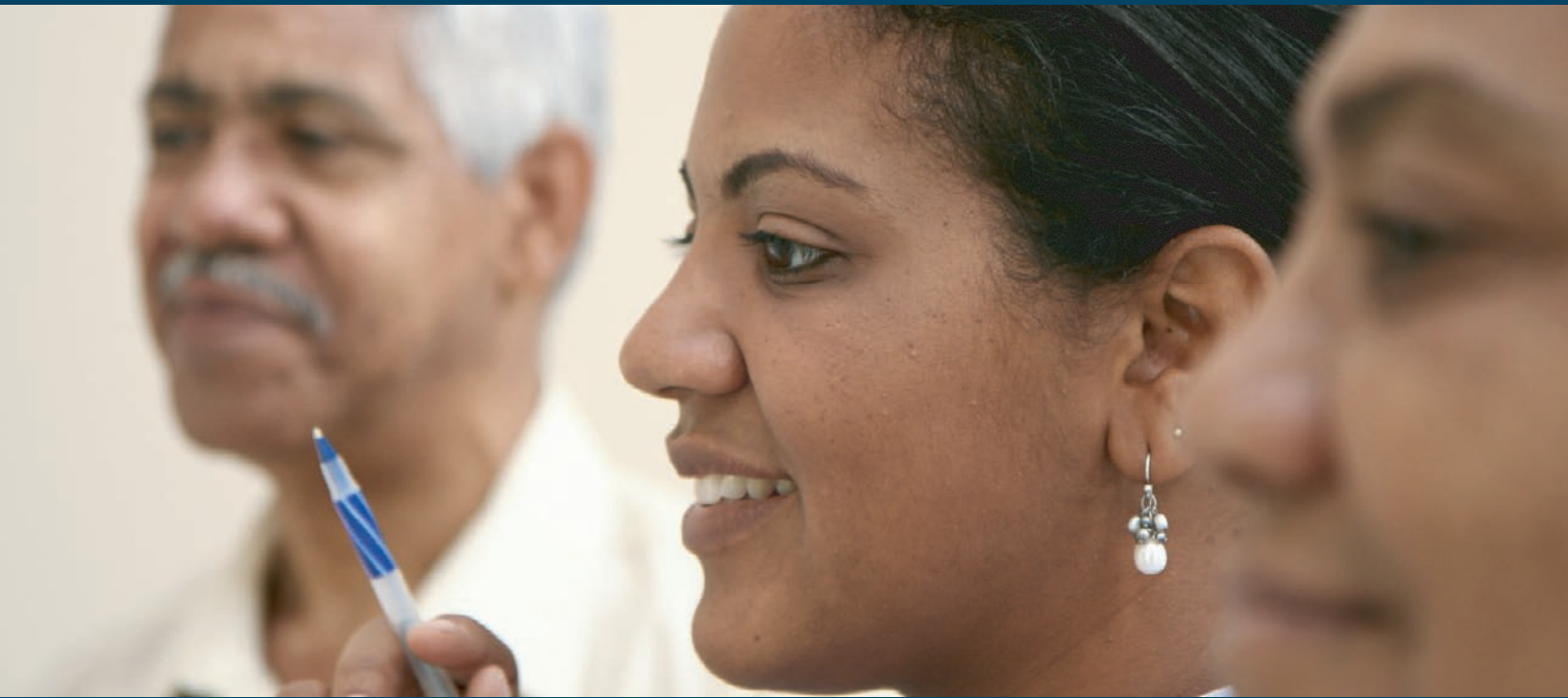




SECOND ANNUAL  
NATIONAL CONFERENCE  
ON HEALTH DISPARITIES

**DECEMBER 4-7, 2008**



University of the Virgin Islands  
St. Croix Campus  
No. 2 Golden Grove  
Kingshill, St. Croix 00850  
US Virgin Islands

**IMPROVING OUR HEALTH. ENHANCING OUR LIVES.**



## OVERVIEW

### SECOND ANNUAL NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON HEALTH DISPARITIES

Millions of Americans – primarily racial and ethnic minorities, those who reside in rural areas and residents of the territories – suffer disproportionate impacts from various diseases and conditions. The causes of these disparities often are easier to identify than to resolve. Minority, low-income and rural residents account for more than half of the “un” and “under” insured people in our nation. Their communities typically lack the resources and capacity to offer a full array of client-centered health services. Because they cannot gain access to affordable, high-quality care, many Americans experience premature death and disproportionate disability from preventable, treatable and manageable causes.

The University of the Virgin Islands (St. Croix Campus) is the site of the Second Annual National Conference on Health Disparities. While many think of the Virgin Islands as “an American Paradise,” residents face serious health-related and economic challenges. In the U.S. Virgin Islands, the poverty rate is 27.4% for individuals and 21.5% for families. This is in contrast to 12.3% for all persons in the US. (US Bureau of Statistics, 2006).

The second National Conference comes at a time when our country is poised for change, and there is a growing consensus and determination for reform of our country’s broken healthcare system. Participants in the first National Conference on Health Disparities, held in 2007 in Charleston, SC, grappled with a number of fundamental health disparity issues: Where have we made progress? Where have we lagged behind? What should be our way forward? For the Second Annual National Conference, this conversation continues with new urgency and hope.

The Conference will begin with an overview of health disparity issues and conclude with recommendations for and by community advocates, business and political leaders and public policy makers of the best and most effective tools – both current and envisioned – to eliminate health disparities in our nation. Speakers and panelists will provide historical context for the causes of health disparities in America, then highlight initiatives that are making a difference.

The Conference offers an extraordinary opportunity for a diverse group to interact, collaborate and form a vision for the future. We expect conference participants to leave St. Croix prepared and motivated to ensure that the elimination of health disparities is a central part of our nation’s health care agenda!



## Sponsors



CARIBBEAN EXPLORATORY  
NCMHD RESEARCH CENTER

National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities



## Co-Sponsors (partial list):



ENHANCING OUR LIVES



## Thursday, December 4, 2008

### **Pre-conference Roundtable**

- 9 am **Registration/Continental Breakfast:**  
Location – TBD
- 10 am **Welcome**  
Dr. Gloria Callwood, Director – Caribbean Exploratory Research Center (CERC), Principal Investigator, University of the Virgin Islands (UVI), St. Thomas, Virgin Islands  
  
Topic: UVICERC Caribbean Exploratory Research Center
- 10:15 am **Introduction/Overview of Pre-conference Roundtable**  
Dr. Derrick C. Tabor, Director, Centers of Excellence Program, National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NCMHD)/National Institute of Health (NIH), Bethesda, MD
- 11 am **Keynote Speaker**  
Dr. Garth Graham, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Minority Health, Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, DC  
*Questions and Answers*
- 11:45 am **LUNCH**
- 1 pm **Workshop I** -- Culturally Competent Research, Location - TBD  
**Workshop Leader:** Dr. Eugene Tull, Territorial Epidemiologist, Virgin Islands Department of Health, Virgin Islands
- 2 pm **Workshop II** – Community-Based Participatory Research, Location - TBD  
**Workshop Leader:** Dr. Pat Archibald or Dr. Miyong Kim, Professor, Department of Community and Public Health, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD
- 3 pm **Closing and Summary**  
TBA
- 6-9 pm **Reception**  
Location – Historic Frederiksted Fort
- 6:30 pm **Welcome/Greetings**  
Dr. LaVerne E. Ragster, President, University of Virgin Islands (UVI), St. Croix, United States Virgin Islands (US VI)  
  
Dr. Raymond S. Greenberg, President, Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC), Charleston, SC  
  
The Honorable John P. deJongh, Jr., Governor, United States United States Virgin Islands  
  
The Honorable Usie Richards, President, United States Virgin Islands Legislature  
  
Congressman James E. Clyburn, South Carolina District Six and Majority Whip, US Congress

\*All Congressional Members (in attendance)



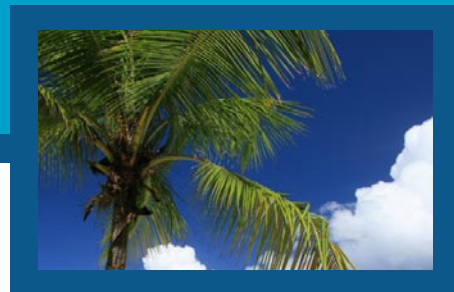


## Friday, December 5, 2008

- 8 am           **Registration/Breakfast**
- 8:45 am       **Posting of Colors**  
Invocation
- 9 am           **Greetings**  
Dr. LaVerne E. Ragster, President, UVI, St. Croix, Virgin Islands  
  
Dr. Raymond S. Greenberg, President, MUSC, Charleston, SC
- 9:30 am       **Keynote Speaker**  
Dr. Rodney G. Hood, President, Multicultural Independent Physician Association,  
San Diego, CA  
Questions and Answers
- 10 am          **BREAK**
- 10:15 am      **I. National Health Disparities Overview**  
Moderator: Dr. Gloria Callwood, Director – Caribbean Exploratory Research Center,  
Principal Investigator, UVI, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands  
  
Presenter: Dr. John Ruffin, Director, National Center on Minority Health and Health  
Disparities, Washington, DC
- 10:40 am      **II. Faces of Health Disparities in the U.S.**  
Moderator: Congresswoman Donna M. Christensen, Delegate, United States Virgin Islands  
  
Panel:  
Mr. Michael Bird, Public Health Consultant, Santo Domingo/Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo, Albuquerque, NM  
  
Dr. Marjorie Innocent, Vice President, Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Washington, DC  
  
Dr. Ho Luong Tran, President and CEO, Asian Pacific Islander American Health Forum,  
San Francisco, CA  
  
Dr. Jane L. Delgado, President and CEO National Alliance For Hispanic Health, Washington, DC  
*Questions and Answers*
- 11:25 am      **III. Caribbean Health Disparities Overview**  
Moderator: Dr. Sabra C. Slaughter, Chief of Staff, Office of the President and Principal  
Investigator of Project EXPORT Center, MUSC, Charleston, SC  
  
Presenter: Ms. Mirta Roses Periago, Director, Pan American Health Organization, Washington, DC  
*Questions and Answers*







## Friday, December 5, 2008 Continued

- 11:55 am **IV. Virgin Islands Health Disparities Overview**  
Moderator: Ms. Denyce E. Singleton, Virgin Islands State Director,  
American Association of Retired Persons, United States Virgin Islands
- Presenter: Commissioner Vivian Ebbesen-Fludd, Commissioner of Health,  
St. Croix, Virgin Islands  
*Questions and Answers*
- 12:30 pm **LUNCH**  
**The Impact of Climate Change on Health Disparities**  
**Speaker: TBD**
- 1:45 pm **V. Overview of Work of UVI Caribbean Exploratory Research Center**  
Dr. Gloria Callwood, Director – Caribbean Exploratory Research Center,  
Principal Investigator, University of the Virgin Islands, St. Thomas, VI
- 2 pm **VI. University of Virgin Islands Caribbean Exploratory Research Center Projects,  
Caribbean Exploratory Research Center**  
Moderator: Dr. Gloria Callwood
- Panel:  
\*Topic: Breast Cancer  
\*Topic: Diabetes  
\*Topic: Violence against Women  
\*Topic: Women's Health  
*Questions and Answers*
- 2:45 pm **BREAK**
- 3 pm **VII. Virgin Islands Community Models that Work**  
Moderator: Ms. Fern Laborde, Executive Director, American Cancer Society,  
United States Virgin Islands, St. Thomas, VI
- Panelists:  
Ms. Barbara Lee Jackson, Executive Director, Virgin Islands Perinatal, Inc., Christiansted, VI
- Ms. Lillian Sutherland, Director, Minority Organ Tissue Transplant Education Program, St. Croix, VI
- Ms. Judy Bain, Director, 10,000 Helpers, St. Croix, VI
- Rev. Jeremiah Martinez, Ministerio Evangelistico LS, Inc.,  
St. Thomas, United States Virgin Islands  
*Questions and Answers*
- 4 pm **VIII. Summary and Closing**  
Congresswoman Donna Christensen, Delegate, United States Virgin Islands
- 4:30 – 5 pm **Transportation to Hotels via Busses**
- 6 pm – Until **Christiansted Jump Up**



## Saturday, December 6, 2008

- 9 am           **Moderator:** TBD
- 9:05 am       **I. Greetings**  
Mrs. Cecile deJongh, First Lady, United States Virgin Islands
- Dr. Carolyn Barley Britton, President, National Medical Association, Washington, DC
- Dr. Debra A. Toney, President, National Black Nurses Association, Silver Spring, MD
- Dr. Elena Rios, President and CEO, National Hispanic Medical Association, Washington, DC
- 10 am         **II. Keynote Speaker: Overcoming Legal Barriers to the Elimination of Health Disparities**  
Mr. Tom Perez, Esquire, Secretary, Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation, Baltimore, MD
- 10:30 am      **BREAK**
- 10:45 am      **III. National Community Models that Work**  
Moderator: Ms. Amelia Headley- Lamont, Esquire, Executive Director, Protection and Advocacy Agency, Disability Rights Center of the Virgin Islands, St. Croix, VI
- Panelists:
- Ms. Latonya Chavis, Director, Charlotte REACH 2010 Coalition, Charlotte, NC
- Dr. Debra Furr-Holden, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, MD
- National Native American AIDS Prevention Center, Geoffrey Roth (Standing Rock Sioux), President, Denver, CO
- Promotores de Salud, Sana La Rana Project, Speaker: TBD
- Dr. Moses Williams, Director, Physician Scientist Training Program
- Dr. Carlos Salinas, Professor and Director/Division Craniofacial Genetics, College of Dental Medicine/Pediatric Dentistry/Orthodontics, Medical University of South Carolina: The Impact on Diabetes of Dental Project in Rural South Carolina
- Mr. Charles Myrick, President and CEO, American Consultants Rx, Inc., Atlanta, GA  
*Questions and Answers*
- 11:45 pm      **LUNCH**  
Greetings  
Mrs. Cheryl Francis, Wife of Lt. Governor Gregory Francis, St. Croix, VI
- Presentation: "Breaking Barriers" from the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Report**  
Presenter: Dr. Ivory Toldson, Assistant Professor, Howard University School of Education, Department of Human Development and Psychoeducational Studies: Senior Research Analyst, Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Washington, DC



## Saturday, December 6, 2008 Continued

1:15 pm

### **IV. HIV/AIDS in Minority Communities: Where Do We Go from Here?**

Moderator: Mr. Bruce Smail, CEO, Virgin Islands Community AIDS Resource and Education, Inc., Christiansted, VI

Panelists:

Dr. Golda Downer, Executive Director, National Minority AIDS Education and Training Center, Washington, DC

Mr. Phil Wilson, President & CEO, Black AIDS Institute, Los Angeles, CA

Ms. C. Virginia Fields, President & CEO, National Black Leadership Commission on AIDS, New York, NY

Ms. Ravinia Hayes-Cozier, Director of Government Relations and Public Policy, National Minority AIDS Council, Washington, DC

Ms. Perness C. Seele, Founder and CEO, Balm In Gilead, Richmond, VA  
*Questions and Answers*

2:15 pm

### **V. Health Care Reform and Closing The Disparity Gap**

Moderator: Dr. Brian Smedley, Vice President, Director of the Health Policy Institute, The Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, Washington, DC

Panelists:

Ms. Karen Ignani, President and CEO, America's Health Insurance Plans (AHIP), Washington, DC

Mr. Jeffrey B. Kindler, CEO, Chair of Board, Pfizer, New York, NY

Mr. Andy Stern, President, Service Employees International Union, Washington, DC

Dr. John O. Agwunobi or Mr. H. Lee Scott, CEO, Wal-Mart, Bentonville, AR

Ms. Audrietta Izlar, PAHM, Chairperson, National Business Group on Health, Benefits Specialist, Benefits Strategy and Design, Verizon

Mr. Rhett Dawson, President and CEO, Information Technology Industry Council  
*Questions and Answers*

3:15 pm

### **BREAK**





## Saturday, December 6, 2008 Continued

3:30 pm

### **VI. Health Equity and Justice Now: Policy/Legislative Recommendations**

Moderator: Congresswoman Donna M. Christensen, Chair, Heath Braintrust, Congressional Black Caucus Foundation

#### **Overview: Health Transition Team Leader for Incoming Administration**

Panelists:

\*Incoming Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus

\*Incoming Chair of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus

Mr. Sam Deloria (Standing Rock Sioux), Director, American Indian Law Center, Inc., Albuquerque, NM

Representative Calvin Smyre, President, National Black Caucus of State Legislatures, Washington, DC

Mayor George L. Grace, President, National Conf. of Black Mayors, St. Gabriel, Louisiana

Sir George Alleyne, Chancellor University of The West Indies, Pan America Health Organization, Washington, DC

*Questions and Answers*

4:30 pm

### **VII. Closing Remarks and Charge**

Dr. Reed V. Tuckson, Executive Vice President, Chief of Medical Affairs, United Health Group Center, Minnetonka, MN

5:00 pm

**Reception** - onsite

*NOTE: The President-Elect will be invited to address the conference.*

*Conference dates are confirmed, however, schedule and speakers are subject to change.*



## Hotel Information:

BUCCANEER HOTEL  
Ms. Nadia Bougouneau  
Contact #: 340-712-2100  
nadia.bougouneau@thebuccaneer.com  
www.thebuccaneer.com

Ms. Vicki Locke  
Contact #: 340-712-2100  
vicki.locke@thebuccaneer.com

KING CHRISTIAN HOTEL  
Mr. Earl Powell, General Manager  
Contact#: 340-773-6330  
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HOTEL CARAVELLE on ST. CROIX  
Ms. Joycelyn Kirby  
Contact#: 340-773-0687  
joycelyn@hotelcaravelle.com  
www.hotelcaravelle.com

KING'S ALLEY HOTEL  
Mr. Eulston Jeffers, Manager  
Contact#: 340-773-0103

## Airline Information:

In order to receive the discount rate when making your airline reservations with American Airlines, mention or enter the following promotion code: A31N8AT, which is valid from November 25 – December 13, 2008 for travel to St. Croix, Virgin Islands - STX. The phone number for American Airlines is 1-800-433-1790, and the website address is <http://www.aa.com/>. For international originating guests, they will need to call their local reservations number and refer to the promotion code.

## For More Information Contact:

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Phone: 843-792-5546

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tdecas1@uvi.edu  
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340-693-1148 (fax)

Ms. Sherry Barnaby  
sabarnaby@yahoo.com  
340-474-4269 (p)

# CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

## ATTENDEE INFORMATION

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Position/Title \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Organization Representing \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

Province/State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Alt Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

## CONFERENCE SECTION

Registration begins: **September 5, 2008 and ends on November 3, 2008**

Registration Fee: \$75.00 Conference Flat Rate (US DOLLARS ONLY)

Days attending Conference:  All three days  Day one  Day two  Day three

By checking this box I agree to the terms and conditions of the cancellation and refund policy. Cancellations must be received in writing and subject to a \$15 cancellation fee. No refunds will be given after November 14, 2008. Refunds will be processed after the Conference. No refunds will be given to no-shows. A returned check fee of \$30 will be assessed for all returned checks.

## PAYMENT INFORMATION

Registration forms received w/o payment will not be processed until payment is received. Make Checks Payable to National Health Disparities Conference (US DOLLARS ONLY).

Send Check and Money Order payments to:  
UVI-CELL, #2 John Brewers Bay, St. Thomas, VI 00802

Payment Type:  Check  Credit Card  Money Order **NO CASH OPTION**

Credit Card Type \_\_\_\_\_ Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's Name \_\_\_\_\_ (as it appears on credit card)

Exp Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Verification Code \_\_\_\_\_ Billing Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

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