



West Jefferson County Community Task Force

Welcome to the
West Jefferson County Community Task Force
2nd Annual Environmental Justice Conference
Arnita Gadson, Executive Director

Environmental Justice Health Conference

November 28, 2017



Simmons College of Kentucky
1000 So. 4th Street
Louisville, Kentucky 40203
Dr. Kevin Cosby, President

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As Executive Director of the West Jefferson County Community Task Force (Task Force), I thank the Board for their support and perseverance. For all who have supported us now or in the past, we are deeply grateful.

Twenty years is not long in the fight to define, environmental justice, injustice, equity or inequity, equality or inequality. Our history leaves a legacy of disproportionate and disadvantaged exposures for many, to air emissions, water and soil pollutants, leading to disproportionate negative health effects, including stress levels that perpetrate our very existence in negative ways

The legacy will continue as long as Environmental Justice (EJ) consideration for community values, pride, culture and economic benefit are placed second to the bottom line of emerging technology and businesses. Robotics replacing man, new ways of learning, quantity vs. quality, the race for control vs. outcome, disregarding consequences, stem from demands we as consumers require, allowing ourselves to become complacent to the physical world around us, not realizing that we all have three things in common, the air we breathe, the water we consume and the soil that sustains us.

Consumer vs. demand, is that where we start or where we end?

Arnita Gadson, Executive Director

The West Jefferson County Community Task Force would like to thank you for your support, participation and attendance.

Looking forward our 3rd year, 2018 conference!

www.wjcctf.com

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9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Registration
7:45 - 8:45 a.m.

Continental Breakfast
7:30 - 8:30 a.m.

Opening	Arnita Gadson, Executive Director WJCCTF	9:00 — 9:15
Welcome	Dr. Kevin J. Cosby, President Simmons College of Kentucky	9:15 — 9:20
	Councilman David James District 6	9:20 — 9:30
What is Environmental Justice?	Tom Fitzgerald, Executive Director Kentucky Resource Council	9:35 — 9:55
Louisville Metro Health and Wellness	Center for Health Equity	10:00—10:20
Questions and Discussion		10:20—10:30
Louisville Metro Health and Wellness	Connie Mendel Environmental Health Administrator	10:30—10:50
Questions and Discussion		10:50—11:00
Break		11:00—11:15
Indoor Asthma Study U of L School of Nursing	Barbara Polivka, PhD, RN	11:15—11:35
Questions and Discussion		11:35—11:45
Cardiovascular Disease U of L School of Medicine	Daniel Conklin, PhD	11:45—12:15
Questions and Discussion		12:15—12:30
Lunch		12:30—1:30

PROGRAM (CONTINUED)

Metropolitan Sewer District	Brian Bingham Chief of Operations	1:30—1:50
Questions and Discussion		1:50—2:00
Dental Health: The Issues Park DuValle Health Center	Tonda Helton, DMD Rodshay Brooks, RDH Adrienne Matthews, EDDA	2:00—2:30
Questions and Discussion		2:30—3:00
Cancer KentuckyOne Health	Wayne Tuckson, MD Colorectal Surgeon	3:00—3:20
Questions and Discussion		3:20—3:30
Panel		3:30—3:40
Wrap up		3:40—4:00

The West Jefferson County Community Task Force mission is to provide study, research and valid information that will empower residents to be a structural part of proactive change in our community.

The air has no borders.
If we do not take ownership and care of our environment,
the reality that may become common to all,
is non-existence.

Environmental Stewardship has a name. Is it yours?

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE HEALTH CONFERENCE PRESENTERS



Tom (“Fitz”) FitzGerald has been Director of the Kentucky Resources Council since 1984. KRC is a non-profit environmental advocacy organization providing free legal, strategic and policy assistance to individuals, organizations and communities concerning environmental quality and resource extraction issues. From 1973 through 1976, Fitz lived part-time in Berea, Kentucky and staffed the Council of Southern Mountains bookstore. From 1980 until 1984, Fitz was a staff attorney and environmental specialist with the Appalachian Research and Defense Fund of Kentucky’s Lexington office. Fitz received his Juris Doctor from the UK College of Law in 1980 (Order of the Coif) and was a Reginald Heber Smith Community Lawyer Fellow from 1980-1982. He is an alumni of Roger Williams College (now University), Bristol, Rhode Island with a B.A. in American Studies with distinction. Fitz was appointed by President Barack Obama as one of three Federal Commissioners to the Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission (ORSANCO) in 2014. He received the Environmental Quality Commission Lifetime Achievement Award in 2002; the Henry R. Heyburn Public Service Award, UK College of Law in 2003, the Kentucky Nature Preserves Commission Biological Diversity Award in 2003, the inaugural Professional Achievement Award from the University of Kentucky College of Law Alumni Association in 2008, and the 14th Heinz Award in the Environment Category in 2008. He was named a “Connector” by the Louisville Leadership Center in 2010, and was named a “SuperLawyer” in 2010 and 2012 by his peers in the areas of environmental, energy and land use law. He received the 2012 Brennan-Haly Award from the University of Louisville, Department of Political Science, and the Dean’s Service Award from the Brandeis School of Law in 2015.



Connie Mendel is the Environmental Health Administrator with the Louisville Metro Department of Public Health and Wellness. Connie earned an undergraduate degree from the University of South Carolina. She is currently pursuing a Masters of Public Health at the University of Louisville School of Public Health. She spent six years with a flavoring manufacturer in Louisville KY, supervising their chemistry and microbiology laboratories. Connie has worked on a variety of environmental public health issues. A few of her activities include: Responding to the West Nile and Zika virus outbreaks through mosquito control and vector borne disease surveillance, developing and delivering the CDC’s Environmental Health Training in Emergency Response (EHTER) Course, developing guidelines for public health’s role in responding to methamphetamine-clandestine drug laboratories, multi-chemical train derailments and emergency response to anthrax and other biological agents.



Barbara Polivka, PhD, RN is a Professor at the University Louisville School of Nursing and holds the Shirley B. Powers Endowed Chair in Nursing. She earned a PhD in Nursing from The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH and a BSN and MSN from University of Cincinnati. Her educational interests include Healthy Homes Education, Disaster Preparedness, Health Disparities, Health Policy and Mixed Methods Research. Her research interests include Environmental Health (Healthy Homes, Poison Prevention, Lead poisoning prevention, Health Promotion, and Reducing environmental asthma triggers). She also conducts Health Services Research including Public Health Nursing, Disaster Preparedness and Access to Care. Honors and Awards include 2011-2012 President and Provost’s Leadership Institute of Ohio State University, 2011 Healthy Homes Achievement Award from the Ohio Department of Health, 2010 College of Nursing Dean’s Strategic Award for Coordination of the College of Nursing’s conversion from quarters to semesters, 2009 Excellence in Research Award from the Association of Community Health Educators (ACHNE), and the 2007 Honor a Researcher Award from the Midwest Nursing Research Society.



Daniel J. Conklin, Ph.D., is a Professor of Medicine in the Division of Cardiovascular Medicine at the University of Louisville (Louisville, KY). He received a doctorate in cardiovascular physiology from the University of Notre Dame (1995), and he was an NIEHS-funded Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Texas Medical Branch (Galveston, TX; 1996-1998) where he trained with Dr. Paul Boor, M.D. (Dept. of Pathology) in cardiovascular toxicology. From 1998-2003, Dr. Conklin rose to Associate Professor in the Department of Biological Sciences at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.

In 2003, Dr. Conklin moved to the University of Louisville to conduct research in “Environmental Cardiology” with Drs. Aruni Bhatnagar, Ph.D. and Sanjay Srivastava, Ph.D. He currently is supported by the NIH in the Diabetes and Obesity Center (NIGMS COBRE), an EPA-funded Superfund Center, and the FDA-supported American Heart Association – Tobacco Regulation and Addiction Center (A-TRAC) where he directs the Animal Phenotyping Core and the Inhalation Facility, respectively. His research investigates the role of aldehyde metabolism in cardiovascular toxicity using animal and human studies. His current work is studying the effects of electronic cigarettes on cardiovascular health. He regularly serves as a peer reviewer for several NHLBI and NIEHS study sections, and he was chair/co-chair of an American Heart Association Great Rivers Affiliate Vascular Biology Study Section. He is an Associate Editor of *Toxicology and Applied Pharmacology* (2007-present) and *Cardiovascular Toxicology* (2009-2016), and he is on the Editorial Board of *Circulation Research* since 2015. Dr. Conklin is an author/co-author of over 90 publications including peer-reviewed articles, book chapters and invited reviews. He is an SOT member since 2001 and is Past-President of the Cardiovascular Toxicology Specialty Section (CVTSS). He is Vice-President of the Ohio Valley (OVSOT; former Councilor, Vice-President Elect on May 1st) SOT Regional Chapter, and a member of the Stem Cell (SCSS) and the Inhalation and Respiratory Specialty Sections (IRSS; former Councilor).



Brian Bingham, Chief of Operations of Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD) is a valued member of the MSD C-Suite. MSD is managed by an Executive Leadership Team which includes the Executive Director, Chief Engineer and Chief Financial Officer, who are appointed by the Louisville Metro Mayor. The Executive Leadership Team meets regularly to review operations and strategies, to collectively discuss ongoing concerns and to determine MSD’s direction. As Chief of Operations Division, he has oversight of the Directors of Treatment Facilities, Collection Systems, Drainage and Flood Protection, Operations Support Services and Operations Performance Metrics collectively managing 450 staff.



Tonda Helton, DMD is the Dental Director for Park DuValle Community Health Center in Louisville, Kentucky and its three satellite locations providing dental services. As a Louisville native, she wanted to return home and provide dental care in her hometown. Dr. Helton received her education 60 miles east at the University of Kentucky; earning a B.S. in Nutrition in 2003 and her D.M.D. in 2007. Dr. Helton enjoys family movie and game night with her husband, son, and daughter. She hopes to inspire her children, along with other children, to pursue their dreams through hard work. In her free time, Dr Helton is active with several organizations. She serves on the board of directors for St. Vincent DePaul; and is an executive board member of the Louisville Chapter of Jack and Jill. Dr Helton is a tripartite member of ADA, Kentucky Oral Health Coalition and a member of the National Network for Oral Health Access (NNOHA).



Rodshay Brooks is a Dental Hygienist for Park DuValle Community Health Center. As a young girl, she has always been passionate about helping people physically and mentally. Ms. Brooks graduated from the University of Louisville in 2013, where she obtained a Bachelor's of Science in Dental Hygiene; along with a Communication Minor. After working for several different dental offices, she decided to commit long term to public health. Ms. Brooks enjoys quality time with her son, cooking, crafting, and walking her Cane Corso dog. In the past, she has volunteered with Remote Access Medical to render free services to underserved populations in Appalachian, KY. Ms.

Brooks also dedicates her time speaking to the teenage population where she has spoken with Central High School students and Maryhurst girls about oral hygiene techniques and health.



Adrienne Matthews is the Lead Dental Assistant for Park DuValle Community Health Center in Louisville, KY. She completed her Expanded Duty Dental Assisting studies at ATA College. Ms Matthews has attended leadership institutions to ensure that she can lead her dental team in the proper direction. In her free time, Ms Mathews enjoys traveling and going to the library with her two daughters. She also volunteers at Fuller Center for Housing to help low income families receive housing; along with serving on several committees at Greater New Beginnings Christian Church.



Wayne B. Tuckson, M.D., FACS, FASCRS is a native of Washington, D.C. and a graduate of both Howard University and the Howard University College of Medicine in Washington, D.C. He completed an internship in Obstetrics and Gynecology at the St. Louis University Hospital in St Louis, Mo., and a residency in General Surgery at Howard University Hospital. He then completed a research and clinical fellowship in colon and rectal surgery in the Department of Colon and Rectal Surgery at The Cleveland Clinic Foundation in Cleveland, Ohio. His clinical interests are in colonoscopy, the treatment of fecal incontinence, the prevention and treatment of cancer of the colon and rectum, the management of anal diseases, and the management of post-operative anal pain. Another concern of Dr. Tuckson has been

the continuing health disparity of African-Americans and those at the lower end of the socioeconomic scale. To address this disparity in Kentucky, he in 1995 organized The African-American Health Initiative, Inc. (TAAHI). The goal of TAAHI was to improve the "health IQ" of these populations believing that patients who are well informed about both normal and diseased states, as well as familiar with the causes and treatments for specific illnesses will be more responsible and better participants in their healthcare. TAAHI has sponsored conferences on topics such as cancer in the African-American community and healthy eating. To reach a broader audience TAAHI and Dr. Tuckson produced ***Kentucky Health***, a 30 minute health related show that has aired on the Kentucky Educational Television Network for the past 17 years. Dr. Tuckson is currently the president-elect president of the Greater Louisville Medical Society and is on the board of the Metro Louisville Department of Health and Wellness. A current project of Dr. Tuckson is the documentation of the role of the Louisville Red Cross Hospital and African-American healthcare during the Jim Crow era in Kentucky. He is married to Brenda Tuckson (Blanks) of Whitesboro, NJ and they have 2 sons and currently they live in Louisville, Kentucky.



WJCCTF Board of Directors



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West Jefferson County Community Task Force

(WJCCTF)

Contact: Arnita Gadson, aniah.gadson@twc.com, (502) 548-9402
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MONTHLY COMMUNITY MEETINGS

The NIA Center
2900 W. Broadway, 3rd Floor Conference Room
Refreshments 5:30 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.

Meeting 6:00 P.M. – 7:30 P. M.

The Public Is Invited to attend

Mission Statement: The Mission of the WJCCTF is to provide research and studies to validate or nullify environmental concerns and issues of residents of West Jefferson County to empower residents to make informed decisions.

**Join Us on Third Tuesdays
at the NIA Center
For Informative Presentations,
Lively Discussion, and to gain
Increased Awareness of Environmental Issues
Impacting our City, State and Country**

**The monthly community meeting Agendas
are posted on Facebook each month prior to the third Tuesday.
If a meeting is not being held or the location changes,
a notice is also posted to Facebook.**

Past Agendas may be found on our website at www.wjcctf.com

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

**The WJCCTF is a 501c3 non profit
Charitable donations are welcomed.**