

# NAESM National African American Leadership Conference on Health Disparities and Social Justice June 25-29, 2025



NAESM NATIONAL AFRICAN AMERICAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE ON HEALTH DISPARITIES AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

JUNE 25 – JUNE 29, 2025

SHERATON GATEWAY LOS ANGELES AIRPORT HOTEL

DAY	SESSION   WORKSHOP #	START TIME	END TIME	PRESENTER (S) MODERATOR	WORKSHOP TITLE
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>					
<b>SEMINAR</b> FOYER	BREAKFAST - CRIBB	8:00am	8:55am		
<b>BOARDROOM</b> 2 <sup>ND</sup> Floor	CRIBB Morning Session	9:00am	12:25pm	<b>Dempris Gasque</b> CRIBB Program Manager NAESM, Inc.	
<b>SEMINAR</b> Foyer	LUNCH – CRIBB	12:30pm	1:59pm		
<b>BOARDROOM</b> 2 <sup>ND</sup> Floor	CRIBB Afternoon Session	2:00pm	5:30pm	<b>Dempris Gasque</b> CRIBB Program Manager NAESM, Inc.	
<b>BALLROOM</b> FOYER	HISTORI REGISTRATION	12:00pm	4:00pm		
<b>GATEWAY</b>	HISTORI PROGRAM	2:00pm	5:00pm		
<b>THE BRASSERIE</b>	HISTORI RECEPTION	5:30pm	8:30pm		
<b>THURSDAY</b>					
<b>SEMINAR</b> Foyer	BREAKFAST – CRIBB	8:00am	8:55am		
<b>BOARDROOM</b> 2 <sup>ND</sup> Flor	CRIBB Morning Session	9:00am	12:00pm	<b>Dempris Gasque</b> CRIBB Program Manager NAESM, Inc.	
<b>Grand Ballroom B, C, D, E</b>	LUNCH – CRIBB	12:00pm	2:00pm		
<b>BOARDROOM</b> 2 <sup>ND</sup> Floor	CRIBB Afternoon Session	2:00pm	5:30pm	<b>Dempris Gasque</b> CRIBB Program Manager	
<b>Gateway</b>	HISTORI Breakfast	8:00am	9:30am		
<b>Gateway</b>	HISTORI	9:30am	12:30pm		

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<b>Gateway</b>	HISTORI LUNCH	12:30pm	1:30pm		
<b>Gateway</b>	HISTORI	1:30pm	5:00PM		
<b>Salon III (lobby)</b>	Speaker Ready Room	8:00am	4:00pm	Huview Productions	Audio-Visual for Presenters
<b>Seminar Room</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor	Institute I	9:00am	12:00pm	<b>Gerald Garth, MBA</b> Executive Director AMAAD Institute  <b>Diamond Xavier Paulk</b> TGI Programs Coordinator AMAAD Institute	I Am My Sister's Keeper: AMAAD Institute's Authentic Approaches to Trans* Support
<b>Room 210</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor	Institute II	9:00am	12:00pm	<b>Rev. Dr. Tommie Watkins, Jr., LMSW</b> General Manager The Watkins Group, LLC	Examining How Trauma, Religious Trauma, Stigma, and Shame Impact Spirituality, Health, and HIV Prevention
<b>Room 215</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor	Institute III	9:00am	12:00pm	<b>Dr. R. Wayne Woodson, Ph.D.</b> Acting Executive Director & CEO NAESM, Inc.	Power, Purpose, Philanthropy: A Fundraising Blueprint for Black Public Health Workers
<b>Room 214</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor	Institute IV	9:00am	12:00pm	<b>Dominique Morgan</b> Artist, Activist, Philanthropic Changemaker  <b>The Halo Academy</b>	Funding the Symptoms, Missing the Cause: A Wake-Up Call for Donors
<b>Grand Ballroom Foyer</b>	LUNCH	12:00pm	2:00pm		
<b>Grand Ballroom</b> A & F	EXHIBIT EXPO	2:00pm	5:30pm	<b>Official Exhibit Opening By NAESM Prevention</b>	
<b>Room 210</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor	Workshop I	3:30pm	5:00pm	<b>Quami Crawford</b> Owner Trans Machine Production	Getting to The ART of things.
<b>Room 211</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor	Workshop II	3:30pm	5:00pm	<b>Nevaeh Anderson</b> Project PREFERRED Lead Sister Love, Inc.	Project PROFERRED: How Sister Love is aiding in the fight for Transgender and Gender Diverse Equity



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				<b>Reyna Patterson</b> Research Specialist Sister Love, Inc.	
<b>Room 215</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor	Workshop III	3:30pm	5:00pm	<b>Mallery Jenna Robinson, BA</b> Trainer Transgender Excellence Academy	Transgender Empathy Training
<b>Room 214</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor	Workshop IV	3:30pm	5:00pm	<b>Antwone Williams-Rowans</b> Linkage Manager NAESM, Inc.	Empowering Faith Leaders to Combat HIV Stigma and Support Prevention Efforts
<b>Room 212</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor	Workshop V	3:30pm	5:00pm	<b>Gillette Harris</b> Program Coordinator Us Helping Us People into Living	Strutting for Our Healing: The Transformative Power of Ballroom for Black Queer Folx
<b>Room 217</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor	Workshop VI	3:30pm	5:00pm	<b>Laura Bogart</b> Senior Behavioral Scientist/Professor RAND/Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science  <b>Damone R. Thomas</b> Executive Director HEALING with HOPE Corporation  <b>Cheryl L. Bedford</b> Founder Women of Color Unite  <b>Dr. Kathleen Goggin</b> Researcher Professor Department of Psychology San Diego State University	Training Videos for Rise, and Evidence-Based Adherence Intervention for Black Clients

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				<b>Ian Klinger</b> Study Coordinator APLA Health	
<b>Room 219</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor	Workshop VII	3:30pm	5:00pm	<b>Antonio Newman Jr., MBA</b> Assistant Executive Director This is Your Moment Network  <b>Alphonso Mills</b> Executive Director This is Your Moment Network	We're Going Viral: Launching This is Your Moment (TiYM) Network Multimedia for Health, Culture, & Change
<b>Seminar Room</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor	Workshop VIII	5:00pm	6:30pm	<b>Hakim Asadi, LMSW</b> Mental Health, Substance Use Counselor NAESM, Inc.  <b>James Williams-Woods, III, MSW</b> Quality Management Manager NAESM, Inc.	Self-Efficacy and Resilience in Advocacy
<b>Gateway Ballroom Lobby Level</b>	Sponsored by: Department of African and African Studies at WashU	6:30pm	8:00pm	<b>Moderator:</b> <b>Dr. Marlon M. Bailey, Ph.D., MFA</b> NAESM Board Chair NAESM, Inc. Professor and Associate Chair Department of African and American Studies Professor, Department of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies	Ending the Criminalization of HIV, Homelessness and Our LGBTQIA+ Identities



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				<p>Affiliate Faculty, Center for the Study of Race, Ethnicity, and Equity (CRE2) Washington University, St. Louis</p> <p><i>Panelists:</i> Marissa Miller Founder TransSolutions</p> <p>Sean Ebony Coleman Founder &amp; CEO Destination Tomorrow</p> <p>Morris Singletary Executive Director The PoZitive2PoSitive Initiative</p>	
The Brasserie Pool Area	OPENING RECEPTION	8:00pm	10:00pm		
<b>FRIDAY</b>					
<b>Grand Ballroom B, C, D, E</b>	SESSION I	8:30am	8:59am		
				<p><b>John Patton</b> Vice Chair, Board of Directors NAESM, Inc.</p>	Welcome Remarks
<b>Grand Ballroom B, C, D, E</b>	BREAKFAST   PLENARY   General Session	9:00am	10:30am	<p><i>Moderator:</i> <b>Dr. R. Wayne Woodson, Ph.D.</b> Acting Executive Director &amp; CEO NAESM, Inc.</p> <p><i>Panelists:</i> <b>Alphonso Mills</b> Executive Director</p>	Mobilizing a Media Militia

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				<p>TiYM Network</p> <p><b>K. Keith</b> Editor in Chief &amp; CEO Gaye Magazine</p> <p><b>David Brandyn</b> Program Coordinator Los Angeles LGBT Center South</p>	
	SESSION II	10:45am	12:15pm		
<b>Room 214</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor	Workshop IX			<p><b>Gerald Garth, MBA</b> Executive Director AMAAD Institute</p> <p><b>Chanel Lumiere</b> Housing Program Manager AMAAD Institute</p>	AMAAD Institute: Navigating Housing for Black LGBTQ+ Angelenos
<b>Room 211</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor	Workshop X			<p><b>Christian D. Green, M.A.</b> Professor Sanctuary of Hope</p> <p><b>Dr. Donta Morrison, Ph.D.</b> Executive Director Red Rainbow</p>	Your Trophy is Not Your Pillow
<b>Room 212</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor	Workshop XI			<p><b>Justin Smith, MS, MPH</b> Director, Campaign to End AIDS Positive Impact Health Center</p> <p><b>Devin English, Ph.D.</b> Assistant Professor Rutgers School of Public Health</p>	A Portal to Connection and Community: The Development of NPOWER365 – An App to Promote Flourishing among Black Same Gender Loving Men



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				<b>Emmanuel Chavez</b> Research Coordinator Rutgers School of Public Health	
<b>Room 215</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor	Workshop XII			<b>Timothy D. Jefferson, HS-BCP</b> Director of Housing Services JASMYN	Navigating Homelessness in the Black LGBTQ+ Experience
<b>Room 217</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor	Workshop XIII			<b>Francisco Caro</b> Programs Manager Equitas Health	Make Space & Take Space: Creating/Mobilizing Affinity Spaces to Address Health disparities amongst marginalized groups.
<b>Room 210</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor	Workshop XIV			<b>J. Christopher Johnson, BA</b> Executive Director Mobilizing Millennials Organization	Mobilizing Action: Strategies for Building Effective Advocacy Movements
<b>Room 219</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor	Workshop XV			<b>Robert L. Miller Jr., PhD., M.Phil., LMSW</b> Professor, University of Albany	HIV + BGM Discernment on long term treatment options
	<b>SESSION II</b>	<b>12:30pm</b>	<b>2:00pm</b>		
<b>Grand Ballroom</b> B, C, D, E	LUNCH   PLENARY II Powered by Gilead Sciences			<p><i>Moderator:</i> <b>Gerald Garth, MBA</b> Executive Director AMAAD Institute</p> <p><i>Panelists:</i> <b>Gabriel Maldonado, MBA</b> Founder and CEO TruEvolution</p> <p><b>Derrick Butler, MD, MPH</b> Chief Medical Officer To Help Everyone (T.H.E.) Health and Wellness Centers</p> <p><b>Leon Maultsby, DBH</b></p>	Rising to the Challenge: Black Leadership and Advocacy in Shaping Equitable Systems for HIV Treatment and Prevention

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				Faculty Instructor and Associate Director Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science	
	SESSION IV	2:15pm	3:45pm		
<b>Room 210</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor	Workshop XVI			<b>William Wheaton, BS</b> Assistant Director of Prevention Services Positive Impact Health Centers  <b>Nakysa Hoskins</b> Prevention Program Manager, Positive Impact Health Centers	Crossing The Burning Sands of Innovation by Reimaging Outreach
<b>Room 211</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor	Workshop XVII			<b>Sara Habibipour</b> Health Matters Clinic  <b>Erica Robinson</b> Health Matters Clinic	Understanding Healthcare Access and Experiences in Skid Row, Los Angeles
<b>Room 214</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor	Workshop XVIII			<b>Dr. Nathaniel Currie, DSW, MSW, LCSW</b> Psychotherapist NAESM, Inc.  <b>Robert Suttle</b> Principal Consultant Robert Suttle Consulting	How HIV Criminalization Creates, Triggers, and Perpetuates Black Male Trauma
<b>Room 217</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor	Workshop XIX			<b>Christine Easley, MSW, LSW</b> Mental Health Clinician Step Up Inc.  <b>Michael Martin Drain, MS, BA</b> President & CEO Step Up Inc.	Bridging the Gap: The Role of Black Female Clinicians in Addressing Mental Health, HIV, and Reentry Disparities in Indiana



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<b>Room 212</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor	Workshop XX			<b>Dr. R. Wayne Woodson, Ph.D.</b> Acting Executive Director & CEO NAESM, Inc.	Influencers for Health: Engaging Content Creators, Sex Workers, and Social Media Advocates to Normalize PrEP and HIV Care
	<b>SESSION V</b>	<b>4:00pm</b>	<b>6:00pm</b>	<b>POSTER PRESENTATIONS</b>	
<b>Grand A &amp; F</b> Lobby Level	POSTER I			<b>Phillip Rideoutt</b> Manager NASTAD  <b>Isabel Lechuga</b> Associate Director NASTAD	Using Lived Experience to Mobilize Viral Hepatitis and Harm Reduction Community Advocacy
<b>Grand A &amp; F</b> Lobby level	Poster II			<b>Keyanna Taylor, MPH, MS</b> Epidemiologist Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Division of HIV and STD Programs  <b>Lauren Simao, MS</b> EHE Program Manager Los Angeles County Division of HIV and STD Programs	Feel well, Live well, Expand Options (FLEX) Card Program: Health impacts of a modified guaranteed income program for people with HIV (PWH).
<b>Grand A &amp; F</b> Lobby level	Poster III			<b>Eden Moore</b> Graduate Student Researcher UCLA Fielding School of Public Health	Recent Incarceration and HIV viral load and care engagement in a national virtual cohort
<b>Concourse D</b> Lobby level	<b>SOCIAL HAPPY HOUR</b>				
<b>Gateway Ballroom</b> (lobby level)	<b><i>All the Broken Pieces Documentary</i></b>	6:00 PM	7:30 PM	Marissa M. Miller	The Story of a Black Trans Woman Living with HIV & Her Journey to Freedom  Known for her groundbreaking work in HIV prevention, Marissa M. Miller is a trailblazing transgender woman, a renowned advocate for transgender rights, and a

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					respected leader in public health & social justice. "All the Broken Pieces" doesn't just tell Marissa's story, it offers viewers an inspiring story that demonstrates a pursuit of stable housing, access to medication, and is a universal call for equity.
<b>Gateway Ballroom</b> (lobby level)	Phag Talk <i>LA Premier</i>	8:30pm	10:00pm	T.S. Madison	Open to Public – ticketed event
<b>SATURDAY</b>					
	<b>SESSION VI</b>	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>10:30am</b>		
<b>Grand Ballroom B, C, D, E</b>	BREAKFAST   PLENARY III			<p><i>Moderators:</i>  <b>Dr. R. Wayne Woodson, Ph.D.</b>  Acting Executive Director &amp; CEO  NAESM, Inc.</p> <p><b>Monroe Alise</b>  Engagement Manager  NAESM, Inc.</p> <p><i>Panelists:</i>  <b>Amari McGee</b>  Founder  To Better Understand, Inc.</p> <p><b>2AM Ricky</b>  Recording Artist, Songwriter,  Activist</p>	Rewriting Masculinity: Trans Men, Safety, and the Power of Showing Up
	<b>SESSION VII</b>	<b>10:45am</b>	<b>12:15pm</b>		
<b>Room 210</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor	Workshop XXI			<b>Garrett Mason</b> Dancer & Creative Director	Art as Therapy: How Movement Heals and Can Be Used to Advocate



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				Legend Elite	
<b>Room 211</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor	Workshop XXII			<b>Brian Ragas</b> Director, Black Health San Francisco AIDS Foundation	Syndemic Approaches to HIV Prevention & Care: Integrating Psychosocial Support, Substance Use, and Mental Health for Black MSM in San Francisco
<b>Room 214</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor	Workshop XXIII			<b>Dr. Donta Morrison, Ph.D.</b> Community Strategist Donta Morrison, LLC  <b>Martinez Sellers, MFT</b> CEO Marsell Wellness Center	The Impact of Intimate Partner Violence on HIV Care Access
<b>Room 215</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor	Workshop XXIV			<b>Kytara Epps</b> Public Health and Advocacy Strategist Center for HIV Law and Policy  <b>Chauncey McGlathery, J.D.</b> Public Policy Director American Academy of HIV Medicine  <b>Andre C. Wade, MPA</b> State Director Silver State Equality Institute	Pushing Health Departments to Address the Public Health Threat of HIV Criminalization
<b>Room 217</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor	Workshop XXV			<b>C. Jerome Woods, M.A.</b> Founding Director Black LGBT Project	My Life, My Story: The Truth and Transparency of Who I Am
<b>Room 212</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor	Workshop XXVI			<b>Travii Walker</b> Prevention Coordinator NAESM, Inc.	The Legendary Haus of Chosen Family
	SESSION VIII	12:30pm	2:00pm		
<b>Grand Ballroom B, C, D, E</b>	LUNCH   PLENARY IV			<i>Moderator:</i> <b>Dr. R. Wayne Woodson, Ph.D.</b> Acting Executive Director & CEO	Healing the House: Ending the Silos that Divide and Harm Us

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			<p>NAESM, Inc.</p> <p><i>Panelists:</i></p> <p><b>Dr. Marlon M. Bailey, Ph.D., MFA</b> NAESM Board Chair NAESM, Inc. Professor and Associate Chair Department of African and American Studies Professor, Department of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Affiliate Faculty, Center for the Study of Race, Ethnicity, and Equity (CRE2) Washington University, St. Louis</p> <p><b>Diamond Xavier Paulk</b> TGI Program Coordinator The AMAAD Institute West coast Mother Miyake Mugler</p> <p><b>Travii Walker</b> Prevention Manager NAESM, Inc. Cast Member: Legendary on HBO Max – Season 3 Muva Pink of Old Navy</p> <p><b>Antwone Williams-Rowans</b> Linkage Manager NAESM, Inc.</p>	
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**Saturday, June 28, 2025**

				Legendary Founding Overall Overseer, the House of Mike Amiri	
	SESSION IX	2:15pm	3:45pm		
<b>Room 210</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor	Workshop XXVII			<b>Stephen Williamston, Jr.</b> Founder Global P3, LLC	The Role of Spirituality in Healing
<b>Room 211</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor	Workshop XXVIII			<b>Gerald Garth, MBA</b> Interim Associate Pastor Vision Church Los Angeles	Vision Church of Los Angeles: At the Intersections of Care
<b>Room 212</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor	Workshop XXIX			<b>John Anthony Fuller, BS</b> Ph.D. Student Neil Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing Emory University	Centering the Margins: Advancing Cancer Screening and Prevention for Black Same Gender Loving People Living with HIV
<b>Room 215</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor	Workshop XXX			<b>Stewart Marshall Gulley</b> Director Helping In Your Own Back Yard	Stay in Your Own Lane: Unlocking Purpose, Power, and Prosperity Through Focus
<b>Room 214</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor	Workshop XXXI			<b>Ryan Dunston</b> Program Coordinator APLA Health	Black Queer Talk (BQT): Building Safe, Empowering, and Sex-Positive Spaces for Black Queer Men
<b>Room 219</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor	Workshop XXXII			<b>Kyle Gordon, MHA</b> Project Manager HIV Vaccines Trials Network  <b>Dr. Daniel Driffin, DrPH, MPH</b> Project Manager HIV Vaccines Trials Network  <b>Louis Shackelford, MPH</b> Director of External Relations HIV Vaccines Trials Network	Reducing HIV through Community Engagement and Broadly Neutralizing Antibodies (bnAbs)

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Room 214 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor	Workshop XXXIII	6:00pm	7:30pm	CRIBB PROJECT PRESENTATIONS	
	SESSION X	4:00pm	6:00pm		
Concourse D Lobby level	SOCIAL HAPPY HOUR				
	Private Board Chair and Executive Director Reception	7:00pm	9:00pm		
SUNDAY					
	SESSION XI				
The Brasserie		9:30am	10:00am	Artist Performance by Callie Day	Take Me To Church
The Brasserie	BRUNCH   PLENARY V	10:00am	12:00pm	Dempris Gasque CRIBB Program Manager NAESM, Inc.	Welcoming and Honoring a New Generation of Leaders
The Pool Area	PRIDE Pool Party	12:00pm	4:00pm		Show Your Pride