

**June 9-10, 2025**  
New Orleans, LA

# Breaking the Boundaries:

Reimagining  
Research and Clinical  
Practice for a  
Healthier Tomorrow



SCAN THE QR CODE or VISIT  
[GO.UAB.EDU/BBSYMPOSIUM](https://go.uab.edu/bbsymposium)



## Schedule at a Glance

### Monday, June 9



**11am**

Networking  
Lunch



**12pm**

Keynote  
Presentation



**1pm**

Group  
Brainstorming  
Session



**2:20pm**

Trainee  
Presentations



**3:45pm**

Panel  
Discussions

### Tuesday, June 10



**7am**

Networking  
Breakfast



**8am**

World Café  
Idea-thon



**11am**

Keynote  
Presentation



**11:40am**

Top 10  
Summary &  
Next Steps



**STRENGTHENING  
PATHWAYS**  
a national conversation about health research





# Breaking the Boundaries Symposium

## June 9-10, 2025 | New Orleans, LA

Astor Crowne Plaza New Orleans  
739 Canal Street, New Orleans, LA 70130

### MONDAY, JUNE 9, 2025

#### TIME SESSION

**11:30 am** Registration / Networking Luncheon

**12:30 pm** Welcome / Introductions

**Jennifer Croker, PhD**

Associate Professor of Medicine, Sr. Administrative Director, Center for Clinical & Translational Science, University of Alabama at Birmingham

**Timiya Nolan, PhD**

Associate Professor of Medicine, Director, Community Outreach & Engagement, O'Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of Alabama at Birmingham

**12:35 pm** Keynote Presentation

**Brian Rivers, PhD**

Professor of Community Health & Preventive Medicine, Director, Cancer Health Equity Institute, National Center for Primary Care, Morehouse School of Medicine

**1:10 pm** Setting the Frame: *Sailboat Anchors & Winds* (Post-it Note Brainstorming)

**Carol Agomo, PhD, MBA, MPH (moderator)**

Program Director, Heersink School of Medicine, Administrative Director, Forge AHEAD Community Outreach & Engagement, University of Alabama at Birmingham

**2:20 pm** NextGen: *Trainee Lightning Talks*

**Clifford Kennon, EdS, MPA (moderator)**

Administrative Director, Community & Stakeholder Engagement, Center for Clinical & Translational Science, University of Alabama at Birmingham

**Shyla Fields, MBA (moderator)**

Administrative Director, Health Outcomes Research Strategic Emphasis, Heersink School of Medicine, University of Alabama at Birmingham

**3:30pm** Break / Networking

**3:45 pm** Panel Session 1: *What is possible with a boost in funding centered on preventing disease and improving health outcomes from clinical encounters*

**Donna Williams, MS, MPH, DrPH (moderator)**

Professor of Community Health Science & Policy; Associate Dean for Public Health Practice and Community Engagement; Director of Louisiana Cancer Prevention & Control; LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans

**Tyra Gross, PhD, MPH**

Associate Professor and Head, Department of Public Health Sciences, Xavier University

**Steven Howard, PhD**

Associate Professor of Health Services Administration; Executive MSHA Program Director, School of Health Professions, University of Alabama at Birmingham

**Renee Hickson, MD,**

Physician, City of New Orleans Health Department

**Justin Pope**

Chief Executive Officer, Progressive Health Helena; Chair, O'Neal Community Advisory Board

**3:45 pm** Panel Session 2: *How could we redesign and operationalize research structures and funding priorities to measurably and meaningfully improve the health of Americans?*

**Pearl McElfish, PhD, MBA (moderator)**

Professor of Internal Medicine; Director, Office of Community Health and Research, UAMS Northwest Regional Campus; Founding Director, Institute for Community Health Innovation; University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences

**Rubin Pillay, PhD**

Medical Futurist and Professor of Healthcare Innovation & Entrepreneurship, Assistant Dean for Global Health Innovation, Heersink School of Medicine, University of Alabama at Birmingham

**Kris Khalil, MBA**

Executive Director, New Orleans BioInnovation Center (NOBIC), Managing Director, BioFund

**Christine LeBoeuf, DNP, CCRC, CHRC**

Sr. Director Research and Grants, Office of Research and Grant Administration, Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady Health System

**Dorthy K. Young, PhD, MHSA,**

Chief Health Data, Operations & Research Officer, Mississippi Department of Health

**4:55 pm** Panel Session 3: *How do we build and connect the relevant researcher workforce for current and future needs?*

**Nicole Wright, PhD, MPH**

Associate Professor of Epidemiology; Ctr. for Health Outcomes, Implementation & Community Engaged Science (CHOICES) Director of Education, Tulane University

**Leanne Redman, PhD**

LPFA Endowed Fellowship Professor and Associate Executive Director of Scientific Education, Pennington Biomedical Research Center

**Kathy Nugent, PhD**

Sr. Associate Vice President, Chief Biotechnology & Innovation Officer, Director, Heersink Institute for Innovation & Entrepreneurship; University of Alabama at Birmingham

**Rob Pearson**

Interim President, Alabama School of Healthcare Sciences Foundation

**Catherine Gray Haywood**

Executive Director, Louisiana Community Health Outreach Network

**5:25 pm** Conference Day 1 Closing



# Breaking the Boundaries Symposium

June 9-10, 2025 | New Orleans, LA

Astor Crowne Plaza New Orleans  
739 Canal Street, New Orleans, LA 70130

**TUESDAY, JUNE 10, 2025**

TIME	SESSION
7:15 am	Networking Breakfast
8:00 am	Welcome Back
	<div>Jennifer Croker, PhD Associate Professor of Medicine, Sr. Administrative Director, Center for Clinical &amp; Translational Science, University of Alabama at Birmingham</div> <div>Timiya Nolan, PhD Associate Professor of Medicine, Director, Community Outreach &amp; Engagement, O'Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of Alabama at Birmingham</div>
8:05 am	World Café 1: <i>Research Process Perspectives / Considerations / Proposed Solutions</i>
	Nicholas Duesbery, PhD Assistant Vice President of Research, Ochsner Health, New Orleans, LA
8:55 am	World Café 2: <i>Health Provider Perspectives / Considerations / Proposed Solutions</i>
	Kelly Resco-Summers, DNP, MS, MADM, RN Assistant Professor of Nursing Family, Community & Health Systems, School of Nursing, University of Alabama at Birmingham
9:45 am	World Café 3: <i>Community Perspectives / Considerations / Proposed Solutions</i>
	Verlon Salley Vice President of Community Health, UAB Health System
10:35 am	Break / Networking
11:00 am	Keynote Presentation
	Michael Mugavero, MD Professor of Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases; Director, Center for Outcomes Effectiveness Research and Education (COERE) Co-Director, Center For AIDS Research; Associate Director, Center for Clinical and Translational Science; Associate Dean for Clinical and Translational Research, Heersink School of Medicine University of Alabama at Birmingham
11:40 am	Top 10 Meeting Moments and Where do we go from here?
	<div>Jennifer Croker, PhD Associate Professor of Medicine, Sr. Administrative Director, Center for Clinical &amp; Translational Science, University of Alabama at Birmingham</div> <div>Timiya Nolan, PhD Associate Professor of Medicine, Director, Community Outreach &amp; Engagement, O'Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of Alabama at Birmingham</div>
12:00 pm	Conference Day 2 Closing

## Join the Action

Check out our preparation guide to think about topics ahead of time and be ready to contribute.



## Stay Close to the Conversation

Stay attuned to progress and learn more about ways to stay involved with the Strengthening Pathways initiative: <https://www.dorisduke.org/StrengtheningPathways/>

## Questions?

Do not hesitate to contact us: [ccts@uab.edu](mailto:ccts@uab.edu) | (205) 934-0245