



Meet the Panel :

Community Meeting & Panel Discussion

A Focus on Social Determinants of Health in Western North Carolina.



Antony Chiang, JD

Known as an innovator, Chiang will join Dogwood Health Trust in November as CEO and brings a wealth of experience working with a variety of populations and partner organizations toward improving health and health equity. As founding president at Empire Health Foundation, Chiang designed and built a new and high-impact health conversion foundation from the ground up, in collaboration with a mission-driven board. In his nine years there, Chiang served as a trusted grantmaker, stewarding \$70 million in annual funding and helping to deliver measurable impact advancing health equity in rural, tribal and urban communities. Under Chiang's leadership, Empire multiplied the impact of its endowment nine-fold, leveraging more than \$200 million in new funds. Chiang also serves as a member of the board of directors of Grantmakers in Health and of Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Culture of Health Prize National Advisory Board. Chiang earned a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering and computer science from the University of California, Berkeley and a law degree from Stanford University in Palo Alto, California.



Rebecca Onie, JD (Founding Partner, The Health Initiative)

Onie is the Co-founder of The Health Initiative, a campaign catalyzing a nationwide effort to spur a new conversation about - and increased investments in - health. A nationally recognized leader in the intersection of drivers of health, population health, and health care delivery, Onie also co-founded Health Leads. A MacArthur “Genius” awardee, Onie is a member of the National Academy of Medicine and an Aspen Institute Health Innovators Fellow. She has received the APHA Avedis Donabedian Quality Award; Network for Excellence in Health Innovation “Innovator in Health” Award; Robert Wood Johnson Young Leader Award; and Forbes’ Impact 30 Award for leading social entrepreneurs. She received her J.D. from Harvard Law School, where she was an editor of the Harvard Law Review.



Elizabeth Cuervo Tilson, MD, MPH

Elizabeth Tilson serves North Carolina as the State Health Director and the Chief Medical Officer for the Department of Health and Human Services. In this role, she promotes public health and prevention activities, as well as provides guidance and oversight on a variety of cross-Departmental issues including the Opioid Epidemic, Early Childhood, Medicaid Transformation, and Healthy Opportunities.

Dr. Tilson received her BA in biology from Dartmouth College, earned her Medical Degree at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, and a Master of Public Health from the University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill. She completed a Pediatric residency at Johns Hopkins Hospital and a General Preventive Medicine/Public Health Residency at the University of North Carolina–Chapel Hill and is board certified in both fields.

Prior roles include serving as the Medical Director of Community Care of Wake and Johnston Counties, Chief Network Medical Director for

Community Care of North Carolina, Assistant Consulting Professor and Cancer Control Specialist with Duke University Medical Center, and a Clinical Pediatric Fellow at UNC-Chapel Hill. She practiced primary care pediatrics for 26 years, primarily at her local health department - Wake County Human Services Child Health Clinic. She has been active and has served in leadership roles in many local, state, and national pediatric, public health and preventive medicine organizations.



Moderator: Rocco Perla (Founding Partner, The Health Initiative)

Perla most recently served as President of Health Leads. Previously, he directed the Learning and Diffusion Group at the CMS Innovation Center, where he established the national learning system to test new delivery and payment models through the Affordable Care Act and oversaw the \$1 Billion Partnership for Patients and the Million Hearts Campaign. Perla was a Merck Fellow at the Institute for Healthcare Improvement. He received the 2014 Impact Article of the Year Award from the National Association for Health Care Quality, the 2015 Federal Executive Board Award for Outstanding Creativity and Innovation and, in 2016, the Deming Medal by the American Society for Quality. He is an Assistant Professor at the University of Massachusetts Medical School with a joint appointment in Community Health and Quantitative Health Sciences.