

THE
**AFRICAN-AMERICAN
 ADVANCE CARE PLANNING/PALLIATIVE CARE NETWORK**



EXPERTS • ADVOCATING FOR • A GREATER • ENGAGEMENT WITH • RESOURCES

WELCOME NETWORK MEMBERS AND VISITORS!

OUR MISSION: Reduce racial disparities in advance care planning
 Improve the health care experiences and outcomes of African-Americans
 Engage in community-led research, academic collaboration, and intentional conversation

OUR NETWORK: Academics, clergy, clinicians, researchers, laypersons

H

Highlight the current projects of Network members and share upcoming events for continued engagement

E

Examine current data and trends used in advance care planning generally, and used for African-Americans

L

List opportunities for collaboration between clergy, clinicians, researchers, and laypersons

P

Provide a space to discuss how our work disseminates into the African-American community-at-large

OUR INFORMATION: To join or connect with the Network, please email AA-ACP-PC-Network@div.duke.edu.

NETWORK MEMBER SPOTLIGHTS THIS QUARTER

CYNTHIA, JON, DARRIEL, KAREN, BRUCE, AND RONIT



[Cynthia Perrilliat](#), MPA
 Alameda County
 Care Alliance
 Northern California



[Darriel Harris](#), PhD, MDiv, MA Org. Mgmt
 Johns Hopkins Univ.
 Baltimore, MD



[Bruce Grady](#), EdD
 Ormond Center
 Duke Divinity
 Durham, NC



[Jon Tilburt](#), MD
 Mayo Clinic
 Phoenix, AZ



[Karen Bullock](#), PhD, MSW
 N.C. State University
 Raleigh, NC



[Ronit Elk](#), PhD
 U. Alab. Birmingham
 Birmingham, AL

-- PROJECT HIGHLIGHT --

Advance Care Planning and Healthy Living Through Faith Program

Theology, Medicine, and Culture Initiative
Duke Divinity School
 Durham, NC



Reflections from

Patrick T. Smith, PhD, MDiv, MA
 Faculty Director
 and

Maria Mugweru, JD, MDiv
 Postdoctoral Associate



A two-year \$250,000 grant from the John and Wauna Harman Foundation will support a new Duke Divinity School program aimed at reducing racial disparities in advance care planning and overcoming racial inequities in health care. The ACP-HLTF program will strengthen the capacity of the AA ACP/PC Network by developing a group of clinicians, clergy, and scholars whose joint work improves the health and health care experiences of African Americans throughout their lives, with particular attention to the end of life.

Associate Research Professor of Theological Ethics and Bioethics [Patrick T. Smith](#), Faculty Director of the program, will continue the legacy of work led by the late Dr. Richard Payne, who was the Esther Colliflower Professor Emeritus of Medicine and Divinity at Duke Divinity School. Payne, who passed away in 2019, was an internationally known expert in the areas of pain relief, palliative care, oncology, and neurology.

Smith said he looks forward to extending the legacy of Payne's work. "What the Divinity School is uniquely positioned to contribute," he said, "is theological reflection that acknowledges the role of the Black Church in the African American decision-making process—whether medical decisions or end-of-life care decisions—and how that is different from other race and ethnic communities." The goal of this reflection is "not just doctrines, but practices," he

said, and particularly "how embodied Christian practices within faith communities can dramatize what we believe about what it means to die well and live well to the glory of God."

[Maria Mugweru](#), Postdoctoral Associate for the program, said Duke Divinity's role in this work "demonstrates that instead of just a health or legal priority, advance care planning is also faith priority." Before coming to Duke, Maria started a law clinic in Winston-Salem, N.C., that helped community members to access free legal advice and services about Advance Directives. That experience, followed by years as a Hospice Chaplain, led her to see the challenges of not having this conversation early; and, inspired her to find ways to bring up a topic people tend to be hesitant to discuss. "People want to have this conversation over time and with someone they trust," she said. "This naturally flows into faith communities." Her focus is on increasing advance care planning awareness and access between Duke University and Durham's faith community.

Currently, the ACP-HLTF program is building a website with faith-based, end-of-life resources for clergy, clinicians, and researchers. For more information, email ACPNews@div.duke.edu.

Other Duke faculty working on the program team include:

[Farr Curlin](#), MD

Josiah C. Trent Professor of Medical Humanities
 Co-Director, Theology, Medicine, and Culture Initiative
 Duke Divinity School

[David Goatley](#), PhD, MDiv

Ruth W. and A. Morris Williams, Jr., Research Professor of Theology and Christian Ministry
 Director, Office of Black Church Studies
 Duke Divinity School

[Kimberly Johnson](#), MD

Professor of Medicine
 Duke School of Medicine
 Senior Fellow
 Center for the Study of Aging and Human Development

[Brett McCarty](#), ThD, MDiv

Assistant Research Professor of Theological Ethics
 Associate Director, Theology, Medicine, and Culture Initiative
 Duke Divinity School
Assistant Professor in Population Health Sciences
 Duke School of Medicine

STAY TUNED!

The Inaugural [Dr. Richard Payne](#) Award and [Lectureship](#) in Faith, Justice, and Health Care will be held at Duke Divinity School in Fall 2022. This lecture will coincide with the final Network meeting for the year. The award recipient and keynote speaker is [David Williams](#), PhD, MDiv, MPH, MA. More information to come!

ARTICLES SHARED THIS QUARTER

(SHARED BY...)

A Critical Moment in Bioethics: Reckoning with Anti-Black Racism through Intergenerational Dialogue (Smith)
<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/1552146x/2022/52/S1?>

A National Survey of Social Workers: Focusing on Attitudes, Knowledge, and Practice Implications during the COVID-19 Pandemic (Bullock)

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/34409873/>

Anxiety, Depression, Quality-of-Life, Caregiver Burden, and Perception of Caregiver-Centered Community among Black and White Hospice Family Caregivers (Bullock)
<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/34793244/>

Diversity Advisory Council Position Paper: Covid-19 and Supporting Black Communities and the End of Life (Deese)
[DAC Position Paper | NHPCO](#)

Drivers of Racial-Ethnic Differences in Perceived End-of-Life Care Quality: More Questions than Answers (Bullock)
<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/35226353/>

Race Roundtable Series: Structural Racism in Palliative Care (Bullock)
<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/35157982/>

Top 10 Tips Palliative Care Clinicians Should Know About Delivering Antiracist Care to Black Americans (Bullock)
<https://www.liebertpub.com/doi/epub/10.1089/jpm.2021.0502>

Response to Top 10 Tips... Letter to the Editor (Bullock, Elk)
<https://www.liebertpub.com/doi/abs/10.1089/jpm.2021.0622?journalCode=jpm>

NEWSLETTERS

Quarterly newsletters will be sent in March, June, September, and December.

UPCOMING EVENTS

(MARK YOUR CALENDARS)

FALL '22 NETWORK MEETINGS

WEDNESDAY, 8/24

3:00 PM EST

(VIA ZOOM)

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 THURSDAY, 11/3, & FRIDAY, 11/4
 (IN-PERSON, TWO-DAY MEETING)

LECTURES

THURSDAY, 11/3

5:30 PM EST

INAUGURAL RICHARD PAYNE AWARD
 AND LECTURESHIP IN
 FAITH, JUSTICE, AND HEALTH CARE
 (DUKE UNIVERSITY – DURHAM, NC)

IF YOU HAVE A BOOK RELEASE,
 PODCAST INTERVIEW, GRANT AWARD,
 OR EVENT YOU'D LIKE TO SHARE WITH
 THE NETWORK, PLEASE EMAIL DETAILS
 TO THE NETWORK ADMINISTRATOR AT

AA-ACP-PC-Network@div.duke.edu