CLOSING THE GENDER WEALTH GAP FORUM

Let's Start at the Beginning – Understanding Wealth and Power

Bios

MODERATOR

Alicia Atkinson, MPP

Managing Director, Financial Empowerment

United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey

Alicia Atkinson serves as the Managing Director of Financial Empowerment at United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey (UWGPSNJ) and brings a deep commitment to centering community in decision-making to shift systems towards racial equity and economic justice. Alicia is responsible for aligning strategic direction to community needs and opportunities, cultivating partnerships, and integrating philanthropic investment to support families, communities and financial security initiatives in the region.

In her prior leadership roles, she's been responsible for research, policy development, and advocacy work centered on expanding financial security for low-income communities. Most recently, she was the Managing Director at The Prosperity Agenda, where she led new strategic initiatives and managed place-based projects rooted in the wisdom, experience, and expertise of families enduring economic inequality. She led the research, design, and evaluation of innovations, such as Money Mindset Cards, which honor lived and living experience in financial conversations. Prior to that, she was a Policy Analyst with the Government Affairs team at Prosperity Now, where she promoted effective policies and programs to expand savings, credit building, financial coaching, and integrated service delivery.

Alicia holds a Master's in Public Policy from the Heller School for Social Policy and Management at Brandeis University and a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Legal Studies from the University of Massachusetts Amherst. She was a Graduate Research Assistant at the Institute for Economic and Racial Equity, working exclusively on the Leveraging Mobility Project. She also co-authored the report "Employment Capital: How Work Builds and Protects Family Wealth and Security," which highlights the importance of quality work-based policies for low- and moderate-income workers in preserving and growing assets overtime.

PANELISTS:

Candace Moody

Racial and Ethnic Justice Community Organizer

Community Action Lehigh Valley

Candace Moody (they/them) is a Board Member of the Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce's LGBTQ Business Council and the Lead Racial and Ethnic Justice Community Organizer at Community Action Lehigh Valley; an anti-poverty organization focused on advocacy and program development. Their role in this position spans from being in the classroom as a facilitator for the Generation Next Program; a free college readiness course offered to low-social economic high school students to help level the playing field, along with being in the community as an organizer to spearhead the Color Outside the Lines Initiative; which is a 5-7-year strategic plan to address racial and ethnic disparities in the Lehigh Valley. Candace has a passion for multi-cultural studies, anti-racist advocacy, finance and generational wealth building, mindfulness, psychology, non-violent communication, and comprehensive sex education.

Dr. Onaje Muid, DSW, MSW, CADC, LMHC

Fatherhood Coordinator

The Foundation for Delaware County

Dr. Onaje Muid is the Fatherhood Coordinator for The Foundation for Delaware County. He is a recognized authority on healing from historical trauma. He holds a doctorate and master's degrees in social work, a license in mental health counseling, credentials in substance abuse and family development counseling. Following his recognition as the recipient of the National Association of Social Workers Mid-Career Exemplary Leadership Award (2014), and after completing his advising and adjunct lecturing appointments at Columbia University Graduate School of Social Work, he was inducted into the prestigious, New York Academy of Medicine as social work fellow in 2016. He became a fellow for the Therapeutic Spiral International studying psychodrama in tandem with this doctorate studies. As an organizer for the People's Institute for Survival and Beyond, he practices the principles outlined in their Undoing Racism Workshop. He is married to Dr. Fatima Hafiz, they live in Lansdowne, PA and uplift their blended families as proud grandparents. They participate in the social ecological, restoration development of underserved urban areas, including Chester, PA., through human service and human rights activism.

Tiffany Younger, MSSP

Scientist, Activist, and Professor

Liberation Health Science Fellow

Insight Center

Tiffany Younger is a Scientist, Activist, and Professor. Her work focuses on understanding how the US economy shaped by whiteness, patriarchy, and coloniality as a construct materially impact Black women's health and wellbeing. Currently she serves as a Liberation Health Science Fellow at the Insight Center where she serves as the expert on qualitative research working with the team to fill research gaps that center race and gender. In addition, she is building out her project Liberation for Us, an interactive lab focused on building new measurement tools that center the lived experiences of Black, Latinx and indigenous women.

Prior to working with Insight Center Tiffany, served as the Director of Policy and Advocacy at Closing the Women's Wealth Gap (CWWG), a national organization that prioritized economic security through policy solutions that center women of color. In addition, Tiffany worked as a Policy Fellow for United States Senator Kirsten Gillibrand where she focused on issues of criminal justice, gender, and race equity. In 2019-2021, during the pandemic she served as a T32 Clinical Research Science Fellow at the National Institute of Health (NIH) where her research interests focused on the psychological and physiological implications of structural racism.

Tiffany obtained her Master of Science degree in Social Policy at the University of Pennsylvania's School of Social Policy and Practice. She is a Lecturer at Columbia University School of Social Work and University of Pennsylvania School of Social Policy and Practice where she teaches Social Policy and Human Behavior and the Environment. Currently, she is obtaining a dual doctoral degree in Clinical Epidemiology at Weill Cornell Medical College and Social Welfare at the Silberman School of Social Work through the Hunter-Weill program sponsored by the NIH. She resides in Harlem, New York with her daughter Grace.