

32 new Ambassadors are leading by example to build a healthier Louisville

Ambassadors for Health in All Policies show how to make decisions through the lens of health Media Contacts: Veronica Combs, 812-987-6076; Kelsie Smithson, 502-2437497

For Immediate Release: April 17, 2017

The Institute for Healthy Air Water and Soil is proud to announce the founding class of Ambassadors for Health in All Policies. These 32 community leaders represent businesses, schools and philanthropic organizations around the city. There are students, doctors, entrepreneurs, artists and poets in this class. The Ambassadors include **Sadia Abdirahman**, PACT In Action; **Joe Franzen**, Fern Creek High School; **Lindsay Gargotto**, Athena's Sisters; **Kent Oyler**, Greater Louisville Inc; **Yonbretta Stewart**, Humana; **Paul Varga**, Brown-Forman, and **Eddie Woods**, LIFE Hope Center for a Safe Louisville. (*Full list at the end of the release*.)

There are three types of Ambassadors: students, business leaders and community leaders. These individuals understand the interconnections and interdependence among the many factors that influence human health. Each Ambassador is working in at least one of the eight areas of health represented the Circle of Health and Harmony:

- Cultural
- Environmental
- Financial
- Intellectual

- Nutritional
- Physical
- Psychological
- Spiritual

The Institute launched the Ambassadors for Health in All Policies to start a health in all policies movement and to build a well-grounded, long-term culture of health in Louisville said Christina Lee Brown, founder of the Institute for Healthy Air Water and Soil.

"We have selected thoughtful caring health leaders who are helping all of the individuals and institutions they work with to understand that all decisions must always be made through the lens of health," said Christina. "Louisville's founding Health in All Policy Ambassadors represent our city's circle of harmony and health in all eight dimensions of health. It is our hope that Louisville's newly designated health in All Policies ambassadors will work together in new kinds

of innovative partnerships so as to have Louisville recognized nationally as a model Health in All Policies Urban laboratory."

The Institute's work is inspired by Aruni Bhatnagar's <u>work in understanding the connections</u> <u>between human health and the health of the environment</u>. Aruni states that while many factors contribute to the poor health of Kentuckians, there is little doubt that living in clean, health conducive environments will help in significantly addressing the problem.

"To understand the extent of the problem in greater depth, we must assess how urban environments affect human health," he said. "Based on this understanding, we have to empower citizen scientists to exert greater control of their environment and to develop new paradigms for urban living in which clean, healthy, and harmonious environments foster human health and promote human flourishing."

The Public Health Institute defines health in all policies as a collaborative approach to improving the health of all people by incorporating health considerations into decision-making across all sectors, such as; government, corporate, and non-profits.

The Institute will host a reception for the new Ambassadors for Health in All Policies at 5:00pm on Tuesday, April 18 at the Frazier History Museum, 829 West Main Street, Louisville. The public is welcome to join us to learn more about the program, the Ambassadors and their work. Nominations for a second class of Ambassadors will be accepted through the summer on the Institute's website. The second class of Ambassadors will be announced in the fall to coincide with a Health in All Policies Summit.

2017 Ambassadors for Health in All Policies

Sadia Abdirahman, PACT In Action

Susan Buchino, PhD, Commonwealth

Institute

Ebonique Burns, Russell Walks

Ben Chandler, Foundation for a Healthy

Kentucky

Linda Danna, WHAS-TV

Pam Darnall, Family & Children's Place

Keisha Dorsey, Humana

Hannah Drake, IDEAS xLab

Theo Edmonds, IDEAS xLab

George Fischer, Family Community Clinic

Jackie Floyd, Center for Neighborhoods

Michael Fraade, Jewish Community Center

of Louisville

Joe Franzen, Fern Creek High School

Lindsay Gargotto, Athena's Sisters

Chanda Glover, National Black MBA

Association - Kentucky Chapter

Ali Haider, MD, World Sight Inc.

Rev. William D. Hammer, St. Margaret

Mary Church and School

Nasra Hussein, PACT In Action

Chris Lavenson, Chef Space

CorettaMcAllister, Office of Mayor Greg

Fischer

Nora Miodrag, Louisville Girls Leadership

Michael Robert Olsen, The Mike Olsen Project

Kent Oyler, Greater Louisville Inc

Lyndon Pryor, Louisville Urban League

Brittney Ridge, Metro United Way

Julia Robinson, Russell Walks

Stacie Steinbock, University of Louisville

Yonbretta Stewart, Humana

Charlotte Gay Stites, MD, Smoketown Family Wellness Center

Pat Sturtzel, Kentucky Center for the Performing Arts

Paul Varga, Brown-Forman

Eddie Woods, LIFE Hope Center for a Safe Louisville