Agenda

Terrace Rooms 215-217, Second Floor

LOCATION
Charleston Civic Center
200 Civic Center Dr, Charleston, WV 25301

DATE
May 21, 2019

WIFI
Network: CharlestonCivicCenter | No password, accept network terms

8:00 am – 9:00 am
REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST

9:00 am – 9:10 am
WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS
Alonzo Plough, Chief Science Officer
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

9:10 am – 9:40 am
WHAT WE’RE LEARNING FROM RURAL AMERICA:
FINDINGS FROM THE POLL AND OTHER DATA
What key themes emerged from the latest Life in Rural America poll? A look at rural concerns for local economies and challenges of drug addiction, as well as rural strengths in the form of social connection and resilience.

Moderator: Carolyn Miller, Senior Program Officer
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

• Robert Blendon, Richard L. Menschel Professor of Public Health and Professor of Health Policy and Political Analysis
  Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

• Joe Neel, Deputy Senior Supervising Editor
  National Public Radio

9:40 am – 10:10 am
MOVING TOWARD SOLUTIONS
Reflecting on the research and data presented, how do we use these data to help us move toward solutions and rural health equity? How is it helpful?

Moderator: Carolyn Miller, Senior Program Officer
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

• Jen Giovannitti, President and Trustee
  Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation

• Ed Sivak, Executive Vice President of Policy and Communications
  Hope Enterprise Corporation/Hope Credit Union (HOPE)

• Serena Woodard, 2018 4-H Youth in Action Agriculture Pillar Winner
10:10 am – 10:35 am  **AUDIENCE Q&A**

Moderator: Carolyn Miller, Senior Program Officer  
*Robert Wood Johnson Foundation*

- Jen Giovannitti, President  
  *Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation*

- Ed Sivak, Executive Vice President of Policy and Communications  
  *Hope Enterprise Corporation/Hope Credit Union*

- Serena Woodard, 2018 4-H Youth in Action Agriculture Pillar Winner

- Robert Blendon, Richard L. Menschel Professor of Public Health and Professor of Health Policy and Political Analysis  
  *Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health*

- Joe Neel, Deputy Senior Supervising Editor  
  *National Public Radio*

10:35 am – 10:45 am  **BREAK**

10:45 am – 11:45 am  **KEYNOTE: REFLECTIONS ON RURAL**

What are the stories being told about rural communities?

Framing and Introductions: Jordan Reese, director, media relations  
*Robert Wood Johnson Foundation*

- Sarah Smarsh, journalist and author of the *New York Times* bestseller *Heartland: A Memoir of Working Hard and Being Broke in the Richest Country on Earth*

- Ken Ward, Jr., 2018 MacArthur Fellow and reporter, *Charleston Gazette-Mail*

11:45 am – 12:20 pm  **LUNCH**

12:20 pm – 12:25pm  **WELCOME BACK AND FRAMING FOR THE AFTERNOON**

Katrina Badger, Program Officer  
*Robert Wood Johnson Foundation*

12:25 pm – 1:15 pm  **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ADVANCING SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY IN RURAL AND TRIBAL COMMUNITIES**

A deeper look at how and where rural regions and Tribal nations have been effective in advancing community development and economic growth in a way that advances equity and opportunity.

Moderator: Dante Chinni, Program Director  
*American Communities Project at The George Washington University*

- Brian Dabson, Research Fellow  
  *UNC School of Government*
• Ines Polonius, Chief Executive Officer
  Communities Unlimited, Inc.
• Chrystel Cornelius, Executive Director
  First Nations Oweesta Corporation
• Lisa Mensah, President, Chief Executive Officer
  Opportunity Finance Network

1:20 pm – 2:15 pm  SYSTEMS AND POLICY PRIORITIES TO ADVANCE EQUITABLE OPPORTUNITY
A deeper look at the policies and systems that support equity in rural America.
Moderator: Manel Kappagoda, Senior Vice President
  ChangeLab Solutions
• Cara James, Director
  Centers for Medicare and Medicaid, Office of Minority Health
• Rita Carreón, Deputy Vice President for Health
  UnidosUS
• Nikki Pitre, Associate Director
  Center for Native American Youth
• Justin Maxson, Executive Director
  Mary Reynolds Babcock Foundation

2:20 pm – 2:30 pm  CLOSING REMARKS
What does this all mean for building opportunities for everyone in America to be healthy?
What does it mean for advancing equity in rural places?
• Alonzo Plough, Chief Science Officer
  Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
• Dee Davis, President and Founder
  Center for Rural Strategies

2:30 pm – 2:40 pm  AUDIENCE REFLECTIONS AND LIVESTREAM ADJOURNS

2:45 pm – 3:55 pm  SELF-ORGANIZING CONVERSATIONS AND NETWORKING

3:55 pm – 4:00 pm  CLOSING AND THANK YOU