

## Lori Carter-Edwards, PhD, MPH



Dr. Lori Carter-Edwards is the inaugural Assistant Dean for Community Engagement at the Kaiser Permanente Bernard J. Tyson School of Medicine (KPSOM), where she is also a faculty member in the Health Systems Science Department. The School was founded in August of 2020. She assumed her position in August 2021 and is responsible for leading efforts to bring the School into the community and the community into the School, through teaching, practice, and research. She is also an adjunct faculty member in the Public Health Leadership Program at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC-CH) Gillings School of Global Public Health (SPH).

Previously, she was an Associate Professor in the Public Health Leadership Program, and adjunct faculty member in the Departments of Epidemiology and Health Behavior at UNC-CH. She was the Director and co-lead of the Community and Stakeholder Engagement Program in the North Carolina Translational and Clinical Sciences Institute (NC TraCS), and Co-Director of the program, ACCLAIM – Academic Career Leadership Academy in Medicine. A cardiovascular social epidemiologist and health educator, she has over 25 years of experience conducting observational studies, interventions, and programs, with emphasis on social determinants of health in Black faith communities. She is a nationally recognized expert in community-engaged research.

During her tenure in North Carolina, at the state level, Dr. Carter-Edwards led the community-engaged health equity evaluation project for the North Carolina Community Transformation Grant, the only one of its kind in the nation. She was also the principal investigator for the Evidence Academy on Hypertension and teamed with other researchers and community members to develop a hypertension-related empathy-building guide for improving patient-provider relationships. She was the co-chair of the competencies workgroup for the Statewide Community Health Worker Initiative, contributed to the statewide published report, and served on a leadership panel to help transform North Carolina's health system to address justice, equity, and inclusion in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

At the national level, Dr. Carter-Edwards was a contributor to the National Health Disparities Plan, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> and soon to be published 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the Principles of Community Engagement. Within the National Institutes of Health-funded Clinical Translational Science Awards (or CTSA), she was the director of the national Community Engagement Consultative Service Project as well as a co-author of the CTSA community engagement evaluation logic model, both of which are exemplars in the Institute of Medicine's 2013 Report on CTSA. She was recently one of the four national co-leads of the CTSA Collaboration and Engagement Enterprise Committee, and currently serves as the national co-chair of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Task Force for the CTSA Consortium. She is also the creator of the NC TraCS fiscal readiness initiative, a cross-CTSA collaborative designed to improve knowledge and capacity of community partners and academic researchers in the pre- and post-award grants management process.

Dr. Carter-Edwards was the Principal Investigator of a recent COVID-19 study on risk communication strategies in rural, Black faith communities, one of seven 2020 Gillings Innovation Labs COVID-19 awards. She was a co-investigator and member of the UNC National Program Office for the Kresge Foundation Emerging Leaders in Public Health program designed to transform local public health departments. Dr. Carter-Edwards led the development of a statewide model of the Faith-Based Organization Network (FBON) in North Carolina. She was the instructor and creator of the community engagement and leadership in health course, which is now a requirement for Master's in Public Health leadership students at UNC-CH. In her current affiliation with the American Heart Association, she is a member of the national Research Funding Subcommittee and the Southeast Region's HBCU (Historically Black Colleges and Universities) Committee.

In her new role as Assistant Dean for Community Engagement, Dr. Carter-Edwards and the Office of Community Engagement are developing a 3-year roadmap for conducting community engaged work at KPSOM.

Dr. Carter-Edwards received a Bachelor's in Psychology from the University of Notre Dame, a Master's in Behavioral Sciences and Health Education from the UCLA School of Public Health, a doctorate in Epidemiology from the UNC-Chapel Hill School of Public Health and completed a postdoctoral fellowship in clinical epidemiology at the Duke University Medical Center. She is a native of Los Angeles, California and has one son.