

## Dr. Leslie L. McKnight



Dr. Leslie L. McKnight is the Director of Community Health Policy and Planning at the Peoria City/County Health Department. She is responsible for the development and implementation of the Partnership for a Healthy Community Health Improvement Plan and health promotion and equity interventions throughout the Tri-County region. Dr. McKnight has over 20 years of experience in public policy and community development for local government agencies and has managed millions of dollars in grassroots and public-private partnership programs and activities related to housing, community, health, and economic development in Central IL. She

holds a PhD in organization development from Benedictine University, Springfield IL and a Master of Science degree in Human Services Administration from Spertus College in Chicago, IL. She is published in many academic and leadership journals and is an adjunct professor in the Master of Business Administration program at Bradley University. Her research interests include organization strategy, adaptive leadership, and change management. Dr. McKnight's most recent article, 'Building Healthy Communities', was recently featured in Peoria Magazines.

## Jeffrey Emery Sterling, MD, MPH, FACEP



Dr. Jeffrey Sterling is a leader in community-based health care, organizational operations and efficiency. His businesses have created solutions in over three dozen states and countries. **Sterling Initiatives** is an international healthcare consulting and implementation firm that provides entities with clinical, operational and financial best practices. **SI Medical Supply** is an international medical, surgical and PPE equipment export company. **72 Hours Life** is a personal and professional lifestyle management initiative that promotes and teaches efficiency as a means of improving quality of life and business productivity. **SIMPCO** is America's first managed preventive health organization, offering health preventive and promotive services worldwide. Dr. Sterling is author of the popular healthcare blog, 'Straight, No Chaser,' and the books *Behind the Curtain – A Peek at Life from within the ER*, *There Are 72 Hours in a Day – Using Efficiency to Better Enjoy Every Part of Your Life* and *Voices and Visions, the Evolution of the Black Experience at Northwestern University*. Dr. Sterling currently serves as the first Surgeon General of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

Additionally,

- Dr. Sterling served as President of the Northwestern University Black Alumni Association between 2014-2018, representing over 4800 alumni nationally organized in 29 local chapters. As such he was the co-founder of the first Archive of the Black Experience at Northwestern University, Executive Producer of the documentary *The Takeover – The Revolution of the Black Experience at Northwestern University*, creator of the NUBAA Achievement Scholarship which in just two years has raised over \$150,000 in gifts and pledges for Black students, and co-author of the first book on Northwestern's Black history, titled *Voices and Visions: The Evolution of the Black Experience at Northwestern University*.
- Dr. Sterling founded the Minority Association of Pre-health Students, a national organization of premedical and other health career aspirants with chapters in over 300 colleges nationally.
- Dr. Sterling has served as CEO, Senior VP, Corporate Medical Officer, National Physician Practice Director, and Regional Medical Director for various health care contract management groups, and as Medical Director for 17 Emergency Medical System units and Home Health Companies.
- Dr. Sterling has served as Chairman and/or Medical Director of the Departments of Emergency Medicine at Level I Trauma Emergency Departments in Metropolitan DC (Prince George's Hospital Center), Fort Worth (JPS Health Network) and Milwaukee (St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center).
- Dr. Sterling founded DFW Urgent Care, a series of award-winning urgent care centers in Texas, New York and California providing quality equivalent, cost-effective care alternatives to hospital ERs.
- Dr. Sterling founded the JPS Health Network's Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) program in Texas and created the first SANE program in the state of Connecticut at Connecticut Children's Medical Center (CCMC). Sterling Initiatives prevented the closure of CCMC in 2005.
- Dr. Sterling founded US Asthma Care, a series of outcomes based, best-practice Disease Management treatment facilities in Texas and Illinois working with Health Plans to reduce hospitalization and improve clinical outcomes among asthmatics.
- Dr. Sterling founded and served as Medical Director of the Covenant Healthcare Asthma Clinics in Milwaukee, then the largest asthma education clinic in Wisconsin.
- Dr. Sterling has served on the Board of the Asthma & Allergy Foundation of America, Texas Chapter and the American Lung Association, Central States Region.
- Dr. Sterling served as Chairman of the DFW Minority Business Council's Health Industry Group, a consortium of over seventy healthcare business enterprises across the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex. He currently serves in the same capacity for the Illinois Black Chamber of Commerce's Health Industry Group.

Dr. Sterling has degrees from Northwestern, The Harvard School of Public Health (Health Policy & Management), and the University of Illinois College Of Medicine. He completed his Emergency Medicine Residency at Chicago's Cook County Hospital. He has received executive education from Dartmouth College's Tuck School of Business. He is a Fellow of the American College of Emergency Medicine.

Dr. Sterling is a speaker in high demand on topics of Medicine, Health Care, Public Health, productivity and efficiency, having delivered over one thousand lectures nationally since 2000 and a TedX talk in 2017.