

Dr. Maurice G. Sholas, M.D., Ph.D.



I am Maurice Sholas, MD, Ph.D. I am one of less than 200 physicians board certified in Pediatric Rehabilitation Medicine. I have over 15 years as the principal for Sholas Medical Consulting. In addition to this entrepreneurial experience, I have a solid background as a medical executive. Most recently, I have served as the Senior Medical Director at Children's Hospital and Clinics of Minnesota.

I have served as medical and practice director for Rehab Services with Children's Healthcare of Atlanta; providing administrative and clinical coverage for the largest inpatient pediatric rehabilitation unit in the United States as well as several inpatient, outpatient, procedural and consultative initiatives. I was a clinical assistant professor at both Emory School of Medicine and Morehouse School of Medicine.

Prior to that experience, I was the first practitioner of Pediatric Rehabilitation in the state of Louisiana where

I was on the faculty at Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center in New Orleans and based at Children's Hospital of New Orleans. My training represents a tour of the top academic institutions in the country. I was the Rotary One Clinical Fellow in Pediatric Rehabilitation at the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago. I completed his residency in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (Physiatry) at The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio.

I received an MD and a Ph.D. (Neuroscience) from Harvard Medical School. My higher education began at Southern University in Baton Rouge, LA where I graduated cum laude in Biology as a part of the Honors College.

My clinical focus is pediatric rehabilitation; a specialty that provides care for children with acquired or congenital physical disabilities. My administrative focus is on program creation and clinical operations enhancement. Thus, whether clinical or administrative, I am focused on optimizing function. My exceptional business acumen bridges academic and community-based medicine to create success stories for my patients and healthcare facilities. It is truly rare to have an active clinician that also speaks the language of business, but that combination is ideal as the current healthcare environment continues to evolve.

My advocacy for equality is a signature quality that also separates me from more typical physicians. I believe that everyone has a contribution to make. Only through advocacy, diversity, and inclusion

medical innovation have the scope and effect needed to improve things for all. I am an active member of the Alumni Associations representing his alma maters, the National Medical Association and the American Medical Association where I served as Chairman of the Resident and Fellow section (2003-2004).

I am also concerned citizen and is active in my community, for I believe in building relationships and enhancing the communities where I live and work. I was a member of the Board of Directors for the Inspiration Corporation in Chicago, the Urban League of Greater New Orleans, and Girl Scouts Louisiana East. I am also an alumnus of Leadership Atlanta, the oldest service training program of its type in the country. I volunteer because I believe that being a good citizen is a prerequisite to being a great physician.



Dawn Harris Jeffries, PhD - Executive Director and Founder of Girls Light Our Way and Financial Advisor

Dawn Harris Jeffries has devoted her life to believe in justice, equality, respect, and service, especially for underserved girls. In 2015, Dawn Harris Jeffries established a nonprofit, Girls Light Our Way to provide tools for mental, physical, and nutritional wellness, self-efficacy and literacies of power. The goal is to provide a directed pathway and curated agency out of poverty to improve social and economic mobility, quality and longevity of life. She received her PhD from Benedictine University and has developed a specialized model for organizations of all kinds to promote equity for African American girls, girls from all backgrounds experiencing poverty, racism, sexism, and classism.

Dawn Harris Jeffries is a Financial Advisor and Chartered Retirement Planning Counselor with Merrill Lynch. She has been with the organization for 22 years as a financial advisor and a variety of management positions, which included oversight of more than \$1 trillion in client assets. Dawn began her career as a Bank Examiner for the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

She has been featured in local newspapers, business magazines and publications. Since moving to Peoria in 2012, she has served on the board of directors of the various organizations. Currently, she serves as a member of the National Council of Advisors at The Foster College of Business at Bradley University. Dawn is a member of Central Illinois Chapter of The Links, Inc. and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. She also provides financial education in the community whenever possible.

She and her husband James M. Jeffries III, MD, FACS, reside in Peoria, IL.