

*#ListenUpMBC*



**Tigerlily**  
Foundation

METASTATIC BREAST CANCER  
DISPARITIES LISTENING SUMMIT

MARCH 20, 2019 | WASHINGTON, DC

**KNOW BEFORE YOU GO**



# MBC Summit Briefing

**Title:** Metastatic Breast Cancer Disparities Listening Summit

**Date:** March 20, 2019 **Time:** 10 AM – 4 PM

**Registration:** Opens at 9:30 AM

**Location:** Grand Hyatt Washington, Penn Quarter A/B Room

**Address:** 1000 H Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001

**Parking:** Valet Parking & Garage Self-Parking available

**Metro:** Metro Center station; Metro Bus: G8, 64 or X2

**Day of Contact:** Shyrea Thompson, 202-427-8934

**Social: Follow:** @TigerlilyCares **Share:** #ListenUpMBC

**Website:** [tigerlilyfoundation.org](http://tigerlilyfoundation.org)

**Attire:** Business Casual

Wed 3/20

55° | 42° F



Cloudy

**Weather**

**Purpose:** Approximately 150,000 people in the U.S. have MBC, which annually claims more than 40,000 lives a year. The African-American community is disproportionately impacted by MBC yet have lower enrollment in clinical trials and often go underrepresented in the conversation on the unique needs of women living with stage 4 breast cancer. Tigerlily Foundation is partnering to mobilize young women of color to reduce breast cancer disparities through this MBC Disparities Listening Summit.

**Description:** Young women, patients, caregivers, community leaders, creators, healthcare providers, advocates, researchers and policymakers will gather in our nation's capital to take a first step in engaging the African-American community in a dialogue centered on understanding the gaps, misperceptions and barriers to educate young women of color on metastatic breast cancer (MBC). This Summit will **listen** to insights shared, then apply these recommendations to **create** culturally sensitive grassroots materials and finally **mobilize** ambassadors with tools to access clinical trials and engage others to lower African-American breast cancer mortality rates.

## Participants:

- 90 MBC patients, caregivers, advocates, navigators, healthcare providers, researchers, policy makers, civic, campus, community and business leaders.
- Bloggers, creators, radio and television personalities, social media influencers and local media outlets have confirmed.
- Partners: Tigerlily Foundation, Pfizer Inc., Lilly, Celgene, Metastatic Breast Cancer Project, Project H.U.M.B.L.E, Howard University, Harvard University and The IRIS Collaborative.

## Venue



**Video/Photo Policy:** The Summit will be photographed and recorded. If you do not wish to be on video or photographed please stop by the registration table.

**Questions:** We look forward to seeing you at the Summit! Please email us at [shyrea@irisimpact.org](mailto:shyrea@irisimpact.org) if you have additional questions.



# Agenda At-A-Glance

## Opening Remarks

MC: Madeline Long Poole, Founder & CEO | Supporting Our Sisters International

## Welcome Remarks

Maimah S. Karmo, President & Founder | Tigerlily Foundation

## Collaborating to Accelerate Impact: Metastatic Breast Cancer Project (MBCp)

Angela Baker, MBCp Ambassador | Count Me In

Imani Boykin, Howard University | Metastatic Breast Cancer Learning Experience (HUMBLE)

Carla Harvey, MBCp Ambassador | Count Me In

Sheila McGlown, MBCp Ambassador | Count Me In

Colleen Nguyen, MPH, Community Engagement Lead | Count Me In

Latonya Wilson, MBCp Ambassador | Count Me In

## Diversifying Clinical Trials & Advancing Access to Innovation

Janeen R. Azare, PhD, MSPH | Pfizer, Inc.

## Metastatic Breast Cancer & Me

Kimberly Alcantara | MBC Advocate

Shonte Drakeford, RN | MBC Advocate

Brandon Garrett, Chief Operating Officer | National Minority Quality Forum

Lori Wilson, MD, FACS, Division Chief of Surgical Oncology | Howard University

## Metastatic Breast Cancer & The Community

Ricki Fairley, President | Dove Marketing

Keith Gregory, MBA, Senior Director Radiation Oncology Operations & Proton Therapy | Inova Schar Cancer Institute

Jasmine Jones, Founder & COO | Cherry Blossom Intimates

Ruth Travis, D.Min. | Breast Cancer Advocate

## Lunch

## Remarks on behalf of Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Shultz

Jackii Wang, MPA, Legislative Assistant | U.S. Representative Debbie Wasserman Schultz

## Metastatic Breast Cancer & Public Policy

Tammy Boyd, MPH, JD, Chief Policy Officer | Black Women's Health Imperative

Regina Hampton, MD, FACS, Medical Director | Breast Care Center at Doctors Community Hospital

Sara Horton, MD, Oncologist | Howard University

Mia Keeyes, MA, Health Policy Advisor | U.S. Representative Robin Kelly

Shalewa Noel-Thomas, MPH, PhD, Chief, Cancer & Chronic Disease Prevention Bureau | DC Department of Health

## Keynote Conversation Re-Writing the Story

Markette Sheppard, MA, Great Day Washington Host | WUSA 9 with David Lacks, Jr. | Grandson of Henrietta Lacks

## Mobilizing Against Metastatic Breast Cancer Disparities *(Facilitation Team Listed Below)*

Janeen Azure, PhD, MSPH | Pfizer, Inc

Imani Boykin | HUMBLE

Beth Burnett | Pfizer, Inc.

Dionne Jones-Dendy | Pfizer, Inc

Ricki Fairley | Dove Marketing

Keith Gregory | Inova Schar Cancer Institute

Coral Jean-Mary | HUMBLE

Colleen Nguyen, MPH | Count Me In

Dannielle Patterson | Lilly

Gloria Ward-Ravenell | SOSI

Shyrea Thompson | The IRIS Collaborative

Lauren Wood | Humanly

## Moment of Silence & Reflection

Maimah S. Karmo, President & Founder | Tigerlily Foundation

## Closing Remarks

MC: Madeline Long Poole, Founder & CEO | Supporting Our Sisters International



# Partnering for Impact

## OUR MISSION

**Tigerlily Foundation Mission:** is to educate, empower, advocate for and support to young women ages 15 to 45 years old, – before, during and after breast cancer. Learn more at [TigerlilyFoundation.org](http://TigerlilyFoundation.org).



## LISTENING SUMMIT GOALS

Listen to patients, experts, partners and the community to establish priorities to educate young women of color on MBC.

Demonstrate the importance of access to innovations such as clinical trials and the barriers for young women of color.

Mobilize a network of diverse MBC ambassadors and experts to lower African-American breast cancer mortality rates.

## DEFINING IMPACT: 3 PHASES. 1 FOCUS.

### PHASE 1: LISTEN

**lis·ten / verb**

to give one's attention, to be alert, to take notice of  
to be ready to hear, make an effort to hear something  
to act on what someone says; to respond to advice or a request



### PHASE 2: CREATE

**cre·ate / verb**

to bring into existence  
to produce through imaginative skill  
to bring about by a course of action, give rise to, cause



### PHASE 3: MOBILIZE

**mo·bi·lize / verb**

to increase or bring to a full stage of development  
to assemble, organize, bring together, ready, prepare for service  
to put into movement or circulation or make capable of movement



### FOCUS:

Gather insights to **create** a metastatic breast cancer disparities education and outreach campaign to **mobilize** young women of color to lower African-American breast cancer mortality rates.



# Stay Connected #ListenUpMBC

## Programs



### Have the Chat

Resources, videos and tips to broach the topic of breast cancer and its impact with loved ones.



### My Life

My Life offers resources and views of young women living with metastatic breast cancer.



### New Normal Journal

The New Normal Journal provides young survivors with tools to navigate life during and after breast cancer.



### SPIRIT Retreat

4-days at Unity Village to enjoy the beauty of nature, rejuvenation, and spiritual support tools for you and your caregiver.



### 24/7 Prayer Line

Young women with breast cancer call 888-803-4680 for confidential support.



### YWBHD on the Hill

Young Women's Breast Health Day on the Hill (YWBHD) brings together researchers, policy makers, patients, caregivers, physicians and healthcare professionals to advocate for quality care for young women – before, during and after breast cancer.

## Social



[@tigerlilycares](https://twitter.com/tigerlilycares)



[@tigerlilyfoundation](https://www.facebook.com/tigerlilyfoundation)



[@tigerlily\\_foundation](https://www.instagram.com/tigerlily_foundation)



[@tlfcare](https://www.pinterest.com/tlfcare)



[@TigerlilyFoundation](https://www.youtube.com/TigerlilyFoundation)

## Tigerlily Foundation

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# Biographies



**Kimberly Alcantara's** journey as a caregiver and breast cancer advocate began in 2006, when her mom, Ingrid, found a lump in her left breast at just 38 years old. Her mom was concerned as she was uninsured while waiting for her Medicaid to become active and had to pay out of pocket for her initial visit and was immediately referred to have a mammogram. One day after Mother's Day, Ingrid, was diagnosed with stage III breast cancer in 2006 and underwent a mastectomy. During her recovery, Kim, Carlos (her younger brother) and her grandmother helped around the house and had to find jobs to work after school in order to alleviate some of the financial hardships they would face. Ingrid's family supported her through grueling weeks of chemotherapy, taking on all the household responsibilities, at home care and managed all her medical appointments to serve as her translator. As Kim's mom went into remission, she would still take on many of the household responsibilities and decided to go back to work as soon as possible. Years later as their family prepared to celebrate 6 years in remission; Ingrid began feeling ill and developed a severe cough. While on a family vacation, Kim's mom fell off a bike and injured her back. Her mom went to the ER and during the preliminary exam; the doctors thought she had pneumonia. Due to her medical history, they decided to get a biopsy of the fluid found in her lungs. It took four days before they did the biopsy. After 5 days in the hospital, at age 46, on Thanksgiving Day 2013, they diagnosed her with metastatic breast cancer in her lungs and lumbar. Once again, Kim set-up a meeting with her mom's oncologist, to discuss options. Due to Ingrid having Medicaid, she had limited treatment options and entered various clinical trials, one study required a partial hysterectomy to receive free hormone treatment and free visits. Ingrid felt that while she was battling metastatic breast cancer, she could "contribute to finding a cure that may one day save [her] own daughter and women around the world". In 2014, Kim and her mom joined DC Pink Divas a breast cancer education and patient navigation program to give back to their community. Her mother believed that too many women don't get the health care they need because of language and cultural barriers and hope that by sharing her story and that her participation in clinical trials helps to find a cure for many women often forgotten. Ingrid was recognized by Vice President and Dr. Biden in 2014 and was featured in the White House Executive Office during the Obama Administration. Months after the birth of her first child, Kim laid her mom, Ingrid to rest in the spring of 2017. Today is committed to honoring her mother's legacy by sharing their story and helping other young women of color as they face breast cancer.



**Janeen Azare, PhD,** is a native of Southwestern Louisiana, who grew up very interested in learning more about what had become all too familiar to many -- the infamous Louisiana corridor known as "Cancer Alley". Curiosity fueled her desire to make a contribution to the science of cancer by conducting research, which focused on analyzing proteins that contribute to the progression of breast and prostate cancer and studying the importance of the multi-drug resistance 1 gene in the efficiency of transcriptional targeted chemotherapy. Dr. Azare now continues her efforts as an Oncology Field Medical Director – Breast Cancer, which includes leading the Field Medical Director's Regional Patient Advocacy Team and being an integral charter member of the Diversity in Clinical Trials Center of Excellence. Dr. Azare is currently a second year Fellow in Pfizer's Early Development Group. She has published her work in scientific peer reviewed journals and has served on several scientific committees. Dr. Azare is a member of the American Association for Cancer Research, American Public Health Association, and the American Society of Clinical Oncology. Dr. Azare received her Ph.D. from New York University Medical Center Nelson Institute of Environmental Medicine, an M.S.P.H from Tulane University Medical Center School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, and her B.S. from Xavier University of Louisiana. She completed her postdoctoral training at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center where she was also a Research Associate in the Department of Medicine. Aside from her clinical/scientific interest, Dr. Azare is a mentor to several high school and college students and within her professional network. Her favorite quote and source of challenge comes from the following words "You must be the change you wish to see in the world". – Ghandi Dr. Azare lives in Harlem, NY.



**Angela Baker** is 48 and was born in New Jersey and currently resides in Charlotte, NC. She holds a bachelor's degree in Business Management and a Master of Science degree in Organizational Development. Angela is a 3x's breast cancer survivor. She was diagnosed with DCIS in 2003 and underwent a mastectomy and reconstruction to her left breast, and treatment of Tamoxifen. In 2010 she had a local reoccurrence, surgery to remove it and several rounds of radiation. In 2011 Angela was diagnosed with stage IV Metastatic breast cancer, which has now spread to her chest wall bones, spine, and ribs. She again underwent several rounds of radiation. Angela is currently in ongoing treatment and is getting monthly Faslodex and Xgeva shots as well as taking a daily oral medication called Ibrance. Angela is an advocate in her community, and involved in other breast cancer organizations, she is an African American Ambassador for the MBC Project at the B.R.O.A.D Institute, and the founder and President of a nonprofit Organization in Charlotte, NC called Angel in Disguise Inc, which provides complimentary transportation to breast cancer patients to appointments, surgery, treatment and light errands, while waiting with them, as well as provides after care for those who need it and peer support. Angela has participated in several events and speaking engagements to promote the awareness and importance of helping to find a cure for Metastatic Breast Cancer.



**Tammy Boyd, MPH, J.D.**, is Chief Policy Officer at Black Women's Health Imperative (BWHI) Boyd serves as BWHI's main point-of-contact for all policy and legislative matters. Boyd is an established healthcare executive with proven expertise in government relations, political compliance, and advocacy. She has extensive experience in creating and executing federal legislative policy strategy and facilitating outreach to members of the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate. Boyd most recently served as Managing Partner, for TKB Global Strategies, LLC /Watts Partners, where she successfully executed government affairs strategies through engagement of the U.S. House of Representatives, U.S. Senate, and federal agencies such as the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS), and Department of Veteran Affairs. Along with her past roles with DaVita, Inc., and Johnson and Johnson, Boyd also served as Legislative Director for Congressman John Lewis (D-GA) where she exercised oversight over legislative activities within the office, including tax, trade, health care (Medicare, Medicaid, and Graduate Medical Education), financial services, judiciary and energy. Boyd is a member of the American, National, and Mississippi Bar Associations and the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Boyd has been featured in *USA Today*; *Clarion Ledger*; *Huffington Post*; and *Essence Magazine*, during inaugural events for the Smithsonian National African American History & Culture Museum. Boyd received a M.P.H. degree from Emory University School of Public Health and a Juris Doctorate degree from American University, Washington College Of Law.



**Imani Boykin** is an aspiring surgeon and entrepreneur studying at Howard University in Washington, DC, currently, employed as the lead undergraduate administrative assistant to the Howard University's Office of Student Life & Activities. When not working, Imani serves as a member and co-captain to the Howard University Bisonette Dance Ensemble, founder and community outreach ambassador for Project H.U.M.B.L.E., and research and service fellow of Young African Leadership Initiative. As an honor student, Imani also conducts research pertaining to exercise physiology with Dr. Bond in the Howard University Cancer Center. Imani will graduate in Spring of 2019 with a degree in Human Performance and Leisure studies with a concentration in Sports Medicine and a minor in Chemistry from Howard University.



**Beth Burnett** has been with Pfizer for 18 years and working in Oncology for 17 years. She works in the Advocacy and Professional Relations team at Pfizer Oncology the breast cancer advocacy engagement.



**Dionne Jones-Dendy, PhD**, is an experienced Oncology Medical Science Liaison with Pfizer, Inc. with a demonstrated history of working in the pharmaceuticals industry following oncology advanced clinical practice. Skilled in Oncology (GI, LUNG, Breast, GIST, Thyroid, Renal, Ovarian, & Cervical), Women's Health, Clinical Research, Life Sciences, Clinical Education, and Health Administration. Strong research clinician with a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) focused in Nursing from The University of Texas at Tyler.



**Shonte' Drakeford, RN, CRNP** is 34 years old and is Living with Stage IV (4) Metastatic Breast Cancer as the INITIAL diagnosis, it has metastasized (spread) to her lungs, hip, ribs, spine and lymph nodes. She was diagnosed at the age of 31 in June 2015. She is Triple Positive meaning her breast tumor grows 95% from the hormones Estrogen/Progesterone (+) and the Human Epidermal Growth (HER2) receptor (+). She also has a genetic receptor for colon cancer. She had ongoing benign complications since the age 25, the very day her husband returned from Iraq, but despite her diligence she could not catch this early, therefore, Stage 4 was the initial diagnoses. She states she will NEVER be in remission, she will be on treatment FOREVER, this is a lifelong journey. Stage 4 does not mean instant death all the time. Many people are "surviving" this disease for many years - up to even 20 years, it just means treatment is for life but also terminal unless a cure happens. Just to know it is even a possibility to live this long she hopes to have assuaged a lot of people's fears, especially since she doesn't "look" ill, although cancer has no specific look. With all this, she focuses on the quality of life. What makes her smile and brings joy to herself and others. Before cancer, she says her, and husband were care-free. They traveled and lived life to the fullest. This still remains even with cancer. She had a rough childhood being in and out of foster care, growing up in the inner city of Washington, DC, but refused to let that define her outcome in life, and honestly believe that helped prepare her for this cancer journey. She struggled with infertility for five years, trying IUI and IVF without success and was about to adopt a child, but was diagnosed with breast cancer. She says she is strong, silly and self-confident. She is positive, God-fearing and all loving. She is afraid and weak with flaws. She lives in daily pain, have constant nausea with occasional vomiting, is medically induced into menopause, she takes at least 8 pills a day and get 2 shots in her stomach monthly for treatment. Her hip is always liable to break but still manages to snowboard (permission was received don't worry lol). She is a wife (13 years married, 19 years together). She is a Nurse Practitioner, who's had a career as a Registered Nurse (RN) for 12 years. She is an Army spouse. She is not a mom, but her life is filled with the love of children surrounding her. She is ambitious but humble. **She is ALIVE!!**



**Ricki Fairley** is the Founder and President of DOVE Marketing, a marketing agency with a mission to deliver iconic thinking, strategic problem solving and creative genius to clients seeking profitable business results. Fairley is a seasoned marketer with over 30 years of marketing experience including 20 years in brand management at Johnson & Johnson, Nabisco, Reckitt & Colman and The Coca-Cola Company, and over ten years in agency leadership encompassing strategic planning and consulting for numerous Fortune 500 companies. Ricki received the Association of National Advertisers (ANA) 2013 Multicultural Excellence Award for the African American radio advertising for the Obama for America campaign and holds the Leadership Award from the Creative Thinking Association of America, was named a Top 100 Marketer by Black Enterprise Magazine in February 2011 and is member of the 2011 Class of Leadership Atlanta. Ricki was inducted into The HistoryMakers. Prior to starting DOVE in February 2012, Ricki held the position of Chief Marketing Officer and Partner at IMAGES USA leading the implementation of successful and award-winning campaigns for Amtrak, Sara Lee, Wachovia-Wells Fargo, Glory Foods, The National Black Arts Festival, Teach for America and Brown Forman. Ricki holds a BA from Dartmouth College and an MBA from Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University. She is the President Emeritus of the Black Alumni of Dartmouth Association and serves on the Board of Directors for the Latin American Association, Ne-Yo's Compound Foundation, and Move This World. As a member, Ricki also manages the relationship between the Links, Inc. and the White House Office of Public Engagement as a member of the National Women's Issues & Economic Empowerment Committee. Ricki was recently appointed as a Champion for the Triple Negative Breast Cancer Foundation. Ricki has two daughters and a granddaughter and works pro bono to garner publicity for breast cancer awareness.



**E. Brandon Garrett**, serves as the National Minority Quality Forum’s Chief Operating Officer and Chief of Staff to the CEO. Prior to joining NMQF, Brandon served as a Managing Director at Paladin Healthcare Capital, where he completed hospital and healthcare acquisitions across the United States. He also served as Chief of Staff to Congresswoman Robin Kelly (IL-02). As the Congresswoman’s chief advisor, he led the 22-person official staff and 100 plus person campaign staff and volunteers on strategy, policy and communications. He also served as Executive Editor the *2015 Kelly Report on Health Disparities in America*. Additionally, he served as Executive Director of the Congressional Black Caucus Health Braintrust. As the Executive Director, he tripled the amount of giving the non-profit received and expanded their reach leading health programs and workshops across the nation. Brandon began his career on Capitol Hill over 10 years ago as Policy Adviser to Ways and Means Committee Member Congressman William Jefferson (LA-02), his hometown United States Representative, working primarily on economic development for a post-Katrina New Orleans and myriad of tax, financial services and appropriations issues. He then served as Legislative Director to Congresswoman Marcia Fudge (OH-11) and then Policy Director for the 44-member Congressional Black Caucus led by Chairman Emanuel Cleaver (MO-05), leading on economic development issues. Brandon served as the Executive Editor the CBC’s Budget Commission Report on Economic and Wealth Development and led on policy priorities and business development for the CBC’s For the People Jobs Initiative—a national tour focusing on practical policy solutions to improve the employment rate. Immediately preceding his work with Congresswoman Kelly, he worked for Vice President Joe Biden as his policy director and political advisor during the 2012 Obama-Biden re-election, working on debate preparation and rapid response and political outreach advisor for the inauguration. Originally from the Greater New Orleans area, Brandon attended undergrad at Texas A&M University, graduate school at North Carolina State University and spent his stint in law school at Louisiana State University. Brandon currently sits on the Board of Trustees for Xavier University of Louisiana and a member of Leadership Greater Washington and Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity. He has consulted several businesses and non-profit organizations on strategy and business development including the State of Qatar and the National Medical Association. Brandon has received numerous awards for his work in business and public policy including the CBC Foundation’s Health Staffer Award, Congressional Staff Association’s Leadership in Public Policy award, 114th Congress Stennis Fellow and Top 40 Under 40 Leader in Minority Health. Finally, he has been a featured speaker at the Harvard Kennedy School, Harvard Business School, the University of Chicago’s School of Public Policy, and the Susan G. Komen Public Policy & Leadership Summit.



**Keith Gregory**, MBA, is the Senior Director Radiation Oncology Operations and Proton Therapy at the Inova Schar Cancer Institute Healthcare professional with extensive experience in hospital and private practice administration. Skilled at negotiating, project management, problem-solving, conflict resolution and time management. Mr. Gregory’s knowledge in healthcare and private practice administration encompasses oversight of both hematology/oncology and radiation oncology programs and includes strategic and analytic direction for multi-million-dollar programs and practices.



**Regina Hampton, MD, FACS**, is the Medical Director of the Breast Care Center at Doctors Community Hospital, the first breast center in Prince George's County. She is a board-certified general surgeon who has focused her practice on breast health and breast cancer. Her former private practice, Signature Breast Care, was the first breast surgery practice in the County. Dr. Regina Hampton is also the Medical Director and co-founder of Breast Care for Washington, a nonprofit dedicated to providing access to mammograms regardless of the ability to pay. The facility is the only 3D mammography facility east of the Anacostia in Ward 8, which has the highest mortality rate of breast cancer in the District of Columbia. She plays an active role at Doctors Community Hospital. She was elected the first female chief of staff in the 40-year history of the hospital. Dr. Hampton was the Project Director for a Susan G. Komen \$1million grant that provided mammograms for uninsured women in Prince Georges County. Dr. Hampton attended the Medical College of Pennsylvania and completed a general surgery residency at Howard University Hospital. She completed research at the Georgetown University Lombardi Cancer Center, which was published in Oncogene. Dr. Hampton has been featured in many local and national television and print media: NPR, Washington Post, Essence magazine, The Russ Parr Morning Show and Buddy Check 9 with Andrea Roane. In October 2018, she opened Cherry Blossom Intimates at Woodmore Town Center in Prince George's County, Maryland. It is a bra boutique offering custom prosthetics for breast cancer survivors and lingerie for all body shapes and sizes.



**Carla Harvey** I'm a 42-year-old Tennessee native currently residing in Maryland. I proudly served in the US Army and later worked at the Pentagon. I was diagnosed with metastatic breast cancer (stage IV de novo) at age 37, well before the recommended age to start receiving yearly mammograms. Because of my diagnosis, I will receive some form of treatment for the remainder of my life. My cancer type is Invasive Ductal Carcinoma (IDC), which is the most common type of breast cancer found in approximately 80% of breast cancer patients. My cancer subtype is hormone receptor negative (HR-), human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 positive (HER2+), which is found in only about 20-25% of all breast cancer patients. Cancer is still detected in my body and I'm now receiving treatment every three weeks. Tests and scans revealed metastasis to the axillary lymph nodes, innumerable lesions in my lungs and liver and in multiple bones, including my spine. I encourage everyone to perform self-breast exams and to also listen to your body, which is how I discovered my cancer. Get a second opinion. I'm glad I did, because five months before my diagnosis, during a routine exam, I had a doctor tell me, "Oh you're only 37, you don't need a mammogram." You are your own best advocate! I've been involved with the MBCproject since 2016 and am happy to talk to anyone who may be interested in learning more about how they can become more involved in this research.



**Sara Horton, MD**, is a medical oncologist serving patients in the national capital region. Her career has been primarily focused on reducing health disparities in cancer treatment outcomes in the African-American community. Dr. Horton has 20 years of clinical practice, including Division Chief for Hematology and Oncology and Director of Clinical Trials at Howard University Cancer Center. She recently served in the FDA's Office of Hematology/Oncology Products as a Medical Review Officer and was a founding member of their Disparities Working Group. While with the FDA, Dr. Horton started the FDA Summer Scholars Program in partnership with DC Public High Schools covering the "Basics of Oncology", including cancer treatments, endpoints for clinical trials, data analysis, statistics, pharmacy, microbiology, genetics, genomics, drug promotion, and patient advocacy. Dr. Horton has been an invited speaker in many oncology settings and served on the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) Women in Oncology Strategic Planning Committee. While in practice, she was voted on of The Washingtonian's Top Docs and currently is an Associate Professor affiliated with Howard University Hospital as well as a part time Associate Medical Director at Evicore Healthcare. Dr. Horton received her undergraduate degree from Northwestern University, attended Wright State University School Of Medicine and completed her hematology/oncology fellowship at Georgetown University Lombardi Cancer Center Dr. Horton's passion remains empowering patients by educating them not only in the clinical setting but also in the community.



**Patti Fine Jewell** is the Senior Director, of Oncology Public Affairs for Pfizer Oncology in the US. In this role, Jewell leads Pfizer's efforts related to federal and state cancer policy issues that promote the research and development of innovative medicines as well as patient access to needed cancer care. She also leads the company's work with cancer patient advocacy organizations in the policy arena. Prior to this role, Jewell worked in Alliance Development, State Government Relations and Grassroots Advocacy for Pfizer. Before joining Pfizer, Patti was a Legislative Assistant to U.S. Senator Mitch McConnell. A graduate of the University of Michigan and New York University, Patti lives in New York with her husband and two children.



**Jasmine Jones** is Founder & COO of Cherry Blossom Intimates watched her grandmother battle breast cancer and wondered why there weren't better options for survivors who needed to find bras for their post-mastectomy bodies. She decided to fill that void, partnering with a top breast surgeon, Dr. Regina Hampton to launch Cherry Blossom Intimates, a breast health facility and bra shop that uses post-mastectomy 3D chest wall scanning technology to create customized prosthetics in a boutique setting. Ms. Jones who is fluent in French, was awarded the title of Miss District of Columbia 2016 as well as Miss Black District of Columbia USA. She speaks to audiences across the world on the topics of entrepreneurship and modern womanhood. Ms. Jones obtained her Bachelor of Business Administration in Entrepreneurship from Trinity Washington University in Washington D.C. Ms. Jones was honored to be recently named Forbes 30 Under 30 in the Retail and Ecommerce category.



**Maimah Karmo** is the Founder and CEO of Tigerlily Foundation and a ten-year survivor of breast cancer. On February 28, 2006, at 4:45 p.m., Maimah was diagnosed with Stage 2 breast cancer. She had no family history of breast cancer; and was 32-years old. While undergoing chemotherapy, she made a promise to God that if she survived, she would create an organization to educate, empower, advocate for and support young women affected by breast cancer. After her second treatment, Tigerlily Foundation was born. Beginning in chemotherapy, Maimah grew Tigerlily Foundation from a concept to a national organization, with hundreds of volunteers nationwide, providing breast health, wellness and transformational programs to young women in more than 43 states. Maimah is a best-selling author, speaker transformational coach and cancer survivor. She is also a soul-purpose seeker, philanthropist, mother and bad ass. She has faced every challenge in her life with faith and used them as catalysts for transformation. Having escaped from her native country of Liberia alone, at 15 years old, Maimah is the definition of a warrior. She has survived three wars, being held at gunpoint and being hit by lightning. Maimah helps people to embrace change and transformation. She has inspired millions to live their authentic selves and to manifest their soul purpose. She has been featured on the Oprah Winfrey Show, OWN, Good Morning America, the Today Show, MSNBC, in O, the Oprah Magazine, Essence, Cosmopolitan, Seventeen and more. She is the author of Fearless: Awakening to my Life's Purpose Through Breast Cancer, publisher of Bliss Magazine, producer of the Pure Bliss Podcast. She has been recognized by Oprah Winfrey as a thought leader on how to help people to awaken and transform their lives. Maimah has created a successful personal transformational company that has inspired millions of people around the world.



**Mia R. Keelys, MPH**, serves as the Health Policy Advisor to Congresswoman Robin Kelly (D-IL), Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus Health Braintrust. Mia is originally from Philadelphia, PA, but also calls Jakarta, Indonesia and Johannesburg, South Africa "home." Through her efforts promoting health equity nationwide and internationally, Mia works with her colleagues developing health, economic, and education policies and programs that illuminate and address critical issues of historically underserved populations. Mia bases her health equity philosophy on understanding "upstream" issues—access, affordability, and socially determining factors—which affect communities' abilities to make healthy choices across their lives. Mia especially frames her research and work around youth of color and their ability to manifest their life vision, a philosophy which she illustrates in her 2015 TEDx talk, "A Racial Imagination Quotient." The National Minority Quality Forum recognizes Mia as a 40 Under 40 Leader in Minority Health. The National Academy of Medicine features Mia's work in their national project and exhibit, "Visualizing Health Equity". Previously, Mia has been a Kaiser Family Foundation Barbara Jordan Health Policy Scholar; a Fellow for the City of Philadelphia in the Deputy Mayor's Office for Health and Opportunity; an HIV/AIDS researcher in South Africa; and a U.S. Fulbright Fellow to Indonesia, where she lived and worked in various health administrative

and research capacities for three years, while simultaneously learning the national language, Bahasa Indonesian. She has also held summer associate appointments with the Department of Health and Human Services Office of Minority Health, and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Office of Minority Health. Mia holds Bachelor of Arts degrees in English and Psychology from Cheyney University, and a Master of Arts degree in Medical Sociology from Vanderbilt University, where she was also a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Fellow through Meharry Medical College. In 2018, Mia began her Doctor of Public Health studies at The George Washington University School of Milken Institute School of Public Health. Mia is also a creative non-fiction writer, with training from the University of Oxford in the United Kingdom.



**David Lacks, Jr.** is the grandson of Henrietta Lacks and the son of Henrietta's middle son David "Sonny" Lacks. David is a patient rights advocate, who travels the country sharing his grandmother's important contributions to science. David and his family have been proud to speak truth to power as they serve as catalysts for modern bioethics policies and inform consent laws that are affording patients an unprecedented "seat at the table", by advancing science, building trust, and protecting research participants. In 2013, a milestone was reached as the Lacks Family entered a groundbreaking, HeLa Genome Data Use Agreement with the medical, scientific, and bioethics communities, giving David and his family a role in regulating the HeLa genome sequences, discoveries, data shared and important HeLa science to come. David is honored to serve on this historic National Institutes of Health six-member panel, which reviews proposals from researchers seeking to sequence the DNA of cell lines derived from his grandmother's tumor or to use DNA profiles of such cells in their research. In this role, David works to provide controlled access to the genomic data and ensure that credit is attributed to the Lacks family in papers and scientific presentations based on the research done with the DNA data. David possesses a degree in computer information systems and travels internationally installing computer systems and labs for businesses and educational institutions. David assisted in the creation of the Lacks Family website, and in his spare time uses his talent to maintain the Lacks' family digital media. David also served as an advisor on the 2017 Emmy nominated, the Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks, the HBO movie adaptation of his beloved grandmother's life, which stars and is executive produced by Oprah Winfrey. Today, the Lacks family continue to honor Henrietta Lacks with The Lacks Family Collection featuring artifacts from her legacy and will host a symposium in 2020 to commemorate her 100th birthday. To educate future generations on the impact of Henrietta's immortal HeLa cells, David's sister, Jeri authored a poem Who Am I? Henrietta Lacks, The Mother of Modern Medicine and is working on a children's book.



**Tania Koulakian**, serves as Program Coordinator with the Tigerlily Foundation and has been an encouraging leader in her field bringing with her experience in both the corporate and start-up worlds. Tania was named Alumni Roll of Honour at York University, Canada. She holds a BA Degree in Communication Studies. She is a Social Media expert and a Community Manager Specialist in her field. She was casted as 1 of the leading influencers on CTV PR's first social media influencer team and has worked with brands such as Bounce Canada, Jennifer Ettinger @FitYourStyle, Pink Dreams Inc to name a few. Tania is also health and wellness advocate and the Founder of Harmonize, a wellness lifestyle company who's mission is to help you live your best life today! As a former ballerina, yogi and pilates instructor, Tania enjoys helping others make happy, healthy and balanced decisions when it comes to health, fitness and well-being.



**Sheila McGlown** was diagnosed with Stage IV HER-II+ breast cancer at the age of 43 in 2009. She has been living with metastatic breast cancer (MBC) for nine years. When Sheila was diagnosed, the breast cancer had metastasized to her liver and ribs. She says, “I never knew that metastatic was another word for Stage IV and how important that word would become in my life.” Sheila had heard of Stage IV before, losing her mother to Stage IV breast cancer in 2004. Sheila’s platform is raising awareness about the racial disparities that exist within the African American breast cancer community. African American women die at a 42% faster rate than any other race. This disparity is partly due to racial disparities that exist within our communities. Sheila is a 25-year Air Force decorated military veteran, receiving four Air Force Meritorious Service Medals, seven Air Force Commendation Medals and four Air Force Achievement Medals. She is a Young Advocate for Living Beyond Breast Cancer Young Women’s Initiative Program and volunteers her time on the Living Beyond Breast Cancer Helpline, offering emotional support to breast cancer patients. She is also a Consumer Reviewer for the DOD Breast Cancer Research Program where she reviews proposals for DoD funding. Sheila also reviews METAvivor grants as a consumer reviewer. She is also involved in The Metastatic Breast Cancer Project. Helping transform the understanding of breast cancer is important to Sheila as she has submitted her saliva sample to the project for further research. Sheila is an active member of the St. Louis Breast Cancer Coalition, Alternate Board Member of the National Breast Cancer Coalition, the Young Women’s Breast Cancer Program at Siteman Cancer Center, and founder of SWAGG (Survivor With A Good God) an organization that provides educational resources and financial assistance to women during breast cancer treatment. She is also a facilitator for Breast Cancer Recovery, an organization that provides the solitude and safe place to integrate all parts of who we are---mind, body and spirit toward healing. She is also on the advisory committee for The Pink Fund, a non-profit who offers short term financial assistance to patients undergoing treatment. She’s an active member of the National Breast Cancer Coalition and is a 2015 graduate of NBCC’s Project Lead Institute and also a graduate of Advanced Project Lead 2016. Sheila is also featured in [A Story Half Told](#) an initiative started by Pfizer to engage patients, advocates and physicians on Metastatic Breast Cancer. She was recently featured in the [Winter 2019 Issue of Breast Cancer Wellness Magazine](#). Since being diagnosed in 2009, Sheila has received her Bachelor’s and Master’s from Lebanon University in Business Administration. Sheila is married to Cortez McGlown, and has one daughter, Janaia who is 29 years old. Sheila has been on 6 different treatment plans. Currently she is on a clinical trial called DS-8201A because of progression in July 2018. The clinical trial is working well.



**Colleen Nguyen**, MPH, is the Community Engagement Lead for Count Me In, a nonprofit research organization that empowers patients to accelerate cancer research by sharing their samples, their clinical information, and their voices. Prior to *Count Me In*, she worked at Boston Children’s Hospital (Computational Epidemiology Group), managing a portfolio spanning influenza, vaccines, and pandemic preparedness. Before delving into health, she served as an AmeriCorps member with the International Rescue Committee in San Diego, CA -- helping families similar to her own. Colleen has also spent time on national political campaigns, engaging communities as an organizer and as part of a digital team. Colleen graduated from Boston University School of Public Health with an MPH in global health and infectious disease epidemiology; she also graduated with a BA in political science from the University of California, Davis.



**Dannielle Patterson**, MBA, Marketer serves as the Consumer Strategy, Customer Experience and Customer Support Manager for Eli Lilly Oncology. Dannielle is from and currently works in Indianapolis, Indiana; though her travels to help patients thrive while living with metastatic breast cancer take her around the globe. In her role, Dannielle has led several breast cancer awareness initiatives at Lilly including driving the internal execution of Lilly’s More for MBC Campaign (highlighted below) during the national MBC Awareness Day 2018. For this internal campaign, Dannielle teamed up with MBC experts for an interactive day of guest speakers, nutrition and wellness, recipe sampling, guided meditation, yoga and more to educate employees on the needs of people living with MBC. Recently selected as Lilly’s CMO Council Marketing Excel Winner of 2018, Dannielle holds a Master of Business Administration from Indiana University of Bloomington and a Master of Business Administration in Marketing from ESADE University of Spain. Proud mother of four and wife of 22 years, Dannielle is a “mother-bear” when it comes to being the voice of patient.



**Madeline Poole-Long**, President & CEO of Supporting Our Sisters International, Inc. (SOSI) started the organization after her own personal and family struggle with breast cancer to offer support African-American and Hispanic/Latina sisters with a message of health, hope, healing and quality care. The organization is dedicated to improving knowledge and access across the continuum of cancer care, helping women adapt healthier lifestyles in order to help reduce the risk of breast cancer recurrence. She started her career in direct services working as an Employability Skills Training Instructor with the DC Department of Human Services. She is a former Board Member of the St. Louis Family Violence Council, a former Corporate Advisory Board Member of NAFEO (representing 106 Historical Black Colleges and Universities). She spent 12 years as a volunteer for Komen St. Louis before becoming an Advocate in Science, a community of dedicated volunteer advocates who work to reduce the burden of breast cancer in their communities. In 2016, SOSI was awarded a Susan G. Komen grant expand its impact in the national capital area. She also served for over six years as a volunteer Chaplain with the St. Louis Police Department assigned to the Homicide Division under the Homicide Ministers and Community Alliance Program, providing support for victim's families. She served as President of Sisters Network Prince George's County, these coupled experiences helped her understand the importance of health equity for all breast cancer survivors. Under her leadership, the awesome executive team of Sisters Network Prince George's County reached over 10,000 people in less than 2 years through community health programs, workshops and medical screening participation. Madeline has shared her story on the Dr. Oz show, Good Day Washington, the Tom Joyner Morning Show and various of national conferences. Madeline recently accepted the position as Chief Executive Officer of a tele health company. The company is working to help bridge the healthcare gap with communities of color and underserved populations. Today, SOSI joins forces with survivors, family, friends, healthcare providers, researchers, community stakeholders, faith-based communities, and national organizations to create informative change within the breast cancer movement.



**Irene Rainville**, MS, PhD, CGC is a genetic counselor with the Medical Information Liaison Team at Myriad Laboratories. She currently has an interest in the moderate-risk breast cancer genes and tracks literature and clinical management for inherited cancer risk related to ATM, CHEK2 and PALB2. She also has an interest in genes associated with rare tumor syndromes. Irene previously worked as a clinical genetic counselor at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston where she worked with patients and families seeking genetic counseling for inherited breast and ovarian cancer risk, as well as rare tumor syndromes, particularly sarcoma. There she also worked with research teams focused on sarcoma and endocrine tumors, a study of familial lung cancer, and a CanSeq study performing exome analysis of the tumor and germline of patients with metastatic cancer. Irene currently resides in New Hampshire.



**Shalewa Noel-Thomas**, MPH, PhD, currently serves as the Bureau Chief for the Cancer and Chronic Disease Prevention Bureau at DC Health. In this capacity she oversees the Chronic Disease Division, Cancer Programs Division, the Cancer Registry and the Tobacco Control Program. She has a background in public health leadership, health disparities, community-based participatory research, public health program development and workforce development and training. Prior to joining DC Health, Dr. Noel-Thomas served as the Director of the Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities at the Maryland Department of Health where she directed multiple programs designed to address health disparities. She also served as Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Behavioral Science and Community Health at the University of Florida where she directed a HRSA-funded Public Health Training Center and developed and taught graduate courses. Dr. Noel-Thomas' work in health disparities began when she worked at the Moffitt Cancer Center as the Center Coordinator and Outreach Co-Director for the Tampa Bay Community Cancer Network (TBCCN), an NCI-funded program focused on eliminating cancer health disparities. Dr. Noel-Thomas received her undergraduate degree from Florida A&M University, and her master's and doctorate degrees in Public Health from the University of South Florida.



Gloria Ward-Ravenell is a 19 Year breast cancer survivor. Upon retirement as a program analyst in the Federal government, Gloria now dedicates her life as an advocate for breast cancer and improving the quality of life for families. She is one of the founding members of Supporting Our Sisters International, Inc., (SOSI), a breast cancer survivorship organization where she is the Fundraiser and Political Advocacy director. Gloria also is a member of Sisters Helping Sisters breast cancer Ministry at Ebenezer AME church. She is a community activist, breast cancer advocate, and wellness ambassador in the Fort Washington community in Prince George's county and the Southeast Ward 8 community in Washington, DC. As a trained Wellness Ambassador for the Capital Area Food Bank she has been instrumental in providing approximately 100,000 pounds of food and fresh produce to community residents in both jurisdictions. She is the Vice President of National Congress of Black Women, Inc., Metropolitan Washington Chapter. In her spare time Gloria is a sort after model in senior 55 years and older fashion shows.



**Markette Sheppard**, MA is the Emmy award-winning host of WUSA 9's *Great Day Washington*. As a lifestyle journalist, Markette has been featured on top-rated national morning shows, including NBC's *TODAY* show, VH1's former morning show *Big Morning Buzz Live* and ABC's *Live! with Kelly* in the *Coast-to-Coast Cohost Search*, where she used her digital and multimedia storytelling background to launch a full-scale social media campaign to garner America's hearts and votes, ultimately ascending to become a Top 4 candidate – the youngest and last woman standing in the nationally televised competition. Prior to coming to WUSA 9, Markette hosted a morning show at the FOX affiliate in Virginia. Markette's first job in television was as a reporter at Prince George's Community TV in Upper Marlboro, Md. She also served as a reporter for WAMU, the NPR member station for the Washington area. In print, Markette enjoyed a 5-year stint as a freelance health & fitness writer for Time Inc.'s *Essence* magazine, the No. 1 magazine for women of color in the US. Markette is also author of the inspirational children's book, *What Is Light?* and *My Rainy Day Rocket Ship* (June 2019). Markette is also founder of the The GLOW Brands, LLC, a multi-media company aimed at illuminating perspectives around the world through multimedia and live event consulting and speaking engagements. Born and raised in Los Angeles, Markette earned her bachelor's degree from California State University Dominguez Hills. She moved to the DC-area more than a decade ago and earned a master's degree in interactive journalism from American University. Markette lives in the heart of our nation's capital with her husband and young son.



**Shyrea Thompson**, brings more than 15 years of advocacy, health care, education, workforce and outreach experience, in a variety of front-line roles in Massachusetts, New York and Washington, D.C. In 2018, she founded The IRIS Collaborative, LLC - a social entrepreneurship consultancy with the mission to innovate real and impactful solutions through cross-sector collaboration. Thompson was honored to start her career not only working on Capitol Hill with Congressman Martin Meehan, but also again as Assistant Director of Undergraduate Admissions, Outreach and Recruitment at the University of Massachusetts Lowell. Thompson's insight into public-private partnership development expanded the Washington, D.C.'s only federally funded Area Health Education Center (AHEC). Serving as Program Director then transitioning to Executive Director working in underserved communities in our nation's capital, and co-founder of DC Pink Divas - a breast health education, navigation and lay health worker training program. Shyrea joined Susan G. Komen as the Senior Advisor to the CEO for Special Initiatives to lead the organization in its goal to achieve breast health equity, which included a \$27 million partnership with the Fund II Foundation to end disparities. Shyrea has been featured in local print, news, radio and television programs including Good Morning Washington, Washington Business Journal, Essence, O The Oprah Magazine, MadameNoire, The Root, Campaign US and TheGrio and served as a national spokesperson for the Know Your Girls breast health education Ad Council Campaign. Her leadership on the implementation of the Affordable Care Act was recognized by Vice President and Dr. Biden. In 2016, she was honored to be selected as a National Minority Quality Forum (NMQF) 40 Under 40 Leaders in Minority Health, awarded by the Congressional Black Caucus Health Braintrust and joined the 2018 NMQF Advisory Board. She recently joined the University of California's California Breast Cancer Research Program Steering Committee to advise in the implementation and selection of its \$15 million grant program. Shyrea earned her B.S. from The George Washington University and returned to complete her graduate studies in Nonprofit Management.



**Rev. Dr. Ruth Travis** has served the Baltimore community that she loves for many years, and she believes that her best work has yet to come as, Dr. Travis' breast cancer was caught early, she says thanks to digital mammography and she aims to open a little pink café or house for breast cancer survivors named after my mother. Reverend Dr. Ruth Travis served as Sr. Pastor of Ebenezer African American Methodist (A.M.E.) Church located on 20 West Montgomery Street in South Baltimore which boasts being the third oldest A.M.E. congregation in the United States. A longtime Baltimore City Public School educator, she is a nine-year breast cancer survivor. Dr. Travis is also a member of The Journey Continues (TJC), a breast cancer survivor group. Dr. Travis is a former basketball, volleyball, and badminton coach on both the high school and college levels. She earned a bachelor's degree in Physical Education from Morgan State University; Master's degree in Education from West Chester State University; Master of Theology degree from St. Mary's Seminary; and a Doctor of Ministry degree from United Theological Seminary. The Augusta, GA native is also a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. In addition to Ebenezer A.M.E., she also served as Sr. Pastor of Evergreen A.M.E., where she also was the first female to hold that position.



**Latonya Wilson** is an MBC Ambassador for Count Me In. Mrs. Wilson, a 44-year-old native of Sumter, SC graduated in 1993 and pursued her career in the United States army where she served 12 years and 9 months. In 2006, Latonya separated from the Army and started her career as a Government Contractor working overseas in Afghanistan. December 2007, Latonya was diagnosed with breast cancer at the age of 32, ER/PR Pos Her2 Neg. She returned home to South Carolina where she was treated with 8 sessions of chemotherapy and 36 sessions of radiation. After her treatments were done, she returned to Afghanistan. In 2012, Latonya transitioned to Kuwait. While working in Kuwait her breast cancer returned at the age of 37 in 2013. The same Type of breast cancer. She then had a double mastectomy and refused reconstructive surgery. December 2015, Latonya took a position in Iraq. April 2016, she came home on vacation where she was diagnosed for the 3rd time with breast cancer. Stage IV with metastatic breast cancer in the lining of her Lung. Latonya is currently taking Ibrance and Falsodex. Latonya found love after being diagnosed with stage IV breast cancer. Wedding date set for Nov 2019. Latonya is the proud CEO of Cherished Hearts Breast Cancer foundation, advocate for Living Beyond Breast Cancer Foundation, State Leader for Young Survival Coalition and an alumnus for the Mission Continues Veteran Organization.



**Lori Wilson, MD, FACS**, Division Chief of Surgical Oncology, Howard University Hospital works with a multidisciplinary team to provide treatments tailored to each patient. Her expertise includes the treatment of breast, endocrine tumors, soft tissue, gastrointestinal and cutaneous neoplasms. Her work has been published in many peer-reviewed journals and focuses on discovering novel biomarkers and elucidating the causes for disparities in clinical outcomes. After helping hundreds of cancer patients, Dr. Wilson watched both of her parents battle the disease. In 2013, Dr. Wilson's life changed when she was diagnosed with two different types of breast cancer. As she entered treatment, Dr. Wilson agreed to share her journey for the documentary "[Ken Burns Presents Cancer: The Emperor of Maladies](#)". Dr. Wilson's priority is to leverage her journey to serve patients and share her unique perspective with surgical residents. She works tirelessly to shed light on breast cancer disparities and serves as a spokesperson for the Ad Council Know Your Girls breast cancer risk national campaign and was profiled in [Essence magazine](#) and [The New York Times](#). Dr. Wilson was also a noted contributor to the Obama White House on the precision medicine initiative and as a presenter at the United State of Women Summit. Dr. Wilson earned her Bachelor of Science in Biology and Doctor of Medicine degrees from Georgetown University. In addition to her residency at Howard University Hospital, she also was a noted surgical oncology fellow at the John Wayne Cancer Institute.



**Jackii Wang**, MPA, serves as a Legislative Assistant for U.S. Representative Debbie Wasserman Schultz and previously worked as a legislative fellow in the office of Congresswoman Jackie Speier (CA-14). A native New Yorker, she completed her master's degree in Public Administration with a focus on women's issues and social policy at The George Washington University. Prior to graduate school, she worked for the New York City Department of Education and a boutique lobbying firm, where she was involved in state and local politics



**Thomasina Perkins-Washington**, Chief Executive Officer (CEO)/Principal Publicist of Capitol Public Relations, LLC (CPR) and a Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth, Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) Fellow, as well as held various positions working with the US Government as a Civilian and Contractor. Thomasina has had a successful career as an Administrator, Financial/Budget Analyst, Foreign Military Sales and Community Outreach Management Analyst in which she has gained expertise in managing budgets, planning and executing public relations strategies, events, and handling administrative duties with grace and precision. Her unique no nonsense approaches to business and passion for sports and entertainment, as well as her keen sense of direction as it pertains to Athlete, Artist and Corporate Management, most specifically in the areas of Media/Public/Community Relations, inspired her to establish her firm Capitol Public Relations, LLC. Thomasina positions Capitol Public Relations (CPR), realizing every organization large or small has a story to tell the public that can positively impact its bottom line; CPR was created to provide Public/Media/Community services in a Business to Business as well as individual format. CPR has carved a unique niche' in the community relations realm working with several DC metro area and national non-profits. As a Public Relations Manager to professional athletes in the National Football League (NFL), National Basketball Association (NBA), Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA), Men and Women's Professional Soccer as well as high profile artists/entertainers, designers, authors, television and radio networks, production companies and heads of corporations; she uses her sense of "to whom much is given; much is required" to foster attitudes of service. Thomasina is also a periodic contributor to DC Life Magazine and is a member of several organizations and associations to include: Association for Women in Sports Media (AWSM), Alliance for Women in Media (National Capital Area Chapter), Public Relations Society of America (PRSA), an Official NFLPA (National Football League Players Association) Marketing Representative, Hip Hop Sisters, NABFEME (National Association of Black Female Executives in Music & Entertainment), WEEN (Women in Entertainment Empowerment Network) and the DC Chapter of the National Recording Academy (Grammys). Thomasina has held many leadership positions, to include her official start in public relations on her own as Vendor and Sponsor Coordinator for a ten (10) city "Gotta Talk About It!" National Mall Tour, for the non-profit organization Saving Promise, which is a National Domestic Violence Awareness organization. Serves as a Membership Ambassador for the Prince William County and DC Chamber of Commerce, helping to connect small business owners with the tools and resources available through their local chamber; she is the DC Metro area chapter representative for the organization S.U.E. (Sisters United Enterprise) and currently serves as Executive Director of the Miss Northern Virginia Scholarship Pageant; a non-profit preliminary to Miss Virginia and onto Miss America. Born in Jersey City, NJ and raised abroad and in the US as an "Army Brat", Thomasina was exposed to various cultures during her youth. She has settled in the DC Metro area since 1999, has two adult children, Christopher and Sandra and grandchildren Imani Marie and Canaan Perkins.



**Lauren Wood**, Founder of Humanly; Head of Patient Experience & Corporate Communications at Immunomedics is a strategic influencer with experience building interdisciplinary teams, delivering products, and creating novel experiences to lead organizations through impactful change. I've designed and implemented new products, services, and experiences across healthcare, education, financial services, retail, and telecom for both early-stage startups and Fortune 500 firms. Most recently, I founded Humanly, a new social network for people who have been impacted by cancer ([www.ourstory.livehumanly.com](http://www.ourstory.livehumanly.com)). As the Head of Patient Experience and Corporate Communications of Immunomedics, a public biotech company specializing in Antibody Drug Conjugates (ADC's), I manage the company's patient experience product and service portfolio and communications strategy.