



President's Council on UVA-Community Partnerships

617 W. Main Street | PO Box 400881  
Charlottesville, VA 22903

P 434.243.2079  
F 434.243.2091  
[prescouncil.president.virginia.edu](http://prescouncil.president.virginia.edu)

July 10, 2023

President James E. Ryan  
Madison Hall  
University of Virginia  
Charlottesville, VA 22904-4224

Dear President Ryan:

This letter acknowledges our receipt of the Public Health Working Group's report of recommendations for ways the University can partner to enhance the state of public health in the region.

We are pleased to support the recommendations outlined in the report. To best strategize for implementation of the Public Health Working Group recommendations, the report includes a tiered list that can guide implementation. Phase 1 includes short-term recommendations that can be implemented in under eighteen months. Phase 2 includes medium term recommendations that may take eighteen months to three years for implementation. And finally, Phase 3 includes recommendations that may be implemented in the long-term, specifically between three to five years. We want to highlight that these phases indicate how long it will take to fully implement the recommendations, and not the order in which we advocate they begin. For instance, some Phase 3 recommendations may need to start earlier to ensure expeditious completion of the process. We want to highlight that we envision the University prioritizing and taking action across all 3 of these phases, especially the recommendations that are expected to take longer to implement, with a strategic focus on transforming the health care landscape in deep partnership with the community.

The Public Health Working Group and President's Council recommends that the following broad recommendations be used to guide the manner in which the University interacts with the local community.

1. Build trust, center people who have disparities in ongoing conversations, feedback, and development, and believe them. Prove UVA's commitment to the community.
2. Ensure that all data can be disaggregated across demographics including by race, age band, and socio-economic status
  - a. Make data available by specialty and ensure that the community can understand actual impact.
  - b. Link data to plans for Quality Improvement in transparent ways.
3. Allow Black, Indigenous, and people of color to make decisions for themselves about how their work is crafted. (credit: Central VA Clinicians of Color)
4. Support public health recommendations in a structural, sustainable way - including being honest with the community about feasibility and projected timelines

Thank you in advance for you and your team's thoughtful review of this report. We look forward to hearing next steps.

Yours in partnership,

Harold Folley and Cristine Nardi (on behalf of President's Council members, pg. 2)

Attachment: Public Health Working Group Report and Recommendations, Revised: July, 2023



**President's Council on UVA-Community Partnerships**

617 W. Main Street | PO Box 400881  
Charlottesville, VA 22903

**P** 434.243.2079  
**F** 434.243.2091

[prescouncil.president.virginia.edu](mailto:prescouncil.president.virginia.edu)

**PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Harold Folley, community organizer for the Legal Aid Justice Center (co-chair)  
Cristine Nardi, executive director, Center for Nonprofit Excellence (co-chair)  
Allexis Cooper, junior community organizer, Public Housing Association of Residents  
Bonnie Gordon, associate professor of music, faculty director, UVA Equity Center  
Brennan Gould, president and CEO, Charlottesville Area Community Foundation  
Charlene Green, deputy director, Piedmont Housing Alliance  
Eric Irizarry, director of equity, family, school and community relations, Albemarle County Public Schools  
Helen Min, PhD candidate, School of Education & Human development, UVA  
Louis Nelson, vice provost for academic outreach and professor of architectural history, UVA  
Dawn Niles, marketing specialist, UVA Health  
Siri Russell, associate dean of diversity, equity & inclusion, School of Data Science, UVA  
Ridge Schuyler, dean of community self-sufficiency programs, Piedmont Virginia Community College  
Martha Trujillo, rehousing manager, Habitat for Humanity  
Erika Viccellio, executive director, The Fountain Fund  
Kyndall Walker, fourth year student, UVA  
Dr. Michael Williams, associate professor of surgery and public policy  
Patrick Wood, sourcing specialist, UVA

**President's Council Ex Officio Members**

Ben Allen, executive director, UVA Equity Center  
Tracy Downs, Chief Diversity & Community Engagement Officer, UVA Health  
Kevin McDonald, Vice President for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Community Partnerships, UVA