

May 23, 2024 - Day 1 Agenda

8:00 am – 9:00 am | Breakfast Networking

9:00 am – 9:15 am | Conference Welcome

9:15 am – 10:15 am | Florida’s Health Policy Landscape: A Legislative Session Debrief & Medicaid Unwinding Reflections

This discussion will review the outcomes of the 2024 Florida legislative session, including the Live Healthy bill and its anticipated impacts on our health system. The session will also look at fallout and latest policy updates on Florida’s Public Health Emergency Unwind. Additionally, we’ll feature the story of a Florida family that was wrongfully terminated during the Medicaid redetermination process.

Panelists:

- Rep. Anna Eskamani, MPA, MNM, Florida House of Representatives, District 42
- Erica Monet Li, MPH, CHES®, Florida Policy Institute
- Dave Spore, Florida House of Representatives
- Erin Booth, Storyteller

10:25 am – 11: 25 am | Florida’s Maternal and Mental Health Crisis

This panel will explore the intersections of two of the biggest health care crises facing our state: maternal and mental health. Experts will highlight how increasing barriers to care in these areas have exacerbated existing health disparities. They’ll also share what advocacy is needed to change the course of outcomes in Florida.

Panelists:

- Adetola F. Louis-Jacques, M.D., University of Florida
- Marni Stahlman, Mental Health Association of Central Florida
- Marshara Fross, PhD, MPH, CPH, the University of South Florida Center of Excellence in Mental Health Care
- Dr. Dani Rosenkrantz, PhD, Brave Space Psychology

11:35 – 12:00 pm | The Medicaid Expansion Ballot Initiative

This short session will highlight the ongoing campaign to put Medicaid expansion on the 2026 ballot. Representatives of Florida Decides Healthcare will share the latest updates and opportunities to get involved.

12:00 pm – 12:45 pm | Networking Lunch

12:45 pm – 1:40 pm | Keynote Presentation with Sister Simone Campbell, SSS

Sister Simone Campbell is a religious leader, attorney, and poet whose health care policy and advocacy work was recognized by President Obama as pivotal to the passage of the Affordable Care Act. Sister Simone worked in state level policy in California for 18 years as founder of the Oakland Community Law Center, then went on to serve for 17 years as Executive Director of NETWORK, Lobby for Catholic Social Justice. She has won numerous awards, including the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the Franklin D. Roosevelt Four Freedoms Award, and the Defender of Democracy award.

1:50 pm – 2:50 pm | Innovative Strategies to Improve Oral Health Access and Outcomes

National and state experts on oral health will discuss the widening oral health disparities across Florida and uplift innovative solutions being used to address unmet dental needs. The conversation will also include the perspective of a Florida storyteller with personal and professional expertise.

Panelists:

- Melodie Griffin, CareQuest Institute for Oral Health
- Dr. Natalia I. Chalmers DDS, MHSc, PhD, Center for Medicaid Services
- Dr. Tim Garvey, DMD, University of Florida College of Dentistry
- Nicole Sutton, MPH, CPH, CHES, Florida Oral Health Parent Advisory Committee member

3:00 pm – 4:00 pm | Life On and Off Florida's iBudget Waiver

Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) are critical to keeping Floridians with disabilities in their communities and living to their full potential. Florida's HCBS program, the iBudget Waiver, currently serves over 30,000 Floridians, but also has a waitlist of over 22,000 people. This panel will feature disability advocates and experts in conversation about what it means to navigate these systems, access services, and to ultimately be on the waitlist.

Panelists:

- Dorotea Lantz, Prader-Willi Syndrome Association
- JJ Holmes, Disability Advocate
- Alison Holmes, Disability Advocate
- Alan Abramowitz, The Arc of Florida

4:00 pm – 6:00 pm | Close and Happy Hour

Join us for a time of social networking and an awards ceremony celebrating Florida's health advocates.

May 24, 2024 - Day 2 Agenda

8:00 am – 9:00 am | Breakfast Networking

9:00 am – 9:55 am | From Idea to Policy: A Legislative Advocacy Workshop

In a panel created to demystify the legislative process, experts will detail how to transform an idea into legislation. They'll share how bills become law, what happens behind the scenes during session to make legislation move, and how everyday Floridians can influence this process. The panel will also cover best practices for engaging elected officials.

Panelists:

- Letitia Harmon, Florida Rising
- Jonathan Webber, Southern Poverty Law Center
- Maura Plante, Living Hungry, Florida Health and Nutrition Coalition
- Cameron Ghalayini, University of Florida

10:00 am – 10:55 am | Getting Attention: A Workshop on Communications and Generating Earned Media

This skill building panel will teach health advocates, activists, and organizations how to best leverage earned media for advocacy. The discussion will feature resources, best practices, and practical recommendations from communications experts experienced in Florida's media landscape.

Panelists:

- Christine Sexton, Florida Politics
- Natasha Sutherland, MA, MST, Florida Watch, The Florida Communications and Research Hub
- Sonia Lindell, Florida Policy Institute
- Jimmy Clarity, American Heart Association

11:00 – 11:55 am | Perspectives on Youth Organizing Workshop

This panel has been created to explore how inclusivity in our movements through youth engagement is intrinsic to short-term goals and long-term sustainability. Leading youth organizers will discuss barriers and opportunities for youth organizing in Florida and across the US and share practical guidance for individuals and organizations doing youth outreach.

Panelists:

- Taylor Aguilera, Floridians Protecting Freedom
- Manny Rin, Student PIRGs
- Logan Mills, Community Catalyst

12:00 pm – 12:30 pm | Lunch

12:30 pm – 1:25 pm | Keynote Presentation: Q&A with Representative LaVon Bracy Davis and Representative Susan Valdés

This conversational panel will feature two Florida legislators, covering their personal journeys in advocacy, their perspectives on the future of health care in Florida, and the role they see for advocates.

Representative LaVon Bracy Davis is the State Representative for Florida's 40th House District. In the legislature, she has emerged as a champion for criminal justice reform, children, and education advocacy. Bracy Davis holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theater Arts from Howard University and a Juris Doctor degree from Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, College of Law. As a licensed attorney, she previously served as a Senior Attorney for the Department of Children and Families, showcasing her dedication to both the legal and arts communities.

Representative Susan Valdés is the State Representative for Florida's 64th House District. During her time in the legislature, she has focused on education, the environment, healthcare and economic development. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Nova Southeastern University and a Masters in Organizational Leadership from Manhattan College.

1:35 pm – 2:00 pm | Summit Close

This open dialogue will be an opportunity for all conference participants to share their insights from the 2024 FVH Summit and collaboratively build upon ideas for the future of health advocacy in Florida.