



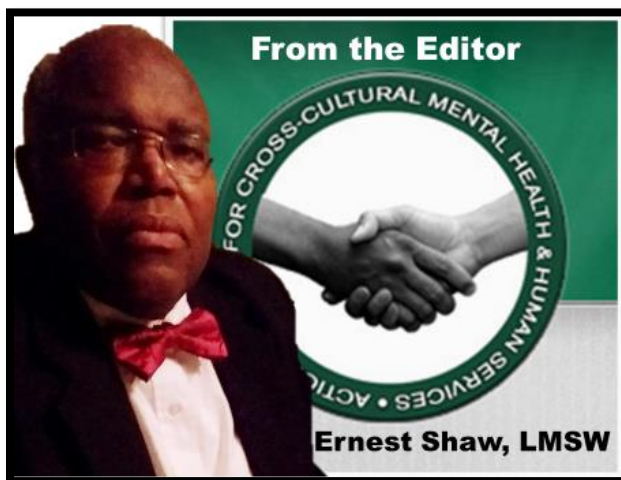
As I noted in the 2020 edition of our newsletter, 2020 was one of the most challenging years in our history. Much of the turmoil that began last year is still with us. Our former president is being impeached for the second time as I write this. We have made advances in our fight against a worldwide pandemic but the death toll in this country is now approaching half a million.

Thank you for reviewing our newsletter. We hope that you find it interesting and informative. We are delighted that we will be able to continue our tradition of providing our annual conference. As you might expect, things will be drastically different this year. We invite you to participate in our virtual conference titled "Emotionally PPE: Equipping Diverse Populations. We feel that the issues scheduled to be addressed are certainly appropriate for the current crisis that we are still battling against. The contributions of Ms. Livingston and everyone who contributed to this effort are greatly appreciated. This newsletter features a preview of the presenters and the topics to be addressed.

This newsletter also contains an abbreviated summary of the evaluation of last year's conference. We will highlight the members of the conference planning committee and the local planning committee.

Previous editions of our newsletter highlighted the role that employees of the SC Department of Mental Health (SCDMH) have played in the organization, leadership, growth, and endurance of our organization. We observe events occurring at SCDMH with great interest and we are happy to note two recent developments. Last year the SCDMH Commission selected Kenneth M. Rogers, MD, to serve as its next State Director. Later in the year, Janet R. Bell was named SCDMH Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer. We congratulate both and we look forward to continued collaboration with SCDMH and its distinguished staff. Again, we thank everyone for their continued support, and we hope that the development of vaccines will enable us to assemble again soon.

From the editor



Thank you for reviewing the 2021 Conference Edition of our newsletter. I am honored to serve as the editor and my goal is simply to continue to highlight the milestones, events, and activities of the individuals and organizations working on behalf of the mentally ill and others. This newsletter will present a summary of the evaluation of the 2020 conference by the people who attended the conference. We believe that this is the most accurate way to determine the worth of events such as our conference.

The primary goal of this organization is to promote cultural competency through the various educational events that we sponsor and present throughout the year. I thank those individuals and organizations who continue to contribute to our success and extend an invitation to everyone to join us. I would also like to thank the members of the conference planning committee and the members of the local planning committee. We are grateful to our president, the board, and everyone who contributed to our success.

You can contribute to the content of the newsletter by submitting print-ready news items and photographs to me at Ernestshaw2001@yahoo.com. We know that you have wonderful memories of great individuals and great events from our past that should be shared. We also know that you are doing wonderful things out there that we all need to know about.

Please remember that the opinions expressed in this publication are the opinions of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the policies of our organizations. We welcome corrections, opposing opinions, and constructive criticism.

Looking Back at 42

The 42nd Annual Cross-Cultural Conference was held from February 13 to February 16, 2020. A detailed account of the evaluation of the quality of the educational presentations featured was presented to the Board of Directors and the Education Committee. A detailed account can also be found in the 2020 edition of this newsletter. We are grateful to the many participants who shared their opinions with us. We strive to improve the quality of all of our offerings. The following is an abbreviated summary of the evaluation of last year's conference.

Overall 2020 Conference Evaluation					
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	
<u>4.0 Scale</u>	4	3	2	1	
		2017	2018	2019	2020
Educational Value of Conference		3.94	3.96	3.8	3.9
General Sessions		3.86	3.88	3.75	3.83
Concurrent Sessions		3.92	3.91	3.83	3.84
Roundtable Discussions		3.76	3.82	3.5	3.73
Extent Workshops were as stated		<u>3.86</u>	<u>3.88</u>	<u>3.75</u>	<u>3.68</u>
		Average: 3.87	3.89	3.72	3.8

Personal goals and objectives met during the conference?

Yes No Maybe

51 2 0

Plan to attend the conference next year

42 0 12

Action Council Member

21 31

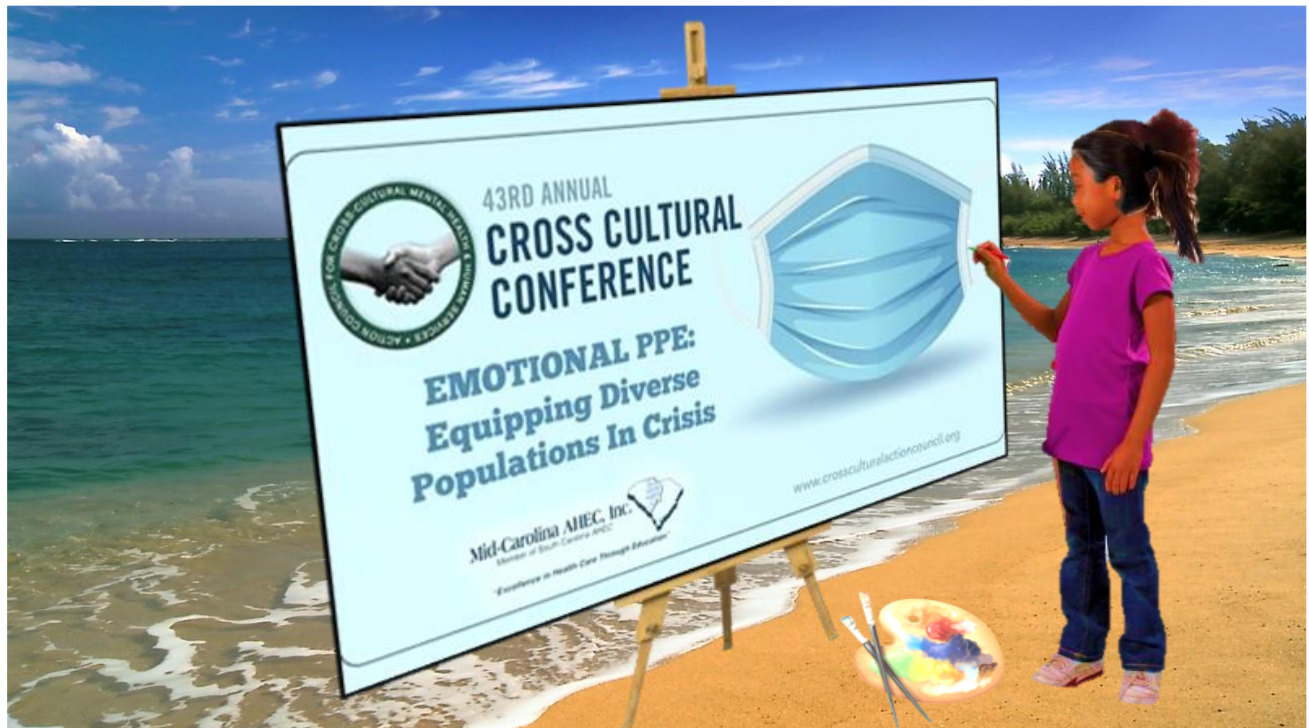
THE ACTION COUNCIL
FOR CROSS CULTURAL MENTAL HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES, INC.

Meet the Planners!





Looking Ahead to 43!





**Introducing
our faculty**

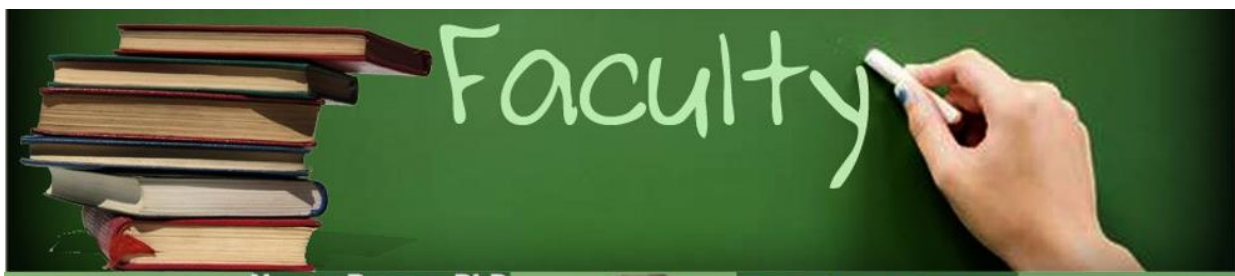
43RD ANNUAL
**CROSS CULTURAL
CONFERENCE**

**EMOTIONAL PPE:
Equipping Diverse
Populations In Crisis**

Mid-Carolina AHEC, Inc.
Member of Health Care Through Education

www.crossculturalactioncouncil.org

**THE ACTION COUNCIL
FOR CROSS CULTURAL MENTAL HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES, INC.**



Nancy Brown, PhD

Gaye Douglas, MEd



Dr. Linda Bell



Dr. A. Joseph Baroody



April Viverette, LCSW



Barbara Melton, M.ED.



Barbara McLaughlin, MDiv



Gerod Gore, LISW



Karen Starks, PhD



Eileen Kittrell, MSW

The conference is virtual. You will receive a link to connect.

Conference Workshop topics include:

- Strategies and Activities to Help Children Deal with Anger in a Healthy Way
- The Journey of Grief
- Spiritual/Religious Beliefs & Mental Health Treatment
- Law Enforcement Suicide
- Adverse childhood events (ACEs)
- Malingering
- Social Work: Our Ethical Responsibility to the Broader Society

The opening session is a panel discussion that includes a cross-section of helping professions discussing the many impacts of the COVID 19 pandemic.

The closing session features Dr. Linda Bell, Chief Epidemiologist for the Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC)

The Action Council for Cross-Cultural Mental Health and Human Services is approved by the South Carolina Board of Social Work Examiners and Professional Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapists, and Psycho-Educational Specialists. The conference is approved to provide 12 total contact hours, 5.5. social work hours, 6.5 general hours, and 6.75 nursing hours.



Janet R. Bell named SCDMH Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer

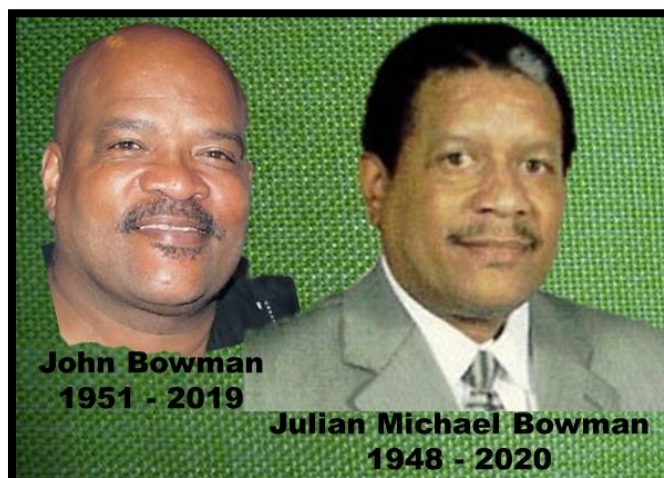
In October 2020, Janet R. Bell began her tenure as South Carolina Department of Mental Health's (SCDMH) first Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer.



In her new role at SCDMH, Bell will work as a member of Senior Management to help define the overarching vision, identity, and strategy of the Agency's divisions and programs, and will collaborate with Leadership to assess and remove existing policies, practices, procedures, and norms which may support unfair or biased delivery of services, hiring/promotional practices, and conduct/performance approaches.

Bell is originally from South Carolina and holds a bachelor's degree in Office Administration from the University of South Carolina. From 2015 to 2020, she served as Director of the Civil Rights Division of the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, a position in which she served as the Agency's Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Coordinator, Civil Rights Official, and Privacy Official, among other duties. Bell enjoys spending time with family and friends and is an avid sports fan, especially Gamecock sports.

Remembering J. Michael Bowman



President Starnes was informed of the death of Mr. Julian Michael Bowman of Columbia. Mr. Bowman was an active participant in the activities of our organization for several years. He died on May 8, 2020. We express our condolences to his wife Sara and the Bowman family. Mr. Bowman's brother John Davis Bowman died late in 2019.

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Condolences to the Cooper family

In an earlier edition of this newsletter, we noted the fact that Mrs. Eula Mae Graham Cummings, the mother of Action Council member Marisa C. Cooper and Dr. William



Cummings who blessed our conferences with his musical talent celebrated her 104th birthdate in 2019. Mother Eula Mae Graham Cummings who was born in 1915, died at the age of 105 on May 21, 2020, in Florence. She was survived by her six children including Bill Cummings, Mariscia Cooper, and Gladys Montgomery who died on June 3, 2020. We extend our sympathy to Mariscia and the Cummings family during their time of grief.

Condolences to the Walker family

Fannie Ruth Simpson of Spartanburg died at the age of 97 on June 25, 2020. She was the oldest member of her church. Mrs. Simpson was the mother of Carol Walker, the wife of Action Council Board member Herbert Walker. On November 27, 2020, Mrs. Callie Weaver Mason, the sister of Mr. Walker died in Tampa, Florida.

Her obituary noted that her brother Herbert (Sonny) has fond memories of his sister Callie as a high school basketball player, Homecoming Queen in 1955, and a participant in beauty pageants. "Herbert was always so proud of his sister." We extend our sympathy to the Walker family.



Is He Still Influencing Us: The Lasting Legacy of The Rev.

Reverend Isaiah DeQuincey Newman was born in Darlington County in 1911. He graduated from high school at Claflin College. In his remarkable lifetime, he probably did more to advance the cause of civil rights and equality in South Carolina than anyone. He was ordained in the United Methodist Church at the age of 20 and served as a minister in many small towns in South Carolina and Georgia for a half-century. He was a member of the Merger Committee that ended racial segregation in his denomination in the 1970s. In 1943 he helped organize the Orangeburg branch of the National Association for the



Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and he served as South Carolina field director from 1960 to 1969. In Orangeburg, Rev. Newman inspired a young Claflin College student.

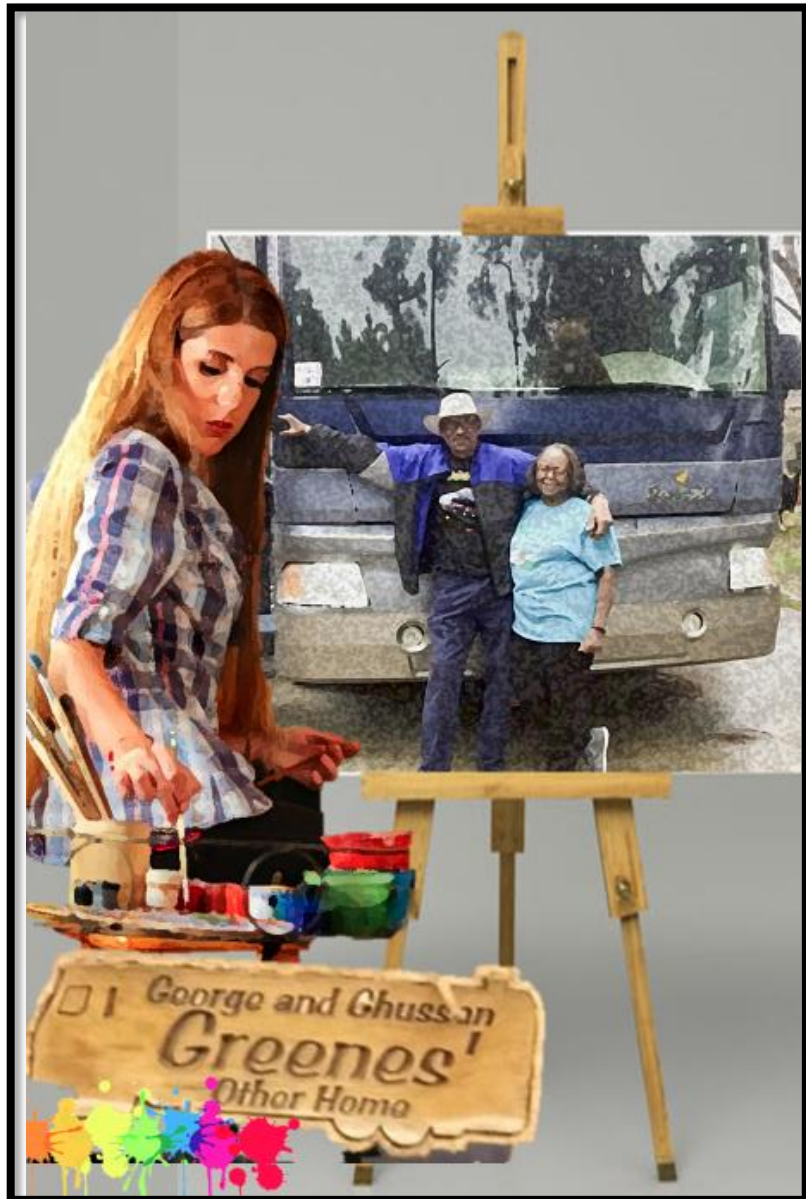
Leon Allen Love graduated from Claflin College in 1970 and went to work as a community organizer for civil rights leader Rev. Newman and the NAACP. In 1974 he went to work at the SC Department of Social Services where he served in many capacities before retiring as a Deputy Director in 2007. Leon Love was a colleague and friend of Harrison Reardon and like his friend he was one of the early leaders of our organization.

Newman and most politically active African Americans were members of the Republican Party during his youth. However, Newman became increasingly dissatisfied with the party's position on segregation. He eventually switched his membership to the Democratic Party and served as a delegate to 1968, 1972, and 1980 Democratic National Conventions. Former Governor and Senator Ernest F. Hollings once described Rev.

Newman as “persistent...irritating...but responsible.” Rev. Newman was considered for a diplomatic post by the Carter administration in 1977.

Rev. Newman was a charter member of the Board of Directors of the state health department in 1973 and he served as secretary for several years. Newman worked for the SC Department of Social Services where he was the Executive Assistant to the Commissioner from 1972 to 1974. Rev. He served as the director of the Governor's Office of Rural Development from 1975 to 1981. In 1983, Newman became the first African American to serve in the State Senate since reconstruction He died in Columbia on October 21, 1985.

Harrison Rearden a District Manager for Pilgrim Health and Life Insurance Company was hired to replace I. Dequincy Newman as Executive Assistant to the Commissioner of the SC Department of Social Services in the summer of 1974. Harrison Reardon had been the youngest member of Greenville's bi-racial community group. He also served on the boards of the Greenville Office of Economic Opportunity, the Greenville Urban League, and the Greenville County Voter Education Project. His experiences equipped him for his future role with the Action Council.



Rev. Newman led the effort that founded Columbia's Francis Burns United Methodist Church in the early 1960s and served as pastor until 1964. In 1979 Rev. Newman was honored for his decades of service to the United Methodist Church. Leon Love served as co-chair of the committee that planned the reception. In 1982 Rev. Newman founded

Middleton-Rosemond United Methodist Church in North Columbia. The church was renamed I. DeQuincey Newman United Methodist Church after his death in 1985.

Rev. Luonne Abram Rouse was the son of a minister whose middle name was Bishop. Rev. Rouse replaced Rev. I. DeQuincey Newman as minister of I. DeQuincey Newman United Methodist Church and he continued the activism the community had come to expect from Rev. Newman. His sister Ghussan Rouse Greene graduated from Claflin University, Atlanta University and in 1978 she was the first African American to earn a Ph.D. in English Literature from the University of South Carolina. She is a member of Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church in Orangeburg. The church was founded in 1866. The Rev. I. DeQuincey Newman served as pastor of Trinity from 1942 to 1950 and he moved the congregation into its present structure in 1944. Trinity has served as the center of worship for students and staff of Claflin and South Carolina State University. During the 1960s Trinity hosted numerous civil rights meetings and rallies graced by prominent leaders like the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Thurgood Marshall.

George and Ghussan Greene were featured in Richard Reid's May 18, 2019 article titled A new kind of freedom: Local RV enthusiasts find fun, friendship on the road. His story was published in the Times and Democrat, an Orangeburg, South Carolina newspaper. Reid focused on the recent growth in the number of African Americans like George and Ghussan who have taken to the road in their recreational vehicles in recent years and the writer painted a vivid picture of their story which is a chapter of a much larger story.

We are happy for George, a long-time member of the Board of Directors of the Action Council, and Dr. Greene a retired professor at South Carolina State University. Ghussan Green has graciously shared her expertise with us with her contributions to so many of our educational events. Enjoy the road and the ride and thanks for showing us the road map on what to do after retirement.

The legacy of I. DeQuincey Newman can be seen all around us. We can see that he rubbed shoulders with several individuals who have been instrumental in the growth and maintenance of the Action Council and the Cross-Cultural Conference. The I. DeQuincey Newman United Methodist Men's choir has exhibited its musical talent in recent years. Mr. Herbert Walker, another longtime member of the Board of Directors of the Action Council is also a member of this group. In the summer of 2019, I. DeQuincey Newman United Methodist Church celebrated the church's 35th Anniversary. Mr. Harrison Rearden, Deacon of First Nazareth Baptist Church was the speaker for the occasion.

The Loss of Elaine's Mother

Mrs. Briggman was born Mae Carol Middleton in Eutawville, South Carolina on July 7, 1939. She attended the public schools of Orangeburg County. She continued her



education at Claflin College and South Carolina State College. Her 61-year marriage to Mr. Phillip Briggman produced a son and a daughter, our own Sandra Elaine Leonard. Mrs. Briggman worked as an educator for 46 years in Horry County as well as several counties located in South Carolina's Corridor of Shame.

Mrs. Briggman was a member of the United Methodist Church and she served in many capacities. She died on Sunday morning, January 31, 2021.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Elaine and her family at this time.