

MINORITY OFFICERS LIAISON COUNCIL



2010 MOLC HEALTH DISPARITIES SYMPOSIUM SPEAKER BIOS

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Dr. Carlessia A. Hussein graduated from the Freedmen's Hospital School of Nursing in Washington D.C. and completed graduate studies in Nursing, and a Public Health Doctorate at the University of California, School of Public Health, Berkeley. Her professional career has included public health policy and administration, university lecturing, health system regulation, direct nursing care, and public health nursing in a variety of settings. From 1977 through 1988, Dr. Hussein directed health planning and regulatory agencies in Santa Clara and Los Angeles, California and in Washington, D.C.. Prior to that time, she served as Associate Dean at Berkeley School of Public Health and Chairperson of the Community Health Nursing Program, where she recruited minorities into the graduate program. In 1996, Dr. Hussein joined the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene where she managed a major portion of traditional public health programs in 23 counties and Baltimore City, with a budget of \$250 million. Dr. Hussein was appointed Director of the Cigarette Restitution Fund Program (CRFP) in 2000. In this capacity, Dr. Hussein oversees the statewide dissemination and monitoring of an \$80 million annual allocation of tobacco settlement funds aimed at reducing smoking and controlling cancer in Maryland by 2010. Dr. Hussein also directs the recently established Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities (MHHD) in the Office of the Secretary of Health (2004). The MHHD office is responsible for instituting programs that will reduce and eventually eliminate health disparities among minorities in Maryland.
