



Session 3: Intersection of Health and Equity

A deep dive into how transit can improve the quality of life

Wednesday, September 30

- 4:00 pm **Welcome Back**
Jessica Dauphin, Transit Alliance of Middle TN
- 4:05 pm **The Health Connection**
Leslie Meehan, [Tennessee Department of Health](#)
- 4:35 pm **The Importance of Equitable Access**
Clifton Harris, [Urban League of Middle TN](#)
- 5:05 pm **Building a More Equitable Region Panel**
Council Member Joy Styles

Beth Osborne, Director, [Transportation for America](#)
- 5:45 pm **Session Wrap Up and Virtual Networking**
Jessica Dauphin, Transit Alliance of Middle TN

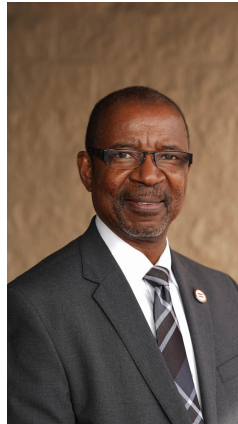


LESLIE MEEHAN

Office of Primary Prevention, Tennessee Department of Health

Leslie Meehan, MPA AICP oversees the Office of Primary Prevention in the Commissioner's Office of the Tennessee Department of Health. The Office serves as a hub for upstream, primary prevention policies and strategies that impact social influencers of health. Her work includes increasing physical activity through the built environment to positively impact social, emotional and physical health. Previously, Ms. Meehan served ten years as the Director of Healthy Communities for the Nashville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) in Tennessee. At the MPO, she focused on the intersection of transportation and health, specifically transportation's impacts on physical activity, air quality and injury. Her work has been recognized nationally and internationally, most recently by the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (2018 Vision Award), the National Association of Chronic Disease Directors (2017 Joseph W. Cullen Excellence Award) and the Institute of Transportation Engineers (2017 Transportation Achievement Award for Planning).

Ms. Meehan is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners, the Institute of Transportation Engineers, the Association of Bicycle and Pedestrian Professionals, the League of American Bicyclists and the Tennessee Public Health Association. She is co-author of the Transportation Sector of the National Physical Activity Plan, served as an expert advisor on the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Transportation and Health Tool, was appointed by Transportation Secretary Peters to the National Safe Routes to School Task Force and has presented at a White House event on transportation and health. She currently serves as a panel member on the National Cooperative Highway Research Program's Research Roadmap for Transportation and Health and the Guidebook for Communications between Transportation and Public Health Communities. She is a member of the Transportation Research Board Taskforce on Arterials and Public Health.



CLIFTON HARRIS

President and CEO, Urban League of Middle TN

Clifton, is a native of Cary, N.C., a long-time community organizer and advocate for the most vulnerable population (the homeless). In November 2016 He was appointed to lead the Urban League of Middle Tennessee. Harris is no stranger to the non-profit community. He has successfully managed six different non-profit agencies during his career. Harris's work has made him an expert in the field of helping homeless individuals and families. As a former Executive Director of a Foundation that served homeless families, Harris, was known as a leader who loves people with a passion to help families become successful in life. Harris set a high standard within the staff, volunteers and families served. He was appointed by former Mayor Bill Purcell to organize and lead the Metropolitan Homelessness Commission. He created and hosted Nashville's first Project Homeless Connect; an event that assisted thousands of homeless individuals in need of various much needed services.

Mr. Harris was responsible for the implementation of Nashville's Ten Year Plan to reduce and end chronic homelessness. He coordinated Nashville's efforts to implement Housing First, which places homeless people into permanent housing coupled with intensive case management. This best practice solution reshaped Nashville's approach to offering permanent solutions to the most vulnerable and chronically homeless individuals in our community. Under his leadership, the Metropolitan Homelessness Commission has created its Housing First program, implemented the nationally recognized SOAR Program that fast-tracks individuals to receiving SSI/SSDI income, and organized three Project Homeless Connect events,(provided direct services to 1,500+ individuals affected by homelessness).

Harris graduated from St. Augustine's College in Raleigh, N.C., with a degree in business administration. Harris says he is thankful that God has given him a passion for people. "I feel like the match between my passion and people is a union that is meant to be so that the good work that's to be done will become a great work in our community," says Harris. Clifton continues to be an active leader in our community. Additionally, he Co-chaired the Transit for



Nashville's Engagement Coalition. He's an active member of the Nashville Chamber of Commerce, a member and former Elder of Strong Tower Bible Church and an alumni of Leadership Nashville. Away from work, Clifton enjoys spending time with his lovely wife, Alfreda. They have three children and three grandchildren. Clifton also enjoys golfing.



BETH OSBORNE

Director, Transportation for America

Beth is the Director of Transportation for America. She was previously at the U.S. Department of Transportation, where she served as the Acting Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy and the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy since 2009. At DOT, Beth managed the TIGER Discretionary Grant program, the Secretary's livability initiative, the development of the Administration's surface transportation authorization proposal, and the implementation of MAP-21. Before joining DOT, Beth worked for Sen. Tom Carper (DE) as an advisor for transportation, trade and labor policy, as the policy director for Smart Growth America and as legislative director for environmental policy at the Southern Governors' Association. She began her career in Washington, DC, in the House of Representatives working as a legislative assistant for Rep. Ron Klink (PA-04) and as legislative director for Rep. Brian Baird (WA-03).



JOY STYLES

District 32 Council Member, Metropolitan Council of Nashville and Davidson County

Councilwoman Joy Styles is a member of the Nashville Metro Council, representing District 32 in Tennessee. Styles assumed office on September 28, 2019. Styles earned her B.A. in Spanish from Wellesley College and her M.S. in communications from Purdue University. Her professional experience includes working in the entertainment and healthcare industries. She has also served in multiple volunteer positions, including serving as the chair of the Martin Luther King Day celebration for the Interdenominational Ministers Fellowship, serving on the advisory board of The Salvation Army, acting as vice chair for the Hope Clinic for Women, and participating as a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority.