

OCTOBER 7, 2020



9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Rural Resiliency & Prosperity Summit Speaker Bio
October 7, 2020 | 9:00AM – 3:00PM



Dr. Patrice A. Harris
Immediate Past President
American Medical Association

Patrice A. Harris, MD, MA, a psychiatrist from Atlanta, has diverse experience as a private practicing physician, county public health officer, patient advocate and medical society lobbyist. Dr. Harris was the 174th President of the American Medical Association, the first African American woman elected to that position and is currently the Immediate Past President of the AMA. Having served on the AMA Board of Trustees since 2011, and as chair from 2016 to 2017, she has long been a mentor, a role model and an advocate.

Prior to serving on the board, Dr. Harris honed her broad knowledge and deep understanding of health care issues through various leadership roles. At the AMA these included having served for many years on the AMA Council on Legislation, including a term as chair, and on multiple AMA task forces on topics such as health information technology, payment and delivery reform, and private contracting. Beyond the AMA she has held positions of leadership with the American Psychiatric Association, the Georgia Psychiatric Physicians Association, the Medical Association of Georgia, and The Big Cities Health Coalition, where she chaired this forum composed of leaders from America's largest metropolitan health departments. She is a member of the Steering Committee of the Atlanta Regional Collaborative for Health Improvement (ARCHI) and the Board of the Georgia Aids Coalition. She has also served on the Boards of Georgia NAMI and the Mental Health Association of Georgia.

Dr. Harris currently spearheads the AMA's efforts to end the opioid epidemic and has been chair of the AMA Opioid Task Force since its inception in 2014. Dr. Harris continues to lead the task force as it works across every state to eliminate barriers to treatment, provide patients with access to affordable, non-opioid pain care, and fight the stigma faced by those with substance use-disorders.

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