



(<http://manninglive.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/BERYL-BACHUS-KEITH.jpg>) HopeHealth Inc. Director Dr. Beryl Bachus-Keith is one of 38 leaders from throughout the midlands who will participate in the 8th Midlands Class of the Riley Institute at Furman's Diversity Leaders Initiative. "DLI and the Riley Fellows have matured into a potent force to help move South Carolina forward," said Dr. Don Gordon, executive director of the Riley Institute. "The members of this class will add considerably to the conversations and lasting partnerships that form among Riley fellows and it is the strength of these bonds that truly produces progress across the state." Poised to join more than 1,400 Riley Fellows from across South Carolina, class members meet over the course of five months in a format driven by timely, relevant case studies and other experiential learning tools designed to maximize interactions and productive relationships among program participants. Juan Johnson, an independent consultant and former vice-president for Coca-Cola is the expert facilitator for the program. "DLI is unique among South Carolina's leadership programs," he said. "In addition to the opportunity to develop new relationships and take part in positive action in their communities, participants gain deep knowledge of how to effectively manage and lead increasingly diverse workers, clients and constituents.

As part of the program, leaders also work in cross-sector groups to respond to real issues and opportunities in their communities through capstone service projects." Participants who reflect the state's demographics and who represent the corporate, nonprofit, education, faith-based and government sectors are chosen by nomination and application. "The frames of reference and skills that DLI graduates share provide a remarkable platform for working together to help South Carolina compete in the 21st century," Gordon said.

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