

Dr. Donna T. Bacon

Dr. Donna T. Bacon is a tenured Full Professor at Nassau Community College in the Health Education department where she teaches courses on Human Sexuality and Death Education. In 2015 she was voted Chairperson of the department securing her place as the first female, youngest and only African American ever to hold the position. Additionally, she was appointed Chief Investigative Officer on the NCC campus by the college President to train and assist in consistent and proper investigation of incidents of sexual misconduct within the NCC community.

She is the founding Executive Director of Mid-Nassau Lend a Helping Hand, which is an organization she founded to provide emergency financial services to women undergoing recent breast cancer surgery, chemotherapy and/or radiation treatment. She founded the organization as a direct result of the challenges she experienced dealing with the financial strain a breast cancer diagnosis can bring and its impact on recovery, particularly at 33 years old.

Donna's dedication to closing the gap on healthcare disparities extends internationally with her mission work in Pretoria and Soweto, South Africa, where she volunteers, working directly with women that are pregnant and HIV+ as well as training outreach workers in various communities and treatment facilities.

Recently, Donna was vetted and selected to participate in a two-year elite Leadership Academy, The Enegeia Partnership, which is dedicated to identifying and addressing the serious, complex and multi-dimensional issues challenging the Long Island region.

She is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Therapist and Certified Thanatologist. She earned a Master of Social Work from Adelphi University, she has also earned a Master of Science (Health Education) and a Doctoral degree in Human Behavior Studies from Columbia University. Her dissertation, completed in 2007 and earned while undergoing chemotherapy, has been the springboard for similar website innovations among the Research Group on Disparities in Health at Columbia University, and has successfully launched numerous research studies that complement the national health disparities mission.

Donna has been awarded with a Nassau County Citation for her work with women and minorities on Long Island as well as a Health Care Professional Hero award from Long Island Business News and North Fork Bank. She was also the first recipient of the Columbia University Teachers College Lorna Horne award. She has served as an Executive Board member for Planned Parenthood of Nassau County, as a Board Member for the Long Island Council on Alcohol and Drug Dependency and currently serves as a board member for Family and Children's Association.

Donna has presented for multiple local and national organizations and conferences. She has worked with underserved populations for over 20 years. She has volunteered for numerous organizations and is a consultant on a diverse range of topics. Donna has dedicated her life to the education, empowerment and health promotion of underserved individuals and communities.

She lives in Amityville, NY with her husband Richard and 5 -year old daughter Reese. Her free time is spent reading, researching and keeping up with all of Reese's many school and extracurricular activities!