

# The Newsletter of the Gender & Sexuality Studies Program at the University of Miami

January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024



Dear friends of GSS,

Miami is a place where we enjoy the sun, palms, and beaches. However, it is also a hub for human trafficking. UM experts will be giving a talk this Wednesday here at the School of Nursing. Please find full details in this edition of the newsletter.

Also, you are invited to our 'Welcome to Spring' GSS mixer on Friday, January 26<sup>th</sup> from 2:30-4:30 in the Merrick 214 Interdisciplinary Studies Suite! Beverages and snacks will be served.

Warm Regards,

Claire Oueslati-Porter, Director of the GSS Program

**Human Trafficking Response – A  
Conversation: Wednesday, January 24,  
10:30am EST**

**The U.S. Department of Health and Human  
Services' theme for Human Trafficking  
Prevention Month 2024 is Activate  
Connections to Prevent Human Trafficking.**

**Reserve a spot**

**<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/human-trafficking-response-a-conversation-tickets-796353734457?aff=oddtcreator>**

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI  
SCHOOL of NURSING  
& HEALTH STUDIES  


DEAN'S SPRING LECTURE SERIES

**HUMAN TRAFFICKING RESPONSE - A CONVERSATION**

Presented by:

The Maria G. Lamas Featured Speaker Series for Human Trafficking Education and Prevention Endowment



**Ms. Brenda Mezick**  
Assistant State Attorney  
Director of Human Trafficking  
Office of the State Attorney  
Katherine Fernandez Rundle




**Dr. Jessica Peck**  
Clinical Professor  
Louise Herrington School of Nursing  
Baylor University




**Dr. Heidi Schaeffer**  
Visiting Scholar, Faculty  
University of Miami  
School of Nursing and Health Studies



**Mr. Victor Williams**  
Founder & CEO  
Quest2Freedom



## Understanding Healthcare Discrepancies: The Impact of Sickle Cell Disease



Join us for an informative session on Sickle Cell Disease (SCD), the most common inherited disorder affecting red blood cells. SCD affects 100,000 Americans, with Florida having the highest number of individuals living with SCD in the USA. Although more prevalent among individuals of African ancestry, SCD can impact any race or ethnicity.

**Speakers**

**Thomas Harrington, M.D.**  
Assistant Professor Hematology of Clinical

**Ofelia Alvarez, M.D.**  
Professor Pediatrics - Hematology

**Maya Bloomberg, MSN, APRN**  
Hematology Nurse Practitioner

**Kemba Olabisi Gosler**  
President of Advancing Sickle Cell Advocacy Project, Inc.


**What to Expect**

- Learn about SCD and its impact on the community.
- Discover resources available at the University of Miami for those with SCD.
- Gain insight into why SCD is considered the greatest health and racial disparity in medicine.

Learn more about our culture of belonging at [hr.miami.edu/diversity](http://hr.miami.edu/diversity).

**Tuesday, Feb. 6, 2024**  
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

**REGISTER HERE**



## Feb 6th: Understanding Healthcare Discrepancies: The Impact of Sickle Cell Disease (SCD)

Register at:

<https://umiami.csod.com/samldefault.aspx?oid=1&returnUrl=%252fDeepLink%252fProcessRedirect.aspx%253fmodule%253dlodetails%2526lo%253d953b62cc-f09c-4ca9-9f24-6e661a10d60a>

Join the conversation with **Maya Bloomberg, MSN, APRN**, **Thomas Harrington, M.D.**, **Ofelia Alvarez, M.D.**, and **Kemba Gosier, President, Advancing Sickle Cell Advocacy Project, Inc.**

Learn more about sickle cell disease and the impact it has on the community.

Understand how sickle cell disease can affect an individual mentally, physically, and emotionally.

Hear about resources available at the University of Miami for individuals with SCD. Gain insight on why SCD is considered the greatest health and racial disparity in medicine.

Interested in finding out more about UM's GSS curriculum and courses? Head to our website:

<https://gss.as.miami.edu/curriculum/index.html>

