



FAMILY RE-UNION 14 SPEAKER BIOS

Keynote Presentation: *Media and Policy Advocacy to Advance Health Equity and Justice*

MAKANI THEMBA NIXON

Makani Themba-Nixon is executive director of The Praxis Project, a nonprofit organization helping communities use media and policy advocacy to advance health justice. She is also project director of the Communities Creating Healthy Environments (C-CHE) National Program Office, an initiative of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to support policy advocacy to advance healthy food outlets and safe places to play in communities of color. Makani has published numerous articles and case studies on race, media, policy advocacy and public health. She is author of *Making Policy, Making Change*, which examines media and policy advocacy for public health through case studies and practical information. Makani is co-author of *Media Advocacy and Public Health: Power for Prevention*, a contributor to the volumes *We the Media*, *State of the Race: Creating Our 21st Century*, along with many other edited book projects. Her latest book, co-authored with Hunter Cutting, is *Talking the Walk: Communications Guide for Racial Justice*.

Lunch Presentation: *School Food and Fitness: Strategies for Addressing Health Disparities*

ROCHELLE DAVIS

Rochelle Davis is the Founding Executive Director of the Healthy Schools Campaign, a national not-for-profit organization that advocates for healthy school environments. She directs the organization's effort to promote green cleaning in schools, which includes the national distribution of *The Quick & Easy Guide to Green Cleaning in Schools* and passage of state legislation requiring green cleaning in schools. Davis also serves as the Principal Investigator for the NIEHS-funded Partnership to Reduce Disparities in Asthma and Obesity in Latino Schools, where she works closely with community organizing for environmental justice around children's health disparities. Davis is a member of the EPA's Committee for the Protection of Children's Health and a founding member of the Green Cleaning Network. She served as a judge for *Health* magazine's Healthiest Schools Contest and *American School & University's* Green Cleaning Award. She is co-author of *Fresh Choices*, a cookbook published by Rodale Press, and is the recipient of the Chicago Tribune's 2007 Good Eating Award.