

Charity Gala Program

Time: 6:00 PM – 10:00 PM

Host: Dawn Hendon

🕒 6 pm - Guests' Arrival

🕒 6:00 PM – 7:15 PM

Cocktail Hour.

Enjoy light hors d'oeuvres and music by JB Saxx as guests arrive and mingle

Silent auction begins.

🕒 7:30 PM – 8:30 PM

Dinner Service

Guests will be served at their tables.

🎵 7:30 PM – 8:30 PM

Evening Program

- 7:30 – 7:45 PM
- Diverse Research Now: Making an Impact. Presented by the Founder, Dr. Renarda Jones
- 7:45 – 7:55 PM: Guest Community Speaker: Jen Lothridge. Research Participant
- 7:55 – 8:00pm: Recognize community advocate, Prizila Vidal
- 8:00 – 8:20 PM
- Keynote speaker: Dr. Dung Trinh
- 8:20 - 8:30 PM
- Sponsor Recognition & Closing Remarks

🎵 8:30 PM – 10:00 PM

Dance & Celebration

Music by DJ Danny!

DJ will announce final auction call at 9pm

Winners may pick up items at registration.

Join Our Silent Auction

🌟 Your Bid Can Change Lives 🌟

Join Silent Auction

Imagine a world where medical breakthroughs work for everyone – but today, critical gaps remain:

- 💔 0% of clinical trial participants are Native American.
- 💔 Just 3% of heart disease trial participants are Black – despite the highest mortality rates.
- 💔 Only 6% of cancer trial participants are Hispanic, though liver cancer impacts them disproportionately.
- 💔 A mere 5% of global research funding focuses on women's health.

You can help rewrite these statistics!

Your participation matters:

- ◆ Bid on exclusive auction items
- ◆ 100% of proceeds empower Diverse Research Now's mission to diversify clinical trials
- ◆ Be part of the solution: Health equity starts with representation

🌟 Silent Auction link - <https://givebutter.com/c/7NpErs/auction>

***Auction ends May 16, 9 pm at the end of the Gala Program**

Together, we can ensure medical research serves ALL communities.



The Host Dawn Hendon

Chicago Native Dawn Hendon began her education in Chicago Public Schools attending the competitive Whitney Young High School alongside First Lady Michelle Obama. Dawn matriculated to Bradley University to receive a bachelor's degree in Fashion Merchandising & Marketing.

Passionate about Real Estate, Dawn became a Realtor, Property Manager, and later an Urban Planning Consultant with over 20 years in the industry. In pursuit of hot weather happiness, Dawn relocated to Sunny Southern California and earned an MBA at the University of Redlands in addition to an Honorary Doctorate in Theology.

A Chaplain who loves officiating weddings, Dawn started a wedding chapel in her backyard during COVID and was featured on ABC 10 News, Positively San Diego. Later, during COVID, Dawn opened a wedding store in Mission Valley Mall.

To her many talents, Dawn has added:

- Author & Publisher
 - Public Speaker & Mistress of Ceremonies
 - Retired First Lady IL 5th Senate District
 - Panel Moderator
 - Radio Show Host
 - Political Strategist
 - Home School Principal
 - Cruise Enthusiast
 - Chicago Stepping Event Promoter
 - International Traveler
 - International Student Host
 - Mother & More
- **619-802-1000**
 - **MsDHendon@gmail.com**
 - **www.ChaplainDawn.com**
 - **Southern California**



Our Founder Renarda Jones, PhD

Dr. Renarda Jones also known as Dr. Ren is the founder of Diverse Research Now (DRN), a nonprofit organization established to address the lack of diversity in clinical trials. DRN's mission is to educate, empower, and engage communities that have been underrepresented in clinical research, breaking down barriers to participation and fostering trust between researchers and the communities they serve.



In addition, Dr. Ren is the host of the Voices of Inclusive Research Podcast, a platform dedicated to bridging the gap between researchers and the community. Through the podcast, she highlights the lived experiences of underrepresented individuals in clinical research, fosters open conversations about the challenges and opportunities in diversifying research, and shares community-driven insights for improving health equity.

Dr. Ren's work is rooted in a passion for transforming clinical research into a space where diversity and inclusion are the norm, not the exception. She is dedicated to normalizing research conversations, empowering communities through education, and creating systemic change in how clinical trials are conducted.



Our Community Speaker Jen Lothridge

Jen (she/her/ella), is first & foremost a human being that's enjoying LIFE on purpose!!! Caliy Girl to the core. Born & raised most of her life in San Diego, while also having opportunities to live in other areas & states on this planet. She appreciates nature, kite flying, roller skating, & all things caramel among many other fun things in life!!!



Jen also supports the HIV/AIDS community by actively volunteering time & support to local organizations such as the San Diego County HIV Planning/Community Engagement Group, newly appointed board member of POZabilities, Owen Clinic, Transgender Community & HNRP CAB's.

Jen has over 20 years of experience in Social Services dedicated to providing Person Centered Care & knowledge empowerment to individuals of all ages while having a special interest in individuals aging gracefully while seeking supportive services.

Jen is passionately embracing the opportunity of helping others forgive the unspeakable past actions that have taken place without &/or improper informed consent in the name of "Research & Advancement of Medicine". Especially in the Black/African American populated spaces she shares with other women. Desiring that research participation is seen in a positive & beneficial light.

Jen hopes that research participation can be seen as a positive & beneficial way of giving back to humanity in some instances. We all need to do our part while on this planet!!!





Our Keynote Speaker Dung Trinh, MD

Dr. Trinh is a well-known expert in speaking on preventive health including brain health, inflammation, ketosis, and intermittent fasting. He has shared educational and medical knowledge on television, Laguna Woods community groups, Kiwanis, religious centers, local colleges, medical centers, senior centers, and at Alzheimer's Orange County.



Dr. Trinh serves on Diverse Research Now board of directors and also sits on several other organization boards and advisory committees. His passions include,

- leading teams of physicians, dentists, nurses, and high school students to third world countries including Vietnam, Peru, Haiti, and Mexico to provide free medical care through his non-profit organization TongueOut. In addition he has lead medical teams locally to help with Hurricane and Flood disaster assistance in Biloxi Mississippi during Hurricane Katrina and more recently to Houston Texas after Hurricane Harvey. The TongueOut story can be found at TongueOut.org

- Creating serial business as a means to create passive income to fund medical missions charity work.

- Teaching medical school residents, interns as well as high school students the value of providing quality evidence based medical care as well as the need for compassion and passion in the pursuit of their goals.

- Dr Trinh has been awarded the Orange County Physician of Excellence Award for 10 consecutive years prior to his retirement as the medical director of MemorialCare Medical Foundation's outpatient Innovation Center in 2017 in order to focus on medical missions work.

Dr. Trinh came to the United States as a war refugee when he was 5 years old and was rescued by a US Chinook helicopter a day before the Fall of Saigon.