



## North Carolina Diabetes Advisory Council

### EVENT BIOGRAPHIES

#### **David “Skywalker” Thompson, 1972-75 Wolfpack Basketball Legend, Rallies for Wife’s Successful Diabetes Management during Launch of State Diabetes Guide**

**Ronny Bell, PhD** is a professor of Public Health Sciences and director of the Maya Angelou Center for Health Equity at the Wake Forest School of Medicine. He currently chairs the North Carolina Diabetes Advisory Council and the North Carolina American Indian Health Board. He also serves on the American Diabetes Association Health Disparities Committee and the National Diabetes Education Program American Indian/Alaska Native Stakeholder Group. He received his undergraduate degree in Public Health Nutrition at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and his Master’s in Epidemiology and PhD in Nutrition at University of North Carolina at Greensboro. He received post-doctoral training at the Wake Forest School of Medicine.

**Jan Nicollerat** is an advanced practice nurse who is an Adult Clinical Nurse Specialist and Certified Diabetes Educator (CDE), focusing on diabetes and chronic disease management. She was formerly Program Director of Duke University's Adult Diabetes Education Program from 1991 until her retirement in December 2014. Nicollerat is currently Vice Chair of the North Carolina Diabetes Advisory, a diabetes education and management consultant and the Finance Leader for the local chapter of the American Association of Diabetes Educators (RETRADE). She also serves on the NC Diabetes Education Recognition Program (DERP) Advisory Board. Nicollerat received her undergraduate degree (BSN) from St. Louis University, St. Louis, Mo. and her graduate degree (MSN) from the University of Tennessee Health Science Center in Memphis. Nicollerat remains active in nursing education with adjunct faculty appointments at Duke University School of Nursing, UNC-CH School of Nursing and East Carolina University School of Nursing.

**Randall Williams, MD**, an obstetrician/gynecologist, is the Deputy Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services who oversees the Division of Public Health and the Office of Rural Health and Community Care. A native North Carolinian, he graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with a double major in History and Zoology. Williams attended UNC School of Medicine where he was a Holderness Fellow. He then served as Administrative Chief Resident in Obstetrics and Gynecology at North Carolina Memorial Hospital. Williams has served as president of the Wake County Medical Society and was subsequently elected by the North Carolina Medical Society to serve on the North Carolina Commission for Public Health from 2004 until 2012. He is president-elect of the University of North Carolina School of Medicine Alumni Association. He has been recognized as the Red Cross Humanitarian of the Year, *News & Observer* Tar Heel of the Week and *Triangle Business Journal* Health Care Hero of the Year.

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**Ronny Bell, MEd, Ph.D., MS, Chair**  
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**Susan Spratt, MD** is the Assistant Professor of Medicine (endocrinology, metabolism and nutrition) and Assistant Professor of Community and Family Medicine at the Duke University School of Medicine. Spratt graduated with a Bachelor's of Science degree in Biology from Yale University and received her medical degree from Harvard University. An advocate for improved health, she relies on basic science and clinical research to find solutions, especially those that benefit disparate populations. In addition to publishing for various medical publications, she also works on social and government policies that advance and sustain healthy living, focusing many of her efforts to reduce death and disability in high-risk diabetes patients.

**David "Skywalker" Thompson** is a Basketball Hall of Fame member who grew up outside of Shelby, North Carolina. At North Carolina State University, he was a three-time First-Team All-American, a three-time All-ACC selection and a two-time Associated Press National Player of the Year. His uniform number 44 is the only basketball jersey retired at North Carolina State. He had a distinguished professional career, playing nine seasons with Denver Nuggets (1975-82), and Seattle Supersonics (1982-84). He is the only player to be named MVP in both the ABA and NBA All-Star Games. Thompson holds the NBA record for most fields goals in a quarter (13). His 73-point outburst against the Detroit Pistons on April 9, 1978 is the third-highest point total in NBA history. David is currently a motivational speaker with Unlimited Success Sports Management, traveling the United States and the world speaking to business leaders, community groups, athletes and students. Thompson was recently chosen by *Sports Illustrated* as a member of the ALL-Century Team. Thompson is married and has two daughters. Diabetes is important to David as his wife is living with this chronic illness.

**April Reese** serves as Manager for the Health Systems Unit with the Community and Clinical Connections for Prevention and Health Branch. A career state employee with experience in program planning, evaluation, communication and policy, she was the evaluator for the Diabetes Program for several years prior to becoming the program manager in 2010. Reese has worked specifically with Diabetes Self-Management Education, gestational diabetes and diabetes prevention programs. She also has extensive experience with community-based participatory research. She has worked on program integration/coordination and currently serves as a co-chair of the Health Systems Community of Practice. She has a Master of Public Health degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a Bachelor of Social Work degree from the University of Missouri-Columbia.

To learn more about *North Carolina's Guide to Diabetes Prevention and Management 2015-2020*, visit: [www.diabetesnc.com](http://www.diabetesnc.com). For a list of NC DAC partners to access their diabetes prevention and management resources, visit: [http://www.diabetesnc.com/downloads/0615/DACmemberlist\\_6-15.pdf](http://www.diabetesnc.com/downloads/0615/DACmemberlist_6-15.pdf).

### About the North Carolina Diabetes Advisory Council

The Diabetes Advisory Council (DAC) was created in 1988 as an advisory group to the Diabetes Prevention and Control program. The council works to reduce the burden of diabetes through coordination among the many stakeholders in diabetes control in North Carolina. For more information, visit: <http://www.diabetesnc.com/>.

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