



# LEADERSHIP COUNCIL PROFILE

Representatives serving on the Leadership Council advise, assist, support and advocate on issues of strategic importance to the operations and functions of the SelfMade Health Network in fulfillment of its mission.



## Reina Sims, MSA

Program Manager

Ohio Commission on Minority Health

Ms. Reina Sims works with underserved, minority populations at the Ohio Commission on Minority Health, with a special focus on cardiovascular issues, cancer, diabetes, infant mortality, substance abuse, and violence. In her role as Program Manager, Ms. Sims works to ensure the Commission's funded preventive health measures, and multiple collaborative state agency partnerships, positively impact health outcomes for minority and vulnerable communities in her state.



Ms. Sims took an early interest in tobacco cessation and cancer prevention strategies when she witnessed her family and fellow community members smoking and subsequently succumbing to serious illness or death. This affected her so much, she decided to make it her life's work.

Ms. Sims believes it is important to help shape policy to reach health equity. One way to achieve this is by using data to craft legislation that reduces health disparities and by leveraging stories and patient outcomes to build awareness and support policy changes.

**"My family has suffered a number of health issues and I've lost loved ones due to health disparities related to chronic disease morbidity and mortality. I consider it my honor to be in a position that allows me to positively impact programming, policy and systems change for the betterment of not just my family's health and well-being, but for everyone disproportionately impacted by health disparities, and the social determinants that allow those disparities to persist."**

Ms. Sims joined the Leadership Council in September 2015. Ms. Sims is a current member and former Co-Chair for the Ohio Collaborative to Prevent Infant Mortality's: Reduce Smoking Before, During & After Pregnancy Action Group as well as a current member and former Executive Committee Member for Ohio Partners for Cancer Control.

*The SelfMade Health Network is a member of the Center for Disease Control (CDC)'s consortium of national networks established to advance prevention efforts related to tobacco-related and cancer health disparities among vulnerable populations, specifically those with low socio-economic characteristics.*