



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Allentown, Feb. 27, 2023 – Dr. Hasshan Batts, Executive Director of the Promise Neighborhoods of the Lehigh Valley has been named to the roster of Fulbright Specialist by the U.S. Department of States Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and World Learning.

Dr. Batts' research and practice center on credible messengers, violence prevention, trauma informed care, prison reentry and community engagement.

Dr. Batts joins a select group of U.S. citizens who share their expertise with host institutions abroad through the Fulbright Specialist Program. Fulbright Specialists are selected on the basis of academic and professional achievement, demonstrated leadership in their field, and their potential to foster long-term cooperation between institutions in the U.S. and abroad.

Dr. Batts is a keynote speaker, adjunct professor and tri-sector consultant working with corporate, government and nonprofit leaders to engage and improve the communities they serve.

In 2019, Dr. Batts received the prestigious Culture of Health Leader award from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. In 2020, he presented on stage for a TedTalk on The healing powers of Radical Welcome and in 2022 he co-edited the Anthology, Beyond Equity & Inclusion in Conflict Resolution which was published by Rowman & Littlefield.

The Fulbright Specialist program sends U.S. faculty and professionals to serve as expert consultants on curriculum, faculty development, institutional planning, and related subjects at academic institutions abroad for a period of two to six weeks.

During his three-year appointment as a specialist, Dr. Batts will focus on researching, training, and giving lectures on global health, violence as a contagious disease, historical trauma, mass incarceration and peace and conflict studies.

“The United Nations has declared this the decade for People of African Descent and the Fulbright designation will provide me with the opportunity to expand my global health and peace and justice work as I continue to strengthen the connections between Africans in America and across the diaspora.”

About Promise Neighborhoods LV:

Promise Neighborhoods of the Lehigh Valley fosters cooperation among residents in the Lehigh Valley to create safe, healthy, vibrant, inclusive neighborhoods; where children succeed in school and families thrive. Visit

PromiseNeighborhoodsLV.org or call 610-351-4288 for further information.

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