

CYNTHIA FLYNN CAPERS

778 Hampton Ridge Drive

Akron OH 44313

Phone: 330.867.4377

Email: cyn.flynn@gmail.com or ccapers@leadershipakron.org

Cynthia Flynn Capers, Ph.D. has professional experiences as special assistant to the provost, college dean, professor, founder and coordinator of academic leadership programs, researcher, consultant, coordinator, director, and family therapist. She held leadership and administrative responsibilities at private, religious and public universities, hospitals, and community organizations. She is now emeritus dean and professor as a retiree from The University of Akron. Her more recent positions include serving as senior advisor for the Austen BioInnovation Institute of Akron and field coordinator for Leadership Akron, Bridgestone Community Leadership Institute.

Dr. Capers completed her initial nursing education at Freedmen's Hospital School of Nursing in Washington, D.C. and went on to get her baccalaureate degree from the University of Maryland. Her master and doctoral degrees and post-doctoral work were obtained at the University of Pennsylvania. She was a Fellow of the American Nurses Association, Minority Fellowship Program for doctoral and post-doctoral work. To add depth to her leadership talents she completed the Harvard University Institute for Management and Leadership in Education program. Dr. Capers has expertise in cultural diversity, health promotion, and organizational leadership. Her scholarship pertains to African Americans' beliefs, practices and preferred use of resources for management of health care problems such as behavioral disorders and obesity. She is often sought as a consultant to nursing education and for leadership development programs.

Servant leadership permeates her commitments as evidenced by appointments to numerous community, state and national boards. Examples of her service includes board member of the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, Akron City and St. Thomas Hospitals of Summa Health Systems, and Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park. She was recently appointed to the boards for The University of Akron Foundation where she serves on the Stewardship Committee and United Way of Summit County where she is Strategic Planning Chair and a member of the Executive Committee. Through her vision and collaborative spirit, in 2002 *Cameos of Caring* for Northeast Ohio was established to celebrate nurses. In 2013 she received the United Way of Summit County Distinguished Service Award in recognition of her community leadership and service. She also provides leadership services as a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated.

Dr. Capers holds the belief that leaders need to be authentic, communicate openly and seek to realize a shared vision. She also believes that *the best leaders are those who have learned to inspire those around them and then get out of the way*. On a personal note, she is the proud mother of sons, a mentor to colleagues and a role model for many. Her personal motto is: "Live to Love, Love to Live." As a community activist she strives to do good in joy!

6/1/15