

# Telehealth Equity

A series of virtual forums, starting June 29, 2021



*Partnership for a Connected Illinois*  
**broadbandillinois.org**

The Illinois Telehealth Initiative (ITI) is a project of the nonprofit Partnership for a Connected Illinois (PCI). Over the last five years, ITI organized Law and Policy Forums examining the telehealth landscape in Illinois and the broader Midwest. The Forums feature interactive panel discussions on the current legal and regulatory environment for telehealth, reimbursement trends and opportunities, and telemedicine delivery and business models. <http://www.broadbandillinois.org/index.html>

**T**elehealth is being introduced to a healthcare system that suffers from inequities. Disparities in healthcare for underserved and rural communities were well documented prior to the pandemic. COVID-19 significantly exacerbated many of these underlying inequities and shone a much-needed light on barriers to equitable healthcare. Proactive steps must be taken to assure telehealth equity and that telehealth can become a great equalizer. This Telehealth series will include the following three Forums:

1. Current inequities and projects that use telehealth to minimize these inequities,
2. Effective projects to provide telehealth to both urban, rural and suburban children
3. Broadband expansion to enable telehealth to underserved communities.

## Forum 1—Projects That Use Telehealth to Reduce Inequities

Providers throughout Illinois as well as other states have transformed their practices to include telehealth solutions for caring for underserved populations. These sessions will describe examples of the telehealth solutions to minimize health inequities.

## Speakers:

**Ruby Mendenhall** will speak on **“Health Inequity in Illinois and its Consequences.”** Ruby is an Associate Professor of Sociology, African American Studies, Urban and Regional Planning, Gender and Women’s Studies and Social Work at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.



**Malik M. Trivedi, MD., FACEP,** will speak on **“How Telehealth Can Promote Health Equity with Underserved Communities: A Model Serving the Disability Community.”** Dr. Trivedi is the Chief Strategy Officer of Station MD and a board certified Emergency Medicine physician in practice for over 20 years. He has served as the chairman of several emergency departments, as well as core leadership of Emergency Medicine groups in the region.



Abner Mason will speak on **“Ten Lessons from 2020: Five Lessons About Health Disparities, Three Opportunities to Improve Health Equity, and Two Ways Telehealth Can Help.”** Abner is founder and CEO at ConsejoSano, a company combining an understanding of culture with a technology platform to help health plans and providers.



## Date:

Tuesday, June 29, 2021 • 2:00–3:20 pm CT

Online

Host:  **Seyfarth**

[Register for Forum 1 Here](#)