

## Gail C. Christopher



Dr. Gail Christopher is vice president for program strategy at the W. K. Kellogg Foundation in Battle Creek, Michigan. In this role, she serves on the executive team that provides overall direction and leadership for the Foundation and provides direction for Food, Health & Well-Being, Racial Equity, Civic Engagement, New Mexico, and New Orleans programming.

Dr. Christopher has more than 20 years' experience in designing and managing national initiatives and nonprofit organizations. Prior to joining the Foundation, she was vice president of the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies' Office of Health, Women and Families in Washington, D.C., where she led the Joint Center Health Policy Institute. Previously, she was guest scholar in the governance studies department at the Brookings Institution and executive director of the Institute for Government Innovation at Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government. She has launched and led three public commissions, including the landmark Dellums Commission research into conditions faced by young men of color, which produced policy recommendations to reduce racial and ethnic health disparities.

Dr. Christopher is nationally recognized for her pioneering work to infuse holistic health and diversity concepts into public sector programs and policy discourse. In 1996, she was elected as a fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration; and in 2007, received the Leadership Award from the Health Brain Trust of the Congressional Black Caucus for her work in reducing racial and ethnic health disparities.

She holds a doctor of naprapathy degree from the Chicago National College of Naprapathy and completed advanced study in holistic health and clinical nutrition at Union Graduate School in Cincinnati. A prolific writer and presenter, she is the author or coauthor of three books, a monthly column in the *Federal Times*, and more than 250 articles, presentations, and publications.