



Meet Our UN Representatives: Jitana Benton-Lee

Dr. Jitana Benton-Lee is the CEO and Founder of Cultured Remedy, LLC, a patient advocacy organization based out of Central Kentucky. She works as an Associate Professor of Graduate Nursing at Northern Kentucky University. In 2021, she developed Nursing Footmark, an iOS application (app) designed to document and track nurse skill competency at pre-licensure and licensed nursing levels. Nursing Footmark is innovative in solving competency and talent management-based learning dilemmas in two industries charged with nurse workforce development—higher education and healthcare. She is in the process of commercializing this technology.

She has obtained multiple degrees, including a Doctor of Nursing Practice and Master of Science degrees in nursing, health, and business administration. Her bachelor's degrees are in nursing and English. Currently, she is obtaining a nursing PhD at Texas Woman's University. She is a Qualified Administrator of the Intercultural Development Inventory®, a Nurse Executive Advanced-Board Certified, a Certified Nurse Educator, and an Apple Certified Educator.

Dr. Benton-Lee gleans knowledge on creating inclusive healthcare environments for diverse patient populations through nursing care provisions. As a result of her work, the Kentucky Organization of Nurse Leaders endowed her with the 2019 Emerging Leader Award. Her passion positively affects access to healthcare and health education for rural African Americans and the deaf and hearing-impaired communities; she is a proud member of both minoritized groups. In 2023, she began filming a documentary on the health experiences of rural black women. The film will be released in January 2023.

She has earned Community Change Leadership Network's Equity Conscience and Center for Health Equity & Advocacy's Health Equity Scholar fellowships in the last few years. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, CommonHealth Action, and the National Collaborative for Health Equity selected her as a Culture of Health Leader for her commitment to health equity and awarded her US \$95,000 to build a culture of health in Kentucky. In addition to her equity work, she is an American Association Colleges of Nursing HAAN consultant, educating nursing schools nationally on holistic admissions and inclusive learning environments.

She is the president of Rho Theta Chapter of Sigma, the highest nursing honor society. Additionally, she is a commissioner with the Lexington Human Rights Commission in Lexington, Kentucky. Dr. Benton-Lee is the former chapter president of the Bluegrass Region of the Kentucky Nurses Association, overseeing 15 counties. Also, she is an active member of the American Nurses Association, the Health Equity Leadership & Exchange Network, the Southern Nursing Research Society, the Transcultural Nursing Society, the Council of the Advancement of Nursing Science, Kentucky Academy of Science, Kentucky Public Health Association, and the National League for Nursing.