



Meet Our UN Representatives: Jitana Benton-Lee

Dr. Jitana Benton-Lee is a prominent nursing expert, educator, and advocate dedicated to advancing healthcare equity and inclusive environments. She serves as CEO and Founder of Cultured Remedy, LLC, championing patient advocacy and diversity in healthcare. Additionally, she is the Director of the Northern Kentucky Nursing and Interprofessional Research Collaborative (NIRC) and Associate Professor of Graduate Nursing at Northern Kentucky University. She is an adjunct faculty at Kentucky State University and is pursuing a PhD in Nursing at Texas Woman's University.

Dr. Benton-Lee holds multiple degrees in nursing, healthcare, and business administration. She is a Qualified Administrator of the Intercultural Development Inventory, Nurse Executive Advance-Board Certified, Certified Nurse Educator, and Apple Certified Educator. Her expertise has earned her numerous awards and fellowships, including the 2019 Emerging Leader Award from the Kentucky Organization of Nurse Leaders and the 2024 Russellville High School Distinguished Alumni.

As a passionate advocate for health equity, Dr. Benton-Lee focuses on improving access to healthcare and education for rural African Americans and the deaf and hearing-impaired communities. Her work has been recognized by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, CommonHealth Action, and the National Collaborative for Health Equity, which awarded her US \$95,000 to build a culture of health in Kentucky.

Dr. Benton-Lee is an active leader in various professional organizations. She is the past president of the Rho Theta Chapter of Sigma and United Nations Liaison. Additionally, she is a former commissioner of the Lexington Human Rights Commission. She held roles in the American Nurses Association, Health Equity Leadership & Exchange Network, Southern Nurses Research Society, and more.

As an educator, Dr. Benton-Lee teaches doctoral-level nursing students leadership, epidemiology, vulnerable populations, and health equity/inclusion. She has been recognized as an Apple Distinguished Educator and inducted into the Association of American Colleges and Universities' Future Leader Society.

Dr. Benton-Lee's commitment to healthcare equity and inclusive environments has significantly impacted nursing. Her dedication to advancing health equity and inclusive environments continues to inspire and empower others to join her in this critical mission.