



Vanessa Greene is a leader and strategist specializing in racial and health equity. Vanessa has a 30+ year track record of getting things done while maintaining her commitment to social justice and equity. In her current role as CEO of Grand Rapids African American Health Institute, Vanessa approaches health equity from a data-driven, systems-level lens and leads with quality, purpose, impact, and integrity. She works with the community, physicians, health care systems, lawmakers, insurance providers, educators, and businesses to advocate for resources and opportunities to support the needs, well-being, and quality of life of others.

Vanessa began her career advocating for adults with disabilities and spent more than 25 years in higher education at Grand Valley State University and Hope College, where she worked as Director of the Center for Diversity and Inclusion and Associate Dean of Students. Of all her roles, serving as a mentor to young adult leaders and influencing future change agents has been the most rewarding. The contributions of her work can be seen in the thousands of lives she has impacted and the work they are doing in every sector, including business, education, medicine/healthcare, government, finance, and art. Vanessa completed her bachelor's and master's degrees at Grand Valley State University. She also earned leadership, diversity consulting and grant writing certifications from the University of Michigan and Academic Networks.

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