

# Nicole Baptiste

**Nicole J. Baptiste, LMSW** was born and raised in Brooklyn, New York. As a dedicated licensed social worker, Baptiste has more than 10 years of experience working in health and human services. Baptiste's expertise is in program development, community building, and community engagement. She adopts a creative and strategic approach to linking and leveraging community resources. Baptiste is the founder of Uproot and Build and consults with nonprofit and healthcare organizations in developing innovative community engagement strategies. She holds a Master of Social Work (MACRO concentration) from State University of New York at Albany.



“When I worked as a patient navigator at a community hospital in upstate New York, I was called into the emergency room by a doctor and nurse to assist an uninsured patient who had returned to the facility for the third time in less than one month. On my way to the patient's room, the ER nurse mumbled, ‘If the patient would spend her money on prescriptions instead of cigarettes, she would not be here.’ I had recently shifted my paradigm through the Bridges Out of Poverty training and had developed an understanding of the mental model of poverty. I decided to engage the patient differently, and she disclosed that she was homeless and living illegally with her daughter and grandchildren in public housing. It was at that moment I realized: In order to be fully effective, I must develop an understanding of one's concrete experience.”

Baptiste's passions include growing spiritually and serving in her church and community. She is passionate about community building, and her vision is that a fully engaged community has the potential to develop into a vibrant and healthy community.

## Selected workshops presented by Nicole Baptiste

- ◆ Bridges Out of Poverty: Strategies for Professionals and Communities
- ◆ Bridges to Health and Healthcare

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