



OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Vermont State House
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*****MEDIA ADVISORY*****

Lt. Governor Molly Gray to Host “Seat at the Table” on Equity in Public Health

- What:** Lt. Governor Gray will host a “Seat at the Table,” on equity and public health, with a focus on the impact of COVID-19 on former refugees in Vermont communities. The virtual speaker series aims to elevate the voices of Vermonters in the State House. Lt. Governor Gray convenes and moderates the bi-weekly series. Following the panel discussion, Lt. Governor Gray and speakers will be available to meet with members of the media via Zoom.
- When:** Monday, February 22, 2021 from 12:30 - 1:30pm.
- Where:** The “Seat at the Table” is hosted via Zoom every other Monday. The series is recorded and also available for use via the Lt. Governors YouTube Channel linked [HERE](#). To register, please visit: <https://ltgov.vermont.gov/seatatthetable>.
- Speakers:** **Maria Mercedes Avila**, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics and Adjunct Professor of Nursing at the University of Vermont;
Amila Merdzanovic, Director, U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (Vermont);
Dr. Jules Wetchi a Public Health Specialist representing Vermont’s New American community;
Dr. Pablo Bose, Associate Professor of Geography and Director of Global Studies, University of Vermont; and
Thato Ratsebe, Associate Director and Programs Manager, Association of Africans Living in Vermont (AALV).
- Other:** The first “Seat at the Table,” hosted on February 8, 2021, highlighted the diverse and evolving needs of Vermonters linked to broadband access. Video of that event is available to view here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j_7qbAasgPU

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