

David Anderson Hooker, JD, M.Div, MPH

David Anderson Hooker has been a mediator and facilitator since 1982. As a facilitator, Mr. Hooker has worked with groups around public health, healthcare policy and other issues of social concern. His expertise includes facilitating issues of bias reduction, diversity management and financing of health care services. Mr. Hooker has helped structure conflict resolution systems and processes for the Georgia Health Policy Center and he has facilitated separate and joint meetings of business, government, labor, health care providers and consumers, and various consumer advocacy groups to develop health care policy for the state of Connecticut. He is an active trainer and workshop leader in bias reduction and diversity management.

For the last five years much of David's research has focused in the area of healing historical harms. He has developed an innovative model to connect legacy (the collection of implicit biases as well as histories, folklore, prejudices and wisdom that gets passed down from generation to generation) to aftermath (policies, laws, institutional arrangements and professional practices put in place to reinforce the legacy). He offers techniques to reverse the conditions, created by implicit bias and other components of legacy, that continue to exist even after the legacy is discredited or no longer believed. In medical care, for example, his model can be applied in the context of research findings that are used to establish best practices, which may in fact be developed including implicit biases concerning specific populations. This allows the "best practice" to be implemented in a neutral way with positive intentions while yet perpetuating the bias and reproducing the results of the bias -- as manifested in the actions of providers and patients.

Before becoming a facilitator and mediator, David was a Master's level clinical psychologist. Among other degrees, he holds Masters Degrees in Minority Mental Health, Public Health and Public Administration. Currently he is a candidate for a Doctor of Philosophy.