# Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers ® Video Oral History with Leslie A. Morris

## Overview of the Collection

**Repository:** The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616

info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com

Creator: Morris, Leslie A., 1953-

Title: The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Leslie A. Morris,

**Dates:** June 27, 2018

Bulk Dates: 2018

**Physical Description:** 8 uncompressed MOV digital video files (3:17:56).

**Abstract:** Healthcare administrator and nonprofit executive Leslie A. Morris (1953 - ) served as the

founding director of the school-based health center at Snyder High School in New Jersey City for twelve years. She also served as the director of community relations at the New Jersey Primary Care Association. Morris was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on June 27, 2018, in New York, New York. This collection is comprised of the original

video footage of the interview.

**Identification:** A2018 117

**Language:** The interview and records are in English.

# Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Healthcare administrator and non-profit executive Leslie A. Morris was born on April 30, 1953 in Long Branch, New Jersey to Christine Newsom Morris and Nathaniel Morris. She graduated from Long Branch High School in 1971, and received her B.A. degree in sociology at Simmons College in 1975. Morris went on to earn her M.S.W. degree in clinical social work at Boston College in 1977, and her M.P.H. degree in public health with an emphasis on maternal and child health at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

During the 1970s and 1980s, Morris served as a social worker in various clinical facilities in Boston, Massachusetts; Baltimore, Maryland; and Washington, D.C. before becoming the director of the first comprehensive school-based health center in New Jersey at Snyder High School in Jersey City, New Jersey in 1987. There, she established programs targeting high risk youth in the areas of reproductive health care, mental health counseling, and health education. After twelve years in Jersey City, Morris went on to serve as the director of the School Health Initiative at the National Association of Community Health Centers in Washington, D.C. For five years, she provided training, technical assistance, consultation, and resources to the nation's network of community health centers on the development of school-based health centers for high risk youth. She also redeveloped five school-based health centers in Newark, New Jersey. In 2006, she was named director of community relations at the New Jersey Primary Care Association in Princeton, New Jersey, where she oversaw statewide public relations and marketing activities, provided technical assistance to community health centers, and advocated on behalf of the health centers and their patients. She also served as an adjunct professor at Burlington County College in Mount Laurel, New Jersey, and Camden County College in Blackwood, New Jersey.

In 2007, Morris was inspired by Sylvester Monroe's book, *Brothers*, to self-publish her own autobiography entitled *How Ya Like Me Now!*, which chronicled her childhood and adolescent experiences in public housing in Long Branch, New Jersey. In 2014, Morris founded Women of the Dream, a non-profit organization committed to

mentoring girls and young women in Camden, NJ and other underserved areas.

Leslie A. Morris was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on June 27, 2018.

# **Scope and Content**

This life oral history interview with Leslie A. Morris was conducted by Harriette Cole on June 27, 2018, in New York, New York, and was recorded on 8 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Healthcare administrator and nonprofit executive Leslie A. Morris (1953 - ) served as the founding director of the school-based health center at Snyder High School in New Jersey City for twelve years. She also served as the director of community relations at the New Jersey Primary Care Association.

## Restrictions

## **Restrictions on Access**

Restrictions may be applied on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of The HistoryMakers®.

#### **Restrictions on Use**

All use of materials and use credits must be pre-approved by The HistoryMakers®. Appropriate credit must be given. Copyright is held by The HistoryMakers®.

## **Related Material**

Information about the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview, as well as correspondence with the interview subject is stored electronically both on The HistoryMakers® server and in two databases maintained by The HistoryMakers®, though this information is not included in this finding aid.

#### **Controlled Access Terms**

This interview collection is indexed under the following controlled access subject terms.

## Persons:

Morris, Leslie A., 1953-

Cole, Harriette (Interviewer)

Stearns, Scott (Videographer)

## Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews Morris, Leslie A., 1953- --Interviews

## **Organizations:**

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

# **Occupations:**

Healthcare Administrator

Nonprofit Executive

## HistoryMakers® Category:

CivicMakers

## **Administrative Information**

## **Custodial History**

Interview footage was recorded by The HistoryMakers®. All rights to the interview have been transferred to The HistoryMakers® by the interview subject through a signed interview release form. Signed interview release forms have been deposited with Jenner & Block, LLP, Chicago.

#### **Preferred Citation**

The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Leslie A. Morris, June 27, 2018. The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection, 1900 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

## **Processing Information**

This interview collection was processed and encoded on 5/30/2023 by The HistoryMakers® staff. The finding aid was created adhering to the following standards: DACS, AACR2, and the Oral History Cataloging Manual (Matters 1995).

# Other Finding Aid

A Microsoft Access contact database and a FileMaker Pro tracking database, both maintained by The HistoryMakers®, keep track of the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview.

# **Detailed Description of the Collection**

## **Series I: Original Interview Footage**

Video Oral History Interview with Leslie A. Morris, Section A2018\_117\_001\_001, TRT: 1:32:37? Video Oral History Interview with Leslie A. Morris, Section A2018\_117\_001\_002, TRT: 2:28:59? Video Oral History Interview with Leslie A. Morris, Section A2018\_117\_001\_003, TRT: 3:27:13? Video Oral History Interview with Leslie A. Morris, Section A2018\_117\_001\_004, TRT: 4:24:39? Video Oral History Interview with Leslie A. Morris, Section A2018\_117\_001\_005, TRT: 5:30:11? Video Oral History Interview with Leslie A. Morris, Section A2018\_117\_001\_006, TRT: 6:34:37? Video Oral History Interview with Leslie A. Morris, Section A2018\_117\_001\_007, TRT: 7:12:08? Video Oral History Interview with Leslie A. Morris, Section A2018\_117\_001\_008, TRT: 8:07:32?