

# **MD-PETS Speaker / Facilitator**

## **CEO Common Ground Health**

*Wade Norwood*

**R**ochester native Wade Norwood has held leadership positions in the community for more than three decades, including roles in public service, education and health care. The CEO of Common Ground Health, he has been central to the nonprofit's strategic planning process, pushing the organization to become a more effective change agent for all Finger Lakes region residents, especially those most at risk. He also spearheaded the organization's efforts to engage underserved populations in health improvement, championing the creation of the African American Health Coalition, the Latino Health Coalition and the Partnership for Access to Healthcare, and providing ongoing support for these and other engagement initiatives.



He also co-chairs the NYS Health Dept's workgroup on health care workforce and co-chairs the region's Systems Integration initiative. As a member of the Finger Lakes Reg. Economic Dev. Comm., Norwood helps to guide funding for economic-development, job-development and anti-poverty efforts. He is a decision maker for the Greater Rochester Health Foundation's healthy-futures advocacy strategy.

From 1990 to 2005, Norwood served as a Rochester City Council member. During his tenure, he proposed and developed several new programs in housing, neighborhood development and police oversight.

Since 2009, Norwood has served as an at-large member of the NYS Bd. of Regents, which oversees all public education in the state from kindergarten through university. A leader in Rochester's faith community, he is president and senior pastor at the Holy Jerusalem Spiritual Church.

Mr. Norwood is a graduate of the Univ. of Rochester, with a bachelor's degree in political science. Wade & his wife have two adult children.