

Gordon Duvall

ABOUT

Gordon is a Community Research Liaison (CRL) for the African immigrant, African American, African Diaspora and minority communities across Colorado. He is a strong youth advocate and this pervades not only in his work as a CRL but in his work with the State of Colorado Division of Youth Services, where he oversees all of the medical clinics in the juvenile detention centers across the state. Gordon's involvement in community started after he began helping with prostate cancer screenings, after surviving it himself. Shortly thereafter he was recruited to become a CRL, where he has now found purpose in helping to ensure his community is heard.

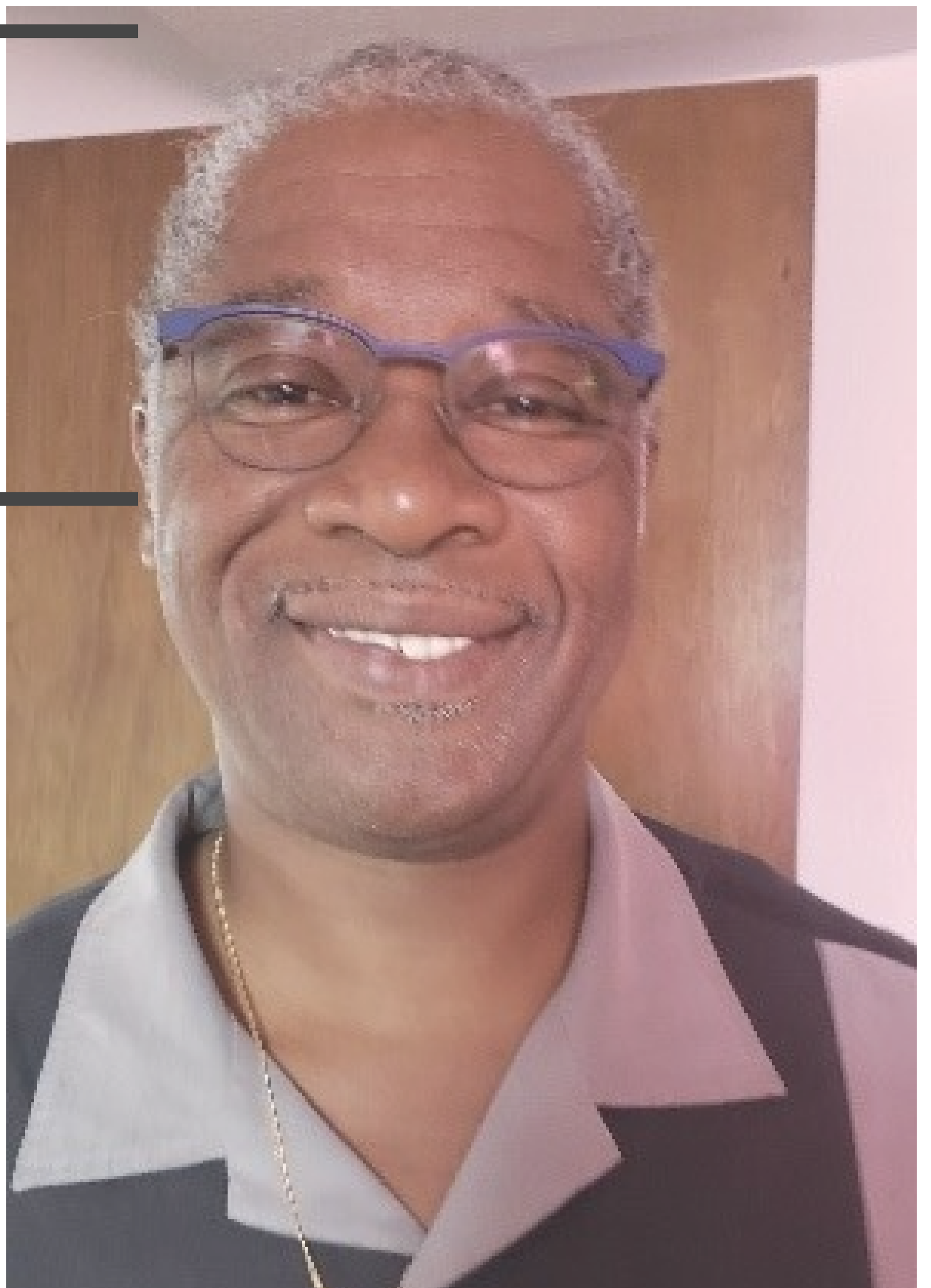
CCTSI ENGAGEMENT

- Community Research Liaison
- Pilot Grant Coach

PROJECT INVOLVEMENT

Before the pandemic, Gordon was working on forming a Youth Advisory Council with 2040 Partners for Health, as well as a similar project with Aurora Community Connection. He was also working on a project to get youth involved in participatory action research projects. Now, he has been focusing his efforts on keeping COVID-19 out of the juvenile detention centers. Although his focus has been shifted, Gordon's relentless pursuit of equity and equal opportunity has never wavered.

“These kids don't often see someone who looks like them who has been successful. I want to show them that they can make it.”



OUTLOOK

Gordon attributes his servant attitude and work ethic to his mothers' teachings. He found himself drawn to working with youth after realizing that he embraced the rebellion and defiance that is youth. He finds working with youth invigorating, and they bring a fresh perspective to issues that need to be re-addressed. Strong in his faith, he has been able to help his community push for change and seize the opportunities presented to them. He wants to make sure that his community benefits from the research they participate in, and that they have a seat at the table. Looking ahead, Gordon wants to see an emphasis on preventative care and equitable healthcare, education, and health education. He wants to empower his community, giving them the tools to be able to take care of themselves and say, "I can do this."