

Wednesday, September 14, 2022

#EquityChat Season 3, Episode 2

Michael Tubbs, Special Advisor for Economic Mobility and Opportunity, Founder of End Poverty in California (EPIC)

[5:00 pm] Dr. Pamela Luster

We're back for [#EquityChat](#) S3 sponsored by [@CollegeFutures](#) & hosted by [@DrPamLuster](#) [@DrTammeil](#) [@lamkeithcurry](#) your [@equityavengers](#)! Tonight, we're joined by The Founder of [@EndPovertyCA](#) and Spec. Adv. for Economic Mobility & Opportunity for [@CAGov](#). Welcome [@MichaelDTubbs](#)!

[5:05 pm] Dr. Tammeil Gilkerson

Q1 [@MichaelDTubbs](#) We're excited to have you on #EquityChat! To start us off, we'd love to know - As you engage in equity-focused work, what is your walk-up song or anthem? [@DrPamLuster](#) [@lamkeithcurry](#) [@CollegeFutures](#) [#EquityChat](#) [#EquityAvengers](#)

Michael Tubbs - Replying to [@DrTammeil](#) [@DrPamLuster](#) and 2 others

Thank you so much for having me for this [#EquityChat](#)! What a great question - I'd have to say it's GOD DID from [@djkhaleed](#) with Rick Ross, Lil Wayne, Jay-Z, John Legend & Friday.

Dr. Tammeil Gilkerson - Replying to [@MichaelDTubbs](#) [@DrPamLuster](#) and 3 others

Yasss [@MichaelDTubbs](#)! A brilliant anthem. So many good lyrics... They wanted us down, whoa (come on, man) But look at us now, oh They counted us out They didn't think that we would make it, oh They didn't believe in us Oh, but I know God did, God did (oh, yes, He did)

Dr. Keith Curry - Replying to [@MichaelDTubbs](#) [@DrTammeil](#) and 3 others

Interesting. You know me, I am all things compton.

[5:11 pm] Dr. Keith Curry

Q2 [@MichaelDTubbs](#) In the past, we've asked guests for their non-resume introduction, but what is something you want people to know about you that you haven't shared? [@DrPamLuster](#) [@DrTammeil](#) [@CollegeFutures](#) [#EquityChat](#) [#EquityAvengers](#)

Michael Tubbs - Replying to [@lamkeithcurry @DrPamLuster and 2 others](#)

[1/2] I think most people don't know that while I was on the city council in Stockton I was also a high school teacher! While my period as an educator was relatively brief, it was a really wonderful experience. [#EquityChat](#)

Michael Tubbs - Replying to [@lamkeithcurry @DrPamLuster and 2 others](#)

[2/2] On a fun note, I am a pescatarian and I love gummy bears! (Not something that came up much as an elected official and now as founder of [@EndPovertyCA](#).)  
[#EquityChat #EquityAvengers](#)

[5:18 pm] Dr. Pamela Luster

Q3 @MichaelDTubbs CA has the nation's highest rate of poverty at 15.4%. As a longtime champion for ending poverty, how is [@EndPovertyCA](#) moving the recommendation to expand the guaranteed income program forward? @DrTammeil @lamkeithcurry @CollegeFutures [#EquityChat #EquityAvengers](#)

Michael Tubbs - Replying to [@DrPamLuster @EndPovertyCA and 3 others](#)

[1/2] At [@EndPovertyCA](#) we do a lot around storytelling to make sure the public better understands how people's lives change when they have access to [#guaranteedincome](#), along with my work with [@mayorsforagi](#) and our coalition partners. [#EquityChat](#)

Michael Tubbs - Replying to [@DrPamLuster @EndPovertyCA and 3 others](#)

[2/2] We also work with Hollywood creators on how poverty is portrayed in the media – because you can't change policy without changing the poverty narrative and addressing the myths and false assumptions that exist around systemic poverty. [#EquityChat](#)

Dr. Tammeil Gilkerson - Replying to [@MichaelDTubbs @DrPamLuster and 4 others](#)

TY for elevating this, [@MichaelDTubbs](#)! We must continue dismantling the persistent tropes about the conditions of poverty & speak the truth about systemic inequities versus foisting these falsehoods & stereotypes onto individuals versus systems that bear responsibility.

[5:25 pm] Dr. Tammeil Gilkerson

Q4 @MichaelDTubbs What would you say are the "Big E" and "Small E" goals to achieve equity? As Founder of [@EndPovertyCA](#) and Special Adviser to @CAGovernor, what is your role in achieving these goals? @DrPamLuster @lamkeithcurry @CollegeFutures [#EquityChat #EquityAvengers](#)

Michael Tubbs - Replying to [@DrTammeil @EndPovertyCA and 4 others](#)

[1/2] Oh now we're getting into the real tough questions in this [#EquityChat](#), [@DrTammeil](#)! We mostly focus on the "Big E", like the paper we issued w/ [@CenterPovIneq](#) on how to rebuild systems like housing, labor markets, criminal justice etc. that create poverty. [#EquityChat](#)

Dr. Tammeil Gilkerson - Replying to [@MichaelDTubbs @EndPovertyCA and 5 others](#)

[#UpsetTheSetup](#)...Sign me up! I've been thinking a lot about "Power" and how we think about shifting power versus labor and say we've done something. Getting at the policies is critical. [#EquityChat](#)

Dr. Gilkerson - Replying to [@MichaelDTubbs @EndPovertyCA and 5 others](#)

I love your quote [@MichaelDTubbs](#), "Those closest to the pain should be closest to the power." I want to rebuild the table because the table wasn't made for us but I recognize the need to also work from within. [#UpsetTheSetup #EndPovertyCA #EquityChat](#)

Michael Tubbs - Replying to [@DrTammeil @EndPovertyCA and 4 others](#)

[2/2] Poverty is systemic & driven by policy choices. So we pursue policies that [#UpsetTheSetup](#) and help get us there – like [#babybonds](#), [#guaranteedincome](#), & housing as a human right. We do that work in coalitions with other anti-poverty orgs to build lasting power. [#EquityChat](#)

[5:32 pm] Dr. Keith Curry

Q5 @MichaelDTubbs What are the top 3 priorities you hope to achieve as Special Adviser for Economic Mobility and Opportunity for @CAGovernor? @DrPamLuster @DrTammeil @CollegeFutures #EquityChat #EquityAvengers

Michael Tubbs - Replying to [@lamkeithcurry @CAGovernor and 3 others](#)

[1/2] [@CAGovernor](#) has demonstrated a commitment to addressing poverty. He's supported baby bonds, GI, historic investments in housing, expanding the safety net for all, and more. [#EquityChat](#)

Michael Tubbs - Replying to [@lamkeithcurry @CAGovernor and 3 others](#)

[2/2] So my priority is to give him the best information I have from what we learn in [@EndPovertyCA](#)'s work so that California can build policies that are grounded in the real experiences and insights of people living in poverty. [#EquityChat](#)

[5:39 pm] Dr. Pamela Luster

Q6 @MichaelDTubbs Based on your experiences in the numerous roles you've held, what can higher education leaders be doing to better support our students impacted by #basicneeds insecurities? @DrTammeil @lamkeithcurry @CollegeFutures #EquityChat #EquityAvengers

Michael Tubbs - Replying to [@DrPamLuster @DrTammeil and 2 others](#)

They can look at [@lamkeithcurry](#) & my friends [@NorcoCollege](#) to see what a commitment to helping students meet basic needs looks like! You all have pursued pilots, hired staff dedicated to student basic needs, creatively accessed resources during COVID, & much more. [#EquityChat](#)

Dr. Tammeil Gilkerson - Replying to [@MichaelDTubbs @DrPamLuster and 3 others](#)

Yes, amazing examples of leadership addressing students' basic needs.

Shout out to all the [@CalCommColleges](#) who are deeply committed to thoughtful focused support fighting this daily food, housing, transportation & other insecurities persistent in our community. [#Dignity4AllPeople](#)

[5:46pm] Dr. Tammeil Gilkerson

Q7 @MichaelDTubbs To do this work, we must continue learning and partnering with others. Who/what is informing your practice? Who do you recommend we follow, and what are you learning from them? @DrPamLuster @lamkeithcurry @CollegeFutures #EquityChat #EquityAvengers

Michael Tubbs - Replying to [@DrTammeil @DrPamLuster and 2 others](#)

[1/2] Right now I am on the road with [@EndPovertyCA](#) doing a statewide tour to listen to directly impacted folks, based on the knowledge that the people closest to the problems are closest to the solutions. [#EquityChat](#)

Michael Tubbs - Replying to [@DrTammeil @DrPamLuster and 2 others](#)

[2/2] So my suggestion is to follow people and communities who know the struggle firsthand and follow organizations led by those who have experienced poverty.

We've been fortunate to partner with orgs like [@YoungWomenFree](#), [@EndChildPovCA](#), [@CaliforniaPPC](#) & many more. [#EquityChat](#)

Dr. Tammeil Gilkerson - Replying to [@MichaelDTubbs @equityavengers and 4 others](#)  
Say it again [yell emoji] [@MichaelDTubbs](#) ..."to listen to directly impacted folks, based on the knowledge that the people closest to the problems are closest to the solutions." It's not rocket science folks! Are communities know what they need are we willing to listen and ACT?! [#EquityChat](#)

[5:53 pm] Dr. Keith Curry

Q8 [@MichaelDTubbs](#) Final question for tonight - what advice would you give to other equity practitioners?  
[@DrPamLuster @DrTammeil @CollegeFutures #EquityChat #EquityAvengers](#)

Michael Tubbs - Replying to [@lamkeithcurry @DrPamLuster and 2 others](#)

[1/2] Make sure people understand the language you use—even when you use the word “equity”. And know that this work is hard, it’s a marathon. So we have to take care of ourselves and one another. [#EquityChat](#)

Dr. Tammeil Gilkerson - Replying to [@MichaelDTubbs @lamkeithcurry and 2 others](#)

Such sage advice on language [@MichaelDTubbs](#). Such a marathon & we need each other. [#WageLove](#)  
They counted us out They didn't think that we would make it, oh They didn't believe in us (it breaks my heart) Oh, but I know God did, God did (where we at Gu?) (Oh, yes, He did)

Michael Tubbs - Replying to [@lamkeithcurry @DrPamLuster and 2 others](#)

[2/2] Celebrate the victories and keep our eyes on the prize. We are in it for the long haul.

Grateful to you all for inviting me and sharing this space with me, [@DrPamLuster @DrTammeil @CollegeFutures #EquityChat #EquityAvengers!](#)

Dr. Tammeil Gilkerson - Replying to [@MichaelDTubbs @lamkeithcurry and 2 others](#)

So grateful to be on this journey with you [@MichaelDTubbs!](#) I believe. [#UpsetTheSetup #ShowLove @equityavengers @EndPovertyCA @CollegeFutures @DrPamLuster @lamkeithcurry](#)

[6:00 pm] Dr. Pamela Luster

TY [@MichaelDTubbs](#) for sharing your time w/us to discuss such an important topic. [#EquityChat](#) is excited to cont. this dive into [#basicneeds](#) nxt week w/another amazing guest... [@CharlieEatonPhd](#), Assoc. Prof of Sociology [@UCMerced](#). [@lamkeithcurry @DrTammeil @equityavengers](#) OUT!