**Esther Onaga**

**Credentials & Title:** PhD, Retired Faculty from the Department of Human Development and Family Studies, Michigan State University

**Bio**: Esther Onaga received her Ph.D from Michigan State University in community psychology. She began her work at Michigan State University as a project manager for a NIMH funded dissemination study of one of the first evidence-based programs for people with serious and persistent mental illness. This work led to several federal and state grants focused on supporting community employment for people with disabilities. She organized The Coalition for Community Living as a mechanism to sustain a national effort to continue the translation of research to practice. Her work with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and Michigan Clubhouses led to the revision of specific Medicaid guidelines and her collaboration with Michigan policymakers led to the coordination of the Michigan Family Impact Seminar. In retirement, she supports her 34 year old son with autism spectrum disorder to become an active community participant as a custodial worker and an artist. She also supports parents