



LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT – Orlando B. Lightfoot, MD, DLFAPA



Dr. Orlando Lightfoot is Emeritus Professor of Psychiatry, Boston University School of Medicine. and, before his retirement in 2015, was Vice Chair for Community Psychiatry at the Boston University School of Medicine / Boston Medical Center. At the time of his retirement, he was also Senior psychiatric consultant to the Codman Square Health Center, and the Upham's Corner Health Centers in Dorchester, MA.

Born in Chicago, Illinois, Dr Lightfoot is a graduate of Fisk University, (1957) and Meharry Medical College, (1965). He completed an internship at Illinois Masonic Hospital and a residency in adult psychiatry at the University of Illinois Research & Educational Hospitals in Chicago (1965-69), followed by a fellowship at the Laboratory of Community Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School.

Over a long and distinguished career, Dr. Lightfoot has held numerous academic, clinical and educational posts in the Division of Psychiatry at Boston University (BU), and at BU affiliated facilities including: Director of Adult Ambulatory Psychiatry Services; Senior Psychiatrist in the Consultation and Liaison Service and Section Chief of Geriatric & Rehabilitation Psychiatry at Boston City Hospital. He also served as Chief of the Behavioral Neuropsychiatry Unit at the Jewish Memorial Hospital and Medical Director of the Dr. Solomon Carter Fuller Mental Health Center.

Dr. Lightfoot is truly a pioneer in the field of community psychiatry. For almost a half century he worked to develop and expand mental health services and improve the quality of care in numerous community-based and hospital settings throughout the greater Boston area. In so doing, he brought a unique ability to integrate psychodynamic and behavioral principles into everyday medical / psychiatric practice. His expertise in identifying and addressing important variables that impact the quality, continuity and cost of care in community settings, including race and cultural factors, has been invaluable in improving the care our patients receive. He has shared these insights in teaching, supervising and mentoring several generations of medical students, psychiatrists, psychologists and other mental health professionals as well as with a wider, national audience through numerous professional publications and presentations at local and national conferences.

In recognition of his accomplishments Dr. Lightfoot was named a Distinguished Life Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association and, in 1995 received the Massachusetts Psychiatric Society's "Outstanding Psychiatrist Award for Public Sector Services". In 2011 he was selected as the "E.Y. Williams Senior Clinical Scholar of Distinction" by the National Medical Association's Section of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences. In 2014 he received a Presidential Service Award from the Massachusetts Psychiatric Society. In addition to the APA and MPS Dr. Lightfoot is a member of the National Medical Association, the American Psychoanalytic Association and a graduate of the Boston Psychoanalytic Society and Institute (BPSI).

Dr. Lightfoot retired as a full-time physician in 2015 but continues to work as a part time psychiatric consultant while spending time with his wife and 5 children. participating in numerous church and community-based organizations and singing with several ensembles and church groups.

It is with profound admiration and gratitude that the Massachusetts Psychiatric Society presents its 2021 Lifetime Achievement Award to Dr. Orlando Lightfoot.