

## **Jacqueline Patterson**

Jacqueline Patterson is the Director of the Climate Justice Initiative at the NAACP. Most recently a global women's rights consultant, Jacqui Patterson has enjoyed a rich career working in the capacities of researcher, program manager, coordinator, advocate and activist working on women's rights, violence against women, HIV&AIDS, racial justice, economic justice, and climate justice. Since 2007 Patterson has served as coordinator for an organization she founded, Women of Color United. As WOCU coordinator, Patterson has recently emerged as a leader in the climate justice movement, currently working on a climate justice road tour to expose issues of environmental racism in communities of color and ensuring that the voices, demands and leadership of women of color are at the forefront of policy making spaces at upcoming UN meetings, the G-20 convening, and in the formulation and advancement of key climate legislation. Previously, Patterson served as a Senior Women's Rights Policy Analyst for ActionAid where she ensured the integration of a women's rights lens for the issues of food rights, macroeconomics, and climate change as well as the intersection of violence against women and HIV&AIDS. Prior to this she served as Assistant Vice-President of HIV/AIDS Programs for Interchurch Medical Assistance, Inc. providing management and technical assistance to medical facilities and programs in 23 countries in Africa and the Caribbean. Patterson served as the Outreach Project Associate for the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, as policy analyst for Baltimore City Healthy Start; and Research coordinator for Johns Hopkins University. A returned U.S. Peace Corps volunteer, Patterson holds a master's degree in social work from the University of Maryland and a master's degree in public health from Johns Hopkins University. She currently serves as Public Policy Co-Chair of the National Association of Black Social Workers, the Executive Committee for the Congressional Black Caucus Fellows Alumni Program, The Leadership Circle of the Women's Working Group of the US Social Forum, Coordinator for Women of Color United, and the Advisory Committee for The Grandmothers' Project, the Steering Committee of ATHENA Network, as well as serves as a Co-Chair of the Board of Directors of Health GAP (Global Access Project).