## Dr. Maria Pitre-Martin – Transcript

As a career educator of over 30 years, I am excited to have joined the SERVE Center at the University of North Carolina Greensboro whose staff envisions a diverse, inclusive, equitable system of education where barriers to learning cease to exist. In my experience as an educational leader at the school, district, and state levels, I have witnessed first-hand the transformative power of education when driven by individuals, partnerships and systems that provide structures and environments that students need to reach their greatest potential.

SERVE's commitment to the educational rights and needs of vulnerable students is evident through the operation of the National Center for Homeless Education. Additionally, SERVE has managed the North Carolina Homeless Education Program and the North Carolina Foster Care Program through the guidance and partnership of the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction.

Also, through the Region Six Comprehensive Center, SERVE extends its impact across North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia, supporting state education agencies and school districts in implementing researchbased education initiatives that can have positive impacts on students.

And for 15 years SERVE has been at the forefront of studying the Early College High School model, which provides opportunities for students who otherwise may not have been able to attend post-secondary education. Through the Early College High School Research Center, SERVE provides some of the most cutting-edge research and resources concerning key implementation features and student impacts.

Now that we have stepped into 2024, SERVE reaffirms its commitment to being a national touch point for those supporting students and adult learners. Our goal is to SERVE and to create an educational landscape that empowers learners now and for the future.