Alia Harvey-Quinn | Director, Faithfully Organizing Resources for Community Empowerment (FORCE) Detroit

Alia Harvey-Quinn is the Director for Force. Born and raised in Detroit. She has dedicated 14 years to the nonprofit field, beginning with working and volunteering in many schools, community centers and churches across Metropolitan Detroit as a volunteer performance poet, visual artist and instructor.

Alia is proud to count among her successes founding FORCE, a project of the Faith In Action Network uniquely designed to primarily engage returning citizens and millennials in Detroit, and co-founding Detroit Future Youth, a youth led network of more than a dozen justice based media organizing nonprofits. Detroit Future Youth supported 10 organizations with $300K of funding and engaged more than 2000 young Detroiters in media education and arts creation experiences online across a 16 month period from 2011 – 2012. Her leadership of multiple youth entrepreneurial art programs engaging youth in community activism resulted in the production of 15 community murals, two spoken word and hip hop cds highlighting issues of youth identity and social justice, two volumes of poetry, an art gallery, as well as several graphically enhanced products.

Amanda Alexander | Founding Executive Director, Detroit Justice Center; Senior Research Scholar, University of Michigan School of Law

Amanda Alexander is the founding Executive Director of the Detroit Justice Center, a non-profit law firm working alongside communities to create economic opportunities, transform the justice system, and promote equitable and just cities. Originally from Michigan, Amanda has worked at the intersection of racial justice and community development in Detroit, New York, and South Africa for 15 years. She is an Echoing Green Fellow, Soros Justice Fellow, and 2018 Law for Black Lives Legal Innovator Fellow.

Amanda is a Senior Research Scholar at the University of Michigan Law School and a 2015-2018 member of the Michigan Society of Fellows. Previously, Amanda founded and directed the Prison & Family Justice Project at Michigan Law to provide legal representation to incarcerated parents and advocate for families divided by the prison and foster care systems.

Amanda received her JD from Yale Law School, her PhD in international history from Columbia University, and her BA, magna cum laude, from Harvard College.
Antong Lucky | Master Educator and Trainer; National Engagement Director of OGU (Original Gangstas University), Urban Specialists

Antong Lucky, the founder and former leader of the Dallas 415 Bloods Gang, is the Urban Specialists Master Educator and National Engagement Director for OGU (Original Gangstas University). At an early age, Antong was embroiled in a life of crime, gang violence and drug dealing that ultimately landed him in prison.

In prison Antong denounced his gang affiliation, started to read a lot of books to educate himself and begin working to unite the rival gangs. Antong quickly rose to become one of the most respected and sought after mentors in prison. His teachings of conflict resolution taught fellow inmates how not to use violence as their primary language but instead practice peace.

Antong has spent the last twenty years working to end violence in communities by training OGs (original Gangstas) across the country to effectively mentor youth away from a life of gangs, crime and violence. Most recently Antong trains police officers on effective community engagement strategies. Antong is a sought out speaker on issues of eradicating violence, re-entry, criminal justice reform and bridging the gap between law enforcement and community. FB: Antong Speaks IG: Bruse18wane www.ogumovement.org Twitter: AntongSpeaks

Barbara L. Jones | Community Dispute Resolution Specialist and Faculty Instructor for the Center for Peace and Conflict Studies Program, Wayne State University

Barbara Jones is a lifelong Detroiter and community activist, organizer and youth-violence prevention advocate who specializes in restorative justice and victim/offender reconciliation dialogues. She is the Community Dispute Resolution Specialist and Faculty Instructor for the Center for Peace and Conflict Studies Program at Wayne State University.

Barbara serves as the Program Director for the Ralph Bunche Summer Institute, a program that delivers expertise training in a higher learning academic setting that provides high school youth development services that focus on civic engagement, conflict resolution intervention, violence prevention, bullying, diversity, civil rights, race relations, negotiation, leadership, international affairs, diplomacy, social justice and crucial life skills with the overarching theme and tools of how to teach students to individually and collectively foster peace within their own schools and communities.

Barbara has a BS in Mass Communications from Rochester College, an MA in Conflict/Dispute Resolution from Wayne State University and a pending graduate certificate degree in Peace and Security Studies from Wayne State University.
The emphasis of Beth Richie's scholarly and activist work has been on the ways that race/ethnicity and social position affect women's experience of violence and incarceration, focusing on the experiences of African American battered women and sexual assault survivors.


Beth is a qualitative researcher who is also working on an ethnographic project documenting the conditions of confinement in women's prisons.

Beth is a member of the PNAP Teaching Collective at Stateville Maximum Prison and a Senior Advisor to the NFL working on their Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault response. She is also a founding member of INCITE!: Women of Color Against Violence.

Beverly Tillery is the Executive Director of the New York City Anti-Violence Project (AVP), an organization that works to address and end all forms of violence affecting LGBTQ and HIV-affected communities through organizing and education and supports survivors through counseling, legal services and advocacy. AVP also coordinates the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs, a network of more than 40 organizations which produces reports on violence in the LGBTQ community and advocates for practices and policies to support survivors and prevent violence.

Beverly is an experienced thought leader and national organizer with nearly three decades of social justice experience. Most recently, she was a Deputy Director of Education and Public Affairs at Lambda Legal, an organization dedicated to achieving full recognition of the rights of LGBTQ people and people living with HIV. In addition, she has worked as an organizer, popular educator, strategist and staff leader at organizations such as Amnesty International, Service Employees International Union and ACORN.

R. Brent Decker has been with Cure Violence since March of 2003. He has worked with a wide range of US and International partners to adapt, train, and provide ongoing technical assistance on the implementation of the Cure Violence model. Brent’s focus has been on the development of systems to adapt, train, and implement the model to contexts outside of Chicago. The areas where Brent has worked with Cure Violence include Chicago, Baltimore, New York, New Orleans, Philadelphia, Kansas City, Honduras, Colombia, Iraq, Trinidad & Tobago, South Africa, Kenya, and England.

Brent holds a MPH in International Public Health and Development and a MSW in Clinical Social Work from Tulane University. Before joining Cure Violence, Brent worked on a number of public health and social justice projects throughout Central and South America.
Bruce Western | Co-Founder, Square One Project; Co-Director, Justice Lab and Bryce Professor of Sociology and Social Justice, Columbia University

Bruce Western is the Co-Founder and Co-Director of the Justice Lab and the Bryce Professor of Sociology and Social Justice at Columbia University. Before joining Columbia in the fall of 2018, Bruce was the faculty chair of the Program in Criminal Justice Policy at Harvard University.

He is the author of Homeward: Life in the Year After Prison (Russell Sage Foundation, 2018) and Punishment and Inequality in America (Russell Sage Foundation, 2006). In 2014, Bruce was the Vice-Chair on the National Academy of Science panel on high rates of incarceration in the United States, led by Jeremy Travis. From 2014 to 2017, Bruce chaired the Harvard Executive Session on Community Corrections.

Candice Jones | President and CEO, Public Welfare Foundation

Candice Jones is the President and CEO of Public Welfare Foundation in Washington, DC. Previously, she served as Senior Advisor at Chicago CRED, where she worked on securing greater investments for violence intervention programs as an alternative to the criminal justice system.

Prior to Chicago CRED, Candice served as Director of the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice. During her tenure, she pushed significant reforms that reduced the number of youth in state custody.

She also served as a White House Fellow, managing a portfolio within the US Department of Education that included developing education strategies for correctional institutions and shepherding a plan to reinstate federal Pell grants for youth and adults in custody. She currently serves on the board of Cabrini Green Legal Aid, a Chicago-based civil legal service organization. Candice received her JD from New York University School of Law and her BA from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri.

Celia Colón | Founder of Giving Other’s Dreams (G.O.D)

Celia is a speaker, author, community organizer and activist advocating for both those incarcerated and also women and children’s safety by fighting institutional and structural racism that fuels mass incarceration and generational harm.

Celia, founder of G.O.D (Giving Other’s Dreams) focuses on removing the stigma of seeking mental-health care and support. She develops and facilitates mental health workshops using transformational visual art and storytelling. Celia uses a powerful peer to peer approach of helping others heal and rebuild healthier, safer, stronger, and successful lives. She is dedicated to reducing the recidivism rate.

Professional Affiliations: Fierce Over Forty Ambassador; Task Force Member for The Women’s Justice Institute and the City of Chicago Ambassador for Cut50; State Attorney Kim Foxx Returning Citizen Advisory Board Member; Speaker for US Department of Justice, the Us. State Attorney’s Office- Project Safe Neighborhood.
Daniel Webster, ScD, MPH is the inaugural Bloomberg Professor of American Health at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health where he directs the Center for Gun Policy and Research and serves as co-lead of the Violence Prevention Workgroup of the Bloomberg American Health Initiative.

Daniel is one of the nation’s leading experts on the prevention of gun violence and has published more than 120 articles in scientific journals on topics including gun policy, violence prevention, youth violence, intimate partner violence, suicide, and substance abuse. He is the lead editor and a contributor to Reducing Gun Violence in America: Informing Policy with Evidence and Analysis (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2013).

Daniel's research informs policies to reduce gun violence at the local, state, and federal level. He previously led Baltimore’s Homicide Review Commission and now leads the Johns Hopkins-Baltimore Collaborative for Violence Reduction. His awards include the American Public Health Association’s David Rall Award for science-based advocacy (2015), Baltimore City’s Health Equity Leadership Award (2016), Pioneer Award from the Injury Free Coalition for Kids (2017), and Johns Hopkins University Distinguished Alumni Award (2017).

Danielle Sered envisioned and directs Common Justice, which develops and advances practical and groundbreaking solutions to violence that advance racial equity, meet the needs of those harmed, and do not rely on incarceration. Before planning the launch of Common Justice, Danielle served as the deputy director of the Vera Institute of Justice’s Adolescent Reentry Initiative, a program for young men returning from incarceration on Rikers Island.

Danielle sits on the Downstate Coalition for Crime Victims, the New York State Governor’s Council on Reentry and Community Reintegration, and the Advisory Board to the National Initiative for Building Community Trust and Justice. She is the author of The Other Side of Harm: Addressing Disparities in our Responses to Violence, of Accounting for Violence: How to Increase Safety and Break Our Failed Reliance on Mass Incarceration, and the book Until We Reckon: Violence, Mass Incarceration, and a Road to Repair (The New Press, 2019).

David Hureau joined the faculty of the School of Criminal Justice in the fall of 2016. He received his PhD from Harvard University in Sociology and Social Policy in 2016, his MPP from the Harvard Kennedy School in 2006, and his BA from Wesleyan University in 2001. David is broadly interested in the relationship between crime, punishment, and social inequality, with a particular research interest in understanding the nature of violent crime and its consequences.

Recent research projects include an ethnography of a network of young men disproportionately exposed to homicide, a mixed methods investigation of the market for illegal guns, and a policy evaluation of a major gang violence intervention effort. David has served as an NBER-NSF Crime Research Fellow, a Doctoral Fellow at the University of Chicago Crime Lab, an IGERT-NSF Doctoral Fellow in the Multidisciplinary Program in Inequality and Social Policy at Harvard, and a Research Fellow at the Program in Criminal Justice Policy and Management at Harvard.
David Kennedy | Director, National Network for Safe Communities; Professor, John Jay College of Criminal Justice

A self-taught criminologist, David Kennedy’s work has focused on reducing serious violence for more than 35 years. As Director of the National Network for Safe Communities, David helps to support cities implementing strategic interventions to reduce violence, minimize arrest and incarceration, enhance police legitimacy, and strengthen communities. These interventions have been proven effective in a variety of settings, have amassed a robust evaluation record, and are widely employed nationally. He helped develop the “Operation Ceasefire” homicide prevention strategy, and the broader “focused deterrence” prevention approach; the High Point Drug Market Intervention strategy; the Justice Department’s Strategic Approaches to Community Safety Initiative; the Treasury Department’s Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative; the Bureau of Justice Assistance’s Drug Market Intervention Program; the High Point Domestic Violence Intervention Program, and the Justice Department’s National Initiative for Building Community Trust and Justice.

David’s work has won two Ford Foundation Innovations in Government awards, two Webber Seavey Awards from the International Association of Chiefs of Police, and two Herman Goldstein Awards for problem-oriented Policing. He was awarded the 2011 Hatfield Scholar Award for scholarship in the public interest.

Elizabeth Glazer | Director, New York City Mayor’s Office of Criminal Justice

Elizabeth Glazer is the Director of the Mayor’s Office of Criminal Justice. In that role, she serves as the senior criminal justice policy advisor to the Mayor and First Deputy Mayor. Elizabeth oversees citywide criminal justice policy and develops and implements strategies across city agencies and partners to enhance public safety, reduce unnecessary incarceration, and increase fairness.

Previously, Elizabeth served as the Secretary for Public Safety to NYS Governor Cuomo, where she was responsible for the oversight and management of eight state agencies, including Corrections, Parole, State Police and National Guard. Elizabeth has also held a variety of leadership positions at the local, state and federal levels, including the United States Attorney’s Office for the Southern District of New York where she pioneered the use of the racketeering laws to address the violent gang problem. Elizabeth received her BA from Harvard University and her JD from Columbia Law School. She clerked for then-US Circuit Judge Ruth Bader Ginsburg.
Eric Cumberbatch serves as the Executive Director of the NYC Mayor’s Office to Prevent Gun Violence, an office that will aim to coordinate and amplify the city’s anti-gun violence initiatives across government, communities and justice partners. Prior to this role, he served as the Executive Director of Community Engagement within the Mayor’s Office of Criminal Justice, tasked with oversight of the NYC Crisis Management System, a joint initiative of the Mayor’s Office and the New York City Council with the purpose of reducing gun violence via intervention and prevention services in 17 communities that account for the majority of shooting incidents in the city. He has held posts at the New York City Department of Education and the New York City Housing Authority.

Eric has a lifelong dedication to uplifting, organizing and empowering young people, developing creative violence prevention strategies and improving community cohesion. Eric holds a MEd from NW Missouri State University and a BS from Delaware State University.

Eric Jones began his career with the Stockton Police Department in 1993, as a Police Officer and then Field Training Officer and Departmental Instructor. He promoted to the rank of Sergeant in 1999, Lieutenant in 2003, and then Captain in 2005. He was later appointed to the rank of Deputy Chief in 2008 and then Assistant Chief in 2011. In 2012, he was appointed the 49th Police Chief for the Stockton Police Department.

Eric leads the Stockton Police Department in contemporary intelligence-led policing methods, and created Stockton’s Real-Time-Policing concepts. He also created the Department’s first Community Response Teams, Police Foundation, and Community Advisory Board. In 2015, Eric developed and led “Principled Policing” with the California State Department of Justice for statewide training, also leading to Stockton being one of only six sites for the National Initiative for Building Community Trust and Justice. In 2017, he founded the Stockton Alliance for Equity (SAFE) Coalition for Criminal Justice Leaders.

Eric holds a BS in Criminal Justice from California State University, Sacramento, and a MPA from National University.
Fatimah Muhammad | Executive Director, Health Alliance for Violence Intervention (HAVI)

Fatimah Muhammad leads the Health Alliance for Violence Intervention (HAVI) as its first Executive Director. Through innovative community/hospital partnerships, HAVI has expanded health-based, trauma-informed care by cultivating a powerful national alliance of ER doctors, trauma surgeons, researchers, violence prevention professionals, crime survivors, and communities impacted by violence. Fatimah’s vision for social change has been shaped by a rich heritage of resilience in the wake of harm: from her father’s incarceration to her family’s experiences with homelessness. She believes that it is the expansion of healing support and relationships, the elevation of community voice, and the mobilization of community power that catalyzes those impacted to be authors of their own transformation. Fatimah is fighting for a system that centers racial equity, preventative public health strategies, and trauma-informed support to break intergenerational cycles of harm.

Prior to joining HAVI, she was Deputy Director of Equal Justice USA, a national criminal justice reform organization. Fatimah narrowly lost a bid for the PA state legislature at the age of 27, and has received numerous honors and distinctions including most recently the 2018 Robert Wood Johnson Culture of Health Leaders Fellowship. She is a psychotherapist by training and a proud Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of Pennsylvania.

Halim Flowers | CEO, SATO Communications; Co-Founder, Unchained Media Collective

Halim Flowers was arrested at the age of 16 and sentenced as an adult to two life sentences in DC. His experiences as a child in the adult prison system was filmed in the Emmy award winning documentary ‘Thug Life In DC’. In the year of 2005, he started his own publishing company SATO Communications, through which he published 11 books.

In the year of 2018, he co-founded the social entrepreneurial media production company Unchained Media Collective with filmmaker Kristin Adair to disrupt mass incarceration with the stories of those that are directly impacted by the criminal justice system. On March 21, 2019, Halim was released from prison after serving 22 years imprisoned.

Since his release, Halim has been awarded the Echoing Green fellowship for his work with Unchained Media Collective and the Haleyon Arts Lab fellowship for his poetry writings and performances. He uses his writings, motivational speeches, poetry performances, and social media presence to inspire people towards revolutionary love.
Jahmal Cole | Founder and CEO, My Block My Hood My City

A champion of social justice, Jahmal Cole’s mission is to build a more interconnected Chicago on the pillars of service and education. As the founder and CEO of the city’s fastest growing social impact organization, My Block My Hood My City, Jahmal is the creator of an exposure-based education program for teens and a network of volunteer initiatives that serve Chicago communities year-round. Traveling, youth mentorship and community organizing are the subjects of Jahmal’s highly acclaimed books and speeches, he has spoken to audiences ranging from high school students to the Mayor of Chicago.

Jahmal is the recipient of the 2019 Champion of Freedom Award from Mayor Rahm Emanuel, the 2018 Chicago Defender Men of Excellence Honoree, and the 2018 Chicago City Council Resolution Award. In 2018, he was also named one of the “20 Most Inspiring Chicaagoans” by Streetwise Magazine and a Chicagoan of the Year by Chicago Magazine.

Jeremy Travis | Co-Founder, Square One Project; Executive Vice President of Criminal Justice, Arnold Ventures; President Emeritus, John Jay College of Criminal Justice

Jeremy Travis is Executive Vice President of Criminal Justice at Arnold Ventures where he is overseeing the development the Foundation’s cross-cutting strategy focused on policing, pretrial justice, community supervision, prisons, and reintegration. Jeremy served for 13 years as president of John Jay College of Criminal Justice where he development nationally-recognized programs that enhanced student success and created research centers on topics such as violence prevention, prisoner reentry, juvenile justice, policing, prosecutors and racial justice.

Prior to John Jay, Jeremy was a senior fellow with the Justice Policy Center at the Urban Institute. There, he notably launched a national research program focused on prisoner reentry into society. Before that, Jeremy directed the National Institute of Justice (NIJ).

**Joseph Luppino-Esposito | Director, Rule of Law Initiatives, Due Process Initiative**

Joe Luppino-Esposito leads the Due Process Institute’s policy work in Washington, coordinating with members of Congress, their staff, and allied organizations to develop bipartisan criminal justice reform solutions. Prior to joining the Institute, Joe served as the Manager for Federal Initiatives for Right on Crime and the Texas Public Policy Foundation, a conservative think tank based in Austin, TX. In his capacity as Editor and General Counsel of State Budget Solutions, a state policy organization, Joe focused his research on public employee pensions, labor law, and state budget reforms.

Joe is a graduate of Seton Hall University School of Law, where he was Editor in Chief of the Circuit Review legal journal. He received a BA from the College of William and Mary, where he also co-founded the campus newspaper, The Virginia Informer.

**Juan Cartagena | President & General Counsel, LatinoJustice PRLDEF**

One of the nation’s leading voices on equality and nondiscrimination, constitutional and civil rights attorney Juan inspires change to systems that marginalize communities of color. As a public speaker, El Diario columnist, and Rutgers University lecturer, Juan focuses extensively on Puerto Rican and Latinx rights issues, including the community impacts of criminal justice, policing and drug policies. In 2017 Juan wrote “Latinos & the New Jim Crow: Untangling Convergences,” the introduction to El Color de la Justicia (The New Press, 2017), the Spanish translation of Michelle Alexander’s The New Jim Crow (The New Press, 2010).

Juan is a graduate of Dartmouth College and Columbia University School of Law and is the recipient of multiple recognitions, including Dartmouth College’s Martin Luther King, Jr. Social Justice Award, the US Hispanic Leadership Institute’s Cesar Chavez Community Service Award, and the American Bar Association’s John Marshall Award. Juan lives in New Jersey and served as a Municipal Court Judge in Hoboken.

**Katharine Huffman | Executive Director, Square One Project; Founding Principal, The Raben Group, LLC**

Katharine Huffman serves as the Executive Director of the Square One Project. She is a Founding Principal at The Raben Group, a national advocacy, strategy, and communications firm based in Washington DC. For more than 14 years, her work at Raben has focused primarily on criminal justice reform, civil and human rights advocacy, and evidence-based policymaking.

Prior to joining Raben, Katharine was the Director of State Affairs at the Drug Policy Alliance, where she also opened the organization’s first state-based office in New Mexico. She began practicing law at the Southern Center for Human Rights as a Soros Justice Fellow where she represented incarcerated people in southeastern prisons.

Katharine received her BA from Emory University, where she was a Robert W. Woodruff Scholar, and her JD from Yale Law School. She serves on the Boards of the Southern Center for Human Rights, the Justice Policy Institute, and the DC Corrections Information Council; and is the 2017 recipient of the DC Human Rights Commission’s Cornelius “Neil” Alexander Humanitarian Award for contributions to advancing civil rights and commitment to criminal justice reform.
Kimberly Foxx | State’s Attorney, Cook County, Illinois

Kimberly Foxx has been advocating for the rights of people in prison and parolees for 20 years. She launched UnCommon Law in 2006 and previously served as a staff attorney at the Prison Law Office. She has represented thousands of people in prison in impact litigation and individual matters involving prison and parole conditions. She has also trained hundreds of lawyers, law students and others in prisoner and parole advocacy.

Kimberly lectures in Law at UCLA and UC Berkeley, where she supervises the Post-Conviction Advocacy Project. In 2018, she was named an Obama Foundation inaugural Fellow for his legal model and vision for changing the narrative about people convicted of serious and violent crimes. She received his BA in Psychology from Indiana University and his JD from Santa Clara University.

Kellie Carter Jackson | Knafel Assistant Professor of Humanities, Africana Studies Department, Wellesley College

Kellie Carter Jackson is the Knafel Assistant Professor of Humanities in the Department of Africana Studies at Wellesley College. For the 2019-2020 academic year she will be a Newhouse Faculty Fellow in the Center for the Humanities at Wellesley College.

She is the author of *Force & Freedom: Black Abolitionists and the Politics of Violence* (UPenn Press, 2019). This year, *Force and Freedom* was shortlisted for the Stone Prize Book Award. Kellie is also co-editor of *Reconsidering Roots: Race, Politics, & Memory* (University of Georgia Press, 2017). Together, Erica Ball and Kellie have curated the largest collection of essays dedicated to understanding the history and impact of Alex Haley’s *Roots*. Kellie was also featured in the History Channel's documentary, *Roots: A History Revealed* which was nominated for a NAACP Image Award in 2016. Her essays have been featured in the *Washington Post*, *The Atlantic*, *Transition Magazine*, *The Conversation*, *Black Perspectives*, and *Quartz*. Follow her on twitter @kcarterjackson

Kimberly Foxx is the first African American woman to lead the Cook County State’s Attorney’s Office – the second largest prosecutor’s office in the US. Kim has a vision for transforming the Cook County State’s Attorney’s Office into a fairer, more forward-thinking agency focused on rebuilding the public trust, promoting transparency, and being proactive in making all communities safe.

Kim has revamped the office’s Conviction Integrity Unit, resulting in overturned convictions in more than 60 cases, including the first-ever mass exoneration in Cook County for 15 men whose convictions stemmed from police misconduct. Her bond reforms include instructing prosecutors to agree to recognizance bonds where appropriate, and reviewing bond decisions in cases where people are detained because they are unable to pay bonds of $1,000 or less. Kim has shifted resources away from low-level offenses to focus on violent crime, including raising the threshold for approving felony charges for retail theft to $1,000, and declining to prosecute misdemeanor traffic offenses for failure to pay tickets and fines.

Kim is a graduate of Southern Illinois University, where she earned a BA in Political Science and a JD from the SIU School of Law.
Micere Keels | Associate Professor, Department of Comparative Human Development, University of Chicago

Micere Keel’s principal research interests concern understanding how sociodemographic characteristics (race-ethnicity and poverty, in particular) structure the supports and challenges that individuals experience. She is particularly invested in developing systems-change interventions.

Micere is the founding director of the Trauma Responsive Educational Practices Project, which is a research-translation and research-practice-partnership that aims to connect the brain and behavior research on developmental trauma with the realities of school and classroom management. She is also conducting an intervention study to improve the educational outcomes of adolescents who have been placed at-risk for dropout by growing up in developmentally challenging communities. Lastly, she is working on the implementation of two trauma informed organizational change initiatives, one in health care and one in child welfare.

Michael McBride | National Director of Urban Strategies, LIVE FREE Campaign

Michael McBride, known as “Pastor Mike,” is a native of San Francisco and has been active in ministry for more than 20 years. Throughout the years, Michael’s commitment to holistic ministry can be seen through his leadership roles in both the church and community organizations. Michael planted The Way Christian Center in West Berkeley, where he presently serves as the Lead Pastor.

In March 2012, he became the National Director for Urban Strategies/LIVE FREE Campaign with the PICO National Network, a campaign led by hundreds of faith congregations throughout the United States committed to addressing gun violence and mass incarceration of young people of color. In 2013, Michael was selected as the #9 Top Clergy Leader to Watch in the US by the Center for American Progress.

Michael has served on a number of local and national task forces with the White House and Department of Justice regarding gun violence prevention, boys and men of color and police-community relationships. He is a regular guest on MSNBC, CNN and Al-Jazeera programs providing commentary for issues related to faith and racial justice. Michael is a graduate of Duke University’s Divinity School, with an emphasis in Ethics and Public Policy.

Patrick Sharkey | Professor of Sociology and Public Affairs, Princeton University

Patrick Sharkey is Professor of Sociology and Public Affairs at Princeton University’s Woodrow Wilson School of Public & International Affairs. He received his PhD in Sociology and Social Policy from Harvard.

Patrick was formerly Chair of Sociology at New York University, has served as Scientific Director at Crime Lab, New York, and is the founder of AmericanViolence.org.
Paul Butler is the Albert Brick Professor in Law at Georgetown University Law Center and a legal analyst on MSNBC. During the 2017-18 academic year he was the Bennett Boskey Visiting Professor at Harvard Law School. He holds an honorary Doctor of Law Degree from City University of New York.

Paul is one of the nation’s most frequently consulted scholars on issues of race and criminal justice. His work has been profiled on 60 Minutes, Nightline, and The ABC, CBS and NBC Evening News.


Paul served as a federal prosecutor with the US Department of Justice, where his specialty was public corruption. Paul is a graduate of Yale University and Harvard Law School.

Peter Hammer | Director, Damon J. Keith Center for Civil Rights and A. Alfred Taubman Endowed Chair, Wayne State University Law School

Peter Hammer is the A. Alfred Taubman Professor of Law at Wayne State University Law School and the director of the Damon J. Keith Center for Civil Rights.

The Keith Center is dedicated to promoting the educational, economic and political empowerment of under-represented communities in urban areas and to ensuring that the phrase "equal justice under law" applies to all members of society. Peter has become a leading voice on the economic and social issues impacting the city of Detroit.
Ray Winans | Violence Intervention Specialist and Co-Founder, DLIVE (Detroit Life Is Valuable Everyday)

Ray Winans, a Detroit native, has dedicated his life to mentorship of youth engaging in at-risk behavior. A former member of a Detroit chapter of the Bloods, Ray was engaged in violence and the drug trade by his fourteenth birthday, and spent much of his adolescence in prison for second degree murder charges. A job as a grocery clerk motivated his desire to stop his participation in criminal behavior, and in 2010, Ray began volunteering with several youth mentorship programs in the Detroit Metro area.

In 2012, Ray and Dr. Tolulope Sonuyi founded DLIVE, a hospital-based intervention program for young men engaged in cycles of violence. Ray has been recognized nationally for his work in mentorship, receiving President Obama’s Volunteer Service Award and the Willis Young Memorial Award from the National Network of Hospital-Based Violence Intervention Programs, as well as a Fellowship for Black Male Engagement (BMe). Ray was also the 2019 Echoing Green Black Male Achievement Fellow.

Ronald L. Davis | Principal Consultant, 21CP Solutions

Ronald L. Davis was appointed by United States Attorney General Eric Holder in November 2013 as the Director of the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office) of the United States Department of Justice (DOJ). The COPS Office is responsible for advancing community policing nationwide and supporting the community policing activities of state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies.

In December 2014, President Obama appointed Ronald to serve as the Executive Director of the newly created President’s Task Force on 21st Century Policing. President Barack Obama charged Ronald and the Task Force with developing concrete recommendations to improve community trust in the police while enhancing public safety.

Prior to serving as COPS Director, Ronald had a distinguished career in law enforcement serving 8 years as Chief of Police of East Palo Alto (CA) and 20 years with the Oakland (CA) Police Department. Ronald was recognized for his innovative community policing efforts and for working collaboratively with the community to dramatically reduce crime and violence in a city once named as the murder capital of the United States.

Soledad McGrath | Senior Program Officer, Gun Violence Prevention & Justice Reform Program, The Joyce Foundation

Soledad McGrath is Senior Program Officer in the Gun Violence Prevention & Justice Reform Program at the Joyce Foundation, an organization that invests in strategies to advance racial equity and economic mobility in the Great Lakes region. Prior to joining the Joyce Foundation in 2018, Soledad was with the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation’s Justice Reform program and worked on MacArthur’s criminal justice reform strategy.

Before joining the MacArthur Foundation, Soledad served as associate director and chief counsel at the American Bar Association’s Justice Center. In addition, she served as a post-graduate ChildLaw policy fellow at Loyola University School of Law’s Civitas ChildLaw Center and as the primary reporter for the State Bar of Georgia/Young Lawyers Division Juvenile Code Revision Project while in private practice. She began her legal career as an associate at Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP. Soledad earned her BA from Northwestern University and her JD from Emory University.