

GIRLS' JUSTICE: A CONFERENCE FOR CHILD WELFARE, SCHOOL AND JUSTICE PRACTITIONERS

The Girls' Justice Conference brings together interdisciplinary champions for girls to focus on research and the practices and policies needed to improve girls' well-being and outcomes.



Wednesday, July 20, 2016

New York University Kimmel Center, New York, NY

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New York State Permanent Judicial Commission on Justice for Children

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GIRLS' JUSTICE

New York State



Permanent Judicial Commission on Justice for Children

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Working to improve the lives and life chances of children involved with New York State Courts

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CONFERENCE SUPPORTERS

New York State Permanent Judicial Commission on Justice for Children
New York University Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development
The Metropolitan Center for Research on Equity and the Transformation of Schools
New York University RISE Team/ROSES Project
New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services
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2016

New York State Permanent Judicial Commission on Justice for Children



Girls' Justice image created by Johnny Marmolejos, Design & Marketing Specialist

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Today, nearly 30 percent of juveniles arrested are girls or young women and their share of arrests, detainment, and court cases has steadily increased over the past two decades. Unfortunately their stories remain unchanged. Often girls of color and girls living in poverty, they are victims of violence, including physical and sexual abuse. They are typically nonviolent and pose little or no risk to public safety. And their involvement with the juvenile justice system usually does more harm than good.

**Opening Statement
OJJDP Policy Guidance, 2015
Girls and the Juvenile Justice System**

<http://www.ojjdp.gov/policyguidance/girls-juvenile-justice-system/>



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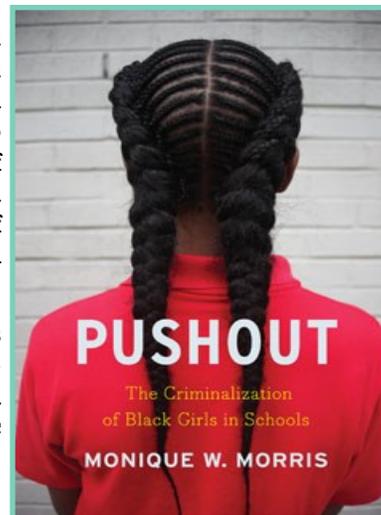
Meet our Keynote Speaker: **Monique W. Morris, Ed.D.**

Dr. Morris is an author and social justice scholar with more than 20 years of professional and volunteer experience in the areas of education, civil rights, juvenile and social justice. Dr. Morris is the author of *Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools* (The New Press, 2016), *Black Stats: African Americans by the Numbers in the Twenty-First Century* (The New Press, 2014), and *Too Beautiful for Words* (MWM Books, 2012). She has written dozens of articles, book chapters, and other publications on social justice issues and lectured widely on research, policies, and practices associated with improving juvenile justice, educational, and socioeconomic conditions for Black girls, women, and their families.

Dr. Morris is the President/CEO and Co-Founder of the National Black Women's Justice Institute (NBWJI), an organization that works to interrupt school-to-confinement pathways for girls, reduce the barriers to employment for formerly incarcerated women, and increase the capacity of organizations working to reduce sexual assault and domestic violence in African American communities. She has also served as a lecturer for Saint Mary's College of California and as an adjunct professor for the University of San Francisco. Dr. Morris is a 2012 Soros Justice Fellow, the former Vice President for Economic Programs, Advocacy and Research at the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and the former Director of Research for the Thelton E. Henderson Center for Social Justice at the UC Berkeley Law School. She has also worked in partnership with and served as a consultant for federal, state and county agencies, national academic and research institutions, and communities throughout the nation to develop comprehensive approaches and training curricula to eliminate racial/ethnic and gender disparities in the justice system. Her work in this area has informed the development and implementation of improved culturally competent and gender-responsive continua of services for youth.

Dr. Morris' research intersects race, gender, education and justice to explore the ways in which Black communities, and other communities of color, are uniquely affected by social policies. Among other publications, Dr. Morris is the author of *Representing the Educational Experiences of Black Girls in a Juvenile Court School* (*Journal of Applied Research on Children*, 2014); *Sacred Inquiry and Delinquent Black Girls: Developing a Foundation for a Liberative Pedagogical Praxis* (*In Understanding Work Experiences from Multiple Perspectives*, edited by G.D. Sardana and Tojo Thatchenkery, 2014); *Educating the Caged Bird: Black Girls and the Juvenile Court School* (*Poverty & Race*, PRRAC, 2013) and *Race, Gender and the School to Prison Pipeline: Expanding Our Discussion to Include Black Girls* (*African American Policy Forum*, 2012). Her 2008 study, *A Higher Hurdle: Barriers to Employment for Formerly Incarcerated Women* (UC Berkeley School of Law), which is one of the first testing studies to examine the impact of a criminal record or period of incarceration on the employment outcomes of women, was referenced in a special report commissioned by Congressman Danny K. Davis (D-IL).

Dr. Morris is an appointed member of the OJJDP National Girls Initiative Expert Panel, the California Department of Education's Juvenile Court Student Transition Workgroup, and the California Board of State and Community Corrections' Committee on Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparity. She is also an advisory board member for Global Girl Media, Oakland. Follow Dr. Morris on Twitter @MoniqueWMorris.



GIRLS' JUSTICE:

A CONFERENCE FOR CHILD WELFARE, SCHOOL AND JUSTICE PRACTITIONERS

AGENDA AT A GLANCE

JULY 20, 2016

Time	Activity
8:00-9:00 a.m.	REGISTRATION/CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST
9:00 a.m.	WELCOMING REMARKS DR. DAVID E. KIRKLAND , Executive Director, The Metropolitan Center for Research on Equity and the Transformation of Schools HON. MELISSA MARK-VIVERITO , Speaker of the New York City Council HON. A. GAIL PRUDENTI , Former Chief Administrative Judge of the Courts of New York State and Chair, New York State Permanent Judicial Commission on Justice for Children
9:30 a.m.	PLENARY 1—GIRLS' JUSTICE: ADDRESSING LAWS AND POLICIES TO IMPROVE OUTCOMES AND PREVENT UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES KALISHA DESSOURCES , Policy Advisor to the White House Council on Women and Girls FRANCINE SHERMAN, J.D. , Clinical Associate Professor, Boston College Law School; Director, Juvenile Rights Advocacy Project CATHERINE PIERCE , Senior Advisor to the Administrator, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention SOLILOQUIST MICHELLE DIAZ , Skills Coach, The New York Foundling's Blue Sky Program
10:40 a.m.	PLENARY 2—GIRLS IN THE SYSTEM: RESPONDING JUSTLY YASMIN VAFA, ESQ. , Executive Director, Rights4Girls LINDSAY ROSENTHAL, M.A. , Senior Program Associate and Gender Justice Fellow, Vera Institute of Justice MICHELLE GUYMON, M.S.W. , Probation Director, Los Angeles County Probation Department, California HON. CATHERINE PRATT , Judge, Los Angeles Superior Court, California SOLILOQUIST SARAH ZARBA , Coordinator for the Center on Youth Justice, Vera Institute of Justice
11:40 a.m.	KEYNOTE—MAPPING AND RESPONDING TO THE CRIMINALIZATION OF BLACK GIRLS IN SCHOOL MONIQUE W. MORRIS, ED.D. , President/Co-founder, National Black Women's Justice Institute
12:20 p.m.	ABOUT OUR AFTERNOON KATHLEEN DECATALDO, ESQ. , Executive Director, New York State Permanent Judicial Commission on Justice for Children
12:25 p.m.	LUNCH
1:00 p.m.	WORKSHOPS I—JOIN AN IN-DEPTH DISCUSSION
2:30 p.m.	WORKSHOPS II—A REPEAT OF WORKSHOPS I
4:00 p.m.	PERFORMANCE— BY CARNEGIE HALL SONGWRITERS ARIYANNA, DAN, DIAMOND, AND DYTAJAH , Youth Songwriters BRIDGET BARKAN AND BROWN RICE FAMILY , Artists <i>Original songs by young people in collaboration with professional musicians at Belmont Academy and Carnegie Hall's Education Wing. This work is part of Carnegie Hall's Weill Music Institute, done in partnership with NYC Administration for Children's Services, NYC Department of Education, and social service providers.</i>
4:30-5:00 p.m.	RECEPTION

FULL AGENDA

Time Activity

8:00-9:00 a.m. REGISTRATION/CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

9:00 a.m. WELCOMING REMARKS **Eisner & Lubin Auditorium**

DR. DAVID E. KIRKLAND, Executive Director, The Metropolitan Center for Research on Equity and the Transformation of Schools

HON. MELISSA MARK-VIVERITO, Speaker of the New York City Council

HON. A. GAIL PRUDENTI, Former Chief Administrative Judge of the Courts of New York State and Chair, New York State Permanent Judicial Commission on Justice for Children

9:30 a.m. PLENARY 1: GIRLS' JUSTICE: ADDRESSING STATUTES AND POLICIES TO IMPROVE OUTCOMES AND PREVENT UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES **Eisner & Lubin Auditorium**

This panel will highlight the documented criminalization of girls' behaviors, including those related to status offenses and technical violations of probation that too often reflect trauma-induced responses; the need to implement gender-specific, trauma-informed policies and programs for girls at-risk or involved with the justice system; and the emerging research, and recommended policy and law changes to respond effectively and fairly to girls.

Moderator

KALISHA DESSOURCES, Policy Advisor to the White House Council on Women and Girls

Speakers

FRANCINE SHERMAN, J.D., Clinical Associate Professor, Boston College Law School; Director, Juvenile Rights Advocacy Program

CATHERINE PIERCE, Senior Advisor to the Administrator, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

Soliloquist

MICHELLE DIAZ, Skills Coach, The New York Foundling's Blue Sky Program

10:40 a.m. PLENARY 2: GIRLS IN THE SYSTEM: RESPONDING JUSTLY **Eisner & Lubin Auditorium**

This panel will highlight emerging trauma-informed, gender-specific policies, programs and practices that address girls' needs, behaviors (including runaway), and being commercially sexually exploited.

Moderator

YASMIN VAFA, ESQ., Executive Director, Rights4Girls

Speakers

LINDSAY ROSENTHAL, M.A., Senior Program Associate and Gender Justice Fellow, Vera Institute of Justice

MICHELLE GUYMON, M.S.W., Probation Director, Los Angeles County Probation Department, California

HON. CATHERINE PRATT, Judge, Los Angeles Superior Court, California

Soliloquist

SARAH ZARBA, Coordinator for the Center on Youth Justice, Vera Institute of Justice

FULL AGENDA

Time	Activity	
	KEYNOTE:	Eisner & Lubin Auditorium
11:40 a.m.	MAPPING AND RESPONDING TO THE CRIMINALIZATION OF BLACK GIRLS IN SCHOOL	
	<i>Dr. Morris will discuss how Black girls are uniquely impacted by historical constructs and contemporary policies and practices that marginalize and criminalize them in their learning environments, facilitating their contact with the criminal and juvenile legal systems. I will also address emerging frameworks to better address the criminalization of Black girls in schools.</i>	
	Keynote Speaker	
	MONIQUE W. MORRIS, ED.D. , President/Co-founder, National Black Women's Justice Institute	
12:20 p.m.	ABOUT THE AFTERNOON	Eisner & Lubin Auditorium
	KATHLEEN DECATALDO, ESQ. , Executive Director, New York State Permanent Judicial Commission on Justice for Children	
12:25 p.m.	LUNCH	
1:00 p.m.	WORKSHOPS I (SEE PAGES 5-8)	
2:20 p.m.	TRAVEL TO NEXT WORKSHOP SESSION II	
2:30 p.m.	WORKSHOPS II (SEE PAGES 5-8)	
3:50 p.m.	TRAVEL TO EISNER & LUBIN AUDITORIUM	
4:00 p.m.	PERFORMANCE: BY CARNEGIE HALL SONGWRITERS	Eisner & Lubin Auditorium
	<i>These original songs were created by young people in collaboration with professional musicians at Belmont Academy and Carnegie Hall's Education Wing. This work is part of Carnegie Hall's Weill Music Institute, done in partnership with NYC Administration for Children's Services Division of Youth and Family Justice, NYC Department of Education, and social service providers.</i>	
	Artists	
	ARIYANNA , Youth Songwriter	
	DIAMOND , Youth Songwriter	
	DYTAJAH , Youth Songwriter	
	LIN , Youth Songwriter	
	BRIDGET BARKAN , Vocals and Guitar	
	BROWN RICE FAMILY	
	About Carnegie Hall Music Projects	
	Carnegie Hall believes in the potential of young people and in providing them with the opportunity to create, produce, and perform original music. Through its Musical Connections and Youth Programs work, participants collaborate with professional artists to tell their stories through music. The songs you hear today were developed through a series of workshop sessions; recorded in a professional recording studio; and were performed at Carnegie Hall's Education Wing.	
4:30 p.m.	RECEPTION	

WORKSHOPS

Workshop 1. Gendered Violence: Context, Policy, and Practice

Location: KC 405

This breakout session will focus on unpacking the gendered nature of violence by and against girls. It will include a systems focused, contextual analysis of the ways in which policies have influenced an increase in arrests (or lower decrease in arrests) for girls' violence; review data on arrests and detention for domestic violence as one illustration of the gendered nature of girls violence as well as the impact of system practices on girls; describe the ways in which girls' violence and violence against them emerges in a gendered socio-political landscape and therefore has different social meanings and consequences; and present specific intervention approaches that show promise in reducing girls' violence through the use of trauma-informed principles of care.

Moderator

SHABNAM JAVDANI, PH.D.
Assistant Professor of Applied Psychology, New York University Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development

Speakers

JODY MILLER, PH.D.
Professor, Rutgers University School of Criminology

FRANCINE SHERMAN, J.D.
Clinical Associate Professor, Boston College Law School; Director, Juvenile Rights Advocacy Program

Workshop 2. Go with the Flow: Engaging Girls in Mental Health Care

Location: KC 909

This workshop will engage participants in building upon knowledge and tools from the current research along with their practical experience to strengthen their practice with system-involved young women. We will examine the challenges young women face, the mental health issues they present and the ways in which systems designed to help them do so and do not, even contributing to the problems they are designed to help. The emphasis will be on practice implications for helping within a gender-responsive, culturally responsive and non-pathologizing lens.

Moderator

IREN VALENTINE, PSY. D.
Director, Bureau of Behavioral Health Services, Office of Children & Family Services Division of Juvenile Justice & Opportunities for Youth

Speakers

LINDA LAUSELL BRYANT, PH.D.
Clinical Assistant Professor, New York University

MELISSA ROBINSON-BROWN, PH.D.
Assistant Professor in Pediatrics & Psychiatry, Mount Sinai Adolescent Health Center

JESSICA GRIMM
Co-Founder/Coordinator of Bravehearts M.O.V.E. NY; Waiver Service Provider for Bridges 2 Health, Children's Village

WORKSHOPS

Workshop 3. Her Voice...Her Story: Responding to the Unique Needs of System Involved Girls

Location: KC 905

The presentation will address the unique needs of system involved girls who fluctuate between the child welfare and juvenile justice systems. Through the lens of gender responsive and culturally competent services, participants will review prevalence rates and differences between boys of girls; explore the effects of trauma and adverse childhood experiences on girls; discuss the impact of criminalizing status offenses; and examine the components of a gender-specific crossover practice model.

Moderator

HON. EDWINA MENDELSON
Judge, New York City Family Court

Speakers

KELLIE M. WARREN, PSY.D.
Chief Executive Officer, Florence
Crittenton Services of Arizona

MICHELLE DIAZ
Skills Coach, The New York Foundling's
Blue Sky Program

Workshop 4. Justice for Girls: Ending the Abuse to Prison Pipeline that Punishes Trafficked Girls

Location: KC 802

Speakers will describe the conditions of sexual exploitation and trafficking that touch the lives of young women and girls here in the US. Speakers will discuss the unique vulnerabilities of domestic victims and how sexual exploitation fuels justice involvement for girls. Speakers will describe federal legislative and other policy efforts that work to end the sexual exploitation of girls as well as discuss policies that can protect trafficked girls from further victimization.

Moderator

NINA ALEDORT, PH.D.
Associate Commissioner, Divisions of
Child Welfare and Community Services
& Juvenile Justice and Opportunities for
Youth, New York State Office of
Children and Family Services

Speakers

CATHERINE PIERCE
Senior Advisor to the Administrator,
Office of Juvenile Justice and
Delinquency Prevention

YASMIN VAFA, ESQ.
Executive Director, Rights4Girls

WORKSHOPS

Workshop 5. LGBTQ/GNCT Girls in the System: Exploring an Intersectional, Affirming Approach to Services and Programming

Location: KC 406

This interactive workshop will provide participants with the knowledge and tools to better serve lesbian, gay, bisexual, questioning, gender nonconforming and transgender (LGBTQ/GNCT) girls in the justice system. Participants will become familiar with the challenges LGBTQ/GNCT youth face in the justice system. In particular, we will discuss how to develop and utilize a gender responsive approach that affirms a range of gender expressions and identities and responds to the intertwined impact of sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, and race/ethnicity in the experiences of LGBTQ/GNCT girls. The workshop will provide space to learn about the latest research and hear the experiences of system-impacted girls, particularly of color, to better understand their experiences with the juvenile justice system. Participants will leave with a clear, intersectional understanding of the needs and strengths of system-involved LGBTQ/GNCT girls and tools to better serve them.

Moderator

JUDY YU, M.P.H.

**Director, Juvenile Justice Project,
Correctional Association of NY**

Speakers

AISHA CANFIELD

**Senior Policy Researcher and
Analyst, Impact Justice**

TALIA DEJESUS

Safe Passages Youth Leader

Workshop 6. Overcoming the Health Impacts of Trauma: Engaging System-Involved Girls and Young Women through Community Health Services

Location: KC 907

In this workshop, you will receive an overview of the health impacts of trauma on the well-being of girls involved with the justice system and learn about the potential to ramp up connections to community health systems through New York's Medicaid Redesign. You will hear directly from a young woman about the importance of engaging girls and young women in their health and from innovative mental and physical health practitioners about their work providing trauma-informed care to girls and young women in New York City. Engaging girls through their health needs can create a sense of physical and emotional safety girls need to name their trauma and begin to heal, especially for girls of color who are rarely acknowledged as victims or survivors of violence and trauma and are disproportionately impacted by punitive responses of the legal system.

Moderator

LINDSAY ROSENTHAL, M.A.

**Senior Program Associate and
Gender Justice Fellow, Vera
Institute of Justice**

Speakers

STACEY YOUNGE, L.C.S.W.

**Senior Youth Clinician, Center for
Alternative Sentencing and Court
Employment Services (CASES)
Nathaniel Clinic**

ANITA RAVI, M.D., M.P.H., M.S.H.P.

**Founder/Clinical Director, Institute
for Family Health's PurpLE (Purpose:
Listen & Engage) Clinic**

SARAH ZARBA

**Coordinator for the Center on Youth
Justice, Vera Institute of Justice**

WORKSHOPS

Workshop 7. Strategies to Counter School Pushout of Black Girls

Location: Eisner & Lubin Auditorium

Moderator

AYSHA E. SCHOMBURG, ESQ.
Assistant Deputy Director Legislative
Division, New York City Council

Speakers

MONIQUE MORRIS, ED.D.
President/Co-Founder, National Black
Women's Justice Institute

JOANNE N. SMITH
Founder/Executive Director, Girls for
Gender Equity

BRITTANY BRATHWAITE
Community Organizer, Girls For
Gender Equity

KATE MCDONOUGH
Director of Organizing, Girls for
Gender Equity

In this interactive session, the speakers will discuss how girls of color in New York are impacted by, and how they are working to overcome, exclusionary discipline from schools. This session will primarily focus on strategies to co-construct safe learning environments with girls of color and interrupt their pathways to exclusion, punishment, and criminalization.



SHORT INTRODUCTIONS

NINA ALEDORT, PH.D.



Dr. Nina Aledort is an Associate Commissioner with the New York State Office of Children and Family Services in the Divisions of Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice. She has more than 25 years of experience working with youth with significant vulnerabilities, including LGBTQ, runaway and homeless, incarcerated/court involved and HIV positive youth. Over the course of her career, Dr. Aledort has created and evaluated programs in New York City and New York State, and focused the last few years on key policy challenges at the intersection of child welfare, juvenile justice, child sex trafficking and runaway and homeless youth. She is an author of several peer-reviewed articles and has presented nationally and internationally. She has a particular interest in the needs of young women in child welfare and juvenile and criminal justice settings. She has an MSW from Hunter College School of Social Work, City University of New York and a PhD in Social Welfare from the Graduate Center of the City University of New York.

BRITTANY BRATHWAITE



Brittany Brathwaite is a community organizer, reproductive justice activist and fierce protector of #blackgirlmagic from Brooklyn, NY. Brittany is currently a graduate student at Columbia University studying Public Health and Social Work. Brittany holds a B.A. in Women's and Gender Studies from Syracuse University.

AISHA CANFIELD



Aisha Canfield has worked in systems reform since college. She began her career working as a case assistant in death row appeals for indigent prisoners in the state of California, served as a board member for the local chapter of a national organization to increase civic engagement amongst women, and later worked as a paralegal for a private civil rights litigation firm. Aisha has since received her Masters in Public Policy from Mills College and focuses primarily on juvenile justice reform, notably preventing system-involvement for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBT/GNC) and gender nonconforming youth of color while improving outcomes for those already system involved. She has conducted groundbreaking national and statewide research to determine the disproportionate detention of LGBT/GNC youth in the juvenile justice system and to identify systemic points of disparity, including contact with child welfare (dual-involvement). In addition to conducting research, Aisha travels throughout the state to train juvenile probation departments to implement data collection systems that will inform the allocation of resources and services and inform practice around LGBT/GNC youth in secure facilities. Aisha also serves as an evaluator for community-based organizations serving system-involved youth nationally. She believes that change cannot be effective without an intersectional lens that employs race and SOGIE and enjoys the challenge of facilitating systems and organizations to have honest dialogue about disproportionality and move towards cultural affirmation.

KATHLEEN R. DECATALDO, ESQ.



Kathleen R. DeCataldo, Esq. is the Executive Director of the New York State Permanent Judicial Commission on Justice for Children where she is responsible for developing and implementing the work of the Commission which aims to improve the lives and life chances of children involved in the court system. Responding to emerging child welfare, juvenile justice and related health, education and other wellbeing issues, Ms. DeCataldo is responsible for the development of materials, training aids, trainings and conferences to enhance judicial and other professionals' knowledge and understanding of the issues as a means to better serve children involved with the court system. Ms. DeCataldo advocates for the Commission's agenda by developing legislative, administrative and other reforms; speaking at state, national and local events; serving on leadership committees and advisory groups, including New York City Family Court Administrative Judge Advisory Council, New York Initiative

for Children of Incarcerated Parents Steering Committee and New York State Child Welfare Court Improvement Project Advisory Group; and conducting trainings and forums. Ms. DeCataldo received the 2016 Howard A. Levine Award for excellence in child welfare and juvenile justice from the New York State Bar Association Children and the Law Committee. Prior to coming to the Commission, Ms. DeCataldo served as Assistant Deputy Counsel and Director of Legislation and Special Projects at the New York State Office of Children and Family Services. Ms. DeCataldo served as the State representative to the Nicholson Review Committee and Co-chair of the statewide collaborative Adoption Now Workgroup. While at OCFS, Ms. DeCataldo was instrumental in the passage of the Permanency Bill, Chapter 3 of the Laws of 2005, and the PINS Diversion law, Chapter 57 of the Laws of 2005. Ms. DeCataldo served as Family Court Judge in Schenectady County in 2000. Prior to that time she served as a law guardian and attorney for parents in child protective, family violence, and juvenile justice proceedings. Ms. DeCataldo is a graduate of Albany Law School and the State University of New York at Stony Brook.

TALIA DEJESUS



Talia DeJesus is an influential youth advocate and facilitator. As an alumnus of the Safe Passages Youth Leadership Program at the Correctional Association of New York, Talia honed her public speaking abilities and expanded her understanding of youth justice and community organizing. She graduated from the program in 2014, and gave the keynote at her completion ceremony. Talia stayed on board after her cycle as a youth intern with Safe Passages where she worked to hone her public speaking and facilitation skills.

Specializing in youth engagement and LGBTQ issues, Talia has partnered with various community organizations, and agencies to facilitate trainings and workshops for staff, including the Bronx Defenders, the Department of Probation, and the Prisoner Reentry Institute at John Jay College. Recently, The Human Rights Network chose to highlight Talia to represent the Correctional Association, in efforts to highlight their advocacy and policy work. Talia is a senior at Harvey Milk High School, and plans to continue her efforts as a youth advocate after graduation.

KALISHA DESSOURCES



Kalisha Dessources serves as a Policy Advisor to the White House Council on Women and Girls, where she works on issues including girls' education, diversity and inclusiveness in STEM, working families policies, and the advancement of women and girls of color. Previously, Kalisha served as a Staff Assistant for the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, where she engaged state elected officials on a variety of issues. Before joining the Intergovernmental Affairs team, she served as a White House intern for the Office of Public Engagement, working on African-American outreach and faith community engagement. Prior to her time at the White House, Kalisha served as a Teach for America Corps member, teaching secondary math and science in Philadelphia. A proud Haitian-American from New York, Kalisha received her Bachelors of Science in Industrial and Labor Relations from Cornell University, where she also minored in Feminism, Gender and Sexuality Studies. She received her Masters from the University of Pennsylvania's Graduate School of Education, where she completed research on racial identity formation and academic achievement among Black women.

MICHELLE DIAZ



Michelle Diaz is a Skills Coach at the New York Foundling's Blue Sky Program where she facilitates training sessions for youth who have dual involvement with the foster care and juvenile justice systems. New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo appointed Ms. Diaz to the New York State Juvenile Justice Advisory Group (NYS JJAG). Ms. Diaz also serves as a Youth Partnership Consultant with the Annie E. Casey Foundation's Juvenile Justice Strategy Group and is a member of the Juvenile Justice Oversight Advisory Board (JJOAB) for the NYS Administration for Children's Services (ACS). Her passion for juvenile justice reform stems from her personal experience with the juvenile justice system. Ms. Diaz's goal is to ensure that youth are treated fairly, avoiding further contact with the justice system, and receiving all of the support and opportunities they need to be successful individuals.

JESSICA GRIMM



Jessica Grimm, a proud young mother of two, is an alumni of the foster care system in Westchester County, and has devoted the majority of her professional and personal life to helping children, youth and young adults who have been hurt. She knows very well the challenges of successfully navigating a complex, and at times, unfriendly child welfare system by building a strong sense of resiliency in face of systemic and personal adversity. She knows first-hand the negative impact on a young adult's development by not having an authentic voice in their own treatment, goals and life, by not having one of her own growing up. She is the Co-Founder and Coordinator of Bravehearts M.O.V.E. NY. A peer led youth movement comprised of transitional age youth, who work together and inspire themselves and their peers, to bring awareness to and the enhancement of the Child Welfare system by using their voices of experience as expertise on service reform and innovation. Jessica currently works for The Children's Village as a Waiver Service Provider for their Bridges 2 Health (B2H) program. Jessica and the Bravehearts also work in partnership with the Westchester County Department of Social Services' Westchester Building Futures (WBF) team. Jessica offers her contributions to help shape this multi-year federally funded initiative that aims to better serve youth in care and/or alumni of care in the intersecting areas of housing, education, employment and peer support. For over 7 years, Jessica served as the Youth Coordinator of Family Ties of Westchester after her 3-year employment at Family Services of Westchester. This work allowed her the ability to use her lived experience to authentically connect with youth and families in an effort to build meaningful relationships and successful connections to services. She also serves as the Project Director of Youth M.O.V.E. National's "What Helps, What Harms" (WHWH) initiative; and has traveled to Ireland and Australia to share promising innovative WHWH practices with our intercountry allies within the International Foster Care Organization. Jessica and her comrades at the Bravehearts, are ensuring that youth voice and choice are revolutionizing a child welfare system "from being risk averse, to doing what really works"!

MICHELLE GUYMON



Michelle Guymon is currently the Director of the Child Trafficking Unit with Los Angeles County Probation Department. Ms. Guymon graduated from California State University, San Bernardino where she received her Masters Degree in Social Work. She is the project manager for Los Angeles County's Law Enforcement First Responder Protocol for Commercially Sexually Exploited Children which was launched in August 2014, and which places a priority on treating children that are trafficked as victims rather than criminals. Ms. Guymon is a frequent presenter and trainer regarding child abuse issues, strategies for working with youth in the Probation system, and over the past 3-years has been presenting on the commercial sexual exploitation of children. She has also received numerous awards for her work in the area of child sex trafficking and has been featured in numerous articles and in the media as a subject matter expert in the area of child sex trafficking in Los Angeles, and more specific, within the juvenile justice system. Ms. Guymon is currently the lead on the Los Angeles County CSEC Action Team working with various county/community agencies to create a multi-system response model for CSEC in Los Angeles County. She is an advocate for youth and is, and always has been very passionate about her work within the Probation Department.

SHABNAM JAVDANI, PH.D.



Shabnam Javdani, Ph.D. is a clinical and community psychologist who examines the development of, and social response to, violence and antisocial behavior. Javdani completed her doctoral work at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2012, and completed an APA-approved clinical internship in the Institute for Juvenile Research at the University of Illinois at Chicago prior to coming to Steinhardt.

Her program of research involves three interrelated components. The first examines the etiological pathways that promote disruptive/antisocial behavior in youth and adults. In particular, Javdani investigates the influence of trauma, risky dating relationships, early pubertal development, neighborhood and community resources, and genetic liability. At a more macro level, Javdani also investigates the juvenile and criminal justice systems, and how the response of these systems (e.g., policies and practices) may affect outcomes for youth and adults.

The second component of Javdani's research examines the role of gender in health disparities associated with disruptive/antisocial behavior, including self and other-directed violence, the development of Sexually Transmitted Infections, and psychopathology. In the context of this work, Javdani conceptualizes and operationalizes gender as both an individual level attribute and a social grouping category with associated gender norms and roles (e.g., Javdani examines women's subjugated roles in intimate partner relationships as a context in which health disparities may arise).

The third component centralizes the development, implementation, and evaluation of interventions for young women and men involved in, or at risk for entry into, the juvenile justice system. Javdani directs NYC ROSES—Resilience, Opportunity, Safety, Education, Strength, a strengths-based, youth-centered advocacy approach to target changes in youth's opportunity structures (e.g., through providing access to needed resources) and investigates the extent to which such changes are associated with promotion of positive outcomes (e.g., resilience, academic achievement) and reduction of negative outcomes (e.g., arrest/incarceration, mental health symptoms). In collaboration with the New York City Department of Juvenile Justice, Javdani also designs, implements, and evaluates group and individual-based programs at several detention and placement facilities. These programs focus on multiple levels and target both youth and settings. Across components, Javdani's program of research is characterized by a social justice focus, with an emphasis on the application of research for the urban poor and in under-resourced communities. Javdani uses a variety of methodological approaches, including quantitative, qualitative, and mixed-methodologies.

She was awarded more than \$645,000 by the National Institute of Justice to evaluate ROSES and measure its effectiveness with girls in the juvenile justice system. She is partnering with the Metro Center and the New York City Administration for Children's Services, Division of Youth and Family Justice.

DR. DAVID E. KIRKLAND



Dr. David E. Kirkland is the Executive Director of The NYU Metropolitan Center for Research on Equity and The Transformation of Schools. He is also an activist and educator, cultural critic and author. Dr. Kirkland earned his PhD from Michigan State University and his JD from the University of Michigan.

A Detroit native, his transdisciplinary scholarship explores intersections among race, gender, and education. With many groundbreaking publications to his credit, he has analyzed the cultures, languages, and texts of urban youth, using critical literary, ethnographic, and sociolinguistic research methods to answer complex questions at the center of equity and social justice in education.

Dr. Kirkland taught middle and high school for several years in Michigan. He's also organized youth empowerment and youth mentoring programs for over a decade in cities such as Detroit, Chicago and New York. He currently leads efforts to enhance education options for vulnerable youth throughout New York City, particularly in the South Bronx.

Dr. Kirkland has received many awards for his research and educational activism, including the 2016 AERA Division G Mid-Career Scholars Award, the 2008 AERA Division G Outstanding Dissertation Award. He was a 2009-10 Ford Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow, a 2011-12 NAEd/Spencer Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow, and is a former fellow of the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) Research Foundation's "Cultivating New Voices among Scholars of Color" program.

A Search Past Silence: The Literacy of Black Males, the fifth book that Dr. Kirkland has authored, is a TC Press bestseller and winner of the 2015 Daniel E. Griffiths Research Award, the 2014 AESA Critics Choice Award, and the 2014 NCTE David H. Russell Award for Distinguished Research in the Teaching of English. He is also co-editor of the newly released *Students Right to Their Own Language*, a critical sourcebook published by Bedford/St. Martins Press.

Named by *Ebony* magazine as one of the most brilliant scholars in the US, Dr. Kirkland has been a pivot intellectual voice behind advancing linguistic justice in education.

LINDA LAUSELL BRYANT, PH.D.



Dr. Lausell Bryant's career spans 30 years in youth services in both the private and public sectors. Prior to joining the NYU Silver School of Social Work, Dr. Lausell Bryant served as the Executive Director of Inwood House for nine years. Her work in government includes serving as associate commissioner for the Office of Youth Development at the New York City Administration for Children's Services. She was appointed by New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg to the New York City Panel for Education Policy. Dr. Lausell Bryant was interviewed by New York Times journalist Adam Bryant for his Corner Office column in May 2011, and her insights were featured in Mr. Bryant's book titled *Quick & Nimble: Lessons from Leading CEO's on How to Create a Culture of Innovation*. She has been a frequent presenter on panels, in conferences, and on television appearances including WABC's *Tiempo*, *Here and Now*, *One to One with Sheryl McCarthy*, and *NY1*. She was honored by the New York Academy of Medicine in 2009 as the Distinguished Social Work Student. She has served on the board of the Council of Family and Child Caring Agencies (COFCCA), the Child Welfare Watch Advisory Board, and was named a National Gimbel Child and Family Scholar. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Pace University, her Master of Social Work degree from the Hunter College School of Social Work of the City University of New York, and her Doctor of Philosophy from New York University's Silver School of Social Work. Her dissertation study compared the amounts and sources of perceived social support for college-going between foster care and non-foster care students.

MELISSA MARK-VIVERITO



Melissa Mark-Viverito currently serves as the Speaker of the New York City Council, the first Puerto Rican and Latina to hold a citywide elected position. She represents the 8th District, which includes El Barrio/East Harlem and the South Bronx.

Speaker Mark-Viverito was born and raised in San Juan, Puerto Rico. She worked for over a decade in local activism, nonprofit organizations and labor before being elected to the City Council in 2005, as the first Puerto Rican woman and Latina to represent her district in the Council.

In 2009, she was elected to her second term in the City Council, during which she served as Chair of the Committee on Parks and Recreation, the founding Co-Chair of the Progressive Caucus and as a member of the Black, Latino and Asian Caucus. In 2011, she was one of four Council Members to pioneer the first-ever Participatory Budgeting process in New York City.

She is a graduate of Columbia College at Columbia University and Baruch College, City University of New York, where she studied Public Administration through the National Urban Fellows Program.

KATE MCDONOUGH



Kate McDonough is the Director of Organizing at Girls for Gender Equity. Kate McDonough is the Director of Organizing at Girls for Gender Equity (GGE), an intergenerational organization committed to the physical, psychological, social, and economic development of girls and women. In this capacity, Kate oversees GGE's major advocacy campaigns and policy initiatives, which center the intersections of gender, race, class and sexual orientation. GGE's current campaign is the School Girls Deserve, which addresses how racial and gender stereotypes push cis and trans young women of color out of school and presents the vision of the school that they deserve.

HON. EDWINA MENDELSON



Judge Mendelson was appointed to the New York City Family Court bench by Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg on January 24, 2003, and was reappointed by Mayor Bill de Blasio in October 2014. She served as a trial judge in Queens County Family Court until February 14, 2008, when she was appointed Supervising Judge of that Court. One year later, on May 6, 2009, Judge Mendelson was elevated to Administrative Judge in charge of all New York City Family Courts. In October 2015, Judge Mendelson resumed the trial bench, serving in Bronx County Family Court and Manhattan Supreme Court, Criminal Term.

Before becoming a judge, Judge Mendelson served as a Court Attorney-Referee in Queens County Family Court presiding over child protective proceedings from July 2001 until her appointment to the Family Court bench. Prior thereto, she practiced law for ten years as a member of the Assigned Counsel Panel, representing parents and children in New York County Family Court and in Supreme Court matrimonial matters. Early in her career, Judge Mendelson served as the very first staff attorney for the Sanctuary for Families Center for Battered Women's Legal Services and was an attorney with The Legal Aid Society, Bronx County Civil Division, where she represented indigent clients in Housing Court and in benefits entitlement proceedings.

Judge Mendelson obtained a Bachelor's Degree in Urban Legal Studies from the City College of New York in 1986 and her law degree from the City University of New York Law School, Queens College, in 1988. She earned a Master of Philosophy degree in Criminal Justice from the City University of New York Graduate Center in 2000 and a Ph.D. in Criminal Justice from the City University of New York Graduate Center in 2002. For ten years, Judge Mendelson taught courses in criminal law, constitutional law, evidence, and administration of justice as an Adjunct Professor in the Law and Police Science Department at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, and she recently taught a juvenile justice course at Hofstra Law School. She holds membership and leadership positions in a number of bar association committees and other committees involving family law, juvenile justice and children's issues, and was Chair of the Children and the Law Committee of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York.

Judge Mendelson is also the former Chair of the Attorney for the Child/Assigned Counsel Advisory Committee for the 2nd, 11th and 13th Judicial Districts.

JODY MILLER, PH.D.



Jody Miller's research utilizes qualitative methods to investigate how inequalities of gender, race, sexuality and place shape participation in crime and risks for victimization, with concentrations in the United States and South Asia. Her books include *Getting Played: African American Girls, Urban Inequality, and Gendered Violence* (NYU Press, 2008)—winner of the American Sociological Association's Race, Class and Gender Section Distinguished Contribution to Scholarship Book Award (2010) and finalist for the C. Wright Mills Award (2009)—and *One of the Guys: Girls, Gangs, and Gender* (Oxford University Press, 2001). Dr. Miller has published dozens of articles and book chapters, including in *Criminology*, *Gender & Society*, *Signs*, *Theoretical Criminology*, and *British Journal of Criminology*. She is past recipient of the Coramae Richey Mann Award from the American Society of Criminology's Division on People of Color and Crime (2009), the ASC Division on Women and Crime's Distinguished Scholar Award (2010) and New Scholar Award (2001), and the ASC's Ruth Shonle Cavan Young Scholar Award (2001). Miller is a Steering Committee member of the Racial Democracy, Crime, and Justice Network. In 2014, she was named Fellow of the American Society of Criminology.

MONIQUE W. MORRIS, ED.D.



Monique W. Morris, Ed.D. is an author and social justice scholar with more than 20 years of professional and volunteer experience in the areas of education, civil rights, juvenile and social justice. Dr. Morris is the author of *Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools* (The New Press, 2016), *Black Stats: African Americans by the Numbers in the Twenty-First Century* (The New Press, 2014), and *Too Beautiful for Words* (MWM Books, 2012). She has written dozens of articles, book chapters, and other publications on social justice issues and lectured widely on research, policies, and practices associated with improving juvenile justice, educational, and socioeconomic conditions for Black girls, women, and their families.

Dr. Morris is the President/CEO and Co-Founder of the National Black Women's Justice Institute (NBWJI), an organization that works to interrupt school-to-confinement pathways for girls, reduce the barriers to employment for formerly incarcerated women, and increase the capacity of organizations working to reduce sexual assault and domestic violence in African American communities. She has also served as a lecturer for Saint Mary's College of California and as an adjunct professor for the University of San Francisco. Dr. Morris is a 2012 Soros Justice Fellow, the former Vice President for Economic Programs, Advocacy and Research at the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and the former Director of Research for the Thelton E. Henderson Center for Social Justice at the UC Berkeley Law School. She has also worked in partnership with and served as a

consultant for federal, state and county agencies, national academic and research institutions, and communities throughout the nation to develop comprehensive approaches and training curricula to eliminate racial/ethnic and gender disparities in the justice system. Her work in this area has informed the development and implementation of improved culturally competent and gender-responsive continua of services for youth.

Dr. Morris' research intersects race, gender, education and justice to explore the ways in which Black communities, and other communities of color, are uniquely affected by social policies. Among other publications, Dr. Morris is the author of *Representing the Educational Experiences of Black Girls in a Juvenile Court School* (*Journal of Applied Research on Children*, 2014); *Sacred Inquiry and Delinquent Black Girls: Developing a Foundation for a Liberative Pedagogical Praxis* (*In Understanding Work Experiences from Multiple Perspectives*, edited by G.D. Sardana and Tojo Thatchenkery, 2014); *Educating the Caged Bird: Black Girls and the Juvenile Court School* (*Poverty & Race*, PRRAC, 2013) and *Race, Gender and the School to Prison Pipeline: Expanding Our Discussion to Include Black Girls* (*African American Policy Forum*, 2012). Her 2008 study, *A Higher Hurdle: Barriers to Employment for Formerly Incarcerated Women* (UC Berkeley School of Law), which is one of the first testing studies to examine the impact of a criminal record or period of incarceration on the employment outcomes of women, was referenced in a special report commissioned by Congressman Danny K. Davis (D-IL).

Dr. Morris is an appointed member of the OJJDP National Girls Initiative Expert Panel, the California Department of Education's Juvenile Court Student Transition Workgroup, and the California Board of State and Community Corrections' Committee on Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparity. She is also an advisory board member for Global Girl Media, Oakland. Follow Dr. Morris on Twitter @MoniqueWMorris.

CATHERINE PIERCE



Catherine Pierce is a Senior Advisor to the Administrator of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) at the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ). Prior to coming to OJJDP, she was the Acting Director of DOJ's Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) where she served as a Deputy Director for fifteen years. In her capacity as a Senior Advisor at OJJDP, she staffed the Attorney General's National Task Force on Children Exposed to Violence (the Defending Childhood Task Force) and the Attorney General's Advisory Committee on American Indian and Alaska Native Children Exposed to Violence. She leads OJJDP's policy work on girls, children exposed to violence, trauma, and domestic child sex trafficking.

HON. CATHERINE PRATT



Honorable Catherine J. Pratt was appointed to the Los Angeles Superior Court in 2006. As a court commissioner, she currently sits in Juvenile Delinquency Court in Compton, CA. In 2011, in conjunction with efforts by the Los Angeles Probation Department, she created and implemented a collaborative court to work with commercially sexually exploited children (CSEC). The project was originally designed to work with 50 youth. Since then, she has worked with over 250 CSEC youth on probation. Preliminary data shows that these youth are spending less time in custody and that 73 percent have not been re-arrested for prostitution, either as a juvenile or an adult.

Catherine Pratt was appointed Judge by Governor Jerry Brown on November 17, 2015.

Judge Pratt now provides training for judges and other professionals throughout the country on how to work with CSEC children.

HON. A. GAIL PRUDENTI



The Honorable A. Gail Prudenti is the Executive Director of the Center for Children, Families and the Law at the Maurice A. Deane School of Law at Hofstra University, where she also serves as Special Advisor to the Dean, Eric Lane.

Justice Prudenti was found "Highly Qualified" by the New York State Commission on Judicial Nomination to Governor Andrew M. Cuomo for appointment as Chief Judge of the New York State Court of Appeals in 2015.

Additionally, in February 2016, Judge Prudenti was appointed by Chief Judge Janet DiFiore as Chair of the New York State Permanent Judicial Commission on Justice for Children.

Prior to her current position at Hofstra Law, Judge Prudenti served as the Chief Administrative Judge of the Courts of New York State as well as a New York State Supreme Court Justice. She supervised the administration and operation of the statewide court system, with a budget of over 2 billion dollars, 3,600 state and local judges and 15,000 non-judicial employees in over 350 court facilities. Judge Prudenti previously served as the Presiding Justice of the Appellate Division for the Second Judicial Department in New York State. She has also held the positions of Administrative Judge for the Tenth Judicial District and Surrogate of Suffolk County. Judge Prudenti earned her law degree from the University of Aberdeen, in Scotland, which also awarded her an honorary Doctorate of Laws in 2004.

DR. ANITA RAVI



Dr. Anita Ravi, M.D., M.P.H., M.S.H.P. is a Board Certified Family Medicine physician focused on improving health for populations vulnerable to gender-based violence, including persons who are justice-involved, trafficked, refugees and veterans. She is the founder and clinical director of the Institute for Family Health's PurpLE (Purpose: Listen & Engage) Clinic, a primary care clinic in New York City for people who have experienced sexual trauma. Dr. Ravi has served as a steering committee member of the Philadelphia Family Court and Department of Human Service Collaborative Response to Human Trafficking, and is on the board of HEAL Trafficking, a national organization of healthcare providers and researchers focused on addressing health and human trafficking. She also provides patient care at the Philadelphia Veterans Affairs Women's Health Clinic, conducts medical evaluations for asylum seekers, and enjoys conducting health education and empowerment workshops on Rikers Island and in collaboration with community based organizations serving justice-involved persons. She received her BA from Washington University in St. Louis, Masters in Public Health from Yale University, Masters in Health Policy from the University of Pennsylvania, and MD from the University of Michigan- Ann Arbor.

MELISSA ROBINSON-BROWN, PH.D.



Melissa Robinson-Brown, Ph.D. is an Assistant Professor in Pediatrics-Adolescent Medicine & Psychiatry at the Mount Sinai Adolescent Health Center. She is also the Co-Director of the Psychology Training Program and a Licensed Clinical Psychologist in New York and New Jersey. She obtained her B.A. in Psychology & Women's Studies from Washington University in St. Louis and then went on to obtain her M.A. and Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology, with a child and family subspecialty, from Loyola University in Chicago. She completed her Pre-Doctoral Clinical Psychology Internship at NYU/Bellevue on the Child/Adolescent Track. Her early research interests included HIV/AIDS prevention and intervention with adolescents and young adults. After completing her studies, she became a Staff Psychologist and Clinical Instructor in Psychology at Columbia University Medical Center/New York Presbyterian Hospital where she provided individual, family, couples, and group therapy to children and families who were infected or affected by HIV/AIDS. After spending 2.5 years at CUMC, she joined the Mount Sinai Adolescent Health Center (MSAHC) Team in 2011. Her focus has been on working with youth who struggle with anxiety, depression, emotion dysregulation, and self-harm. In addition, she continues to work with HIV infected youth. During her time at MSAHC, she assumed Co-leadership of the Psychology Training Program, which includes their APA Accredited Pre-Doctoral Internship Program. She also founded the Dialectical Behavior Therapy Program at MSAHC. She is a Mental Health Team Leader and supervises a number of mental health staff. She is heavily involved in program development for the center, including a new initiative to improve the intake process and increase the number of youth seen for mental health services. Dr. Robinson-Brown resides in NJ with her husband and 2 daughters (plus one on the way) and enjoys fitness, nutrition, and overall wellness.

LINDSAY ROSENTHAL, M.A.



Lindsay Rosenthal is a Senior Program Associate and Gender Justice Fellow at the Vera Institute. She offers expertise in initiatives to improve the well-being of young women and girls involved with the foster care and juvenile justice system. Her work focuses on the intersection of health and justice and, specifically, the health impacts of gender-based violence on girls involved with the justice system. Recently, Ms. Rosenthal co-authored *The Sexual Abuse to Prison Pipeline: The Girl's Story* published through the Georgetown Law Center for Poverty and Inequality. The report describes the impact of sexual abuse on girls' pathways into the justice system and their cycles of recidivism. In her role at Vera, Ms. Rosenthal provides technical assistance to New York City's Administration of Children Services to assist Commissioner Gladys Carrión in building a gender-responsive continuum of care for system-involved girls. Ms. Rosenthal advises on national strategies for integrating best practices for girls into mainstream justice reform efforts across Vera's multiple centers. Lindsay was instrumental in advocating for the formation of the New York City Council's Young Women's Initiative, a \$20 million public-private partnership for girls and young women of color launched in 2015, and she currently serves on the steering committee.

AYSHA SCHOMBURG, ESQ.



Aysha E. Schomburg is the Assistant Deputy Director of the Legislative Division at the New York City Council. She is responsible for overseeing the legal work involved in passing all of the city laws coming out of approximately thirteen City Council committees, including education, health, children's services, homeless services, mental health, civil service and labor and several others. Prior to being promoted to Assistant Deputy Director, Aysha served as Counsel to the Committee on Education at the New York City Council. In that role, she provided legal advice to the City Council in the area of education and drafted legislation that is aimed at improving the educational experience for the 1.1 million children in New York City's public education system. Aysha has an undergraduate degree from the University of Virginia, a master's degree from New York University, and received her law degree from New York Law School.

FRANCINE SHERMAN, J.D.



Francine Sherman is a Clinical Associate Professor at Boston College Law School where she has been teaching Juvenile Justice and Children's Rights & Public Policy for the past twenty years and where she founded and directs the Juvenile Rights Advocacy Program. She speaks and writes widely about the juvenile justice system and, in particular, about girls in the justice system. She has spoken before Congress and at the White House, served on a U.S. Department of Justice National Advisory Committee on Violence Against Women focusing on children and teens victimized by domestic violence and sexual assault, and as consultant to OJJDP's National Girls Initiative. Her most recent report, *Gender Injustice: System-Level Juvenile Justice Reforms for Girls*, provides a comprehensive overview of the needs and pathways of girls into and through the justice system and details a developmental approach to current juvenile justice reforms. She is also the author of *Detention Reform and Girls*, a volume of the *Pathways to Detention Reform* series published by the Annie E. Casey Foundation (2005), and *Making Detention Reform Work for Girls: Practice Guide #5* (Annie E. Casey Foundation). She is also the author of the book, *Juvenile Justice: Advancing Research, Policy and Practice* (Wiley & Sons), and "Justice for Girls: Are we Making Progress?" (UCLA Law Review). She is an ongoing consultant to the Annie E. Casey Foundation's Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative on strategies to reduce the detention of girls nationally, and regularly consults with national and local foundations and systems on issues related to girls in the justice system. She is currently collecting oral histories of young women with justice system histories for a project that will illustrate the need for a developmental approach to justice for girls. Her current policy research focuses on pregnant and parenting young women in the juvenile justice system, and on LBQ/GNCT girls detained for prostitution in California. Both these are interdisciplinary projects.

She is also a co-founder (with Lauren Adelman and Minotte Romulus) and Board member of Artistic Noise, an art and entrepreneurship program for juvenile justice involved youth in Boston and New York. The program began 15 years ago as a photography project for DYS girls in Boston and now serves youth in Boston and New York. Artistic Noise develops leadership skills while giving youth a vehicle for self expression through visual art.

JOANNE N. SMITH



Joanne N. Smith, founder and executive director is responsible for moving Girls for Gender Equity (GGE) (see www.ggenyc.org) closer to its mission through strategic planning, development, and leadership cultivation. Ms. Smith is a Haitian-American social worker born in New York City. She founded GGE in 2001 with the support of the Open Society Foundations to end gender-based violence and promote gender, race and class equity. A staunch human rights advocate, Smith is the co-chair of the nation's first Young Women's Initiative for cis, trans and gnc girls of color, spearheaded by our Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito in NYC. In June 2015, Smith led the first National Listening Session to inform the Advancing Equity for Women and Girls of Color agenda for the White House Council on Women and Girls. She is part of the first Move to End Violence cohort—a 10-year initiative of Novo Foundation designed to strengthen the collective capacity to end violence against girls and women in the United States.

YASMIN VAFA, ESQ.



Yasmin Vafa is co-founder and Executive Director of Rights4Girls, a human rights organization focused on gender-based violence against young women and girls in the U.S. As a human rights attorney and advocate, Yasmin works to advance policies to address gendered violence and human trafficking in the U.S. She has achieved several major policy wins at the federal level, designed and implemented a national judicial institute on child trafficking, and co-authored a seminal report mapping girls' unique pathways into the juvenile justice system: *The Sexual Abuse to Prison Pipeline: The Girls' Story*. Yasmin's work and advocacy focuses on the intersections between race, gender, violence, and the law. She educates the public and policymakers on these issues and how they affect the lives of marginalized women and children. Yasmin currently serves as a faculty adjunct educator and consultant for the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, sits on the Advisory Board for the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's National Girls Initiative, and was as a member of the Department of Justice's National Task Force on the Use of Restraints with Pregnant Women and Girls under Correctional Custody.

IREN VALENTINE, PSY. D.



Dr. Valentine is the Director for the Bureau of Behavioral Health Services at the Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) within the Division of Juvenile Justice and Opportunities for Youth. She has been with OCFS for nearly 6 years. She is a New York State licensed psychologist with over 12 years of clinical supervisory experience. Prior to joining OCFS, she worked as the clinical director for an adolescent day-treatment program under the auspices of the NYS Office of Mental Health. Overall, she has worked in varied mental health settings from an emergency room in a large public hospital in New York City—to serving as a psychologist in a rape crisis program—to working as a school psychologist in New Jersey and as a psychologist in a residential treatment center. Throughout her career she has worked with adolescent populations and has advocated for best clinical practices.

KELLIE M. WARREN, PSY.D.



Kellie M. Warren, Psy.D., is currently the Chief Executive Officer at Florence Crittenton Services of Arizona, a community-based organization specializing in the needs of adolescent girls and the delivery of gender responsive and culturally competent services. Previously, Dr. Warren served as the Chief Operating Officer, overseeing all of the programs and services provided at the organization's multiple campuses.

Prior to joining Florence Crittenton, Dr. Warren served as the Deputy Director for the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections (ADJC), overseeing all phases of the operation of juvenile treatment, rehabilitation and monitoring. Her responsibilities included the day-to-day operation of secure care facilities, community corrections, behavioral health, medical services and education. While at ADJC, she also served as Assistant Director for Programs and Institutions and as the Clinical Director of Medical and Behavioral Health Services.

Additionally, Dr. Warren served as the Director of Treatment for Community Education Centers, a residential treatment facility and onsite school, which served adolescent males between 12-21 years of age in Newark, New Jersey. During her tenure with the Ohio Department of Youth Services, Dr. Warren provided treatment services to juvenile sex offenders.

Dr. Warren has extensive experience in the fields of juvenile justice, community-based diversion programs, behavioral health and other treatment areas providing services to adolescents and justice-involved youth. She has demonstrated exemplary skills in designing, implementing and sustaining quality programs. Dr. Warren is affiliated with local and national organizations and committees in the areas of behavioral health and justice.

Dr. Warren is an adjunct professor at Argosy University. Most of her administrative, clinical and research interest has focused on children and adolescents with mental illness, developmental disabilities, substance abuse and dependency disorders, fire-setting issues, sexual traumatization and adolescent delinquency problems. Dr. Warren has made local television appearances and has presented for national and international audiences.

Dr. Warren holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Central State University and a Doctor of Psychology degree from Wright State University School of Professional Psychology.

STACEY YOUNGE, L.C.S.W.



Stacey Young is a California native and graduated from San Francisco State University in 2006 with a degree in Sociology. She then moved to New York City to attend the Columbia University School of Social Work and completed the program with a clinical focus on Family, Youth and Children and a minor in Law. While in school she conducted her fieldwork at the Center for Urban Community Services and Harlem Renaissance High School. In 2008, Stacey began her career and the Vera Institute of Justice, Adolescent Portable Therapy Project (APT). Throughout her time there she worked with families and youth involved in the juvenile justice system by conducting family therapy and substance use treatment in their homes and communities.

In 2014, Stacey transitioned with her team the Center for Alternative Sentencing and Court Employment Services (CASES) where she is the Senior Youth Clinician at the CASES Nathaniel Clinic serving adolescents, young adults and families in all stages of court involvement. She is currently developing a group for young women that focuses on the mental health needs of trauma victims involved in the justice system.

JUDY YU, M.P.H.



Judy Yu, M.P.H., Director of the Juvenile Justice Project, works on local, state and national youth justice issues. Judy coordinates the CA's Juvenile Justice Coalition, a network of advocates, community members, and service providers working toward system transformation. She also advocates for the humane, equitable, and fair treatment of court involved LGBTQ youth. Her prior work engaging young people of color in youth leadership development, mentoring and education programs, and HIV prevention informs Judy's advocacy. Prior to joining the CA, Judy was Director of Programs at APEX, an Asian American youth organization in NYC. She also managed the health education, arts programming and training services for the youth program of the NYC LGBT Community Center. Judy holds an MPH from CUNY and a MFA from Sarah Lawrence College. She received the 2014 NYC Administration for Children's Services Outstanding Community Advocate Award.

SARAH ZARBA



Sarah Zarba works as the coordinator for the Center on Youth Justice at the Vera Institute of Justice. She currently holds a bachelors degree in Criminal Justice from John Jay College, and is working on becoming a Credentialed Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Counselor (CASAC) through the New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS). Through her own personal experience with both the Juvenile and Adult Correctional systems, Ms. Zarba has developed a strong passion for criminal justice reform. In her spare time, she serves as a group facilitator for Nassau County Correctional Facilities' Drug Alcohol Rehabilitation & Treatment (DART) Program where she works with women dealing with substance abuse issues. Ms. Zarba was recently accepted to Columbia University's Graduate School of Social Service where she will begin pursuing her Masters in Social Work beginning fall 2016.



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