Creating Social Change Through Public-Private Partnerships

November 1st – November 2nd

Speaker Biographies

Roseanna Ander serves as the founding Executive Director of the University of Chicago Crime Lab (since 2008) and the Education Lab (since 2011), which are part of UChicago Urban Labs. In January 2010, she was appointed to the International Association of Chiefs of Police Research Advisory Committee, and she formerly served on the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission. Ms. Ander also served on the public safety transition teams for both Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel and Illinois Governor Bruce Rauner. Prior to joining UChicago, she oversaw the Joyce Foundation’s gun violence program and led the foundation’s grantmaking in early childhood education. Before working at Joyce, she was a Soros Justice Fellow with the Massachusetts Attorney General’s Office and also worked for the Harvard Injury Control Center and the Harvard Project on Schooling and Children. Ms. Ander holds an MS from the Harvard School of Public Health.

Mary Ann Bates is a Senior Fellow at the U.S. Office of Management and Budget and on leave as Executive Director of the North America office of the Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL) at MIT. J-PAL North America seeks to reduce poverty by ensuring that policy is informed by scientific evidence. Since joining J-PAL in 2010, Mary Ann’s work has cut across multiple sectors, including health, energy, and education, and has focused on US domestic policy as well as international development. She is a co-chair of J-PAL North America’s State and Local Innovation Initiative, which provides resources to US state and local governments interested in testing important policy questions with randomized evaluations. She is currently a co-investigator of a large-scale randomized evaluation of the Nurse-Family Partnership scale up in South Carolina. She holds a Master of Public Policy from UC Berkeley’s Goldman School of Public Policy and has conducted research as a Fulbright Scholar in Switzerland.

Marianne Bertrand is the Chris P. Dialynas Distinguished Service Professor of Economics at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business and co-director of Chicago Booth’s Rustandy Center for Social Sector Innovation. Bertrand is also the Pritzker Director of the Inclusive Economy Lab at the Urban Labs. Bertrand is a research fellow at the National Bureau of Economic Research, the Center for Economic Policy Research, and the Institute for the Study of Labor. She is also on the board of directors for the Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab. Her research, which covers labor economics, corporate finance, and development economics, has been published widely, and she has received several awards and honors.

Monica Bhatt is the Senior Research Director at the University of Chicago Crime Lab and Education Lab. In this role, Dr. Bhatt oversees a portfolio of over a dozen large-scale randomized controlled trials related to reducing crime and improving academic and mental health outcomes for Chicagoans. She is the principal investigator on a number of high-profile studies, including READI Chicago, an initiative to reduce gun violence involvement among those at highest risk; individualized instructional interventions like high-dosage tutoring; and alleviating mental health for young women. Prior to coming to the Crime Lab and Education Lab, she worked as a researcher at the American Institutes for Research where she led projects related to college access and retention, teacher quality, school finance, and school accountability policy. Her academic interests include using data to drive equitable resource allocation and understanding the effects of systemic approaches to reduce disparities in educational attainment and achievement and violence involvement among those who might benefit most.
She is a former Fulbright Scholar and holds a Ph.D. from the University of Michigan in Education Policy and an M.P.P. and B.A. in Public Policy from Vanderbilt University.

Jeremy Biddle serves as Special Advisor on the Group Reduction Strategy to the Mayor and Police Commissioner in Baltimore City. Prior, he acted as Senior Advisor to the Mayor’s Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement on gun violence prevention, where he provided thought leadership on partnership-based, data-driven strategies and interventions to reduce gun violence. He is the Founding Executive Director of MetroPEACE, a boutique consulting firm with global reach, dedicated to reducing urban violence by fusing public safety, public health and civil rights and liberties. Formerly, Jeremy was the Coordinator for the Central America Regional Security Initiative (CARSI) at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), advancing the Agency’s violence prevention efforts in Central America, Latin America and the Caribbean, and globally. At USAID, Jeremy was responsible for providing strategic, operational and technical leadership and direction on USAID’s CARSI portfolio—a multimillion-dollar security assistance package to Central America that features support for violence prevention, intervention, reentry and victims’ assistance to criminal justice reform, police professionalization and community policing. In addition, Jeremy led the Agency’s strategic research and learning agenda on violence and youth/gun/gang violence prevention throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. Over the years, Jeremy has worked with a variety of non-profits and public sector organizations in the U.S. and Latin America and the Caribbean, focusing on violence prevention, equitable criminal justice reform, community engagement and rule of law. Jeremy holds a Master of Public Administration from Columbia University and a Master of Public Affairs from Sciences Po in Paris, as well as a B.A. in history from Columbia. He is fluent in English and Spanish.

Anthony A. Braga is the Jerry Lee Professor of Criminology and the Director of the Crime and Justice Policy Lab in the Department of Criminology at the University of Pennsylvania. He collaborates with criminal justice, social service, and community-based organizations to produce high impact scholarship, randomized field experiments, and policy advice on the prevention of crime at problem places, the control of gang violence, and reductions in access to firearms by high-risk people. Braga has served as principal investigator or co-principal investigator on projects totaling more than $22 million in external funding from a variety of federal, state, and private grant-making institutions including the U.S. National Institute of Justice, National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation, and Arnold Ventures. He has served on four National Research Council committees, mostly recently serving on the Committee on Proactive Policing – Effects on Crime, Communities, and Civil Liberties. Braga is a fellow of the American Society of Criminology (ASC) and the 2021 recipient of its August Vollmer Award recognizing his contributions to crime prevention policy and practice. He is also a past president and fellow of the Academy of Experimental Criminology (AEC), and the 2014 recipient of its Joan McCord Award recognizing his commitment to randomized controlled experiments. The practical value of his work in violence reduction in disadvantaged neighborhoods has been recognized by numerous awards, including the Civic Leadership Award (2004) presented by The Boston Foundation, the United States Attorney General’s Award for Outstanding Contributions to Community Partnerships for Public Safety (2009), and the U.S. Department of Justice Project Safe Neighborhoods Research Partner of the Year Award (2010). Between 2007 and 2013, Braga served as Chief Policy Advisor to former Boston Police Commissioner Edward F. Davis and worked with his command staff and line-level officers on award-winning community policing and crime prevention initiatives. Braga holds an M.P.A. from Harvard University, and a Ph.D. in criminal justice from Rutgers University.

Cindy Casey is the Director of Client Strategy Services at Catholic Charities Fort Worth. As such, she oversees long-term case management programs, including the Padua Pilot, which is a randomized control trial conducted in partnership with the Wilson Sheehan Lab for Economic
Opportunities at the University of Notre Dame. She has worked at CCFW for 11 years and was part of the management team that oversaw the introduction of the agency's Padua Poverty Pilot in 2014. Cindy has led the Padua team through the development of a coaching and staffing strategy that supports client engagement and success by specializing in a problem solving framework and strategic use of resources and financial assistance. In addition to general case management and the Padua Pilot, Cindy oversees the agency's Resource Specialists; Client Outreach; and Career & Vocation program.

**Kim Cassel** is the Director of Evidence Based Policy at Arnold Ventures.

**Evelyn J. Diaz** is the President of Heartland Alliance for Human Needs & Human Rights, a global anti-poverty and human rights organization based in Chicago that provides a comprehensive array of services to nearly half a million people annually in the areas of healthcare, housing, human services, and justice. She is responsible for directing domestic and global strategy and operations for Heartland Alliance's five nonprofit corporate entities, with a combined budget of $150 million and 1,600 employees in 12 countries. Previously, Ms. Diaz was appointed by Mayor Rahm Emanuel to lead the City of Chicago's Department of Family and Support Services where she was responsible for administering an annual budget of $330 million to deliver social service programs to over 300,000 Chicagoans in the areas of children, youth, homelessness, domestic violence, aging, workforce development and human services. Before joining Mayor Emanuel’s cabinet, Ms. Diaz was chief executive officer of the Chicago Workforce Investment Council, Deputy Chief of Staff to former Mayor Richard M. Daley, and Associate Director of the Chicago Jobs Council. She received her graduate degree from the University of Chicago’s School of Social Service Administration and her undergraduate degree in English from the University of Notre Dame ('92). Evelyn serves on the ND Advisory Council for the College of Arts & Letters. She lives in Chicago with her husband, Josh, and their daughter, Isabel.

**Paolo DeMaria** is the newly designated President & CEO of the National Association of State Boards of Education, a position he will assume in January 2022. He recently retired as the State Superintendent of Public Instruction in Ohio after five years of service. His proudest accomplishment is the adoption of Ohio’s Strategic Plan for Education, Each Child, Our Future, which continues to guide the policy and practice work of the Ohio Department of Education. During his tenure, Ohio adopted social-emotional learning standards and the Whole Child Framework, which guide Ohio’s efforts to support the broad needs of students. He also supported improvement to student literacy outcomes through Ohio’s Plan to Raise Literacy Achievement and the receipt of several competitive federal grants. He helped develop Ohio’s partnership with the Cleveland Browns Foundation and Proving Ground (Harvard University) through the “Stay in the Game Network” to systematically address chronic absenteeism in both urban and rural districts. Prior to his service as State Superintendent, DeMaria’s professional experience includes working as a staff member in the Ohio State Senate, as director of Ohio’s Office of Budget and Management, as chief policy advisor to former Governor Bob Taft, and as associate superintendent for the Ohio Department of Education’s Center for School Options and Finance. He also worked as a principal consultant for Education First Consulting. DeMaria received a B.A. from Furman University and an M.P.A. from the Ohio State University’s John Glenn College of Public Affairs.

**Thomas F. Dunn** is a founding partner and former CEO of New Holland Capital. Dunn spent the early part of his career at Goldman Sachs Asset Management before moving to Lazard Freres in 1994 to lead fixed income asset management. Later he built the hedge program at ABP, an outgrowth of the Dutch civil servants’ pension fund, an endeavor that eventually evolved into New Holland Capital. Dunn has served on the University of Chicago’s Urban Labs Advisory Council since 2016, and the College Dean’s Parent and Family Council (2007-13). In 2020, Dunn
became a trustee to the University of Chicago. He is also a member of the Advisory Council for the Harris School of Public Policy. Dunn received both his bachelor’s degree and MBA from the University of Chicago.

**Michael Greenstone** is the Milton Friedman Distinguished Service Professor in Economics as well as the Director of the Becker Friedman Institute, the Energy Policy Institute, and the Energy & Environment Lab at the University of Chicago. He previously served as the Chief Economist for President Obama’s Council of Economic Advisers, where he co-lead the development of the United States Government’s social cost of carbon. He is an elected member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a fellow of the Econometric Society, a Carnegie Fellow, and a former editor of the Journal of Political Economy. Formerly, Greenstone was the 3M Professor of Environmental Economics at MIT and directed The Hamilton Project.

**Veronica Herrero** currently serves as the Chief of Staff and Chief Strategy Officer at the City Colleges of Chicago. In her capacity, she supports the Chancellor and partners with the seven Presidents of the City Colleges in the successful execution of the district’s five-year strategic framework and college strategic plans. She provides strategic leadership and oversight for the district in the areas of equity, advancement, community and government relations, and continuous improvement initiatives. Prior to joining the City Colleges of Chicago, Veronica was Chief Program Officer of One Million Degrees (OMD), a non-profit organization partnering with community colleges in the Chicagoland area and committed to empowering students to succeed in school, work, and life. She brings over fourteen years of cross-sector leadership experience in strategy, design, student success, and education management through her previous roles at OMD, the University of Chicago Urban Education Institute, and Chicago Public Schools. Veronica serves on the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) as Vice Chair, the Northern Illinois University Board of Trustees, and the Girls, Inc of Chicago Board of Directors. Veronica holds a BA from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, an MBA from the University of Chicago Booth School of Business and is an alumna of the University of Chicago Civic Leadership Academy.

**Daniel E. Ho** is the William Benjamin Scott and Luna M. Scott Professor of Law at Stanford Law School, Professor of Political Science, and Senior Fellow at the Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research. He is also Associate Director of the Stanford Institute for Human-Centered Artificial Intelligence, Faculty Fellow at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, and is Director of the Regulation, Evaluation, and Governance Lab (RegLab). He received his J.D. from Yale Law School and Ph.D. from Harvard University and clerked for Judge Stephen F. Williams on the U.S. Court of Appeals, District of Columbia Circuit. Ho previously served as president for the Society of Empirical Legal Studies and co-editor of the Journal of Law, Economics, & Organization.

**Dr. Robin Jacob** is an associate research professor at the Institute for Social Research at the University of Michigan, and a Faculty Co-Director of the Michigan Youth Policy Lab. Prior to joining the faculty at the University of Michigan she was a research associate at Abt Associates, Inc. in Cambridge, MA. Dr. Jacob has over 15 years of experience conducting randomized trials and quasi-experimental evaluations of social interventions, in a variety of different contexts. She has published widely on research methods and the outcomes of social programs. She received a BA from Indiana University in 1992 and a PhD in public policy from the University of Chicago.

**Valerie Jarrett** is Chief Executive Officer and a member of the board of directors of the Barack Obama Foundation. She is also a Senior Distinguished Fellow at The University of Chicago Law School. She is the author of the New York Times bestselling book Finding My Voice: My Journey to the West Wing and the Path Forward, published in April 2019. She serves as Board Chairman of Civic Nation, Co-Chair of The United State of Women, and is a One Million Black Women
Advisory Board member. Jarrett serves on the boards of Walgreens Boot Alliance, Inc., Ralph Lauren Corporation, Lyft, Inc., Sweetgreen, Ariel Investments, The John F. Kennedy Center for Performing Arts, The Innocence Project, Sesame Street Workshop, and the Economic Club of Chicago. Jarrett also serves on the Goldman Sachs One Million Black Women Advisory Board and is a senior advisor to ATTN.

Ms. Jarrett was the Senior Advisor to President Barack Obama from 2009-2017 making her the longest serving senior advisor in history. She oversaw the Offices of Public Engagement and Intergovernmental Affairs and chaired the White House Council on Women and Girls. Ms. Jarrett worked throughout her tenure at the White House to mobilize elected officials, business and community leaders, and diverse groups of advocates. She led the Obama Administration’s efforts to expand and strengthen access to the middle class and boost American businesses and our economy. She championed the creation of equality and opportunity for all Americans, and economically and politically empowering women in the United States and around the world. She oversaw the Administration’s advocacy for workplace policies that empower working families, including equal pay, raising the minimum wage, paid leave, paid sick days, workplace flexibility, and affordable childcare, and led the campaigns to reform our criminal justice system, end sexual assault, and reduce gun violence.

Ms. Jarrett has a background in both the public and private sectors. She served as the Chief Executive Officer of The Habitat Company in Chicago, the Commissioner of Planning and Development for the city of Chicago, Deputy Chief of Staff for Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley, and practiced law for ten years in the private and public sector. She also served as the director of numerous corporate and not-for-profit boards including leadership positions as Chairman of the Board of the Chicago Stock Exchange, Chairman of the University of Chicago Medical Center Board of Trustees, Vice Chairman of the University of Chicago Board of Trustees, Director of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago and Chair of Chicago Transit Board. Ms. Jarrett has also received numerous awards and honorary degrees, including TIME’s “100 Most Influential People” Award.

Jarrett received her B.A. from Stanford University in 1978 and her J.D. from the University of Michigan Law School in 1981.

Candice Jones is the President and CEO of the Public Welfare Foundation in Washington, DC. Previously, she served as Senior Advisor at Chicago CRED, an organization that focuses on gun violence in Chicago. In that role, she worked on securing greater investments for violence intervention programs as an alternative to the criminal justice system. Prior to her work with Chicago CRED, she served as Director of the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice, a cabinet level state agency where she supervised operations, programming, budget matters, and communications. 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 U.S. 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. Earlier in her career, Candice served as a program officer with the MacArthur Foundation, where she managed a grant portfolio focused on decreasing racial and ethnic disparities in the juvenile justice system and on improving the quality of defense for indigent youth. She currently serves on the board of Cabrini Green Legal Aid, a Chicago-based civil legal service organization. Candice received her J.D. from New York University School of Law and her B.A. from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri.

Tom Kane is the Walter H. Gale Professor of Education and Economics at the Harvard Graduate School of Education and faculty director of the Center for Education Policy Research, a university-wide research center that works with school districts and state education agencies.
Between 2009 and 2012, he directed the Measures of Effective Teaching project for the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. His work has influenced federal policy, leading Congress to rewrite the No Child Left Behind Act in 2001 and providing the rationale for the teacher quality reforms in the Race to the Top initiative. His research is playing a role in current debates, including the labor market impacts of community colleges, the impact of charter schools, the role of postsecondary financial aid and affirmative action in college admissions. From 1995 to 1996, Kane served as the senior economist for labor, education, and welfare policy issues within President Clinton's Council of Economic Advisers. From 1991 through 2000, he was a faculty member at the Kennedy School of Government. Kane has also been a professor of public policy at UCLA and has held visiting fellowships at the Brookings Institution and the Hoover Institution at Stanford University.

Andria Lazaga serves as the Director of Policy and Strategic Initiatives at the Seattle Housing Authority (SHA) where she leads a small but mighty team that strives to advance the agency’s mission by incubating and evaluating innovative and impactful strategies, developing cross-sector collaborations and empowering data-driven decision-making. Having joined SHA in 1999, she has served in a variety of roles including in community services and asset management. Andria has a Master of Public Administration from the University of Washington and, prior to joining SHA, worked in youth career readiness and experiential learning. She is an active member of multiple national affordable housing industry associations, parent of two humans and an avid lifelong learner.

Jeffrey Liebman is the Malcolm Wiener Professor of Public Policy at Harvard Kennedy School, where he teaches courses in public sector economics, government innovation, and American economic policy. In his research, he studies tax and budget policy, social insurance, poverty, and income inequality. For the past ten years, his Harvard Kennedy School Government Performance Lab has been providing pro bono technical assistance to state and local governments interested in improving the results they achieve for their citizens. During the first two years of the Obama Administration, Liebman served at OMB, first as Executive Associate Director and Chief Economist and then as Acting Deputy Director. From 1998 to 1999, he served as Special Assistant to the President for economic policy and coordinated the Clinton Administration’s Social Security reform technical working group.

Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot is the 56th Mayor of Chicago. Since assuming office following her historic election, Mayor Lightfoot has undertaken an ambitious agenda of expanding opportunity and inclusive economic growth across Chicago’s neighborhoods and communities, with early accomplishments including landmark ethics and good governance reforms, worker protection legislation, and closing a record $838 million budget gap, as well as key investments in education, public safety, and financial stability. Mayor Lightfoot also placed Chicago on the path to a $15 minimum wage by 2021.

In response to the unprecedented COVID-19 crisis, Mayor Lightfoot has led a coordinated, citywide response across government, business, and community organizations to effectively address its spread and broader public impact, including the creation of the Racial Equity Rapid Response Team, and the COVID-19 Recovery Task Force, among other actions.

Prior to her election, Mayor Lightfoot most recently served as a senior equity partner in the Litigation and Conflict Resolution Group at Mayer Brown. Previously, she served as President of the Chicago Police Board, as well as the Chair of the Police Accountability Task Force.

Mayor Lightfoot also served as Chief of Staff and General Counsel of the Chicago Office of Emergency Management and Communications, interim First Deputy of the Chicago Department
of Procurement Services, Chief Administrator of the Office of Professional Standards, and as Assistant United States Attorney.

A native of Massillon, Ohio, Mayor Lightfoot has been a resident of Chicago since 1986 and lives on the Near Northwest Side with her wife Amy Eshleman and their daughter.

**Jens Ludwig** is the Edwin A. and Betty L. Bergman Distinguished Service Professor at the University of Chicago’s Harris School of Public Policy, director of the University of Chicago's Crime Lab, and codirector of the Education Lab. He is also co-director of the National Bureau of Economic Research working group on the economics of crime and an elected member of the National Academy of Medicine. He has written extensively about gun violence prevention, predictive policy tools, early childhood interventions, and the role of social conditions in children’s schooling outcomes. Through the Crime Lab, he partners with policymakers in Chicago, New York City, and across the country to use tools from social science, behavioral science, and computer science to identify effective (and cost-effective) ways to help prevent crime and violence.

**David Meltzer** is the Faculty Director of the University of Chicago Health Lab. He is also the Chief of the Section of Hospital Medicine, and Director of the Center for Health and the Social Sciences at the University of Chicago, where he is a professor of Medicine and affiliated faculty of the Harris School of Public Policy and Department of Economics. Meltzer’s research explores problems in health economics and public policy with a focus on the theoretical foundations of medical cost-effectiveness analysis and the cost and quality of hospital care. Meltzer has performed randomized trials comparing the use of doctors who specialize in inpatient care (“hospitalists”). He is currently leading a Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Innovation Challenge award to study the effects of improved continuity in the doctor patient relationship between the inpatient and outpatient setting on the costs and outcomes of care for frequently hospitalized Medicare patients. He led the formation of the Chicago Learning Effectiveness Advancement Research Network (Chicago LEARN) that helped pioneer collaboration of Chicago-Area academic medical centers in hospital-based comparative effectiveness research and the recent support of the Chicago Area Patient Centered Outcomes Research Network (CAPriCORN) by the Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI).

**Michael Nutter** served two terms as Mayor of the City of Philadelphia. Among other accomplishments, his mayoral agenda increased Philadelphia’s high school graduation and college attainment rates, and he strengthened the relationship between communities and police. During his tenure, Nutter also served as president of the United States Conference of Mayors, president of the Pennsylvania Municipal League, and he was named Public Official of the Year by Governing Magazine. Since leaving office, Nutter has served in the Department of Homeland Security and has been appointed Professor of Professional Practice at Columbia University. He is also a CNN political commentator, Senior Fellow at Bloomberg Philanthropies, and national spokesperson for the What Works Cities program. He holds a degree in business from the University of Pennsylvania.

**Sarah Oppenheimer** is the Associate Director of Policy and Research, where her work focuses on bridging Opportunity Insights’ research with applied policy and practice to address poverty and support families’ outcomes. Previously, Sarah served as the Director of Research and Evaluation for the King County Housing Authority (KCHA) where she led development and implementation of research projects and partnerships (including KCHA’s work in the Creating Moves to Opportunity pilot), oversaw program evaluation and learning strategies, and designed approaches for improved data capacity. Before joining KCHA, Sarah managed research projects at the Harvard School of Public Health’s Division of Public Health Practice and at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute’s Center for Community-Based Research to develop and implement
research involving practitioners, policymakers, and academics to address health disparities. She also worked on evaluations for Building Changes, an intermediary agency to address homelessness, focusing on race and health disparities in families’ experiences of the homeless service system. Prior to her work in applied research, Sarah worked as a practitioner, first as a case manager for families in Seattle, WA and then directing HIV/AIDS housing programs in Cambridge, MA. Sarah received her BA from the University of Vermont and holds a Master’s in Public Health from Harvard University and a Master’s in Public Policy from the University of Washington. She is currently a doctoral candidate at the University of Washington where her research focuses on links between family housing instability and health.

Dr. Mai Tuyet Pho is an infectious diseases physician and studies health outcomes and public policy at the intersection of HIV, HCV, and substance use. Current projects include: understanding the shifting epidemiology of HCV and opioid overdose, harm reduction expansion for people who use drugs in rural communities, linkage to care at reentry for criminal-legal involved individuals, and economic evaluation of HCV and HIV screening and treatment strategies. Her work has been funded by NIDA, CDC, and AHRQ. Dr. Pho served as the interim Chief Medical Officer at the Illinois Department of Public Health and is currently a Medical Advisor for Healthcare Policy and Research in the Office of the Director. She leads multiple efforts around the opioid response including naloxone access and HCV prevention and low threshold treatment. She is an active infectious diseases clinician and mentors students and fellows who are interested in public health, health economics and public policy.

Harold Pollack is the Co-Faculty Director of the University of Chicago Health Lab and Co-Founder of the University of Chicago Crime Lab. He is the Helen Ross Professor at the Crown Family School of Social Work, Policy, and Practice and an Affiliate Professor in the Biological Sciences Collegiate Division and the Department of Public Health Sciences. He is a committee member of the Center for Health Administration Studies (CHAS) at the University of Chicago. His current NIH-funded research concerns improved services for individuals at the boundaries of the behavioral health and criminal justice systems, disabilities, and two major new efforts to address the opioid epidemic in Illinois and across the nation. He has published widely at the interface between poverty policy and public health. His research appears in such journals as Addiction, Journal of the American Medical Association, American Journal of Public Health, Health Services Research, Pediatrics, and Social Service Review. His journalism has appeared in Washington Post, the Nation, the New York Times, New Republic, and other popular publications.

Dr. Nancy Potok is the CEO of NAPx Consulting. She previously served as the Chief Statistician of the United States in the Executive Office of the President, Deputy Director and Chief Operating Officer of the U.S. Census Bureau, Deputy Under Secretary for Economic Affairs at the US Department of Commerce, COO of McManis & Monsalve Associates, a data analytics company, and Senior Vice President of NORC at the University of Chicago. She served as a Commissioner on the US Evidence Based Policy Making Commission, and currently chairs and serves on several Boards of nonprofit organizations and academic institutions dedicated to evidence-based policymaking, mathematics, computer science, and technology. Most recently, she chaired the American Statistical Association Task Force on the quality of the 2020 Census. She is a Fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration, a SAGE at the Partnership for Public Service, a former adjunct professor and current Senior Fellow at The George Washington University, and a non-resident Fellow at the Urban Institute. She earned her Ph.D. at the Trachtenberg School of Public Administration and Public Policy at The George Washington University.

Nicole Prahin is the Vice President of Programs at Saga Education leading program implementation for Saga’s direct service program across six school districts including Chicago,
Nicole has over ten years of experience supporting students in multiple capacities as a tutor, teaching artist, classroom teacher, and nonprofit leader. As Saga's former Senior Director of Programs in Chicago, she led the expansion of Saga's high dosage tutoring model to 2800 students across 31 schools.

Janey Rountree is the founding Executive Director of the California Policy Lab (CPL) at UCLA. In addition to leading CPL, she is a member of the National Alliance to End Homelessness Research Council and Deputy Director of the Homelessness Policy Research Institute. She is the co-author of several CPL reports on homelessness in Los Angeles, including research focused on predicting and preventing homelessness. Prior to joining CPL, she was Mayor Rahm Emanuel’s Deputy Chief of Staff for Public Safety. She had direct oversight of the Chicago Police Department, Fire Department and Office of Emergency Management and developed policy on issues ranging from police reform, public safety operations, domestic violence, and youth violence prevention in Chicago. Her work on violence prevention spanned issues such as workforce development, homelessness, school climate, mentoring, and behavioral health. During her tenure in Chicago, Janey worked closely with researchers to evaluate publicly funded programs and to scale up the ones that were proven effective. Prior to working in the Chicago Mayor's Office, she was the Firearms Policy Coordinator and senior counsel for New York City’s Mayor Michael Bloomberg. She has practiced law, taught high school, and worked in the nonprofit sector. She holds a B.A. from Williams College and a J.D./LL.M from Duke Law School.

Kelly Sesti is the Director of Continuous Quality Improvement at Michigan's Children’s Services Agency.

Jon Schnur serves as Chief Executive Officer of America Achieves — a national nonprofit organization focused on bridging the gap between education and work in a rapidly changing economy. Since 2011, Jon has also served as Bloomberg Philanthropies’ lead outside advisor on education and skills. With Jon's leadership, America Achieves is currently driving a Good Jobs Project to shape federal policy in 2021 to upskill and put Americans to work in good jobs that build careers and rebuild the US economy; a national tutoring initiative; and a State Recovery Now project to inform how governors and state legislatures use their share of $350 billion in state and local economic aid under the American Rescue Plan.

Jon has extensive experience in nonprofit, government, and philanthropy. He also co-founded New Leaders for New Schools — a national nonprofit ensuring high academic achievement for every student by attracting and preparing outstanding school leaders — and served as its CEO from 2000 until 2011. Jon served as co-chair of education policy for Barack Obama’s 2008 presidential campaign and then as a senior advisor to the presidential transition team and U.S. Secretary of Education. Jon previously served as an education advisor during the Clinton administration, as President Clinton’s Associate Director for Educational Policy, Senior Policy Advisor on Education to Vice President Gore, and Special Assistant to U.S. Secretary of Education Dick Riley.

Jon is a board member of New Leaders. He recently has served on the Visiting Committee to the Harvard Graduate School of Education, the Aspen Institute’s Jury for their Prize for Community College Excellence, and as a member of the Markle Foundation’s Rework America Task Force. Jon and his wife Elisa have three children and live in Montclair, New Jersey.

Dan Thompson is Manager of the Perinatal and Infant Health Section at the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS). He oversees several programs, including the Maternal Infant Health Program (MIHP), a statewide evidence-based home visiting program, as well as the Fetal Infant Mortality Review (FIMR), Infant Safe Sleep, and Early Hearing Detection and Intervention programs. Prior to his role at MDHHS, Dan held senior management
and executive-level positions at two statewide healthcare associations and at a large health system. He has a bachelor’s degree from the University of Michigan and a master’s degree from Michigan State University.

**Patrick Turner** is an Assistant Research Professor in the Wilson Sheehan Lab for Economic Opportunities (LEO)—an anti-poverty research lab in the Department of Economics at the University of Notre Dame. In his research, Patrick partners with innovative social service providers to better understand what works in helping individuals get connected with employment and be successful in the labor market. His recent work focuses on measuring the impact of programs like Padua offered by Catholic Charities Fort Worth and the Goodwill Excel Centers, which leverage intensive wrap-around services to improve employment and earnings outcomes. Patrick received his BS in Business Administration from Saint Louis University and his PhD in Economics from the University of Colorado Boulder.

**Dana Vanderford** is the Associate Director of Homelessness Prevention for LA County’s Department of Health Services. She leads the Homelessness Prevention Unit (HPU), a proactive, data-driven effort to identify and support residents of LA County in retaining safe and stable permanent housing. By providing short-term financial assistance and linkages to systems of care, the HPU works collaboratively with clients to address their needs and provide assistance that will bolster their housing retention long-term. Prior to leading the HPU, Vanderford served as the Homelessness Policy Deputy for LA County’s Fifth Supervisorial District, which encompasses 2,800 square miles and a diverse constituency, including rural communities in the Antelope Valley. She oversaw the development and execution of 47 strategies to combat homelessness supported by Measure H, the landmark ¼ percent increase to the County’s sales tax approved by voters in March 2017. Vanderford was responsible for determining funding allocations for a $355-million-dollar budget annually, used to sustain a wide range of strategies from Homelessness Prevention to Permanent Supportive Housing.

**Dave Williams** is the Vice President of Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky and Ohio programs for Youth Advocate Programs, Inc.

**Josh Wright** is the Executive Director at ideas42, a leading applied behavioral science non-profit. Josh previously headed up the Office of Financial Education and Financial Access at the United States Department of the Treasury. Previously, Josh held positions at the Center for Community Change, Booz Allen and Hamilton’s Commercial Management Consulting business, and was a Senior Executive at Bertelsmann’s Random House, Inc. He has extensive experience in the for-profit, non-profit, and public sectors; industry experience in financial services, media and entertainment, housing, and youth development; and functional expertise in business strategy, new business development, and new venture creation.

Josh has also been a visiting lecturer at the Princeton Woodrow Wilson School, serves on the World Economic Forum Global Agenda Council on Behavior, and is a frequent public speaker on applied behavioral science. He holds a BA in Economics from Wesleyan University and an MBA from the Yale School of Management.