Health Behind Bars
What Obamacare Means for Courts, Prisons, Jails and Justice-Involved Communities
(And How to Report the Story)
MONDAY, OCT. 21
JOHN JAY COLLEGE, MOOT COURT

8:00am
CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

8:30 – 9:30am
PANEL 1
THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT’S IMPRINT ON CORRECTIONAL HEALTH CARE

Elizabeth Glazer, former deputy director, New York State Office of Criminal Justice Services
Amy Solomon, senior advisor, US Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs

Moderator: Stephen Handelman, Center on Media, Crime and Justice

9:30 – 9:45am BREAK

9:45 – 10:30am
PANEL 2
IF THEY BUILD IT, WHO WILL COME?

Curtis Lowery, MD, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences Center for Distance Health and ANGELS
Nicole Redmond, MD, University of Alabama Division of Preventive Health and Northern District of Alabama Reentry Council
Pam Rodriguez, Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities of Illinois

Moderator: Ivan Oransky, MD, New York University Science, Health and Environmental Reporting Program and NVU Medical School

10:30 – 10:45am BREAK

10:45am – 12:00pm
PANEL 3
WHY CORRECTIONAL HEALTH CARE QUALITY MATTERS

Julio Medina, Exodus Transitional Community
Donna Strugar-Fritsch, Health Management Associates
Natasha Williams, The Rose Group

Moderator: Katti Gray, The Crime Report

12:00 – 5:00pm
REPORTING SITE VISITS (FOR FELLOWS)

Escorts/briefers:
Steven Rosenberg, Community Oriented Correctional Health Services
Homer Venters, MD, New York City Department of Corrections

5:00pm
RETURN TO JOHN JAY

TUESDAY, OCT. 22
JOHN JAY COLLEGE, MOOT COURT

8:00am
CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

8:30 – 10:00am
PANEL 4
OBAMACARE AND PRE-TRIAL JUSTICE

Tracie Gardner, Legal Action Center
Tim Murray, Pre-Trial Justice Institute

Moderator: Cara Tabachnick, CMCJ and The Crime Report

10:00 – 10:15am BREAK

10:15 – 11:30am
PANEL 5
THE MEDIA AND CORRECTIONAL CARE

Discussion leader:
Tyeese Gaines, DO, MSNBC’s The Grio and Yale School of Medicine

11:30 – 11:45am BREAK

11:45am – 1:00pm
PANEL 6
AFTER INMATES GO HOME—AND MOST OF THEM DO

Alethea Simon, Greenhope Services for Women
Mercedes Smith, Women on the Rise Telling Her Story
Emily Wang, MD, Yale School of Medicine and Transitions Clinic Network

Moderator: Curtis Stephen, freelance journalist and Long Island University Department of Journalism

1:00 – 2:00pm
FELLOWS LUNCH

2:00 – 3:30pm
PANEL 7
CARE FOR AGING, ADDICTED, CHRONICALLY AND MENTALLY ILL INMATES AND DETAINNEES

Kathleen Maurer, MD, Connecticut Department of Corrections
Judge Robert Russell, Drug Treatment, Mental Health and Veterans Courts of Buffalo, NY; acting Judge of Erie County Court
Risdon Slate, board member, National Alliance on Mental Illness

Moderator: Martin Horn, distinguished lecturer, John Jay College of Criminal Justice

3:30pm – 3:45 BREAK

3:45 – 5:15pm
WHAT’S NEXT: THE POLITICAL LANDSCAPE OF CORRECTIONAL CARE

Senator Joseph Vitale, chair, New Jersey State Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee
Therese Brumfield, VP of provider services, Corizon Correctional Healthcare
Tom Sullivan, health services director, Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services
Steve Rosenberg, COCHS

Moderator: Stephen Handelman, CMCJ

5:15 – 6:00pm
STORY DISCUSSION FOR FELLOWS

CLOSE
Daffodil Altan, **Center for Investigative Reporting**

Daffodil Altan is a bilingual video producer at The Center for Investigative Reporting in California. A print and multimedia journalist, her work focuses on immigration, Latino and youth culture, criminal justice, and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender issues. Her work has appeared in Mother Jones, The Los Angeles Times, The San Francisco Chronicle, Latina Magazine and OC Weekly (where she was a staff writer). She has produced video for Frontline World, Telemundo and New America Media, in addition to her independent film work. Daffodil has received awards from the Los Angeles Press Club, The Society of Professional Journalists and the Imagen Foundation. She received a master's degree in journalism from U.C. Berkeley.

Anna Maria Barry-Jester, **Univisión**

Anna Maria Barry-Jester is a producer and reporter for Univisión, covering health and social policy issues. She has appeared in many national publications, including Mother Jones, The Los Angeles Times, The Detroit News, The New York Times, the San Francisco Chronicle, and CNN.com. She has won many awards, including the Sidney Award from the Sidney Hillman Foundation. She received her BA from NYU and a Sidney Award from the Sidney Hillman Foundation. She currently resides in New York City.

Trey Bundy, **Center for Investigative Reporting**

Trey Bundy covers vulnerable populations for The Center for Investigative Reporting in California—specializing in stories about youth, criminal justice, social services and mental health. Before becoming a reporter he worked for 10 years with children from backgrounds of trauma. In 2013, Bundy was awarded the national William Randolph Hearst Foundation award for Article of the Year. Before joining CPR he covered culture for the San Francisco Chronicle and youth for The Bay Citizen, where he regularly contributed to The New York Times. His work has also appeared in SF Weekly, KQED.org, NBC Bay Area, Huffington Post, TheAtlantic.com and other outlets.

Megan Cassidy, **Casper Star-Tribune**

Megan Cassidy is the crime and courts reporter at the Casper Star-Tribune, the statewide newspaper where she comes from. She recently graduated from the journalism master’s program at the University of Missouri, and has been at the Star-Tribune for just over a year. Earlier, Cassidy worked as an intern reporter at an English-language newspaper in Buenos Aires.

Terry Collins, **Associated Press**

Terry Collins is a reporter for the Associated Press, who has covered the social justice graduate. His first book, “Mayhem” across the San Francisco Bay Area—Northern California region. He has written about the nationwide effort by top law enforcement officials to thwart the billion-dollar epidemic of smartphone thefts; the ongoing saga of the Oakland Police Department to avoid a federal takeover; Occupy Oakland and the unprecedented near-ouster of the San Francisco Board of Education by his fellow city leaders. Collins has previously worked at the Minneapolis Star-Tribune, where he wrote a critically-acclaimed series on the aftermath of the deadly shootings at Red Lake High School. He was also a member of a team that won numerous national awards for “Borrowing Trouble,” a series that focused on the rise of payday lenders in Minnesota. Terry was also a reporter at the Kansas City Star. In 2012, Collins took the section as a judge for the National Headliner Awards.

Pedro Frisneda, **El Diario/La Prensa**

Pedro F. Frisneda is the Health Editor of El Diario/La Prensa—the nation’s oldest Spanish language newspaper and the largest in New York City for 100 years. Born and raised in Caracas, Venezuela, where he obtained his bachelor degree in Journalism in 1994, he began his career as a News-Producer for Telven Channel 10, the third-largest television station in his native country. After he moved to the U.S. and associate director for El Diario Latinoamericano USA, he developed, researched and wrote front-page stories and in-depth special investigations on diverse topics, published Daffodil Altan in the Spanish community in New York City. The 18-year reporting veteran also worked as New York Correspondent for Tiempos Del Mundo, a weekly Spanish language newspaper published in Latin American countries and the cities of Washington DC, New York and Miami. Awards include: four Gold Awards from the National Association of Hispanic Publics, for his other long articles published in the Health Section of El Diario/La Prensa. He is a member of the Association of Health Care Journalists and currently resides in New York City.

Gilman Halsted, **Wisconsin Public Radio**

Gilman Halsted, the Criminal Justice reporter for WPR in Madison, WI, covers the courts and the prison system, as well as general assignment stories. Before entering journalism, he spent 10 years as a social worker and then English teacher in Bangladesh, Washington DC, India and Wisconsin. He has produced spot stories and features for NPR’s Morning Edition and NJ Things Considered. He has also contributed pieces to the following public radio news magazines: Justice Talking, Independent Native News, The World and Voice of America. He has a bachelor degree from the School for International Training in Vermont, and a Masters in Teaching English as a Second Language from the Monterey Institute of International Studies in California. He has been honored by the Associated Press-Wisconsin, the Milwaukee Press Club and the Wisconsin Broadcasters Association. He also won the regional Edward R. Murrow award from the Radio and Television News Directors Association for coverage of the Perrier conflict.

Nora Hertel, **Wisconsin Center for Investigative Journalism**

Nora G. Hertel joined the Center as an intern in summer 2013, after completing her master’s degree from the UW-Madison School of Journalism and Mass Communication. She served as the assistant editor for MadisonCommons.org and published works with Isthmus as both an intern and freelancer. She served as the managing editor for Wisconsin Public Integrity, and currently resides in New York City for 100 years. Born and raised in Caracas, Venezuela, where he obtained his bachelor degree in Journalism in 1994, he began his career as a News-Producer for Telven Channel 10, the third-largest television station in his native country. After he moved to the U.S. and associate director for El Diario Latinoamericano USA, he developed, researched and wrote front-page stories and in-depth special investigations on diverse topics, published Daffodil Altan in the Spanish community in New York City. The 18-year reporting veteran also worked as New York Correspondent for Tiempos Del Mundo, a weekly Spanish language newspaper published in Latin American countries and the cities of Washington DC, New York and Miami. Awards include: four Gold Awards from the National Association of Hispanic Publics, for his other long articles published in the Health Section of El Diario/La Prensa. He is a member of the Association of Health Care Journalists and currently resides in New York City.

Victoria Law, **Truthout.com**

Victoria Law frequently covers criminal justice issues, including incarceration rates and women’s health care. Her first book, Resistance Behind Bars: The Struggles of Incarcerated Women, explores resistance and organizing among women imprisoned in the United States. She devoted an entire chapter to prison medical treatment and women’s actions to challenge inadequate care. Her book won the 2009 PASS (Prevention for a Safer Society) Award; a second edition was released in 2012. Law worked with WORTH (Women on the Rise Telling Her Story) to launch their Birthing Behind Bars campaign, which utilizes women’s stories of pregnancy behind bars to push for changes in prison reproductive health policies.

Simon McCormack, **The Huffington Post**

Simon McCormack works for The Huffington Post in Denver and was an intern in Boston. He started as a full-time employee at the Post, where he worked on the Trends desk, which files stories for multiple verticals across the site. McCormack has worked to bring more issue of prisoner rights to the forefront of HuffPost’s crime coverage and to shine a light on a population that is often too easily ignored. He has been a professional journalist for six years and is originally from Albuquerque.

Patricia Murphy, **KUOW**

Patricia Murphy is an award-winning reporter at KUOW Public Radio in Seattle, where she focuses on military issues, veterans issues and criminal justice. Murphy’s most recent series, “Less than Honorable,” investigated how the military handles more than 3,000 sexual assault cases a year. The series was praised by The Seattle Times, “The Weight of War,” looked at heavy loads carried by troops and the increase in chronic orthopedic injuries as a result; the series won the National Award for Excellence in Health Care Journalism from the Association of Healthcare Journalists. She also received a national Edward R. Murrow Award for a bachelor’s degree from Lawrence University, and an M.A. from the University of Wisconsin, Madison School of Journalism and Mass Communication.

Lori Kersey, **Charleston Gazette**

Lori Kersey has been covering health for West Virginia’s largest newspaper, the Charleston Gazette, since September 2011. The West Virginia Press Association gave Kersey and her coworkers the 2013 best written news story award for coverage of a gas explosion in Sissonville, West Virginia that destroyed five houses. Born and raised in the Charleston area, Kersey attended Marshall University in Huntington, W.Va. and earned a master’s degree in communication at Morehead State University. Prior to the Gazette, she worked for a community newspaper in Ohio and another in Kentucky.

Fellow Biographies
documentary on IV drug use. In 2012, Murphy was inducted into the Dart Society, a network of journalists who cover trauma, conflict and social injustice. In a brief document accidentally sent to her by an Army public affairs officer, she was described as “a professional, no-nonsense reporter who comes to the table fully prepared,” though her colleagues at KUOW might also describe her as the station cut-up. She holds a BA from Emerson College in Boston.

Lekan Oguntoyinbo, The Crisis (Freelance)
Lekan Oguntoyinbo is a national award-winning independent journalist with a passion for writing about broad policy issues and their impact on average citizens. In his 25-year career as a reporter, he has written extensively about government, politics, law enforcement, courts, the criminal justice system, minority issues and the changing face of America. More recently, he has written about the impact of the Affordable Care Act on farmers and labor unions as well as on an array of professions in the healthcare industry, including dental assistants, pharmacy techs and social workers. Lekan’s work has appeared in numerous regional and national publications, such as Business Week, Sports Illustrated, The Washingtonian, The New York Times, USA Today, USA Today Traveler magazine. He is currently a contributing reporter for several news outlets, including healthcallings.com, dice.com and Farm Futures magazine.

Deanna Pan, Northwest Inlander (Spokane, WA)
Deanna Pan is a news reporter for the Pacific Northwest Inlander, an alt week in Spokane, where she covers social services and state politics. During her tenure at the Inlander, she’s written two cover stories, including one on Washington’s broken system for civilly committing violent sex offenders. Previously, Pan was a fellow, where she was one of three reporters responsible for producing the magazine’s widely-cited in-depth investigation into mass shootings across the country. The probe also examined mental health and mental health history of more than 60 mass shooters and won a Sigma Delta Chi Award from the Society of Professional Journalists. Before graduating from Ohio State University in 2012, she interned at the Columbia Dispatch. Her narrative story for the Dispatch about a teenager who died from a prescription-drug overdose won a first place Ohio APME award for enterprise reporting.

Louise Radnofsky, Wall Street Journal
Louise Radnofsky is the health policy reporter for the Wall Street Journal’s national news bureau in Washington, D.C. She has covered the beat since October 2011, reporting on implementation of the federal health-care law, the Medicare and Medicaid programs, and abortion policy, and was part of the Journal’s prize-winning team covering the Supreme Court decision on the constitutionality of the Affordable Care Act. She joined the Journal in March 2008, and previously covered the economic stimulus package and major healthcare operations, including the growth of federal criminal law. She was a National Press Foundation Paul Miller Washington Reporting Fellow in 2009-2010, and a fellow at the 2010 Loyola was described Law School. Radnofsky was born in Memphis, Tenn. but grew up in London. She has history degrees from University College, Oxford and a Master’s from Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism.

Janick Rice Lamb, Freelance health and social issues journalist, Howard University
Janick Rice Lamb currently writes for, among others, MSNBC’s The Grio and the Afro-American Newspapers, where she is developing a series on incarceration. She was an editor at The New York Times before joining the company’s magazine division as a senior editor for health and education at ChiLife. She went on to become editor-at-large at Essence, founding editor of BET Weekend magazine and editor-in-chief of Heart & Soul, a national health and fitness magazine. A 2011 fellow of the Association of Health Care Journalists, she is interim assistant chair of Howard University’s Department of Media, Journalism and Film. She is writing a series on incarceration for the Afro-American Newspapers. Her book projects include Born to Win: The Authorized Biography of Althea Gibson and Health & Healing for African Americans.

Eric Whitney, Colorado Public Radio/NPR (Freelance)
Eric Whitney has 20 years of public radio reporting experience, the last five as a full-time health reporter focused on health policy for Colorado Public Radio. Earlier this year, he gave up his staff job to report more for NPR and Kaiser Health News (KHN), as an NPR/KHN Health Care in the States fellow. A fellowship from the Annenberg Foundation is providing additional support for reporting in Florida and Michigan later this year. A residential fellowship at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in 2000 cemented Whitney’s interest in health reporting. A reporting trip to Africa in 2001, and a year spent freelancing from Cape Town, South Africa in 2004. Whitney has worked for several public radio stations in Colorado, a regional radio service based in Montgomery, and has contributed to the Denver Post and High Country News.

Jacque Wilson, CNN.com
Jacque Wilson is a health writer and producer at CNN.com. As a multimedia journalist for the site, she analyzes new scientific studies, covers breaking news and produces in-depth feature stories on people who represent the latest health trends. She also runs the CNN Health Twitter feed, @CNNHealth. While she particularly loves to write about diet and fitness, she is always interested in learning more outside of her areas of expertise.

Elijah Wolfson, Medical Daily
As Editorial Director of Medical Daily, Elijah Wolfson is responsible for supervising the development and execution of original content creation on the site. He is passionate about exposing issues of health inequality both domestically and globally, and has written on subjects ranging from the heritability of IQ and the poverty-diabetes connection to the global impact of polio eradication. He is a New Jersey native who switched coasts to attend the University of California, Berkeley, from which he graduated with a BA in Rhetoric and Creative Writing. Before joining New York-based Medical Daily in 2012, Elijah was Editorial Director of Healthline.com, where he managed the site’s content strategy and execution. Wolfson is also an award-winning screenwriter and filmmaker, and is currently a contributor to Huffington Post’s health section.

Therese Brumfield is vice president of provider operations at the Nashville, TN-based Corizon Correctional Healthcare, where she negotiates and oversees all the company’s contracts to deliver correctional medical services. Before assuming her current post, she was Corizon’s director of provider operations, and her duties included implementing, executing and monitoring performance standards. She has more than 20 years of experience in the health care field. Brumfield earned a BS from Aquinas College and an MBA from the University of Phoenix.

Tyeese Gaines, DO, is health editor for MSNBC’s The Grio. She practices emergency medicine at several community hospitals in New Jersey and is a clinical professor of emergency medicine at Yale School of Medicine. She has appeared as a medical expert on MSNBC and WNBC and written for Boston Magazine and NBCG in Miami. Dr. Gaines earned a BS in African-American studies and an MA in journalism from Northeastern University. She earned her DO at Nova Southeastern University College of Osteopathic Medicine. She completed her medical residency at Yale-New Haven Hospital, where she was chief resident. She is a member of the Association of Health Care Journalists and National Association of Black Journalists, and on the American Medical Association’s Minority Affairs Section governing council.

Tracie Gardner is New York state policy director for the Legal Action Center, where she leads lobbying, community organizing and budget and legislative advocacy regarding criminal justice, HIV/AIDS and addiction. Recently, her work has focused on Medicaid enrollment and health care access for those involved with the criminal justice system. Gardner also consults nationally on the aforementioned topics. The founder and coordinator of the Women’s Initiative to Stop HIV, Gardner also has been a staffer at the Gay Men’s Health Crisis, Federation of Protestant Agencies and Funders Concerned about AIDS. She earned a BA from Mount Holyoke College.

Elizabeth Glazer is the New York State Office of Criminal Justice Service’s former deputy secretary for public safety, and previously chaired the New York State Juvenile Justice Advisory Group. Her prior federal and municipal posts include serving as chief of the US Attorney’s Office for the Southern District of New York’s organized crime, violent gangs and crime control strategies sections. As New York City’s Department of Investigation’s first deputy commissioner; and as the Westchester County (NY) District Attorney Office’s first deputy district attorney. Glazer also has been special counsel in the New York State Attorney General’s Office. Early in her career, she was New York City’s Department of Juvenile Justice’s director of management information services. Glazer earned a BA from Harvard University and a JD from Columbia Law School.

dailyRX, and others. Gray is a member of the American Society of Journalists and Authors, the Association of Health Care Journalists and the National Association of Black Journalists. She teaches in Hunter College’s Department of Film and Media Studies and is a former student of the University of Arkansas’s Urban Journalism Workshop, and previously was an adjunct professor at Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism. She was on a team of Newsday staffers who won a 1997 Pulitzer Prize.


Martin Horn is a distinguished lecturer in corrections at John Jay College. He also serves as executive director of the New York State Sentencing Commission, and managing director of KeyPoint Government Solutions, which performs investigations and risk mitigations for organizations including the federal Department of Homeland Security and U.S. Customs and Border Protections. Previously, he served as Department of Corrections commissioner for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, executive director of the New York State Division of Parole, and director of the New York State Department of Correctional Services. Horn serves include commissioner of the New York City Department of Correction and New York City Department of Probation. He began his career as a New York State parole officer, and earned an MA in criminal justice from John Jay.

Curtis Lowery, MD, is chairman of the University of Arkansas Medical Sciences department of obstetrics and gynecology, and founder of the university’s Department of Distance Health. Considered a pioneer in telemedicine for prisons and other entities, he received the AT&T Center for Telehealth Research & Policy’s Hugo Gernsback Award for Clinical Innovation. The Harvard University Ash Institute of Government and the Rural telecommunications Conference cited Lowery for his development of ANGELS (Antenatal & Neonatal Guidelines, Education and Learning System), a Medicaid-funded effort providing specialized infant and maternal care for patients including incarcerated women. Dr. Lowery helped create the framework through which Arkansas health insurers handle telemedicine, which has increased Medicaid reimbursement. As a National Institutes of Health-funded researcher, Dr. Lowery earned his MD from the University of Alabama and a BS from Alabama’s University of Montevallo.

Kathleen Maurer, MD, is the Connecticut Department of Correction’s director of health services and its medical director. Before assuming her current post in 2011, she was assistant medical director at Correctional Managed Health Care, a division of the University of Connecticut Health Center, which contracts with, among others, the state corrections department. During her career, Dr. Maurer was one of the first chief medical and program management in the private sector. In the realm of correctional care, she is particularly interested in the quality of patient care and in facilitating re-entry programs through community-based care and in correctional healthcare. Dr. Maurer earned her MD from Yale School of Medicine. Also, at Yale, she earned an MPH. She holds an MBA from the University of Connecticut and is board-certified in internal, occupational and environmental medicine.

Julio Medina is founder and president of New York City’s Exodus Transitional Community which has helped more than 5,000 formerly imprisoned men and women with their return to mainstream society. Medina’s experience as a former inmate has informed his subsequent career as developer and president of the Exodus, an inter-faith non-profit organization and an instructor in Sing Sing Correctional Facility’s master of professional studies program. Medina has been interviewed by, among others, C-Span, The Christian Science Monitor, CNN, MSNBC, The New York Times, New York Daily News and Newsday. Exodus was the subject of a PBS documentary, “The Hard Road Home.” He was former First Lady Barbara Bush’s guest on her show “Chances” and guest of the Union State of the Union and then President George W. Bush for his signing of the federal Second Chance Act. Medina earned a BA from the State University of New York at Albany and an MDiv from Union Theological Seminary (NY). He is studying for a doctorate in ministry.

Tim Murray is executive director of the Washington, DC-based Pre-trial Justice Institute and co-director of the joint American Bar Association-International Criminal Justice Institute. Murray supports the criminal justice reform efforts of various jurisdictions. Previously during his more than four decades as a criminal justice practitioner, Murray was lead developer of the Miami-Dade County (FL) Drug Court, the nation’s first such entity, and the first director of the US Department of Justice Drug Court Program Office. Murray has been the US Bureau of Justice Assistance’s director of policy and planning and its director of program development. He was on the start-up team for the US Department of Homeland Security’s Trauma and Mental Health Program. Murray is a lifetime member of the National Association of Pretrial Services Agencies and winner of its highest honor, the Ennis J. Oligiati Award.

Ivan Oransky, MD, vice president and global editorial director of Medpage Today, is a professor at New York University’s Science, Health and Environmental Reporting Program, an adjunct professor at Hunter College and a defunct Praxis Post. Dr. Oransky has written for publications including The Boston Globe, the Lancet, The New Republic and Slate; and was co-author of the Common Symptom Answer Guide. He is a former staff writer and editor of The New Republic and co-edited How They Got Away With It: Lessons from the Financial Meltdown.” He earned a n MPA from Harvard’s John F. Kennedy School of Government and a BA from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He is a member of the Young Professionals Board of The College of New Rochelle.

Judge Robert Russell is a Buffalo (NY) City Court associate judge and acting judge of the Erie County Court. Russell is presiding judge of Buffalo’s Drug Treatment Court, which he founded in 1995; it was the Mental Health Court, which he created in 2002; and the nation’s first Veterans Treatment Court, which Russell founded in 2008. Russell also serves on the National Advisory Board of the New York State Judge’s Ment Health Leadership Initiative. Russell is a past chairman of National Association of Drug Court Professionals’ board of directors and a past president of the New York State Association of Drug Court Administrators. He has been honored by the American Bar Association, New York State Bar Association, Erie County Bar Association, National Vietnam Veterans of America and National Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. Russell cares at a Bible study for a group of ex-offenders, and has been a leader of the Manhattan Recovery Community Coalition.

Alethea Simon is vice president of programs and policy at New York City’s Greenhouse Services for Women, a residential, employment and outpatient treatment services program in Harlem, NY for the formerly incarcerated and their children. Simon earned her BA from the State University of New York at Albany where she serves as a liaison to the New York City Alternative to Incarceration Coalition. Also, she sits on the executive committee of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo’s work for parole and employment initiative for the formerly incarcerated and co-chairs the Manhattan Recovery Community Coalition. Simon earned a doctorate in rehabilitation counseling from Southern Illinois University of Carbondale and a MA in vocational rehabilitation counseling from New York University. A certified rehabilitation counselor (CRC), she also has been an adjunct professor at NYU, Nyack College and The College of New Rochelle.
Risdon Slate chairs the Department of Sociology and Criminology at Florida Southern College and was a gubernatorial appointee to Florida’s Mental Health and Substance Abuse Commission. He has testified before the Florida Senate Senate Task Force on Public Safety and before the House of Representatives Judiciary Subcommittee about mental illness’ impact on the criminal justice system and his own personal experiences with bipolar disorder. Previously, he was a probation officer, a federal law enforcement agent, and an assistant to the warden at a medium to maximum, death row prison in Columbia, SC. Among other books, Slate authored Criminalization of Mental Illness: Crisis and Opportunity for the Justice System. His research interests include the interface of the mental health and justice systems and the stresses experienced by criminal justice practitioners. He is on the National Alliance for the Mentally Illness board of directors. Slate received his PhD in criminal justice from the Claremont (CA) Graduate School, a MJC from the University of South Carolina and a BS in criminal justice from the University of North Carolina.

Mercedes Smith is an outreach/policy specialist at Women on the Rise Telling Her Story, a New York City-based advocacy and consultancy for women affected by incarceration. While at Bedford Hills Correctional Facility in upstate New York, she was inmate coordinator of the Teen/Pre-Teen Overnight Program, led parenting workshops, obtained her HIV peer education, a counseling certificate, was named president of the Inmate Liaison Committee and earned a veteranarian assistant certificate while also training guide dogs. Currently a human services/ social work student at Mercy College, she is continuing an education begun at Bedford Hills, where she completed courses offered by Mercy College. Smith is certified as an anger management specialist and mentors other formerly incarcerated women. Smith also produced the documentary, “Removing the Stigma of Incarceration with Think Outside the Cell.”

Amy L. Solomon, is senior advisor to the Assistant General at the federal Department of Justice’s Office of Justice Programs. Solomon established and chairs the Federal Interagency Reentry Council staff working group, thereby forming the new director-level Reentry Council, an entity representing 20 federal agencies, and has spearheaded policy and streamlined coordination in areas including public safety, public housing, employment, education, veterans’ issues and access to treatment, health and benefits. She also represents the Department of Justice in interagency efforts focused on urban policy, neighborhood revitalization, and place-based strategies. Before joining the Justice Department in 2010, Solomon, among other positions, spent a decade directing policy-oriented projects related to prisoner reentry and public safety at the Urban Institute’s Justice Policy Center. She received the 2011 Attorney General’s Award for Exceptional Leadership to the Cabinet-Level Reentry Council and holds a Masters in Public Policy from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government.

Curtis Stephen is an assistant journalism professor at Long Island University's Brooklyn campus, his alma mater. A former media fellow of George Soros' Open Society Institute, Stephen produced coverage of criminal law articles on wrongful convictions. His work also has appeared in national and regional publications, including Newsweek, Newsday, City Limits, and AM New York. Stephen has worked for CNN, the Chicago Sun-Times, alternately based in Atlanta and India, and where he also wrote for The Times of India. He was a field producer for ABC News and New York City’s WNBC-TV. Since 2006, he has served on the judging panel for National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences Emmy Awards.

Donna Strugar-Fritsch, is a principal at Health Management Associates, where she is practice leader for correctional care, adult prisons, jails, policy-makers, and correctional health vendors in correctional medical services operations, best practices and emerging trends. Strugar-Fritsch has led analyses of all aspects of health care for the Department of Corrections. While at Bedford Hills Correctional Facility in upstate New York, she was inmate coordinator of the Teen/Pre-Teen Overnight Program, led parenting workshops, obtained her HIV peer education, a counseling certificate, was named president of the Inmate Liaison Committee and earned a veterinarian assistant certificate while also training guide dogs. Currently a human services/ social work student at Mercy College, she is continuing an education begun at Bedford Hills, where she completed courses offered by Mercy College. Smith is certified as an anger management specialist and mentors other formerly incarcerated women. Smith also produced the documentary, “Removing the Stigma of Incarceration with Think Outside the Cell.”

The Crime Report
LANGELOTH FOUNDATION
The Langeloth Foundation’s grant-making program is centered on the concepts of health and well-being. The Foundation’s purpose is to promote and support effective and creative programs, practices and policies related to healing from illness, accident, physical, social or emotional trauma, and to extend the availability of programs that promote healing to underserved populations.

PUBLIC WELFARE FOUNDATION
The Public Welfare Foundation supports efforts to ensure fundamental rights and opportunities for people in need. We look for carefully defined points where our funds can make a difference in bringing about systemic changes that can improve the lives of countless people. PWF focuses their grantmaking on three areas, criminal justice, juvenile justice, and workers rights, where they believe the Foundation’s grantmaking can serve as a catalyst for reforms that can make dramatic differences in the lives of countless Americans.

ABOUT JOHN JAY COLLEGE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE
An international leader in educating for justice, John Jay College of Criminal Justice of The City University of New York offers a rich liberal arts and professional studies curriculum to upwards of 14,000 undergraduate and graduate students from more than 135 nations. In teaching, scholarship and research, the College approaches justice as an applied art and science in service to society and as an ongoing conversation about fundamental human desires for fairness, equality and the rule of law. For more information, visit www.jjay.cuny.edu