



AGENDA

Juvenile Justice Policy and Oversight Committee

March 21, 2024

2:00-3:30 PM

LOB- 300 Capitol Ave Hartford, Room 2C

Virtual Option Available

Welcome and Introductions

Rep. Toni Walker/Undersec. Daniel Karpowitz

Overview of Meeting

Erika Nowakowski, University of New Haven
Tow Youth Justice Institute

Department of Social Services; Medicaid
Waiver Presentation

William Halsey, Deputy Director of Medicaid
and Division Health Services, DSS;
Alexis Mohammed, Integrated Care Unit, DSS

Community Youth Gun Violence Panel
Discussion

Moderator: Ray Boyd

Dr. Chico Tillmon, Director, CVI Leadership
Academy

Edward Calderon, Case Manager, RYASAP

Jackie Santiago Nazario, CEO, COMPASS

Leonard Jahad, Executive Director, CTVIP

Next Meeting: April 18th



SCAN TO SUBMIT YOUR ATTENDANCE

Chico Tillmon



Chico Tillmon, PhD, is the Director of the Community Violence Intervention (CVI) Leadership Academy. The CVI Leadership Academy will be the first CVI training program designed to elevate the leadership capacity of leaders who oversee community-based organizations, offices of violence prevention, hospital violence intervention, and other components of the CVI ecosystem working tirelessly to quell violence in vulnerable communities. Chico joined the

Crime Lab after working at Heartland Alliance as the Executive Director of READI National Center for Safer Communities, a national technical assistance provider that provides capacity building and training for cities and communities throughout the United States. The READI model utilizes employment combined with cognitive behavioral therapy, skill-building, and other support to those at the highest risk of becoming involved in gun violence. Tillmon is also a violence-prevention expert who serves on the leadership team of the Black and Brown Peace Consortium, the collaborative that led the Fund Peace initiative. The former executive director of the YMCA of Metro Chicago's Youth Safety and Violence Prevention programs, he is a leading national consultant and training and technical assistance provider on violence prevention, reentry, and non-profits.

System impacted, Dr. Tillmon came home with the purpose of trying to change his community in a positive way. He works with youth, young adults, and direct service providers in marginalized areas to help them hone their professional skills and improve their work performance, and has worked over a decade in violence prevention, mental health, and re-entry. He was recognized as the 2022 Alumnus of the year by the University of Illinois at Chicago Criminology, Law, and Justice department. In 2021, Dr. Tillmon was recognized by President Biden for his national violence prevention work and invited to the White House. Also, he is also the recipient of the 2018 Congressional Veterans Braintrust Award and the 2017 Ford Men of Courage Award for his work in Chicago's most vulnerable communities. He was named the Practitioner of the Year in 2016 by the University of Illinois at Chicago Criminology, Law, and Justice Department.

Leonard Jahad



Leonard Jahad is a lifelong resident of the Greater New Haven area. A veteran of more than 24 years of law enforcement including stints in Connecticut Department of Corrections and Community Corrections before retiring as Chief Probation Officer for the New Haven Adult Probation Office. During his tenure at New Haven Adult Probation, he specialized in supervising Youthful Offenders as well as Violent Offenders.

Jahad is currently employed as The Executive Director of the Connecticut Violence Intervention Program (CTVIP), where his team oversees and mentor youth engaged in risky activity as well as the violent re-entry population in the New Haven and Hamden communities. He also works within the New Haven Public School System as an Intervention Specialist, utilizing restorative practices and mediation techniques to restore relationships among students, staff and parents. Jahad is a strong advocate for mentoring as he served as President of the New Haven My Brother's Keeper Mentoring Program and is currently the Vice President of the New Haven Steelers of the Pop Warner Football Association.

Besides being the proud dad of 2 biological daughters, Naima and Nandi, Jahad has also been a foster parent to 12 young men and women. When not working, Jahad enjoys volunteering with the Prince Hall Shriners and Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. He also serves on many non-profit Boards including past officer for the Elm City Freddy Fixer Parade, New Haven Boys and Girls Club and Connecticut Voices for Children. He also serves on the statewide Commission on Racial Equity in Public Health and the Commission on Community Violence Intervention and Prevention. Personally, he enjoys working on his antique muscle car collection, spending time with family and Bikram Yoga.

Ray Boyd



Cofounder of Next Level Empowerment Program & Program Manager for New Visions for Public Safety at the Law and Racial Justice Center



In November 2021, Ray was released from the Connecticut Department of Correction. He was incarcerated at the age of 19 and served 30 years. During his incarceration, in 2015, Ray cofounded the Skills of Socialization (S.O.S.) program at the Osborn Correctional Institute, and in 2018 he cofounded the T.R.U.E. Reentry program at the Cheshire Correctional Institute. The innovative program was the subject of segment aired on 60 Minutes. In April of 2022, Ray was a presenter of Restorative Justice Practices at the National Association of Community and Restorative Justice (NACRJ) in Chicago, Illinois.

Since his release, Ray has worked at Lewis Real Estate Services and Yale New Haven Health. He currently volunteers his time as a Board Member of CT Stop Solitary Confinement and advocates for second chances for offenders. Ray also volunteers his time with the United States Department of Justice as a speaker with FED Up, Project Safe Neighborhood, and Project

Longevity. Ray also lends his lived experience to Odyssey Impact as an Expert Contributor to the Documentary “Second Shot” by Andrew Michael Ellis. The film is part of a National Campaign to bring awareness to social injustices here in America and abroad.

Ray is the Author of “The Model Inmate” which explores his time of incarceration. Writing a book has afforded Ray the opportunity to travel around the country to speak with at-risk youth and others. In 2022, Ray was invited by the city of Miami to take part in an Authors, Arts & Jazz Festival in the Historic Coconut Grove section of Miami Florida. In February of 2023, he was invited down to the nation's capital, Washington, D.C., to speak with youth at H.D. Woodson High School during Black History Month.

Ray is embarking on his new journey as the Program Manager at the Law & Racial Justice Center. Ray looks to share his lived experience with all so that it may benefit the lives of others.

Ray is married to the love of his life Jacqueline James-Boyd. Together, they are the co-founders of Next Level Empowerment Program in New Haven, CT. where they advocate to create a supportive community for returning citizens and their families through direct engagement and holistic social support. Ray is the father of Ray, Jr & daughter, Chloe.



Jacquelyn Santiago - Nazario



For close to 30 years, Jacquelyn Santiago Nazario has been an advocate for underserved youth in her community.

In 2019, upon becoming CEO, Jackie led COMPASS through a Theory of Change that focused the agency's mission on interrupting violence in the City of Hartford by building transformative relationships with youth living in the center of the violence.

Since then, Jackie has built a high-performance team to meet the needs of Hartford's highest-risk youth. She supports the team by ensuring they have the resources needed to deliver impactful programming. Jackie has secured over \$12 million in new funding for COMPASS in her five years as CEO.

Working with systems that affect our youth, Jackie advocates for positive change in education and juvenile justice. Jackie communicates with stakeholders, government entities, and the public on behalf of COMPASS. Jackie is a leader in the violence interruption community, serving on Governor Lamont's Commission on Community Gun Violence Intervention and Prevention and The Governor's Workforce Council. She is a Human Relations Commissioner for the City of Hartford and co-chaired Hartford Mayor Arunun Arulampalam's Quality of Life and Public Safety Transition Committee.

A sought-after speaker, Jackie has presented to the Tow Foundation-New Haven University Justice Initiative, the Connecticut Juvenile Justice Policy and Oversight Committee, and Everytown for Gun Safety. Jackie is a native of Lawrence, MA; she received her Bachelor's degree in Sociology from Trinity College and her Master's degree from Quinnipiac University's School of Business.

Growing up, Jackie faced many of the same obstacles as the young people who inspire her today. An excellent student in public school, Jackie received a scholarship to attend a prep school where she struggled to maintain decent grades. "I failed. It was then that I realized the schools in Lawrence hadn't prepared me well academically." Jackie decided that if she were lucky enough to attend college, she would do something to help children, their families, and schools. Pingree School prepared her for her career at Trinity College; Jackie wants to ensure others have the same opportunity.

Edward Calderon



Ed has been a community activist for 19 years and has worked for StreetSafe for 15 years supporting the team in various capacities but currently as a Case Manager.

Ed's mission is to assist at-risk youth to identify the negative cultural influences and the behaviors that result from those influences. He is currently in the process of completing a workbook for at risk youth called UCAN: Urban Cultural Awareness Narratives. The curriculum is based on narratives, scenarios, and topics that are discussed during StreetSafe group sessions.