



Biographies of Speakers Regional Conference—Monday, June 5, 2006

Curtis Carro

Student, Florida State University

Curtis Carro is a senior studying at Florida State University where he is the student leader of a campus ministry. While in middle school in Pinellas County, FL, Curtis started on what was to be the Community Youth Mapping (CYM) Project in 1998. CYM, canvassing the county for youth resources, had its first implementation with Pinellas County 4-H Youth Development during Curtis' high school days. Curtis' Junior and Senior years of high school were spent using the data to create community change and provide information to community. His involvement has led to being an advisory board member to local county commissioners, as a surveyor, a youth mentor, a presenter, and a grant-writer.

Sonia Chessen

Executive Director, National Board for Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education

Sonia Chessen is the Executive Director of the National Board for Education Sciences, which oversees the Institute of Education Science at the U.S. Department of Education. Previously, Ms. Chessen was the Chief of Staff for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE) and was a senior advisor on both policy and administrative matters at the Department of Education. She started her tenure in ASPE as a Senior Policy Analyst in the Children and Youth Policy Division where she specialized in youth issues such as teen pregnancy and violence prevention, as well as positive youth development. Prior to joining the federal government, Ms. Chessen was the Associate Director of the National Funding Collaborative on Violence Prevention (NFCVP), a consortium of 15 foundations supporting community-based violence prevention initiatives. Ms. Chessen began her career as a social worker managing youth service programs in the Cabrini-Green housing development in Chicago, IL. Ms. Chessen has an AM in Social Service Administration from the University of Chicago and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Wellesley College.

Michelle D. Duhart

Community Partnership Trainer

Michelle D. Duhart has over twenty one years experience in the health and human services field where she has utilized her social work degree working with various entities and agencies in the fields of prevention, treatment, juvenile justice, law enforcement and community development. She currently provides comprehensive strategic consultation, training and technical assistance on a prevention planning system to reduce problem behaviors and increase the healthy development of youth. She has targeted specific technical assistance to communities in the areas of: juvenile delinquency, gang violence, board development, grant preparation and writing, conflict resolution, leadership development, peer mentoring, balanced and restorative justice strategies, volunteer recruitment, retention and development.

Jonathan Cloud

Co-founder, JVD Consulting Group, LLC

Jonathan Cloud has over twenty years experience in direct service and administrative social service positions. This includes work in the disciplines of youth outreach, mental health, community organizing, child protective services, foster care reform, juvenile justice, and intergovernmental reform. Over the course of these enterprises, he developed expertise in the area of community-youth strategy planning and implementation, covering the areas of: community mobilization, delinquency assessment, program design and development, coalition-building, and systems change through targeted project planning and execution. Jonathan is co-founder of the JVD Consulting Group, LLC through which he engages in a number of high-intensity efforts to improve the work of school-community partnerships in addressing juvenile crime and violence. Jonathan has earned a bachelor's in Religion and Psychology, and has completed over thirty hours of graduate studies in Public Administration and Social Work.



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Keri-Lyn Coleman

Policy Analyst, White House Office of National Drug Control Policy

Keri-Lyn Coleman is a Policy Analyst with the Office of the Deputy Director, Office of National Drug Control Policy. Keri-Lyn serves on the Executive Committee for the Helping America's Youth Initiative. She has nearly ten years of experience at the local and Federal level working with community coalitions, alcohol and drug prevention programs, and youth and family services. She served for two years as the Acting Administrator of the Drug-Free Communities (DFC) Program, a Federal grant program that provides funds to communities to build anti-drug coalitions. Ms. Coleman also served as a Presidential Management Fellow with the National Institutes of Health. During her fellowship, Keri-Lyn assisted in the planning and execution of the Surgeon General's Conference on Health Disparities and Mental Retardation, assisted in writing a brochure on the principles of drug abuse treatment in the criminal justice system, and assisted in the planning and coordination of the Director's Council of Public Representatives biannual meeting. Keri-Lyn received her bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice and her master's degree in Social Work from the University of Georgia.

Jim Glasson

Specialist, University of South Carolina Human Services Program

James P. Glasson is a faculty member at the University of South Carolina Beaufort where he teaches and oversees internships in the Human Services Program. He has more than 25 years of experience as a community organizer and working with children and youth. Jim has been working with a very successful grassroots community partnership called the Sheldon Township Community Support Partnership in a low income, predominantly African-American and rural community that uses evidenced-based programs to build protective factors and address risk factors in youth.

Larke Huang, Ph.D.

Senior Advisor on Children, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Larke Huang, Ph.D., a licensed clinical-community psychologist, provides leadership on federal national policy pertaining to mental health and substance use issues for children, adolescents and families for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration. Dr. Huang has worked in the field of children's mental health for the past 25 years assuming multiple leadership roles dedicated to improving the lives of children, families and communities. Previous positions include Managing Director at the American Institutes for Research (AIR) where she was involved in research, technical assistance and policy development for children's mental health and Director of Research and Evaluation at Georgetown University's National Technical Assistance Center on Children's Mental Health. Dr. Huang has developed programs for underserved, culturally and linguistically diverse youth, evaluated community-based programs, authored books and articles on children's mental health, and provided technical assistance to states and communities on mental health policy and service development. She received her doctorate in Psychology from Yale University.



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Robert Kipper

*Executive Director, Gang Reduction and Intention Program, State of Virginia
Office of the Attorney General, Richmond, VA*

Robert J. Kipper is the Executive Director of the Gang Reduction Program at the Office of the Attorney General in Richmond, Virginia. He also serves as the Director of the Class Action Youth Law Program in Virginia. Following a successful 25-year law enforcement career with the Newport News, Virginia Police Department, Mr. Kipper became the president of R.J.K. & Associates, Inc. A national consulting firm located in Newport News, Virginia. Mr. Kipper is now recognized as a leading expert on school safety and school-based policing both nationally and internationally. Mr. Kipper's model approach of prevention, intervention and enforcement is the cornerstone of successful school safety programs throughout America. His work has been featured in a number of national and international publications. He currently serves as the Safe Schools' spokesman for the International Association of Chiefs of Police as well as the lead law enforcement representative for the National Institute of Safe Schools located in Washington, D.C.

Charles Reynolds

Special Expert – GIS Technology, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Mr. Charles Reynolds is a National level Special Expert in using Geographic Information Software to answer complex questions relating to the delivery of health related services for the federal government. With more than 20 years of experiences working in the field of spatial analyses Mr. Reynolds is currently working for the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention within SAMHSA and is working to integrate GIS resources and products into needs assessment, evaluation, and reporting related to key initiatives, such as: HIV/AIDS, workplace, business, and community coalition outreach efforts, and health services facilities for substance abuse and mental health services, as well as related prevention activity providers nationally.

Mary Ann Solberg

Deputy Director, White House Office of National Drug Control Policy

As Deputy Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy, Mary Ann Solberg serves as the primary advisor to the Director for a broad range of matters pertaining to drug policy and has the lead for a new and broader effort to coordinate with and reach out to state and local entities in the areas of drug prevention, treatment, and domestic drug law enforcement issues. Ms. Solberg has extensive experience in community organization and coalition building at the state and local level. Prior to her confirmation, she served as the Executive Director of the Coalition of Healthy Communities and the Troy Community Coalition for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse in Troy, MI. The Troy Coalition was responsible for positive changes in the community, including a decrease in the number of eighth, tenth, and twelfth grade students reporting they had smoked cigarettes in their lifetime, a fifty percent decline in the percentage of eighth graders admitting to using marijuana in the past month, and almost a quarter reduction in the number of eighth graders that reported ever consuming alcoholic beverages.



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Diane-Louise (D-L) Wormley

Senior Project Manager, Cartographic Modeling Lab, University of Pennsylvania

Diane-Louise Wormley, Senior Project Manager at the Cartographic Modeling Lab of the University of Pennsylvania, manages a Geographic Information Systems (GIS) research lab that is a joint venture of the School of Social Policy & Practice and the School of Design. Her previous roles at the University included managing University of Pennsylvania's \$5 million enhanced mortgage program, coordinating the rehabilitation of 20 long-term vacant properties and managing the University's short-term cash as Associate Treasurer for the University. Ms. Wormley is a member of several community boards, including The Reinvestment Fund, Union Benevolent Association Foundation, Settlement Music School and People's Emergency Center CDC.

Phelan Wyrick, Ph.D.

*Gang Program Coordinator Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention,
U.S. Department of Justice*

Dr. Phelan Wyrick is the Gang Program Coordinator for the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. He serves as a subject matter expert on gang prevention and intervention in the U.S. Department of Justice. He also oversees federal demonstration programs, research and program evaluation, training and technical assistance on youth gang issues. He is a member of the interagency team working on the President's Helping America's Youth Initiative led by First Lady Laura Bush. Prior to coming to OJJDP in 1998, Dr. Wyrick conducted applied research and program evaluations at the City of Westminster Police Department in Orange County, California. He received his doctorate in Social Psychology from Claremont Graduate University.