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Message from the Organizers

Dear Conference Participants,

Welcome to this convening on “Reckoning with Homelessness in New York City.” We were drawn to organize this conference given the historic increases in homelessness here over the last several years even as the City arguably spends more on homelessness per capita than any other jurisdiction in the world. The discourse in the media has focused on the political dimensions of the problem and, to some extent, on the need for more affordable housing and improved shelter quality. Less often mentioned has been the need to promote more effective near-term interventions. We thought it would be worthwhile to hear from experts in the field regarding what is working best and for whom.

New York City has been the birthplace of many of our country’s most innovative and successful programs to address homelessness, including HomeBase, Critical Time Intervention, and Housing First. We felt it was time to reflect on what has made these approaches so effective and what can be learned from other successful efforts to inform new and renewed efforts to address homelessness in New York City. The recent successes in addressing veteran homelessness in particular have offered a hopeful counterpoint to the otherwise discouraging growth trends.

As always, homelessness is fundamentally about poverty, but its resolution depends on having the political will to confront difficult social policy choices. We hope that by hearing from leading practitioners, researchers and policy experts we can collectively advance the goal of ending homelessness.

Thank you for joining us in this conversation!

Regards,

Dennis Culhane, PhD, University of Pennsylvania

Deborah Padgett, PhD, New York University

Co-Chairs of the Conference Organizing Committee
## Agenda: Tuesday May 10th

This conference is free to attend thanks to sponsorship by the University of Pennsylvania School of Social Policy & Practice (Dana and Andrew Stone Endowed Chair in Social Policy) and the McSilver Institute for Poverty Policy and Research, New York University Silver School of Social Work.

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<td><strong>12:30–1:00PM</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Welcome and Introductory Remarks Day One</td>
<td>Lynn Videka, Dean, NYU Silver School of Social Work</td>
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<td>Mary McKay, Professor and Director, McSilver Institute for Poverty Policy and Research, NYU Silver School of Social Work</td>
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<td>Dennis Culhane, Dana and Andrew Stone Professor of Social Policy, University of Pennsylvania and Director of Research, VA National Center on Homelessness Among Veterans</td>
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<td><strong>Keynote Day One</strong></td>
<td>Sam Tsemberis, CEO, Pathways to Housing National and Professor, Department of Psychiatry, Columbia University Medical Center</td>
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<td>Session 1: Veterans</td>
<td>Eoin O’Sullivan, Professor and Head of School of Social Work and Social Policy, Trinity College, Dublin</td>
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<td>Kristin Misner-Gutierrez, Deputy Commissioner for Supportive Housing/Affordable Housing and Services, New York City Human Resources Administration</td>
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<td>Ann Elizabeth Montgomery, Investigator, VA National Center on Homelessness Among Veterans, HSR&amp;D Program, Birmingham VA Medical Center, and Assistant Professor, University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Public Health</td>
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<td>Thomas O'Toole, Director, VA National Center on Homelessness Among Veterans, National Director, Homeless PACT Program, Veterans Health Administration Homeless Programs Office</td>
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<td><strong>Session 2: Critical Time Intervention</strong></td>
<td>Deborah Padgett, Professor, NYU Silver School of Social Work</td>
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<td><strong>3:30–4:30PM</strong></td>
<td>Daniel Herman, Professor, Silberman School of Social Work, Hunter College, City University of New York</td>
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<td>Tom Byrne, Assistant Professor, Boston University School of Social Work and Investigator, VA National Center on Homelessness Among Veterans</td>
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<td>Danika Mills, Executive Director, Coordinated Behavioral Care, Inc. and CBC IPA</td>
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<td><strong>Taking Stock:</strong></td>
<td>Kim Hopper, Professor of Sociomedical Sciences, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University</td>
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<td><strong>What’s Missing from the Usual Picture?</strong></td>
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<td><strong>4:30–5:00PM</strong></td>
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# Agenda: Wednesday May 11th

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<th>Event</th>
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| **Welcome and Introductory Remarks Day Two**  
*9:00–9:30AM* | John L. Jackson, Jr.  
Dean, School of Social Policy & Practice and Richard Perry  
University Professor, University of Pennsylvania  
Deborah Padgett  
Professor, NYU Silver School of Social Work |
| **Keynote Day Two**  
*9:30–10:30AM* | Steven Banks  
Commissioner, New York City Human Resources Administration/Department of Social Services |
| **Session 3: Prevention**  
*10:30–11:30AM* | Beth Shinn,  
Session Chair  
Professor, Department of Human and Organizational Development, Peabody College, Vanderbilt University  
Sara Zuiderveen  
Deputy Commissioner, Rental Assistance Programs and Legal Services Initiatives at NYC Human Resources Administration  
Dan O’Flaherty  
Professor of Economics, Columbia University  
Renee Fueller  
Executive Director, Homebase, HELP USA |
| **Session 4: Rapid Rehousing**  
*11:30–12:30PM* | Thomas O’Toole,  
Session Chair  
Director, VA National Center on Homelessness Among Veterans, National Director, Homeless PACT Program, Veterans Health Administration Homeless Programs Office  
Nan Roman  
President and CEO, National Alliance to End Homelessness  
George Nashak  
Executive Vice President, HELP USA  
Jamie Taylor  
Public Health Data Specialist, Cloudburst Consulting |
| **Break for Lunch**  
*12:30–1:30PM* |
| **Session 5: Housing First—Single Adults**  
*1:30–2:30PM* | Gary Parker,  
Session Chair  
Deputy Director, McSilver Institute for Poverty Policy and Research, NYU Silver School of Social Work  
Ana Stefancic  
Associate Research Scientist, School of Social Work, Columbia University  
Deborah Padgett  
Professor, NYU Silver School of Social Work  
Ben Henwood  
Assistant Professor of Social Work, University of Southern California |
| **Session 6: Housing First—Families**  
*2:30–3:30PM* | Beth Weitzman,  
Session Chair  
Professor, Public Health & Policy, NYU Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development  
Marygrace Billek  
Director, Mercer County Department of Human Services  
Jill Khadduri  
Principal Associate, Abt Associates  
Mary Cunningham  
Senior Fellow, Metropolitan Housing and Communities Policy Center, Urban Institute |
| **Break**  
*3:30–3:45PM* |
| **Session 7: Millennials/Youth Homelessness**  
*3:45–4:45PM* | Nan Roman,  
Session Chair  
President and CEO, National Alliance to End Homelessness  
Kevin Lotz  
Director, Trinity Place Shelter  
Larry Cohen  
President, Point Source Youth  
Norweeta Milburn  
Director of Research and Evaluation, Nathanson Family Resilience Center, UCLA |
| **Conference Wrap-up**  
*4:45–5:00PM* | Dennis Culhane  
Dana and Andrew Stone Professor of Social Policy, University of Pennsylvania and Director of Research, VA National Center on Homelessness Among Veterans |
Conference Organizing Committee

**Dennis Culhane, PhD | Co-Chair**
Dana and Andrew Stone Professor of Social Policy, University of Pennsylvania and Director of Research, VA National Center on Homelessness Among Veterans

**Deborah Padgett, PhD | Co-Chair**
Professor of Social Work and Global Public Health and McSilver Faculty Fellow, NYU Silver School of Social Work

**Daniel Herman, PhD**
Professor, Silberman School of Social Work, Hunter College, City University of New York

**Kim Hopper, PhD**
Professor of Sociomedical Sciences, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University

**Dan O’Flaherty, PhD**
Professor of Economics, Columbia University

**Eoin O’Sullivan, PhD**
Professor and Head of School of Social Work and Social Policy, Trinity College, Dublin

**Thomas O’Toole, MD**
Director, VA National Center on Homelessness Among Veterans, National Director, Homeless PACT Program, Veterans Health Administration Homeless Programs Office, US Department of Veterans Affairs

**Nan Roman**
President and CEO, National Alliance to End Homelessness

**Beth Shinn, PhD**
Professor, Department of Human and Organizational Development, Peabody College, Vanderbilt University

**Sam Tsemberis, PhD**
CEO, Pathways to Housing National, and Professor, Department of Psychiatry, Columbia University Medical Center

**Beth Weitzman, PhD**
Professor, Public Health & Policy, New York University Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development
Mayor Bill de Blasio appointed Steven Banks as Commissioner of the New York City Human Resources Administration/Department of Social Services (HRA) on February 28, 2014, and he has served in that position since April 1, 2014. As Commissioner, Banks serves as chief executive of the largest local social services agency in the country, which serves over 3 million New Yorkers through the administration of more than 12 major public assistance programs, with 15,000 employees and an operating budget of over $9 billion. Commissioner Banks is a key leader in implementing Mayor de Blasio’s agenda to expand opportunity for more New Yorkers, address income inequality, and ensure that New Yorkers receive the benefits and assistance to which they are entitled.

Commissioner Banks has dedicated his entire career to improving the lives of low-income New Yorkers and is recognized as one of New York City’s leading public interest lawyers. Throughout his 33 years with the Legal Aid Society, Banks developed an extensive track record of working productively with a unionized workforce and helping the city’s most vulnerable residents – including seniors, survivors of domestic violence, immigrants, and people living with HIV/AIDS – navigate HRA’s programs and services. From 2004 until his appointment, Banks was the Attorney-in-Chief of the Legal Aid Society, the country’s oldest and largest not-for-profit legal services organization. During his tenure, he led the organization through a complete financial and managerial restructuring to save it from bankruptcy in 2004. With an annual budget of $225 million, he managed a staff of 1,900, including some 1,100 lawyers, and was responsible for all aspects of the legal practice and operations of the organization’s criminal, juvenile rights, and civil programs in New York City. Prior to becoming the Attorney-in-Chief, Banks held the positions of Associate Attorney-in-Chief, Deputy Attorney-in-Charge of the Civil Practice, Coordinating Attorney of the Homeless Rights Project, and Director of Government Relations for the Civil Practice. He began his career at Legal Aid in 1981 as a Staff Attorney in the organization’s Staten Island Neighborhood Office. He has also previously served as counsel to the Coalition for the Homeless, and he was the lead attorney in major class action litigation requiring the provision of lawful shelter and services to homeless New Yorkers.

He is credited with helping reach a landmark settlement with the City in 2008 over its treatment of homeless children and adults, which resulted in the establishment of a permanent enforceable right to shelter for homeless families in New York City.

The American Lawyer has listed him as one of the top 45 public interest lawyers in the United States, and the Daily News described him as “perhaps the City’s most legendary Legal Aid attorney in this generation.” Banks graduated from the New York University School of Law in 1981, and from Brown University in 1978.
Sam Tsemberis, PhD, is a clinical-community psychologist who began his work in homelessness in the late 1980’s and founded Pathways to Housing in 1992. He is best known for creating the consumer-driven Housing First model that is based on the belief that housing is a basic human right. This complex clinical and housing intervention first provides immediate access to permanent housing and offers treatment and support services for people who are homelessness and who have mental health and addiction problems. Today, the Pathways’ Housing First program has been successfully replicated across the US, Canada, EU, and Australia.

In addition to directing the Pathways’ Housing First Institute, Dr. Tsemberis is on the faculty of the Department of Psychiatry at Columbia University Medical Center. He teaches, supervises and assists communities across the globe to implement Housing First. He is currently participating in studies of homelessness, mental illness, addiction, and recovery.

He has published numerous articles and book chapters on these topics, including a newly released co-authored volume called Housing First: Transforming Systems and Changing Lives (Oxford University Press, October 2015).

Dr. Tsemberis has been widely recognized for his work and won awards from numerous advocacy and professional organizations including the American Psychiatric Association, the National Alliance to End Homelessness, and he was just awarded APA’s 2016 award for Distinguished Contribution to Independent Practice.
Marygrace Billek, LCSW, LCADC, is the Director of Human Services for the County of Mercer (NJ). Ms. Billek holds a Master’s of Science of Social Work (MSSW) from Columbia University and received bachelor’s degrees in English and in Psychology from Rutgers University. Ms. Billek began her career in 1986 as a residence counselor at SERV Centers of New Jersey where she learned the art of advocacy and the science of treatment for individuals suffering from mental health and substance disorders.

Ms. Billek joined Mercer County in 2004 as the Deputy Director of Human Services; in 2006 she was appointed to the role of Director. In this capacity she chairs and participates in a broad spectrum of over 30 boards and commissions, allowing her to bring an advocate’s voice and influence policy and practice on a state, county and local level. From her unique vantage point overseeing the provision of services to at-risk youth, homeless individuals and families, the elderly, and individuals with disabilities, Ms. Billek has built a career championing efforts to decrease the stigma associated with mental illness and substance abuse. For the last 10 years she has worked closely with the Mercer Alliance to End Homelessness on a countywide implementation of Housing First and Rapid Rehousing. She counts Mercer’s success in reducing homelessness as one of her greatest career achievements.

Tom Byrne, PhD, is an Assistant Professor at the Boston University School of Social Work and an Investigator with the VA National Center on Homelessness Among Veterans. He holds an MSW and PhD in Social Welfare from the University of Pennsylvania and a bachelor’s degree in economics from Boston College. His research focuses broadly on homelessness and housing policy, with recent studies examining community-level determinants of homelessness, profiles of unsheltered homelessness among veterans and housing outcomes of veterans receiving homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing services. His ongoing work includes projects examining health services utilization among older homeless adults, receipt of benefits from the Social Security Administration as facilitators of exits from homelessness among older adults, and the identification and measurement of risk of homelessness among veterans.

Larry Cohen is President of Point Source Youth, a national non-profit working to bring robust data and evaluation as well as effective solutions to the homeless youth field. Point Source Youth works in partnership with academics, experts, policy makers, and local organizations on the ground to implement, evaluate, and measure three interventions—Family Reconnection, Short-Term Host Homes, and Rapid Rehousing—to work to effectively engage at-risk young people in order to end youth homelessness. Working with leading academics and researchers, Larry and Point Source Youth are developing a scalable evaluation framework for evaluating these interventions. Work has already launched in Minneapolis, called the ConneQT Point Source Youth Pilot, and planning is underway for expansion to three additional cities in 2017 and to 50 cities in 10 years. Prior to co-founding Point Source Youth, Larry co-founded and led Heartbeat Experts, a company that connected the world’s leading scientific researchers to the health care industry. He opened offices in 22 countries and co-led the successful sale of the company. Previously, he worked to broadcast the first scientific meetings online and was Director of the National AIDS Treatment Advocacy Project, the first organization to advocate for combination HIV/AIDS treatment in the U.S. He holds a BA in Political Science from the University of California at Berkeley.

Dennis Culhane, PhD, is the Dana and Andrew Stone Professor of Social Policy at the School of Social Policy and Practice at the University of Pennsylvania and the Director of Research for the VA National Center on Homelessness among Veterans at the United States Department of Veterans Affairs. Dr. Culhane is a nationally recognized social science

email: larry@pointsourceyouth.org
researcher with primary expertise in the field of homelessness. He is a leader in the integration of administrative data for research and directs the Actionable Intelligence for Social Policy initiative, a MacArthur-funded project to promote the development of integrated database systems by state and local governments for policy analysis and systems reform.

Mary Cunningham, MPP, is a senior fellow in the Metropolitan Housing and Communities Policy Center at the Urban Institute, where her research focuses on homelessness, housing, concentrated poverty, and efforts to improve family self-sufficiency and overall well-being among low-income families. She has expertise in a number of US Department of Housing and Urban Development homelessness and assisted housing programs, including permanent supportive housing, transitional housing, emergency shelter, housing choice vouchers, Family Self-Sufficiency, HOPE VI, and the Moving to Opportunity demonstration. She currently directs studies examining the impact of housing vouchers on child welfare involvement, the impact of supportive housing on high-need families in the child welfare system, and a homeless prevention program for at-risk veterans.

From 2005 to 2008, Cunningham launched and directed the Homeless Research Institute (HRI), the research and education arm of the National Alliance to End Homelessness. While directing HRI, she co-chaired a research council on homelessness comprising nationally recognized academics and policy researchers; she also authored numerous reports, including *A Research Agenda for Ending Homelessness and Homelessness Counts*.

Renee Fueller successfully directs and supervises the overall operation of HELP USA HomeBase Homeless Prevention Network. HELP USA is a non-profit organization based in New York City. The homeless prevention programs are funded by the NYC Department of Homeless Services. Since the introduction of HomeBase in 2004, Ms. Fueller has developed models for intervention which will provide prevention, diversion, case management and support services to individuals and families likely to seek shelter services. Ms. Fueller also co-supervised the HELP USA HomeBase Hurricane Sandy Recovery Team, relocating over 200 families to hotels and providing emergency services at the Hurricane Evacuation Shelter at Queens College. The team also participated in NYC Restore, assisting Hurricane Sandy victims with applying for FEMA assistance, conducting housing assessments, registering with the HPD Housing Portal and providing referrals for city hotel and shelter placements for those in need of emergency housing.

Ms. Fueller has also developed and implemented several other initiatives for HELP USA, including the HELP USA Security School, as well as the HBMET/SGEP Security Guard Training Program, and Bronx Employment Center, which were funded by HUD.

Before joining HELP USA, Ms. Fueller worked on several Welfare to Work initiatives with FEGS, including coordinating the HUD-funded FEGS/HELP-Crotona Employment Readiness Program, which provided employment and employment readiness services for homeless families in a 96 family transitional housing facility. The success of this program lead to the opening of HELP USA’s Bronx Employment Center.

Benjamin Henwood, PhD, MSW, is a recognized expert in mental health and housing services research whose work connects clinical interventions with social policy. He is a co-author of *Housing First: Ending Homelessness, Transforming Systems, and Changing Lives*, and his proposal to end homelessness has been adopted by the American Academy of Social Work and Social Welfare as a grand challenge to orient the profession. Dr. Henwood is currently an assistant professor of social work at the University of Southern California.

Daniel Herman, MSW, PhD, is a leading scholar in the area of homelessness and its nexus with mental illness. He is currently a professor at the Silberman School of Social
Work at Hunter College, City University of New York where he directs the Center for the Advancement of Critical Time Intervention, which promotes research and dissemination of this evidence-based model of case management for vulnerable populations. Dr. Herman was previously a faculty member at Columbia University’s Mailman School of Public Health and New York State Psychiatric Institute.

Trained in both social work and epidemiology, he has also studied the mental health impacts of the September 11 terrorist attacks and has carried out research on long-term outcomes associated with adverse childhood experiences. NIMH, SAMSHA, and numerous other government and private sources have supported Dr. Herman’s research. He previously served on the Mental Health Services Research Committee of NIMH and is past Vice-President of the Society for Social Work and Research, which honored him with its Outstanding Research Award in 1999. In 2012 he was inducted into the American Academy of Social Work and Social Welfare. Dr. Herman began his research career after a dozen years working as a social worker in New York City’s public mental health and homeless services systems.

Kim Hopper, PhD, is an unapologetic applied anthropologist and Professor of Sociomedical Sciences at the Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University. He worked for 20 years as a research scientist at the Nathan S. Kline Institute for Psychiatric Research, a facility of the New York State Office of Mental Health, where he co-directed the Center to Study Recovery in Social Contexts. He is author of Reckoning with Homelessness (Cornell University Press, 2003), a stocktaking of two decades of research, advocacy, and theoretical work in that field, and senior co-editor of Recovery from Schizophrenia: An International Perspective (Oxford University Press, 2007), a report from the WHO collaborative study on the long-term course and outcome of schizophrenia. Since 1979, Dr. Hopper has done ethnographic and historical research on psychiatric care and on homelessness, chiefly in New York City. Active in homeless advocacy efforts since 1980, he served as president of the National Coalition for the Homeless from 1991-1993. He also teaches at Columbia Law School and in the Bard Prison Initiative.

John L. Jackson, Jr., PhD, is Dean of the School of Social Policy & Practice and Richard Perry University Professor at the University of Pennsylvania. Jackson received his BA in Communication (Radio/TV/Film) from Howard University and his PhD in Anthropology from Columbia University.

He spent three years as a junior fellow at the Harvard University Society of Fellows, and four years teaching in Duke University’s Department of Cultural Anthropology and Center for Documentary Studies. He is the author of Thin Description: Ethnography and the African Hebrew Israelites of Jerusalem (Harvard University Press, 2013); Racial Paranoia: The Unintended Consequences of Political Correctness (Basic, 2008); Real Black: Adventures in Racial Sincerity (University of Chicago Press, 2005); Harlemworld: Doing Race and Class in Contemporary Black America (University of Chicago Press, 2001); and Impolite Conversations, co-written with Cora Daniels (Atria/Simon & Schuster, 2014).

As a filmmaker, Jackson has produced a feature-length fiction film, documentaries, and film-shorts that have screened at film festivals internationally. His most recent film, co-directed with Deborah A. Thomas, is Bad Friday: Rastafari After Coral Gardens (Third World Newsreel, 2012), which examines the history of violence in Jamaica through the eyes of its iconic Rastafarian community. Jackson’s work also critically explores how film and other non-traditional or multi-modal formats can be most effectively utilized in specifically scholarly research projects, and he is one of the founding members of CAMRA (www.camrapenn.org) and PIVPE, two University of Pennsylvania-based initiatives organized around creating visual and performative research projects and producing rigorous criteria for assessing them. Before becoming Dean, Jackson served as Senior Advisor to the Provost on Diversity and Associate Dean of Administration in the Annenberg School for Communication at the University of Pennsylvania.
Kevin V. Lotz, LCSW, CASAC, ACSW, is a founder and the full-time director of Trinity Place Shelter, a transitional shelter for homeless LGBTQ youth and young adults on the Upper West Side of Manhattan, which he opened in 2006. Until recently, he was also a part-time fee-for-service therapist at a mental health clinic in East Harlem, which provided high-quality mental health therapy services to low-income individuals and families. Kevin spent eight years (2004-2011) helping manage large intensive residential substance abuse treatment programs for those with co-occurring chronic substance abuse, psychiatric, homelessness and criminal justice issues in three of New York City’s largest low-income communities (Jamaica, Queens; Harlem; South Bronx). Kevin has supervised hundreds of staff and 25 MSW interns.

From 2006-2012, Kevin served two terms on the board of directors and executive committee of the NASW NYC Chapter, the second term as the chapter’s third vice president. He was selected as one of the “Top 30 Social Workers Under Age 30” in the US during the 2010 National Social Work Congress in Washington, DC. Kevin is currently a fifth year, full-time PhD Candidate and adjunct lecturer at the NYU Silver School of Social Work. He is preparing for a career in social work teaching and research. His research interests include substance abuse, incarceration, and homelessness. He is currently working on his dissertation, which focuses on women injection drug users, homelessness, housing insecurity and poverty.

Mary McKernan McKay, PhD, is Director of the McSilver Institute for Poverty Policy and Research and McSilver Professor of Poverty Studies at NYU Silver School of Social Work. Prior to joining Silver, she served as the head of the Division of Mental Health Services Research at Mount Sinai. She has received substantial federal funding for research focused on meeting the mental health and health prevention needs of inner-city youth and families. Working with colleagues in the field, she developed a substantial body of research findings around engagement practices to improve involvement in family-based HIV prevention programs and mental health services by children, youth, and families in poverty-impacted urban areas. She has significant expertise in services and implementation research methods, as well as more than 15 years of experience conducting HIV prevention and care-oriented studies, all of which have been supported by continuous NIH funding.

In addition, Dr. McKay has collaborated with the National Institute of Mental Health, the New York State Office of Mental Health, and the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to create evidence-based engagement interventions and to test models of dissemination and training for mental health professionals in engagement best practices. She
Norweeta G. Milburn, PhD, is a Professor-in-Residence in the Department of Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences at the UCLA Semel Institute Center for Community Health and Director of Research and Evaluation at the Nathanson Family Resilience Center. Her research interests include homelessness, substance abuse, mental health and family-based behavioral interventions.

Dr. Milburn has had grants from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), the U.S. Department of Education (DOE) and the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) as a principal investigator or co-investigator. She has lead studies that have examined paths into and out of homelessness, as well as the risk for HIV among homeless youth in the U.S. and Australia; designed and implemented a behavioral intervention for homeless adolescents at risk for HIV and their families; and designed and tested recruitment strategies for behavioral substance abuse interventions. She is currently adapting and testing a behavioral intervention for youth exiting the juvenile justice system and their families. She is the co-Director of a NIDA funded training program, the UCLA HIV/AIDS, Substance Abuse, and Trauma Training Program (HA-STTP, co-Director: Wyatt). HA-STTP provides training and mentorship for early career ethnic and culturally diverse researchers and post-doctoral scholars to conduct research on reducing substance abuse and HIV transmission in underserved populations at risk for traumatic stress and health disparities. She has numerous publications and presentations in the areas of homelessness, substance abuse, HIV/AIDS and mental health. She has been both a standing and ad hoc member of peer review committees at NIMH and NIDA.

Dr. Milburn is a Fellow in the American Psychological Association (APA). She has been a member of the APA Committee on Children, Youth and Families, and chaired the APA 2009 Presidential Task Force on Psychology’s Contribution to End Homelessness. Her honors include being an inaugural member of the Leadership Institute for Women in Psychology and the Community, Culture and Prevention Science Award from the Society for Prevention Research.

Danika Mills, LCSW, Executive Director, Coordinated Behavioral Care, Inc. and CBC IPA is an NYS-licensed clinical social worker, art therapist, and executive with almost 20 years of experience in the healthcare and social services industry with an extensive background in improving health outcomes in underserved populations. With clinical and leadership experience in hospitals, schools, homeless shelters, and social service agencies, Ms. Mills uses collaborative care and social justice approaches, while also integrating health information technology solutions. She is accomplished in program design and innovation from concept to launch, and in leading teams to achieve success in serving people with chronic medical and behavioral health conditions in their communities. Ms. Mills is currently the Executive Director of Coordinated Behavioral Care, Inc., a not-for-profit that operates a health home serving over 10,000 New Yorkers; a NYS OMH-funded care transitions program; a DSRIP PPS-funded Health Home At-Risk Project; and the Coordinated Behavioral Care Independent Practice Association, a consortium of twelve behavioral health leaders in New York City. Before the advent of Health Homes, she directed one of the six NYS Chronic Illness Demonstration Projects that piloted care coordination for Medicaid recipients with complex disorders, as well as led a SAMHSA project in two Brooklyn shelters that successfully engaged chronically homeless women and men in services using evidence-based practices, publishing work using Critical Time Intervention and Seeking Safety and winning a SAMHSA Science to Service Award.

Kristin Misner-Gutierrez, MPA, is the Deputy Commissioner for Supportive Housing/ Affordable Housing and Services at the NYC
Human Resources Administration. For the past ten years, she worked in the NYC Mayor’s Office. Most recently she served as the Director of Social Services in the Office of Mayor de Blasio and prior to that, she was the Chief of Staff to the Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services in the Bloomberg administration. She has played a major role advancing important mayoral initiatives on issues ranging from homelessness, to senior services and workforce development. She managed the submission to end chronic veteran homelessness in NYC, oversaw the launch of the Age-Friendly NYC Plan, and she was one of the architects of the nation’s first Social Impact Bond. Prior to working in the Mayor’s Office, Kristin worked at the Department of Homeless Services where she led efforts to reform the intake process for homeless families. Kristin has a Master’s Degree in Public Administration from New York University and is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the College of the Holy Cross.

Ann Elizabeth Montgomery, PhD, is an Investigator with the National Center on Homelessness Among Veterans (NCHAV) in the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the HSR&D program at the Birmingham VA Medical Center as well as an Assistant Professor at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) School of Public Health. She has worked with NCHAV since its inception in 2009 to develop and implement a research agenda that emphasizes homelessness prevention, interventions to end homelessness among high-need veterans, and the demography, epidemiology, and services utilization of veterans experiencing homelessness. To support VA’s initiative to end homelessness among veterans, Dr. Montgomery led a team in the development and validation of a universal screen for homelessness and risk among veterans accessing outpatient healthcare at VA facilities and has used veterans’ responses to assess risk factors for homelessness, uptake of health and social services, and characteristics associated with persistent and unsheltered homelessness. Other areas of focus include veterans’ exits from VA’s permanent supportive housing program and the prediction of acute healthcare use and negative housing outcomes. Prior to joining NCHAV, Dr. Montgomery conducted research and evaluation in a number of settings with an emphasis on vulnerable populations including persons living with HIV/AIDS, pregnant and parenting adolescents living in poverty, adults with co-occurring mental illness and substance use disorders, persons living in rural areas, and women. Dr. Montgomery received a Master of Social Work and Master of Public Administration from Columbia University as well as a doctorate in health behavior from the UAB School of Public Health.

George Nashak is Executive Vice President of HELP USA, where he oversees the operations of the agency’s $100 million portfolio of housing and programs targeted to homeless, formerly homeless and low-income families, individuals and veterans. Prior to this position, he served as Deputy Commissioner for Adult Services at the New York City Department of Homeless Services where he was responsible for the single adult shelter system, the adult families system, street homelessness services, and the re-housing of homeless adults. He previously served as Assistant Commissioner for Housing and Program Planning at DHS, a role in which he worked on the development and implementation of the New York/New York III Agreement and on other initiatives to promote permanency and to develop housing options for homeless clients on the street and in the shelters. Prior to working at DHS, he served as Vice President of Postgraduate Center for Mental Health and directed the Strategic Planning Bureau of the New York City Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Alcoholism Services.

Dan O’Flaherty, PhD, is a professor of economics at Columbia University. He has written several books, including The Economics of Race in the United States (2015), How to
House the Homeless (with Ingrid Gould Ellen, 2010), City Economics (2005), and Making Room: The Economics of Homelessness (1996). With Sarena Goodman and Peter Messeri, he evaluated Homebase for community impacts; this resulted in two papers published in the Journal of Housing Economics. He has also written about what affects changes in New York City shelter population, especially the effects of placements into subsidized housing on the family census.

Eoin O’Sullivan, PhD, is Professor in Social Policy, Head of the School of Social Work and Social Policy, Trinity College, Dublin and Fellow of Trinity College. His research explores comparative dimensions of homelessness, and the history of the institutionalization of marginal populations in 20th century Ireland. These two research strands analyze the mechanisms by which disadvantaged, deviant and disreputable populations were, and are, managed by families, the state and non-state actors over time and space. He is lead editor of the European Journal of Homelessness, and a major contributor to policy formation on homelessness in the European Union. His distinguished record of public service includes membership on a number of statutory bodies including the Private Residential Tenancies Board from 2004-2013, and appointment by the Minister for Environment, Heritage and Local Government as the Chair of the National Traveller Accommodation Advisory Committee in September 2013.

Thomas O’Toole, MD, is the Director of the National Center on Homelessness Among Veterans and National Director of the Homeless Veterans Patient Aligned Care Team (H-PACT) Program for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. He is a general internist based at the Providence VA Medical Center in Rhode Island. Dr. O’Toole graduated from the University of California, Berkeley, went to medical school at University of California, Davis and was subsequently on medical school faculties at the University of Pittsburgh, Johns Hopkins and Georgetown before joining the Veterans Administration in 2006. He is also a Professor of Medicine at Brown University. His research for the past 25 years has focused on access to care, health and social service needs and intervention studies for homeless and other vulnerable and disadvantaged populations with funding from VA Health Services Research and Development Service (HSR&D), NIH, SAMSHA, and private foundations. He has published over 70 articles and book chapters on the subject.

Deborah Padgett, PhD, is Professor of Social Work and Global Public Health at NYU Silver School of Social Work and Professor of Psychiatry at the NYU School of Medicine. She is nationally known for her advocacy and practice of qualitative and mixed methods in research. She is the editor of The Handbook of Ethnicity, Aging, and Mental Health (1995) and The Qualitative Research Experience (2004), author of Qualitative Methods in Social Work Research (2008, 2nd ed.) and Qualitative and Mixed Methods in Public Health (2012), and co-author of Program Evaluation (5th ed., 2009). Dr. Padgett has published extensively on mental health needs and service use of homeless mentally ill adults, older women, ethnic groups, and children/adolescents.

Beginning in 2004, Dr. Padgett became principal investigator of two R01 qualitative methods studies funded by NIMH. The first, The New York Services Study (2004-2008), was a $1.4 million study of service engagement among dual diagnosed homeless adults in New York City. The NYSS was designed to elicit consumer perspectives on recovery and services for homelessness, mental illness, and substance abuse. The second, The New York Recovery Study (2010-2015; $1.9 million) uses ethnographic methods and in-depth interviews to examine the role of housing in mental health recovery among formerly homeless adults.

Dr. Padgett has also been an active mentor of other researchers and has served on numerous journal editorial boards. Since 2006, she has taught courses on socio-behavioral health and qualitative/field methods in NYU’s Master’s of Public Health program, where she received the Excellence in Teaching Award (2010) and was interim director (2011-2012).
Gary Parker, MSW, is Deputy Director of the McSilver Institute for Poverty Policy and Research at the NYU Silver School of Social Work. He has held diverse government and public service positions, including Community Liaison to New York State Assembly Member Deborah Glick, District Manager of Manhattan Community Board 5, and Director of Government and Community Affairs at New York University. Currently Gary oversees the McSilver Institute’s communications, policy, operations, and organizational development. An accomplished writer, he has published articles in academic journals as well as opinion pieces in mainstream publications, including The New York Times. Gary is also committed to developing the next generation of social workers. He teaches courses in such areas as community organizing, social welfare policy, and global social work practice as an adjunct lecturer at the Silver School, where he is continuing his education as a doctoral student. Gary brings a passion for applied research and social justice to all of his work and continually seeks to put theory, his academic training, and his commitment to stakeholder collaboration into practice to affect positive social change.

Beth Shinn, PhD, is a Professor in the Department of Human and Organizational Development at Peabody College, Vanderbilt University. She studies how to prevent and end homelessness and create opportunities for groups that face social exclusion. Her largest current project is a 12-site experiment comparing the success of different strategies to house families experiencing homelessness. Past collaborations with community organizations and research institutes include an experimental study of the Pathways Housing First intervention with adults who experience both chronic homelessness and serious mental illness, a survey of older adults in poverty to understand why some become homeless, an evaluation of New York City’s street count, and an experiment to determine whether rapid re-housing with transitional services fostered positive outcomes for children who were homeless with their families.

With the goal of using research to influence social policy and programs, Beth has done collaborative studies with New York City’s Department of Homeless Services, Human Resources Administration, and Department of Health. She participated in State Policy Academies run by the Federal Interagency Council on Homelessness and served on research advisory panels for the New York City Department of Homeless Services, the National Alliance to End Homelessness, and the National Low Income Housing Coalition. In Nashville, she sits on the Healthy Nashville Leadership Council and the Continuum of Care Governance committee that determines how federal funds for homelessness are allocated.

Ana Stefancic, PhD, has over 15 years of experience researching the effectiveness of housing and support services for individuals who have experienced homelessness, psychiatric disabilities, substance abuse, and chronic medical conditions. As Associate Research Scientist at Columbia University, her current projects

Nan Roman is President and CEO of the National Alliance to End Homelessness, a public education, advocacy, and capacity-building organization. She is a leading national voice on the issue of homelessness. Under her guidance, the Alliance has successfully identified and promoted innovative strategies for ending homelessness that have been adopted by communities across the country. In her role, Ms. Roman works closely with members of Congress and the Administration, as well as with officials and advocates at the state and local levels. She collaborates with Alliance partners to educate the public about the real nature of homelessness and effective solutions. She has researched and written on the issue of homelessness, regularly speaks at events around the country, and frequently serves as an expert on the issue for the media. Her unique perspective on homelessness and its solutions comes from more than 20 years of local and national experience in the areas of poverty and community-based organizations.

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include a randomized clinical trial examining the implementation and effectiveness of a healthy lifestyle intervention for supportive housing participants, as well as identifying the underlying mechanisms of peer-delivered services. She has participated in evaluations of several large-scale initiatives to end homelessness, including the At Home/Chez Soi Housing First demonstration project throughout Canada and Full Service Partnerships across the state of California.

Dr. Stefancic has conducted in-depth assessments of over 50 programs and provided targeted technical assistance to increase service providers’ ability to end homelessness and adoption of evidence-based practices and recovery-oriented, person-driven services. Dr. Stefancic has been a consultant, lead evaluator, and co-investigator on several federally funded research grants and brings expertise in quantitative and qualitative methods, implementation research, implementation theory, and fidelity development and assessment. She was the lead developer of the Housing First Fidelity Scale and, in collaboration with Dr. Todd Gilmer, the Housing First Fidelity Self-Assessment survey. Additional projects include examining factors that help or hinder supportive housing participants in developing greater social integration, identifying the needs of transitional age youth living in supportive housing, and exploring system-level factors that influence Housing First program fidelity.

Jamie Taylor, PhD, is a Public Health Data Specialist with The Cloudburst Group, providing technical assistance on evaluation design and data utilization to improve policy and program planning for over 20 years. Working across both SAMHSA and HUD programs, Dr. Taylor has provided training and technical assistance expertise to multiple, federal-led initiatives, including the lead director of a multi-site project evaluation using HMIS data to assess the impacts of Rapid Rehousing on housing stability outcomes; the recently completed qualitative evaluation study on the intersection of child development, housing assistance and access to preschool; and current lead role in the evaluation training and technical assistance being provided to 20 states funded under SAMHSA’s Now Is The Time Project AWARE, as well as the lead developer of an online Data Essentials curriculum building data capacities in all SAMHSA Grantees. Dr. Taylor is also directing data utilization projects under SAMHSA’s Service Member, Veterans and Families TA Center; developing data visualization-based reports for Alaska’s Youth Suicide Prevention Project and conducting learning communities with state leaders under SAMHSA’s SOAR TA Center. Across all projects, Dr. Taylor provides evaluation, data utilization, and data planning expertise on the use of impact evidence for continuous, data-driven decision-making for system transformation.

Lynn Videka, PhD, has served as Dean of the NYU Silver School of Social Work since 2009. She led the School in advancing its reputation for strong preparation in clinical social work practice; in broadening the mission of the School to embrace social justice, human diversity, and global social work; and in strong engagement with the School’s local and global communities.

Dr. Videka’s research interests include peer-helping models for people managing life crises or disabilities; the effectiveness of social work practice; and the intersection of family life and mental health, especially among vulnerable populations. She has held many leadership roles in social work education, including president of the National Association of Deans and Directors of Social Work and the Institute for the Advancement of Social Work Research, vice president of the Society for Social Work and Research, and commissioner of accreditation and treasurer of the Council on Social Work Education, among others. Dr. Videka is a widely published author; among her publications are research on self-help groups for bereavement and loss focusing on widowhood and the death of a child, the first social work meta-analysis of mental health practice effectiveness (in 1986) with a subsequent book Advances in Clinical Social Work Research. In recent years, her work has focused on recovery approaches for persons diagnosed with mental health disabilities and...
Beth C. Weitzman, PhD, is Professor of Health and Public Policy at New York University’s Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development. Prior to joining the Steinhardt School in 2009, Dr. Weitzman spent more than 20 years on the faculty at NYU’s Wagner Graduate School. Dr. Weitzman’s research interests focus on urban policies affecting poor families and their children; she has evaluated a range of programs aimed at meeting their health, social service, housing, and educational needs. Dr. Weitzman brings to her research extensive experience in program evaluation and in primary data collection. She conducted more than a decade of research on homeless families, beginning in the late 1980’s, with funding from New York City’s Human Resources Administration, the National Institute of Mental Health, and the Edna McConnell Clark Foundation.

More recently, Dr. Weitzman directed the national evaluation of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation’s Urban Health Initiative which won the 2010 Outstanding Evaluation Award from the American Evaluation Association. Current research includes evaluations of a program integrating supportive housing with medical case management services and of policies requiring calorie labeling in fast-food restaurants. Her work has been published in such journals as the American Journal of Public Health, the Journal of Adolescent Health, and the American Journal of Evaluation, where she serves on the editorial board.

Sara Zuiderveen, MPA, has been the Deputy Commissioner for Rental Assistance Programs and Legal Services Initiatives at the New York City Human Resources Administration since 2014. Sara develops and operates City rental assistance programs for homeless and at-risk households as well as rapid rehousing programs. She also oversees tens of millions of dollars in civil legal service contracts, including anti-eviction, anti-harassment, immigration, domestic violence, veteran services, and federal benefits advocacy. Prior to working at HRA, Sara worked at the NYC Department of Homeless Services for ten years, most recently as the Assistant Commissioner for Prevention Services. Sara assisted in the development, operation, and evaluation of the Homebase homelessness prevention program along with other prevention programs. Before coming to DHS, Sara worked in the field of child abuse prevention as a program analyst for Healthy Families America, a national home visiting program based in Chicago. Sara holds a Master’s degree in Public Policy from the University of Chicago.
About the Sponsors

The School of Social Policy & Practice at the University of Pennsylvania contributes to the advancement of more effective, efficient and humane human services through education, research and civic engagement. In pursuit of this mission, the School’s theory-based masters and doctoral programs in social work, social welfare, non-profit leadership and social policy encourage students to think and work across disciplinary lines and cultures as well as across national and international boundaries. The pursuit of social justice is at the heart of the School’s knowledge-building activities. Its innovative educational and research programs reinforce its vision of active student engagement in their own learning as well as that of social agencies and larger social collectivities organized at the local, national and international levels.

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The mission of the Silver School of Social Work at New York University is to educate professionals in a global perspective for social work practice with individuals, families, groups, and communities, and to provide leadership in the development of knowledge relevant to social work practice in complex urban environments. The School seeks to fulfill its mission by building and transmitting knowledge that is grounded in empirical research, and that will help to alleviate human suffering, enhance the vitality and caring capacity of communities, and promote the ideals of a humane and just world.

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The McSilver Institute for Poverty Policy and Research at New York University Silver School of Social Work is committed to creating new knowledge about the root causes of poverty, developing evidence-based interventions to address its consequences, and rapidly translating research findings into action. The McSilver Institute employs collaborative research methods via partnerships with policymakers, service organizations, consumers, and community stakeholders. An understanding of the significant link between individuals, families, communities, and their external environments, as well as the interrelatedness of race and poverty guide the McSilver Institute’s research efforts.

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