



**McSILVER INSTITUTE**  
FOR POVERTY POLICY AND RESEARCH

# Symposium on Race & Poverty

DECEMBER 2, 2016

TRANSLATING KNOWLEDGE INTO ACTION



**NYU**

SILVER SCHOOL  
OF SOCIAL WORK

## About the McSilver Institute

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 through policy and practice.

The McSilver Institute recognizes the interrelatedness of race and poverty and is dedicated to dismantling structural racism and other forms of systemic oppression. To better serve individuals, families, and communities impacted by poverty, the McSilver Institute employs a collaborative model via partnerships with policymakers, service organizations, community stakeholders, and consumers.

[mcsilver.nyu.edu](http://mcsilver.nyu.edu)

📍 [fb.com/NYUMcSilver](https://www.facebook.com/NYUMcSilver)

🐦 [@NYUMcSilver](https://twitter.com/NYUMcSilver) 📌 [#McSilverSymposium](https://twitter.com/McSilverSymposium)

## About the Silver School

New York University **Silver School of Social Work** provides a rich environment for the education of professional social workers. The School offers accredited programs at the undergraduate, master's, and doctoral levels, and serves as a major post-master's training center for hundreds of practitioners in the New York region.

Through faculty research, the School is a key source of scholarly research and publications directed at improving the practice of social work, evaluating social service and mental health programs, and developing new alternatives for meeting the needs of underserved populations.

Since 1960, the Silver School has been a pioneer in training over 14,000 social work practitioners and leaders in every field of practice, affecting lives around the world. From 1960s gang violence to the AIDS crisis of the 1980s to 9/11, NYU's social workers have been at the center of response efforts that turn crises into social progress.

[socialwork.nyu.edu](http://socialwork.nyu.edu)

📍 [fb.com/NYUSilver](https://www.facebook.com/NYUSilver)

🐦 [@NYUSilver](https://twitter.com/NYUSilver)

# Message from Silver School Interim Dean James Jaccard

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

On behalf of NYU Silver School of Social Work, it is my great pleasure to welcome you to the **McSilver Institute for Poverty Policy and Research's Symposium on Race and Poverty: Translating Knowledge into Action**. Over the course of the day, we will hear distinguished speakers dissect issues that directly affect children and families of color living in poverty, and propose concrete recommendations to address them through policy, advocacy, and practice.



Since it was founded in 2007 through the generosity of Constance and Martin Silver, the McSilver Institute has been an integral part of NYU Silver. Under the leadership of its new Director **Dr. Michael A. Lindsey**, the institute is continuing to make vital contributions by conducting and disseminating interdisciplinary, applied research to address the root causes and consequences of poverty; providing training and technical assistance to the government agencies and non-profit organizations that comprise our social safety net; and challenging structural racism and other forms of systemic oppression that perpetuate poverty.

The presentations and conversations we hear today will help shape the future agenda of the McSilver Institute as well as all of us who share its mission.

Thank you for joining us and for your shared commitment to social justice and translating knowledge into action.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JJ', written in a cursive style.

James Jaccard, PhD  
Interim Dean  
NYU Silver School of Social Work

# Message from McSilver Institute Director Michael Lindsey

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

It is with great honor that I welcome you to the McSilver Institute's Symposium on Race and Poverty: Translating Knowledge into Action.



The McSilver Institute is committed to dismantling systems that oppress families living in poverty. We value collaborative models for taking on our mission of creating new knowledge about the root causes of poverty, creating evidence-based interventions to address its consequences, and rapidly translating new knowledge into action. The mission of my work in

the social work and public health fields has always been framed around addressing the prohibitive factors that lead to unmet mental health needs among vulnerable youth and families who are often neglected by our society.

It is a privilege to build on the strong foundation laid by Dr. Mary McKay, the McSilver Institute's Inaugural Director, and to further the reach of the institute's impact with a lens that continues to address these prohibitive factors.

On this day, we will have discussions and presentations around the interrelatedness of race and poverty, particularly the disparities that adversely affect children, families, and communities of color impacted by economic inequality. It is my hope that today's symposium may serve as a springboard for the McSilver Institute, our allies, and community partners to leap forward into action-oriented goals that directly touch the lives of those most deeply affected by social injustice.

I believe in the McSilver mission to work in a way that is collaborative and engages all stakeholders including researchers, community leaders, philanthropists, policy makers, and more. For this reason I am especially grateful to have such an outstanding panel joining us at this pivotal event. Thank you to the Deputy Surgeon General Rear Admiral Sylvia Trent-Adams, Aetna Foundation President Dr. Garth Graham, NYU Steinhardt Research Professor Dr. Lisa Gennetian, Harlem Children's Zone CEO Anne Williams-Isom, author, advocate and talk show host Tavis Smiley, and Dr. Cheryl Boyce, the Chief of the Implementation Science Branch, Center for Translation Research and Implementation Science (CTRIS) at NIH for guiding us through these important discussions today.

Thank you to everyone for joining us as we continue rising together.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael A. Lindsey". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael A. Lindsey, MSW, MPH, PhD  
Director and McSilver Associate Professor of Poverty Studies

# Program of Events

**8:30AM** Registration

**9:00AM** **Welcome and Opening Remarks**

Silver School Interim Dean Dr. Jim Jaccard  
NYU Provost Dr. Katherine E. Fleming  
McSilver Institute Director Dr. Michael A. Lindsey

**9:30AM** **Remarks by RADM Dr. Sylvia Trent-Adams,**

U.S. Deputy Surgeon General

**11:00AM** **Remarks by Dr. Garth Graham,**

President, Aetna Foundation  
Introduction by Dr. Cheryl Boyce,  
Chief of Research and Implementation Science,  
Center for Translation Research and  
Implementation Science at the National Heart,  
Lung, and Blood Institute, NIH

**12:00-1:00PM** Break for Lunch

**1:00PM** **Remarks by Dr. Lisa Gennetian,**

Research Scientist, NYU Steinhardt

**2:00PM** **Remarks by Anne Williams-Isom,**

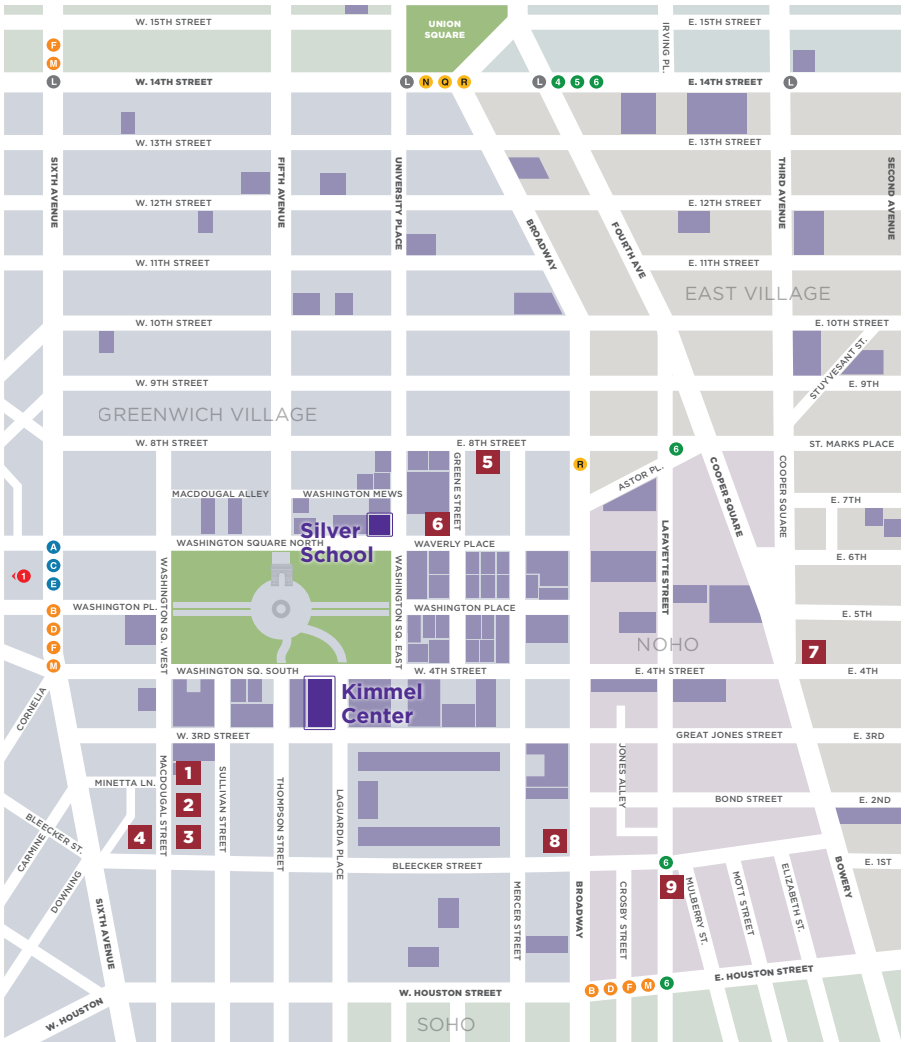
CEO, Harlem Children's Zone  
Introduction by Gary Parker, MSW,  
McSilver Institute Deputy Director

**3:00-4:30PM** **Conversation with Tavis Smiley,**

Broadcaster, Author, and Advocate  
Facilitated by Dr. Michael A. Lindsey

*Read more about these presenters in the following pages.*

# In the Neighborhood



ADAPTED FROM CAMPUS MAP DONATED BY JEFFREY S. GOULD, WSC '97

- 1** Pommes Frites—*Gourmet Belgian fries*
- 2** Mighty Bowl—*Fresh Asian bowls*
- 3** By Chloe—*Vegan counter fare*
- 4** Manousheh—*Lebanese flatbreads*
- 5** Just Salad—*Healthy, fast chain*
- 6** Bowllin'—*Korean rice bowls*
- 7** Miscelanea NY—*Mexican tortas*
- 8** Coco & Cru—*Modern café*
- 9** Bite—*Quick sandwich shop*

*The Rosenthal Pavilion is on the 10<sup>th</sup> floor of the Helen and Martin Kimmel Center for University Life at 60 Washington Square South.*

## Speakers and Presenters

---



### **Deputy Surgeon General RADM Sylvia Trent-Adams, PhD, RN, FAAN**

As U.S. Deputy Surgeon General, Rear Admiral (RADM) Sylvia Trent-Adams advises and supports the Surgeon General regarding U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps operations, and in communicating the best available scientific

information to advance the health of the nation.

She served as the Chief Nurse Officer of the USPHS from November 2013 through May 2016. In this role, she advised the Office of the Surgeon General and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) on the recruitment, assignment, deployment, retention, and career development of Corps nurse professionals.

RADM Trent-Adams has held various positions in HHS working to improve access to care for poor and underserved communities. As a clinician and administrator, she has a direct impact on building systems to improve public health for marginalized populations around the world. Prior to joining the Office of the Surgeon General, RADM Sylvia Trent-Adams was Deputy Associate Administrator for the HIV/AIDS Bureau of the Health Resources and Services Administration.



### **Cheryl Anne Boyce, PhD**

Cheryl Anne Boyce, PhD, serves as the Chief of the Implementation Science Branch of the Center for Translation Research and Implementation Science within the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI), National Institutes of Health (NIH), Department of Health and Human Services

(DHHS). Dr. Boyce completed her doctoral studies in clinical psychology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. After clinical and research fellowships at the Children's National Medical Center and the Department of Psychiatry, University of Maryland School of Medicine, she began her federal career as a Society for Research in Child Development/American Association for the Advancement of Science Executive Branch Policy Fellow, assigned to the Administration on Children, Youth and



Families, DHHS and the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) to lead joint efforts across agencies, including national studies on young children's mental health in Head Start and child welfare issues. Before joining NHLBI, she held scientific leadership positions at the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) and NIMH, focused on translational research, young children, drug exposures, traumatic stress and health disparities, and research training.

Dr. Boyce's research expertise includes neurodevelopment, child development, clinical pediatrics, substance abuse, trauma and child maltreatment, minority health, health disparities and translational research and implementation science. As an expert on career and research training issues, she co-authored the popular revised edition of *How to write a successful research grant application: A guide for social and behavioral scientists (2nd edition)*.

---

## **Garth Graham, MD, MPH**

Dr. Garth Graham is president of the Aetna Foundation. In his role, Dr. Graham is responsible for the Foundation's philanthropic work, including its grant-making strategies to improve the health of people from underserved communities and increase their access to quality healthcare.



Dr. Graham previously served as deputy assistant secretary in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, where he also led the Office of Minority Health. His numerous achievements include implementing key health equity provisions of the Affordable Care Act and guiding the development of the first federal action plan to eliminate health disparities under the Obama administration. Just prior to joining the Aetna Foundation, Dr. Graham was the assistant dean for health policy and chief of health services research at the University of Florida School of Medicine in Gainesville. There he was principal investigator on a number of grants related to improving health outcomes in underserved populations.

Dr. Graham is a widely recognized researcher, writer and editor on health disparities. He has authored articles that have been published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, *Health Affairs* and *Circulation*.

Dr. Graham has served on the faculty of the University of Florida School of Medicine and Harvard Medical School. He has also served on a number of boards and working groups including the Institute of Medicine Board on Population Health, World Health Organization Scientific Group on Equity Analysis and Research, Board of Directors of Physicians for Human Rights, and the Federal Coordinating Council on Comparative Effectiveness Research. He was named the Distinguished Millennium Visiting Scholar at Columbia University.



---

### **Lisa Gennetian, PhD**

Lisa Gennetian is a Research Professor at the Institute for Human Development and Social Change at the NYU Steinhardt School of Culture, Education and Human Development. She earned her PhD in Economics from Cornell University. Dr.

Gennetian's research portfolio spans poverty and policy research, income security and stability, early care and education, and children's development, with a lens toward causal mechanisms. Her work with Dr. Eldar Shafir, "The Persistence of Poverty in the Context of Economic Instability: A Behavioral Perspective," describes a behavioral framework for poverty programs and policy.

In 2015 she launched the *beELL* initiative, which applies insights from behavioral economics to support parent engagement in, and enhance the impacts of, early childhood interventions. She is co-principal investigator on a randomized control study of a monthly unconditional cash transfer to low income mothers of infants, as well as co-PI at the National Center for Research on Hispanic Families and Children directing the poverty focus area. She has served as an Associate Editor of *Child Development* since 2012.



---

### **Anne Williams-Isom**

Anne Williams-Isom is the Chief Executive Officer for the Harlem Children's Zone® (HCZ). Driven by the belief that community strengthening and child welfare go hand in hand, the HCZ began as a one-block pilot in the 1990s that has since grown to serve over 12,500 children and 13,000 adults.

Ms. Williams-Isom took over the position of CEO in 2014, before which she served for five years as Chief Operating Officer. As COO, she oversaw

all programs in HCZ's cradle-through-college pipeline, including Promise Academy I and II, led HCZ's more than 2,000 staff, and strengthened the organization's use of data to improve services and outcomes. She also took the reins in restructuring HCZ's College Success Office and developing innovative strategies to support college students individually and at scale.

Ms. Williams-Isom currently serves on the Advisory Council of the recently created My Brother's Keeper Alliance, and in January 2016, she was appointed by Mayor Bill de Blasio to his Children's Cabinet Advisory Board and selected to be a member of the spring 2016 cohort of the Aspen-Pahara Education Fellows Program. Ms. Williams-Isom has been featured in *The New York Times*, *Barron's*, *Crain's New York*, *The Chronicle of Philanthropy*, and *Essence*, as well as on WABC's *Here and Now*.

---

## Tavis Smiley

From his celebrated conversations with world figures to his work to inspire the next generation of leaders, Tavis Smiley—broadcaster, author, publisher, advocate, and philanthropist—has emerged as an outstanding voice for change. Smiley is currently the host of the late-night television talk show *Tavis Smiley* on PBS, as well as *The Tavis Smiley Show* from Public Radio International (PRI).



Smiley has written 21 books, including his *New York Times* bestselling memoir, *What I Know for Sure: My Story of Growing Up in America*. In the *The Rich and the Rest of Us: A Poverty Manifesto*, also a *Times* Bestseller, Smiley and his co-author Dr. Cornel West challenge all Americans to re-examine their assumptions about poverty in America—what it really is and how to eradicate it.

The nonprofit Tavis Smiley Foundation is in the midst of a \$3 million four-year campaign called ENDING POVERTY: America's Silent Spaces to alleviate endemic poverty in America.

*TIME* magazine has cited Smiley as one of "The World's 100 Most Influential People," and Smiley has been honored with a Star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.



#McSILVERSYMPOSIUM



[mcsilver.nyu.edu](http://mcsilver.nyu.edu)