

9-18-2015

# Video: Nova Law Review Symposium: Shutting Down the School to Prison Pipeline

Nova Law Review

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NOVA SOUTHEASTERN  
UNIVERSITY

Shepard Broad College of Law

NOVA LAW REVIEW

NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY



2015 Nova Law Review Symposium

September 18, 2015

# SHUTTING DOWN THE SCHOOL TO PRISON PIPELINE

In association with the Gwen S. Cherry Black Women Lawyer Association



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## Welcome from the Nova Law Review

On behalf of the Executive Board of the *Nova Law Review* and the Gwen S. Cherry Black Women Lawyers Association, welcome to the 2015 Nova Law Review Symposium, *Shutting Down the School to Prison Pipeline*. This symposium is an opportunity for legal professionals, educators, and community activists to come together to discuss the nationwide push to make school discipline less exclusionary and more effective so that we may lower the juvenile incarceration rate. Topics of discussion will range from the reasons why some children and teens are lead into the juvenile justice system, to “zero tolerance” suspensions and expulsions, to legal remedies to address the problem. Additionally, attendees will have the unique opportunity to learn from prominent attorneys and law professors from around the country, including hearing from a Florida Supreme Court Justice, representatives from the Broward County School System, and representatives from advocacy groups such as the NAACP, Southern Poverty Law Center, and American Civil Liberties Union among many others. Overall, the goal of this event is to bring further understanding to a nationwide problem and to present solutions, big and small, so that our surrounding communities may be improved.

We thank you for attending and hope you enjoy the presentations.



Kerry Valdez

Juris Doctor Candidate | 2016  
Nova Law Review | Editor-in-Chief, Vol. 40  
Moot Court Society | Advocate  
Nova Southeastern University | Shepard Broad College of Law

Shepard Broad College of Law: Nova Southeastern University's College of Law offers a cutting edge, skills-centered academic program in three-year full-time and four-year part-time divisions. With its recently redeveloped clinical programs, every NSU Law student is guaranteed a live-client experience. In-house clinical studies are supplemented by full-time field placement opportunities practicing law in Florida, across the United States, or select locations throughout the globe. To solidify student success after graduation, NSU Law pioneered a curriculum on the business of lawyering through the Global Law Leadership Initiative. NSU Law students have a myriad of curricular opportunities, including a rich, diverse curriculum, concentrations in International Law or Health Law; dual degree programs abroad in Rome, Barcelona, or Prague; dual degree programs at many of NSU's 17 colleges; and much more. For more information, please visit [www.law.nova.edu](http://www.law.nova.edu).

The Gwen S. Cherry Black Women Lawyers Association (GSCBWLA) was formed in 1985 to address the concerns of women lawyers, the legal, social, and economic needs of the Black community, and the community-at-large. In 2005, the association was renamed in honor of activist Gwendolyn Sawyer Cherry, the first Black female attorney to practice in Dade County and the first Black female legislator in the State of Florida.

## Schedule of Events

**Friday, September 18, 2015**

7:00 am – 8:00 am	Breakfast and Registration
8:00 am – 8:10 am	Welcome: <i>Jon Garon</i> , Dean, NSU Shepard Broad College of Law <i>Kerry Valdez</i> , Editor in Chief, Nova Law Review
8:10 am – 8:25 am	<b>Overview: The Makings of a Pipeline</b> <i>Jason P. Nance</i> , Associate Professor of Law and Director of Education Law and Policy, Center on Children and Families, University of Florida Levin College of Law
8:25 am – 8:45 am	<b>Juvenile Brain Development: Science and Legal Update</b> <i>Jennifer A. Brobst, J.D., L.L.M.</i> , Assistant Professor of Law, Director of the Center for Health Law and Policy, Southern Illinois University School of Law, <b>Miranda in Mental Health: Why Juvenile Defense Attorneys Advise Clients to Avoid Treatment</b>
8:45 am – 8:55 am	<b>Video Presentation: Student Voices and Insight</b>
8:55 am – 10:55 am <b>Ripe for Reform: The Policies and Practices</b>	<i>Kevin Johnson</i> , NSU Abraham S. Fischler College of Education, <b>Zero or No Tolerance in Our Public Schools-For Whom?</b>  <i>David Stovall Ph.D.</i> , Associate Professor of Education Policy Studies and African-American Studies, University of Illinois at Chicago, <b>Unearthing the War at Home: Into the School and Prison Nexus and Towards a Future for Black Life</b>  <i>Jason P. Nance</i> , Associate Professor of Law and Director of Education Law and Policy, Center on Children and Families, University of Florida Levin College of Law, <b>Dismantling the School-to-Prison Pipeline: Tools for Change</b>  <i>Steven L. Nelson, J.D., Ph.D.</i> , Assistant Professor of Leadership, University of Memphis College of Education, <b>The Right to Remain Silent in New Orleans: The Role of Nonpolitically Accountable Charter School Boards on the School-to-Prison Pipeline</b>  <i>Catherine E. Johnson, J. D., M.A.</i> , Disability Rights Attorney, Disability Rights Center of Kansas, Inc., <b>Disrupted Lives; Disrupted Futures: Zero Tolerance Policies Impact on Students with Disabilities</b>
10:55 am – 11:10 am	<b>Q&amp;A</b>
11:10 am – 12:10pm <b>Panel: Legal Remedies</b>	<i>Nancy Abudu</i> , Legal Director, American Civil Liberties Union of Florida  <i>Laverne Pinkney</i> , Professor, Florida International University College of Law  <i>Stephanie T. Moore</i> , Staff Attorney, Disability Rights Florida  <b>Effective Legal Strategies for Challenging School Disciplinary Policies</b>

12:10 pm – 1:15 pm	<b>Lunch</b>
12:30 pm – 1:15 pm <b>Keynote Address</b>	<i>Cynthia Henry Duval</i> , Gwen S. Cherry Black Women Lawyers Association, Introduction  <i>The Honorable Peggy Quince</i> , Justice of the Supreme Court of Florida, <b>Raising Our Children: The Village Has Work To Do</b>
1:30 pm – 3:15 pm <b>Panel: Juvenile Justice Reform &amp; Legislative Remedies</b>	<i>Megan Chaney Morrison</i> , Professor of Law, NSU Shepard Broad College of Law  <i>Carlos J. Martinez</i> , Miami-Dade Public Defender  <i>Lauren Jones</i> , Assistant Director of Legal Affairs, Anti-Defamation League  <i>Maria Schneider</i> , Esq., Assistant State Attorney in Charge of the Juvenile Division for the Office of the State Attorney - 17th Circuit  <i>Keyontay Humphries</i> , Regional Organizer, American Civil Liberties Union of Florida  <i>Dr. Amir Whitaker</i> , Ed.D., Esq., Southern Poverty Law Center Staff Attorney
3:15 pm – 3:30 pm	<b>Break</b>
3:30 pm – 4:00 pm <b>Case Study: Broward County Public Schools – The Promise Program</b>	<i>Nordia Sappleton</i> , Curriculum Supervisor for the Diversity, Prevention, & Intervention Department for Broward County Public Schools  <i>Amalio Nieves</i> , Director for the Diversity, Prevention, & Intervention Department for Broward County Public Schools  <i>David Watkins</i> , Ed.S. Director, Equity & Academic Attainment, Broward County Public Schools
4:00 pm – 5:30 pm <b>Going Forward: Action Items Roundtable</b>	<i>Michael J. Dale</i> , Professor of Law, NSU Shepard Broad College of Law  <i>Janel George</i> , Senior Educational Policy Counsel, NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund, Inc.  <i>Era Lauder milk</i> , Esq., Program Director, Illinois Justice Project  <i>Jennifer Brobst</i> , J.D., L.L.M., Assistant Professor of Law, Director of the Center for Health Law and Policy, Southern Illinois University School of Law  <i>Dr. Amir Whitaker</i> , Ed.D., Esq., Southern Poverty Law Center Staff Attorney
5:30 pm – 6:30 pm	<b>Cocktail Reception</b>

For Abstracts and Biographies please visit <http://bit.ly/NovaLawReviewFall>

*PowerPoint presentations will be uploaded to this site ASAP following the Symposium.*

## Overview: The Makings of a Pipeline

**Jason P. Nance, Associate Professor of Law and Director of Education Law and Policy, Center on Children and Families, University of Florida Levin College of Law**

Presentation Abstract: This presentation will analyze the school to prison pipeline's devastating consequences on students, its causes, and its disproportionate impact on students of color.

### ***Dismantling the School-to-Prison Pipeline: Tools for Change***

Presentation Abstract: This presentation will identify and describe specific, evidence-based tools to dismantle the school-to-prison pipeline that lawmakers, school administrators, and teachers in all areas can immediately support and implement. Further, it describes initial strategies aimed at addressing implicit bias, which is a primary cause of the racial disparities relating to the school-to-prison pipeline.



Jason P. Nance is an Associate Professor of Law and the Associate Director for Education Law and Policy at the Center on Children and Families at the University of Florida Levin College of Law. He teaches education law, remedies, torts, and introduction to the legal profession. He focuses his research and writing on racial inequalities in the public education system, school discipline, the school to prison pipeline, students' rights, and other issues in education law. In addition to earning a J.D. at the University of Pennsylvania Law School, he has a Ph.D. in education administration from the Ohio State University, where he also focused on empirical methodology. Before attending graduate school and law school, he was a public school math teacher in a large, metropolitan school district.



## Juvenile Brain Development: Science and Legal Update

### ***Miranda in Mental Health: Why Juvenile Defense Attorneys Advise Clients to Avoid Treatment***

**Jennifer A. Brobst, J.D., L.L.M., Assistant Professor of Law, Director of the Center for Health Law and Policy, Southern Illinois University School of Law**

Presentation Abstract: As evidence-based mental health research continues to develop rapidly, juvenile courts increasingly order mental health assessments and treatment for alleged and convicted youthful offenders. Juvenile defenders are cautious, for jurisdictions vary as to whether confessions in therapy to additional crimes, such as child sexual abuse, will result in new charges. In certain court-ordered therapeutic settings, some jurisdictions will require a therapist to issue Miranda warnings before commencing treatment.



Jennifer A. Brobst is an Assistant Professor and Director of the Center for Health Law and Policy at Southern Illinois University School of Law. For over 10 years, her teaching and scholarship have focused on matters related to criminal law, mental health law, scientific evidence, and crime victim rights. She formerly served for eight years as Legal Director of the Center for Child and Family Health, a medical-legal partnership from Duke University, North Carolina Central University (NCCU), and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, focusing on evidence-based child traumatic stress and abuse prevention. In addition, she has worked as a child forensic interviewer and felony prosecutor in South Bend, Indiana, and was the first Clinical Supervising Attorney for the NCCU Domestic Violence Clinic, and the first statewide Training Institute for the North Carolina Coalition Against Sexual Assault. She is currently licensed, in inactive status, in California, Indiana, North Carolina, and before the United States Supreme Court. Prof. Brobst has received degrees from the University of Cape Town, South Africa (B.A. with honors in archaeology and social anthropology), University of San Diego (J.D.), and Victoria University at Wellington in New Zealand (LL.M. by thesis in international comparative law on the reasonable discipline defense to physical child abuse).

**Also appearing today on “Going Forward: Action Items Roundtable”**



## **Ripe for Reform: The Policies and Practices**

### ***Zero or No Tolerance in Our Public Schools - For Whom?***

**Kevin Johnson, Nova Southeastern University Abraham S. Fischler College of Education**

Professor Johnson will explore the various perceptions parents, students, and principals have regarding zero tolerance policies and will explore the various types of misconduct that are punishable under these policies. By presenting case studies illustrating the philosophy of zero tolerance policies, Professor Johnson will call attention to the need for teacher training in classroom management, the need for school's to monitor teachers' disciplinary referrals to ensure fair application of disciplinary codes, and the importance of administrators' attitudes toward suspension and learning.



Dr. Kevin Johnson is a Professor in Education Leadership with almost two decades of service in education. Prior to joining Nova Southeastern University, Dr. Johnson was an Assistant Professor in Education Leadership and Special Education. He has been an educator at the elementary, middle, and high school levels as well as a Consultant with the State Department of Education before transitioning to higher education.

His college education began at Lincoln University in Pennsylvania, and continued at Westfield State College in Westfield, Massachusetts completing a B.A. in Special Education and Psychology. Dr. Johnson continued his education and completed a M.Ed. in Special Education and a M.Ed. in Education Administration at Georgia State University in Atlanta, Georgia. He also completed an Education Specialist (Ed.S.) in Education Administration at the University of West Georgia in Carrollton, Georgia. Finally, Kevin received a Doctorate in Education Leadership and Policy Studies at Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama.

Dr. Johnson's research interests include, but are not been limited to alternative discipline strategies, data utilization approaches, teaching using technology, urban leadership, parent involvement, leadership in the changing times of common core standards, school improvement as resource.

## Ripe for Reform: The Policies and Practices

### *Unearthing the War at Home: Into the School and Prison Nexus and Towards a Future for Black Life*

**David Stovall Ph.D., Associate Professor of Education Policy Studies and African-American Studies, University of Illinois at Chicago**

The current recognition of police violence against Black and Brown bodies in the United States may be a surprise to some, but is understood as foundational to life in the United States for others. If we understand such violence as normative, the larger project of justice requires naming these realities in the places where they are most likely to occur. Unfortunately, one of those places is school. By re-framing the "school-to-prison pipeline," the school and prison nexus allows for legal scholars, lawyers, future attorneys and educators to forge the necessary alliances to interrupt the current realities of physical, structural and institutional violence against students of color in schools.



DAVID STOVALL, Ph.D. is Associate Professor of Educational Policy Studies and African-American Studies at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC). His scholarship investigates four areas 1) Critical Race Theory, 2) concepts of social justice in education, 3) the relationship between housing and education, and 4) the relationship between schools and community stakeholders. In the attempt to bring theory to action, he has spent the last ten years working with community organizations and schools to develop curriculum that address issues of social justice. His current work has led him to become a member of the Greater Lawndale/Little Village School of Social Justice High School design team, which opened in the Fall of 2005. Furthering his work with communities, students, and teachers, Stovall is involved with youth-centered community organizations in Chicago, New York and the Bay Area. Currently this work manifests itself in his involvement with the Chicago Grassroots Curriculum Taskforce (CGCT), a collection of classroom teachers, community members, students and university professors who engage in collaborative community projects centered in creating relevant curriculum. In addition to his duties and responsibilities as an associate professor at UIC, he also serves as a volunteer social studies teacher at the Greater Lawndale/Little Village School for Social Justice.

## Ripe for Reform: The Policies and Practices

### *The Right to Remain Silent in New Orleans: The Role of Nonpolitically Accountable Charter School Boards on the School-to-Prison Pipeline*

**Steven L. Nelson, J.D., Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Leadership, University of Memphis College of Education**

This presentation explores the impact of the charter school movement – which almost universally uses self-selected as opposed to elected governing boards – on the school-to-prison pipeline. The presentation discusses the potential benefits of protecting the voting rights of those affected by the school reform movement in light of evidence that school operating under the elected school board in New Orleans perform better when accounting for academic indicators associated with the school-to-prison pipeline.



**Steven L. Nelson** holds a Ph.D. in educational leadership from the Pennsylvania State University. He also holds a law degree from the University of Iowa College of Law. Dr. Nelson received his B.A. from Louisiana State University in Political Science and a M.A.T. from Xavier University of Louisiana. His research interests lie at the intersection of law, policy and politics and educational equity. In particular, Dr. Nelson studies the impact of school reform activities on traditionally disenfranchised communities. As a faculty member in the Leadership Department of the University of Memphis, Dr. Nelson teaches courses in education law, education policy and the politics of education. Dr. Nelson is a former classroom teacher in traditional public, public charter and private schools in the New Orleans metropolitan area. Outside of the classroom, he was a teacher-leader and also served as the first-ever Education Advocate with the Southern Poverty Law Center's School-to-Prison Pipeline Project centered in New Orleans.

## Ripe for Reform: The Policies and Practices

### *Disrupted Lives; Disrupted Futures: Zero Tolerance Policies Impact on Students with Disabilities*

**Catherine E. Johnson, J. D., M.A. Disability Rights Attorney, Disability Rights Center of Kansas, Inc.**

This presentation will provide the audience with an overview on the use of Zero Tolerance Policies (ZT) in education. The impact of ZT on students with mental disabilities will be discussed from a legal perspective. Students with disabilities are afforded certain procedural due process rights under the Individuals with Disabilities Act and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The inherent conflict between ZT and due process protections will be discussed. The audience will be presented with options on employing these due process protections to prevent students with disabilities from being pushed out of school.



Catherine E. Johnson received her law degree from the University of Iowa, College of Law. Catherine is licensed to practice law in Kansas, Missouri and Iowa (inactive). She received her undergraduate degree in Business Administration and English from the University of Iowa, as well as a Master's Degree in Higher Education, specializing in students' civil rights. Catherine started her legal career as a staff attorney for Muscatine Legal Services, advocating for individuals in civil, criminal and juvenile actions. Catherine's long standing interest in civil rights in education, led to her unique professional opportunities, as Director of Student Legal Services, University of Iowa, Assistant Dean of Students for Saint Louis University, School of Law for Managing Attorney Civil Justice Clinic, Washington University School of Law. In those capacities she represented, advocated and counseled students in legal, academic and life issues. Catherine has also been a civil commitment and defense staff attorney for the Iowa and Missouri Public Defender Offices, where she represented individuals the state sought to commit under newly enacted civil commitment statutes. Catherine has written numerous appellate briefs and presented oral arguments before the Iowa Supreme Court.

## Legal Remedies

### *Effective Legal Strategies for Challenging School Disciplinary Policies*

**Panelist: Nancy Abudu, Legal Director, American Civil Liberties Union of Florida**

This panel will address the legal remedies and administrative procedures available to families seeking to challenge school disciplinary policies that have resulted in the suspension or expulsion of their children, as well as other negative treatment students experience related to the school-to-prison pipeline phenomenon. Panelists will discuss cases that have been brought under federal and state laws, the role administrative agencies play in overseeing the enforcement of such laws, and the impact of community activism in advancing legal reforms.



Nancy Abudu is the Legal Director for the ACLU of Florida. She litigates cases in federal and state courts on a range of issues including voting rights, criminal justice, reproductive rights, free speech, and LGBT rights. Before coming to the ACLU of Florida, Nancy was Senior Staff Counsel with the ACLU's National Voting Rights Project in Atlanta for almost eight years. She also was a staff attorney with the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals in Atlanta, and was an associate with the law firm Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP in New York. She has represented victims of domestic violence on behalf of the Legal Aid Society of New York in the East Harlem office, and has presented testimony before the United Nations on environmental justice and other human rights issues. Prior to moving to Miami, she was the Chair of the Georgia Chapter of the National Lawyers Guild and served on the advisory board for Re-Entry Connection, Inc. (a holistic rehabilitation program for female ex-offenders). She was also co-chair of the Political Action Committee for the Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys and served as a state legislative coordinator for Amnesty International USA. She currently serves on the ABA's Advisory Committee on Election Law, and is a Senior Fellow with the Environmental Leadership Program based in Washington, D.C. She received her B.A. from Columbia University and her J.D. from Tulane Law School where she won the "Most Outstanding Managing Editor Award" for her work on the Tulane Environmental Law Journal. She is admitted to practice in Florida, Georgia, New York, the U.S. Supreme Court, and several other federal courts.



## Legal Remedies

### *Effective Legal Strategies for Challenging School Disciplinary Policies*

**Panelist: Laverne Pinkney, Professor, Florida International University College of Law**

This panel will address the legal remedies and administrative procedures available to families seeking to challenge school disciplinary policies that have resulted in the suspension or expulsion of their children, as well as other negative treatment students experience related to the school-to-prison pipeline phenomenon. Panelists will discuss cases that have been brought under federal and state laws, the role administrative agencies play in overseeing the enforcement of such laws, and the impact of community activism in advancing legal reforms.



Laverne O. Pinkney is a member of the Clinical Staff at Florida International University, College of Law. She assists with representation of families and unaccompanied children through the Clinical Program's partnership with Americans for Immigrant Justice. She served as the Director of the Family and Education Law Clinic from 2007 until 2015 where she taught, oversaw and supervised Law Students in the representation of parents and children in Family, Dependency, Special Education and School Discipline cases. Her previous experience includes services as Adjunct Professor, University of Miami, School of Law, Center for Ethics and Public Service, United States Presidential Management Intern; Administrator and Clerkship with the U.S. Department of Justice, Criminal Division; Clerkship with the 17th Circuit Court in Broward County; Chief Legal Counsel, Department of Children and Families, Broward County and more than ten years with Legal Services of Greater Miami where she served as a Senior Staff Attorney and Supervisor of the Family, Juvenile and Education Unit. She served in several quasi-judicial positions, including Special Master and Traffic Court Magistrate. She is a Florida Supreme Court Certified Family and County Mediator. She is a member of the Florida Bar, The District of Columbia Bar and United States District Court for the Southern and Middle Districts of Florida. Throughout her career, she has presented "Know Your Rights" presentations and trainings. She serves on the Miami-Dade County Youth Crime Task Force and Florida International University's Fostering Panther Pride Committee which addresses the needs of students coming from former foster care and/or homeless backgrounds to provide these students with opportunities to succeed academically. She is the 2014 recipient of Parent to Parent of Miami Impact Award for her years of representation and advocacy on behalf of parents and children.

#### Education & Credentials:

Bar Admissions: Florida, District of Columbia  
J.D., St. Thomas University, School of Law, 1988  
M.P.A., (Public Administration), Florida International University, 1982  
B.S., (Criminal Justice) Florida International University, 1979

## Legal Remedies

### *Effective Legal Strategies for Challenging School Disciplinary Policies*

**Panelist: Stephanie T. Moore, Staff Attorney, Disability Rights Florida**

This panel will address the legal remedies and administrative procedures available to families seeking to challenge school disciplinary policies that have resulted in the suspension or expulsion of their children, as well as other negative treatment students experience related to the school-to-prison pipeline phenomenon. Panelists will discuss cases that have been brought under federal and state laws, the role administrative agencies play in overseeing the enforcement of such laws, and the impact of community activism in advancing legal reforms.



Stephanie Moore serves as a staff attorney with Disability Rights Florida, the state's protection and advocacy agency. Ms. Moore earned her law degree from the University of Virginia. She is a member of the Florida and California Bars and is admitted to practice in U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida, U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida and the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Florida. Ms. Moore's public interest and disability law experience includes time working for the Virginia Protection and Advocacy agency as well as the Florida Justice Institute. Ms. Moore currently works on the Advocacy, Education, and Outreach team for Disability Rights Florida, working primarily on K-12 and post-secondary education cases.



## Keynote Address

### *Introduction*

Cynthia Henry Duval is the Associate Director of Career and Professional Development and adjunct faculty at Nova Southeastern University, Shepard Broad Law Center. She is a first generation Haitian-American who grew up in Newark, New Jersey. Early in her career she served two terms as a federal judicial law clerk for the United States District Court Middle District and Southern District of Florida. She also served in local government as Assistant City Attorney for the City of Hialeah and as an Assistant Regional Counsel for the Office of Criminal Conflict and Civil Regional Counsel. She is the Immediate Past President of Gwen S. Cherry Black Women Lawyers Association and speaks on issues related to diversity and talent development. She is a proud graduate of University of Miami School of Law, devoted wife and mother of four.



## Keynote Address

### *Raising Our Children: The Village Has Work To Do.*

#### **The Honorable Peggy Quince, Justice of the Supreme Court of Florida**

Justice Peggy A. Quince, a native of Norfolk, Va., began her legal career in Washington, D.C., as a hearing officer with the Rental Accommodations Office, administering that city's rent control law. In 1977, she entered private practice in Norfolk, with an emphasis on real estate and domestic relations. Justice Quince moved to Florida in 1978 and opened a law office in Bradenton, where she practiced general civil law until February 1980, when she began working in the Attorney General's Office, Criminal Division. She handled numerous appeals, including death penalty cases, in the Second District Court of Appeal, the Florida Supreme Court the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals, and the U.S. Supreme Court. Her 13-year tenure in that office included five years as the Tampa bureau chief. Additionally, she spent three years handling death penalty cases exclusively, on direct appeal and in post-conviction proceedings. In 1993, Justice Quince became the first African-American woman appointed to one of the district courts of appeal, when Gov. Lawton Chiles appointed her to the Second District Court of Appeal. On Dec. 8, 1998, Gov. Chiles and Gov.-elect Jeb Bush appointed her to the Florida Supreme Court. Justice Quince has lectured at a number of Continuing Legal Education programs on issues involving search and seizure, probation and parole, use of peremptory challenges, post-conviction relief, professionalism and ethics, and the independence of the judiciary. She graduated in 1970 from Howard University with a B.S. Degree in Zoology. She received her J.D. Degree from the Catholic University of America in 1975.



## **Panel: Juvenile Justice Reform & Legislative Remedies**

### **Panelist: Megan Chaney Morrison, Professor of Law, NSU Shepard Broad College of Law**

Megan F. Chaney Morrison is an Associate Professor of Law, she earned her JD from Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law in 2000. Professor Chaney joined the Shepard Broad Law Center at Nova Southeastern University in the Summer of 2013 bringing with her formidable classroom teaching, clinical administration and criminal practice experience. In the Summer of 2015, Professor Chaney was appointed to serve as the first Director of Trial & Appellate Advocacy at the Shepard Broad College of Law to help fortify the advocacy pillar of the law school's global initiative. At the law school, Professor Chaney co-directs the Criminal Justice Field Placement clinic, teaches Criminal Law, Trial Advocacy and Professional Responsibility while also coaching competitive trial and moot court teams.



Before joining NSU, Professor Chaney was the Director of Clinical Programs and Experiential Learning and an Associate Professor of Law at University of La Verne College of Law in Southern California where she taught Evidence, Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, Trial Advocacy, Lawyering Skills Practicum, and Professional Responsibility. She was also the founding faculty advisor for the award-winning La Verne Trial Team. Professor Chaney was promoted to Associate Professor of Law in 2012.

Professor Chaney was appointed Visiting Associate Professor of Law at the William S. Boyd School of Law at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) in 2006 where she taught Criminal Procedure and co-directed the Juvenile Justice Clinic.

Professor Chaney was a Robert M. Cover Clinical Teaching Fellow and Clinical Lecturer in Law at Yale Law School from 2004-2006. While at Yale, she worked with Professor Ronald S. Sullivan, Jr., former Director of Public Defender Services in Washington, D.C. She supervised students representing clients accused of felony crimes in Connecticut and co-taught Criminal Defense Theory & Ethics.

Professor Chaney's experience includes serving as an Assistant Public Defender at the Miami-Dade County Public Defender's Office. She is proud of the clinical education she received in both the Criminal Law and Criminal Appellate Clinics at the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law in Manhattan. Professor Chaney has spoken at numerous academic conferences throughout the United States, including the AALS Clinical Conference, the Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Association of Law Schools, the Wells Adoption Conference at Capital Law School, and the CALI Conference for Law School Computing. In the fall of 2007, she helped develop and teach the training curriculum for the Western Juvenile Defender Center at the National Juvenile Defender Leadership Summit. Her latest articles about post-adjudicatory juvenile defense were published by the Georgetown Journal on Poverty Law & Policy & Capital Law Review.

## Panel: Juvenile Justice Reform & Legislative Remedies

### Panelist: Carlos J. Martinez, Miami-Dade Public Defender

Carlos J. Martinez, a native of Cuba, has dedicated his professional life to public service, using his legal talents in service of the poor. Arriving to Miami from Cuba on a 1969 Freedom Flight with his mother, father, two siblings and aunt, he learned the meaning of hard work and determination at an early age. As a youngster, Carlos often helped his dad, Celedonio, mop floors and clean the Little Havana church where his father worked as a maintenance man and where his mother, Yara, was the church's receptionist. At 16, Carlos began working as a car wash attendant at an Exxon station. Within three years, Carlos was simultaneously managing six gas stations in Miami-Dade and Broward counties. Through this full-time employment, Carlos was able to pay for his undergraduate college education. He attended Miami-Dade College, the University of Texas-Austin and graduated from Florida International University with a B.A. in Political Science in 1985. In 1990, Carlos received his J.D. from the University of Miami. He worked in Miami Dade, Florida and Bellingham, Washington as an assistant public defender, representing indigent clients at the trial and appellate level, and in drug court. Prior to being elected as Public Defender, Carlos was a top administrator in the Public Defender's office for 12 years. He lead litigation efforts, designed and implemented management and legal reforms, and drafted legislation and budget proposals. Carlos created numerous volunteer initiatives such as the "Redemption Project" (helping ex-felons regain their civil and employment rights), "Play It Smart" (teaching young people how to interact with law enforcement), "Consequences Aren't Minor" (educating adolescents and adults about the direct and collateral consequences of illegal behavior and arrest), the Equal Justice Roundtable (a faith community collaboration to address social injustice and improve public safety), a statewide public defender management training program, and Juvenile Justice CPR (Charting a Path to Redemption), a legal reform initiative designed to help troubled kids achieve the American dream. This new effort follows closely on the heels of his leadership of a statewide endeavor to ban the indiscriminate shackling of detained children in juvenile courts. He has worked tirelessly to address the crisis of minority children being cycled from the school house to the jail house, and in the effort to protect the confidentiality of juvenile records. Carlos has a long list of outstanding honors and achievements. In February, 2009, Carlos received the FIU Distinguished Alumni Torch Award for the College of Law. In April, 2009, Carlos was inducted into the Miami-Dade College Alumni Hall of Fame. In 2006, the Florida Public Defender Association (FPDA) awarded Carlos the Association's prestigious Craig Stewart Barnard Award for Outstanding Service. Carlos also served two years as Vice President of the FPDA. Carlos is a member of Iron Arrow, the highest honor bestowed by the University of Miami. In addition, Carlos co-authored "The Best Defense is No Offense: Preventing Crime Through Effective Public Defense," published in the New York University, Review of Law and Social Change. Carlos is an active member of numerous civic groups and local, state and national legal organizations, the American Bar Association Criminal Justice Council, the National Institute of Corrections' National Advisory Committee on Evidence Based Decision Making for Local Criminal Justice Systems, The Florida Blueprint Commission on Juvenile Justice, and the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice Zero Tolerance Task Force. He was elected public defender without opposition in August, 2008. Carlos is the first Cuban-American Public Defender and the only elected Hispanic Public Defender in the U.S. As Public Defender, Carlos manages an office of



approximately 200 attorneys (assistant public defenders) and an equal number of support staff, handling approximately 90,000 cases each year. Carlos credits his parents and his religious upbringing for his passion for social justice and for helping the poor. “I feel blessed to be an American and to have the opportunity to do something I love. It’s gratifying to work in an office where we can be proud of what we do every day –helping people who are less fortunate and whose freedom is in jeopardy. By being the Public Defender, helping the less-fortunate, I’m honoring my mother and father’s values and the sacrifices they made so that my family could live and prosper in a free country.”

## **Panel: Juvenile Justice Reform & Legislative Remedies**

**Panelist: Lauren Jones, Assistant Director of Legal Affairs, Anti-Defamation League**

Lauren Jones is the Assistant Director of Legal Affairs at the Anti-Defamation League. In that role, she provides specialized legal advice to ADL staff in 27 regional offices around the country, files amicus briefs and provides testimony at the federal and state levels, and advocates for policies that further ADL's mission of securing justice and fair treatment for all. Her particular areas of focus include education equity, bullying prevention, women's rights, immigration, and voting rights. Lauren staffs the League's Education Equity Task Force, leading ADL's work on disrupting the school-to-prison pipeline. Prior to joining ADL, Lauren was a staff attorney at the Center for Family Representation in New York. She previously worked at the Brennan Center for Justice and was an Assistant Adjunct Professor in New York University's journalism department. Lauren received her B.A., magna cum laude, from New York University and her J.D. from New York University School of Law, where she received the Anne Petluck Poses Memorial Prize for excellence in clinical practice.





## **Panel: Juvenile Justice Reform & Legislative Remedies**

**Panelist: Maria Schneider, Assistant State Attorney in Charge, Juvenile Division for the Office of the State Attorney - 17th Circuit**

Maria M. Schneider is the Assistant State Attorney in Charge of the Juvenile Division for the Office of the State Attorney for the 17th Judicial Circuit of Florida and has been an assistant state attorney since 1993. Prior to that Ms. Schneider was employed as an Assistant Public Defender at the Broward Public Defender's Office from 1986 to 1993. Ms. Schneider is actively involved in a number of organizations that advocate for the wellbeing of children such as the Children's Services Council of Broward County, the Circuit Advisory Board for the 17th Judicial Circuit, the Elimination of the School-house to Jail-house Pipeline Committee, and Partners in Education, a non-profit organization that helps forge partnerships between businesses and public schools to improve the educational experience. She is also a past member of the Florida Bar Juvenile Rules Committee. Ms. Schneider is also participates in the Diversion Coalition, a group of community stakeholder who provide services to delinquent youth so they have the opportunity to avoid having cases processed through the formal delinquency system. She also spearheads quarterly expunction workshops to help the youth prepare the documents necessary to expunge their juvenile justice records. In addition, Ms. Schneider teaches as an adjunct professor of criminal justice at Florida Atlantic University, Nova Southeastern University, and teaches trial advocacy at the Sheppard Broad Law Center at Nova Southeastern University. Ms. Schneider has also lectured for the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice, the Florida Prosecuting Attorney's Association, the Florida Association of School Resource Officers, the Office of the Attorney General and the National District Attorney's Association and has participated in training programs run by the National Institute for Trial Advocacy in the United States and abroad.





## Panel: Juvenile Justice Reform & Legislative Remedies

### Panelist: Keyontay Humphries, Regional Organizer, ACLU of Florida

Keyontay Humphries is the Regional Organizer for the American Civil Liberties Union of Florida. From Pensacola to Tallahassee, she mobilizes people in the spirit of freedom and justice. Her campaigns include strengthening non-discrimination policies in the private and public sector, ensuring equal and fair access to employment, education, health care, housing and voting, along with reforming punitive, archaic criminal and juvenile justice policies. Notably an avid social justice organizer, her true passion is for youth. As facilitator of the Escambia Youth Justice Coalition, EYJC envisions a system utilizing alternatives to incarceration and other proven interventions that both enhance public safety and protect children and their families. To EYJC's credit Youth Civil Citation programs have been revived in Escambia County and across Florida's 1st Judicial Circuit. The Escambia County School District revised their



Code of Conduct known as the Student's Rights and Responsibilities Handbook to include progressive discipline, tracking, and early parent engagement. Through collaboration with the Red Ribbon foundation and the ACLU of Florida, Keyontay works to reduce homophobia and to advance and defend LGBT rights for youth and adults in NW Florida. Projects include engaging the community with the City of Pensacola to adopt a Domestic Partnership Registry ordinance, and successfully lobbying the Escambia County School Board to add "gender identity/ expression" to their bullying and non-discrimination policies. During the summer months, she sponsors the Pensacola Summer Gay Straight (Student) Alliance which aims to create a safe, welcoming, and accepting environment for all youth regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity. Then in the fall, through a partnership with the ACLU of Florida and the fest's Board of Directors, she coordinates the Pensacola LGBT Film Festival. The festival spans four nights and serves as a conduit for expanding the region's diversity and acceptance of diverse identities.

In 2012, while working for the Southern Poverty Law Center, she was instrumental in filing U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights complaints against five Florida school districts; including Escambia, Okaloosa, Suwannee, Flagler and Bay County School Districts. All of the complaints resulted in active and open investigations by the federal government. Recently, SPLC and Flagler County reached a settlement; however the other 4 complaints are still under investigation. Since relocating to northwest Florida, Keyontay has expanded her work as a child's rights advocate assisting families on issues related to law enforcement, youth homelessness, abuse, bullying, dropout prevention and special needs /ESE. In 2014, Keyontay partnered with other young and seasoned community activists to bring the Black Lives Matter, All Lives Matter movement to Pensacola with "From Pensacola". Convening vigils and rallies challenging the local government's hoisting of the Confederate flag, military-style policing including excessive force, as well highlighting other discriminatory practices against Black men, women and children From Pensacola's aim is to ensure and restore justice for the often marginalized and victimized. As a result of her work in the community, the InWeekly, published by the Independent News, named Ms. Humphries to their 2015 Power List.

## **Panel: Juvenile Justice Reform & Legislative Remedies**

**Panelist: Amir Whitaker, Ed.D., Esq., Southern Poverty Law Center Staff Attorney**

Dr. Amir Whitaker is a staff attorney with the Southern Poverty Law Center's Florida office. He was introduced to the criminal justice system during his childhood years while visiting both his mother and father in prison. By age 15, Amir himself was arrested and entered the juvenile justice system. Behavioral problems and repeated suspensions eventually led to Amir being expelled from school. Amir eventually transitioned from his alternative school to become one of the first in his family to graduate high school and attend college. After graduating from Rutgers University, Amir received a graduate fellowship to teach and study in South Africa.



Amir relocated to California to complete his masters and doctorate in Educational Psychology at the University of Southern California. His research focused decreasing school dropout and delinquency rates among at-risk youth.

In May 2014, Amir completed his fifth college degree at University of Miami School of Law. His legal experiences include the Juvenile Division of Miami's Public Defenders, being a fellow in the University of Miami's Educational Rights Project, and teaching at multiple Miami-Dade schools in the Street Law program. He has negotiated settlements and policy changes that have impacted thousands of students. Amir has also taught in different settings from South Central Los Angeles to South Africa for nine years. He has worked at all grade levels from kindergarten to college and has held teaching certifications in Florida, California, and New Jersey. In 2012, Amir started the non-profit Project KnuckleHead to empower at-risk and delinquent youth to reach their potential for greatness. Project KnuckleHead has impacted more than a thousand youth across the country through their educational, music, art, mentoring, and after school programs.

**Also appearing today on “Going Forward: Action Items Roundtable”**

## **Case Study: Broward County Public Schools – The Promise Program**

**Panelist: Nordia Sappleton, Curriculum Supervisor for the Diversity, Prevention, & Intervention Department for Broward County Public Schools**

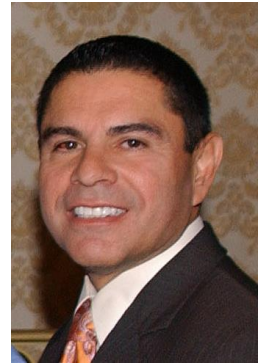
Nordia Sappleton provides the day-to-day leadership support, vision and focus as the Curriculum Supervisor for the Diversity, Prevention, & Intervention Department for Broward County Public Schools, which is the sixth largest school district in the nation. Ms. Sappleton has over 17 years of education and administrative leadership experience. Moreover, she has extensive experience in the field of prevention and intervention education and services regarding school discipline. Additionally, she manages the discipline policies and the state of Florida's mandated areas of instruction as it relates to the history of the Holocaust (1933-1945), the history of African Americans, the study of Hispanic contributions to the United States and the study of women's contributions to the United States. Ms. Sappleton has collaborated with school and community leaders to ensure prevention remains at the forefront when rules and guidelines are being recommended for approval by The School Board of Broward County, Florida. Most recently, Ms. Sappleton has played an integral role in a plethora of District initiatives as it relates to the reduction of student suspensions, expulsions and arrest, the Elimination of the School-to-Prison Pipeline and the enrichment of curriculum support services to students and teachers around the Diversity Mandates.



## **Case Study: Broward County Public Schools – The Promise Program**

### **Panelist: Amalio Nieves, Director for the Diversity, Prevention, & Intervention Department for Broward County Public Schools**

Amalio Nieves provides the day-to-day leadership, vision and focus as Director for the Diversity, Prevention, & Intervention Department for Broward County Public Schools, the sixth largest school district in the nation. Mr. Nieves has extensive experience in the field of prevention and intervention education and services. He has collaborated with school and community leaders to ensure prevention plays an integral role in establishing a safe and secure learning environment for developing the whole child. Most recently, Mr. Nieves has been instrumental in the development of several of Broward County Public Schools newest initiatives, designed at eliminating the school to prison pipeline, addressing courageous conversations around race, and promoting comprehensive sexual health policy and curriculum. In particular, Mr. Nieves has been a driving national force for LGBTQ students, families and staff needs and support.



## Case Study: Broward County Public Schools – The Promise Program

### Panelist: David Watkins, Ed.S. Director, Equity & Academic Attainment, Broward County Public Schools

Upon the arrival of Robert Runcie, Superintendent of Schools for the School Board of Broward County, Florida, he immediately identified areas of growth and support in our community. Mr. Runcie found that black males were at the top of every negative indicator as it relates to high school graduation, employment and arrests. One of his first initiatives was to create an office to address the needs of black males and other student that struggle to find success at school and in the community. He added the Office of Minority Success and appointed David Watkins as its first Director.



A Tallahassee native, David Watkins holds a bachelors degree in Political Science from Florida A & M University, Master's Degree Social Studies Education from Syracuse University and an Educational Specialist Degree in Educational Leadership from Nova Southeastern University.

Mr. Watkins has served as Principal of Whiddon-Rogers Education Center, Department of Juvenile Justice education programs, Adult Correctional education programs and Adult/Community School education programs. He has served as an Assistant Principal at Stranahan High School, Hallandale Adult Community Center, Millennium Middle School and Whiddon-Rogers Education Center. He was also a teacher at Plantation Middle School.

As an innovative leader in alternative education, he has worked with the Florida Department of Education to enhance, review and monitor education programs in correctional facilities. He serves on the Education & Youth Advocacy Committee and DJJ Circuit 17 Advisory Board for Juvenile Justice. He has worked with Glencoe publishing company to review and provide input to state adopted United States History textbooks.

Mr. Watkins serves a mentor to both male and female students. He also coaches youth in the community, as well as being a father and husband to his wife Erika and sons David Jr. and Sean.

Mr. Watkins enjoys serving students throughout the school system, but he is particularly passionate about helping students who are most at risk of dropping out of high school and getting involved with criminal behavior.

Through the work of Mr. Watkins and his team, they have coordinated and facilitated the following events to support students:

- I. Developed a career center at Lauderdale Manors Early Learning Resource Center called Mainstreaming Education for College and Career Advancement whose purpose is to re-engage students through mentoring, assessments, job placement and tutoring.
- II. Facilitated conversations between students and law enforcement, community members, state attorney, public defender, judges, elected officials, parents and educators around concerns about the verdict in cases such as Trayvon Martin, Michael Brown, Eric Garner and others.

- III. Conducted a College and Career Fairs for hundreds students in the district.
- IV. In partnership with National CARES Mentoring Movement coordinated field trips for hundreds of alternative school students to Art Basel in Miami.
- V. Brought more than one thousand students together from schools throughout the district for private viewings of the movie Selma held at Dillard High School in partnership with Paramount Pictures, Oprah Winfrey, Susan Taylor, South Florida Cares Mentoring Movement and Alpha Rho Boule.
- VI. In partnership with Broward College, awarded full scholarships to about 20 students from alternative high schools that overcame significant challenges to earn a high school diploma.
- VII. Provides students an opportunity to have a private meeting with Oprah Winfrey during the “The Life You Want” event in Miami.

Mr. Watkins benefits by having a great team of people who support these initiatives and is just as passionate as he is around the success of all students. Mr. Watkins believes that all children deserved to be loved, treated with respect and dignity and given as many chances as possible to “get it right.” His motto is “When one door closes, another opens.”



## Going Forward: Action Items Roundtable

### Panelist: Michael J. Dale, Professor of Law, NSU Shepard Broad College of Law

Michael J. Dale is Professor of Law and earned his JD from Boston College in 1970. Michael J. Dale has been a member of the faculty at Nova Southeastern University Law Center in Fort Lauderdale, Florida since 1985, teaching courses in family law, juvenile law and in the family and juvenile clinic. He also teaches litigation courses including civil procedure, conflicts of laws, evidence, trial advocacy and international litigation. Before joining the Nova faculty Dale spent time in private law practice in Phoenix and was Executive Director of the Youth Law Center in San Francisco after serving as Attorney in Charge of the Special Litigation Unit of the Juvenile Rights Division of the Legal Aid Society of the City of New York. He has been a practicing lawyer specializing in civil rights litigation for 40 years. He is admitted to practice in the states of Arizona, Florida, New Mexico and New York as well as before the United States Supreme Court and numerous federal appellate and district courts. Professor Dale teaches in National Institute for Trial Advocacy programs in both public and in-house settings. He also focuses on NITA programs concerning children including trainings held in Denver, Phoenix, Los Angeles, Boston, Utah, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Illinois, New Jersey, New Mexico, Philadelphia at the University of Pennsylvania, New York at Hofstra University and Houston at the University of Houston. For the past 24 years he has been program director for the NITA Florida Deposition Program. In 2009 Professor Dale received the Robert Oliphant Award from NITA for his service to the organization. An active litigator himself, he has been a consultant to federal and state agencies on civil rights issues and to law firms on litigation matters. Professor Dale is the author of over seventy-five articles focusing primarily on juvenile and children's law topics. He is also the author of the two volume text, representing the Child Client, published by Matthew Bender Co. He speaks regularly to professional groups on children's law and litigation topics.





## Going Forward: Action Items Roundtable

### Panelist: Janel George, Senior Educational Policy Counsel, NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund, Inc.

Janel George is Senior Education Policy Counsel at the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc. (LDF), where she uses legislative and policy advocacy to promote racial justice and equal educational opportunity. She works on a broad range of education issues, including early childhood education, special education, access to higher education, and equitable resource distribution, among many others. She works with a broad group of stakeholders within coalitions and campaigns to promote equitable, inclusive, and fair school policies and practices. Ms. George also works as a federal liaison for the Dignity in Schools Campaign (DSC), a coalition of 98 organizations from 24 states, promoting positive and inclusive school discipline policies and curbing the use of exclusionary and overly punitive disciplinary practices that push students out of school and fuel the School-to-Prison Pipeline.



Before joining LDF, Ms. George served as Legislative Counsel and Legislative Assistant to a senior Senator and junior Member of the House of Representatives. In her roles, she managed education, health care reform, judiciary, and other domestic policy issues, and participated in the crafting and implementation of comprehensive health care reform and other key legislation. She also advised on a wide range of civil rights issues – including hate crimes prevention legislation, fair pay for women, the reauthorization of Title IV-E waivers in the Child and Family Services Improvement and Innovation Act, the DREAM Act, higher education affordability legislation, and anti-bullying legislation. She practiced family law, representing children in complex custody cases, with the Children’s Law Center before working on Capitol Hill. She was awarded a Women’s Law and Public Policy Fellowship through Georgetown University Law Center, and worked as Counsel with the National Asian Pacific American Women’s Forum (NAPAWF) on reproductive justice, immigration reform, and domestic violence prevention issues impacting Asian and Pacific Islander women and trained members on policy advocacy. She is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison Law School and Spelman College. She has authored papers on reproductive justice and education, and frequently speaks on those issues. She is an adjunct professor at the University of the District of Columbia David A. Clarke School of Law.

## Going Forward: Action Items Roundtable

### Panelist: Era Lauder milk, Program Director, Illinois Justice Project

Era Lauder milk joined the Illinois Justice Project (“ILJP”) in November 2014, and serves as the new Program Director for the Illinois Juvenile Justice Leadership Council. Era’s work is primarily focused on juvenile justice systems reform efforts. Prior to joining ILJP, Era served as the Chief of Staff for the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice (“DJJ”). As Chief of Staff, Era oversaw the general management of the agency and strived to achieve the Department’s mission through her work on policy, programs, operations and legislative matters. Prior to joining DJJ, Era served as Associate General Counsel to Illinois Governor Pat Quinn. In this role, Era provided guidance to state agencies on various legal, legislative, policy and operations issues. She was also charged with managing the clemency process, which included reviewing and making recommendations for clemency to Governor Quinn.



In 2009, Era became an Assistant Attorney General in the Office of the Illinois Attorney General. As an Assistant Attorney General, Era defended state agencies, officers and officials in various civil litigation matters. Era’s career working in the justice arena began in 2006, when she joined Hooks Law Offices, PC and practiced criminal defense law and defended civil actions including medical malpractice and employment discrimination cases in state and federal court.

Era earned her bachelor’s degree in Political Science from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio and earned a Juris Doctor from the University Of Illinois College Of Law in Champaign, Illinois. Era is licensed to practice law in the State of Illinois, United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, and the United States Supreme Court. In 2014, Era advanced as a Regional Finalist in the White House Fellows program.