

**MARCH 28, 2014
10 A.M.- 5:15 P.M.**

**REDUCING
INCARCERATION**

**ENDLESS PUNISHMENT, LONG-TERM SENTENCES,
& AGING IN PRISON - OR RELEASE & REENTRY**



EVENT COORDINATED BY:

The Justice Initiative at Columbia University, Policy Working Group
The Release Aging People in Prison Campaign (RAPP)
The Correctional Association of New York
The Osborne Association
Be the Evidence Project
The Florence V. Burden Foundation

The Justice Initiative
 COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

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The Justice Initiative
 COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

For more information about

The Justice Initiative visit ji.columbia.edu

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Mailman Auditorium

Mailman School of Public Health
Columbia University
722 W168 Street, 8th floor
New York, NY 10032

the power of the communities most negatively affected by criminal justice policy and decrease the state's use and abuse of incarceration as a response to the socioeconomic problems facing our communities.

Be the Evidence Project:

The mission of the Be the Evidence Project is to create awareness of human rights and social justice issues through research, advocacy, and education. Be The Evidence Project activities foster dialogue and action on how human rights and social justice can be realized in everyday and professional practice.

The Be the Evidence Project is a collective of globally conscious researchers, practitioners, educators, policy-makers and advocates, and concerned citizens whose non-profit independent scholarly and creative ventures are designed to disseminate knowledge, values, and skills that will help improve the individual and community response to critical social issues and improve well-being using 'any media means necessary.

The Florence V. Burden Foundation:

The Florence V. Burden Foundation, incorporated in 1967, is a family foundation committed to helping individuals and families throughout New York State and New England, with special emphasis on the metropolitan New York and Boston areas, and the state of Maine. The Foundation focuses its philanthropic efforts in three funding areas: Aging and Senior Services, Children and Youth and Criminal Justice.

During the past several years The Foundation has focused its resources on programs and services at the nexus of its three funding priorities. This includes: support for grandparents who are raising their grandchildren; programs to help men and women who are incarcerated to prepare for, obtain and maintain employment upon their release from prison; support groups for formerly incarcerated women; and examining issues related to the aging of the prison population.

EVENT	PANELISTS	TIME
WELCOME	Samuel Roberts COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, THE JUSTICE INITIATIVE	10:15 – 10:20
OPENING REMARKS	Soffiyah Elijah THE CORRECTIONAL ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK	10:20 - 10:30
PANEL 1 Living Conditions for Aging and Elderly Individuals Inside Prisons	Brian Fischer FORMERLY OF THE NYS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND COMMUNITY SUPERVISION Karen Murtagh PRISONER LEGAL SERVICES Will Bunting AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION Larry White HOPE LIVES FOR LIFERS PROJECT MODERATED BY Elizabeth Gaynes THE OSBORNE ASSOCIATION	10:30 – 11:45
BREAK		11:45 – 12:00
PANEL 2 Barriers to Release	Mujahid Farid RELEASE AGING PEOPLE IN PRISON / RAPP CAMPAIGN Jamie Fellner HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH Ed Hammock NYS PAROLE BOARD Marc Mauer THE SENTENCING PROJECT MODERATED BY Kathy Boudin CRIMINAL JUSTICE INITIATIVE: SUPPORTING CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES	12:00 – 1:15
LUNCH		1:15 – 2:30
PANEL 3 Successful Reentry of Returning Citizens	Lilliam Barrios-Paoli , NYC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES Gloria Rubero Sandra Pullman , OFFICE OF THE NEW YORK STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL, CIVIL RIGHTS BUREAU Elizabeth Gaynes , OSBORNE ASSOCIATION Tina Maschi , FORDHAM UNIVERSITY, BE THE EVIDENCE PROJECT MODERATED BY Annette Dickerson FORMERLY OF THE CENTER FOR CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS	2:30 – 3:45
BREAK		3:45 – 4:00
PANEL 4 Potential Strategies Moving Forward	Danylle Rudin , FLORENCE V. BURDEN FOUNDATION Reverend N.J. L'Heureux, Jr. , QUEENS FEDERATION OF CHURCHES Soffiyah Elijah , THE CORRECTIONAL ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK Lynn Cortella , NYS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND COMMUNITY SUPERVISION MODERATED BY Tina Maschi FORDHAM UNIVERSITY, BE THE EVIDENCE PROJECT	4:00 – 5:15

BIOGRAPHIES:

Lilliam Barrios-Paoli

DEPUTY MAYOR FOR HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES



Lilliam Barrios-Paoli was appointed Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services by Mayor Bill de Blasio on December 12, 2013 to oversee the following agencies: Human Resources Administration, Administration for Children Services, Homeless Services, the Department for the Aging, the Department for Youth and Community Development, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence, and Health and Hospitals Corporation. Mayor de Blasio has charged Ms.

Barrios-Paoli with moving New Yorkers from homelessness to stable housing, expanding community health clinics and cutting red tape in social services.

In December of 2008, she was appointed Commissioner of the New York City Department for the Aging (DFTA) by Mayor Bloomberg, following a long career in both city government and the nonprofit sector. Before that, she was President and CEO of Safe Space NYC, Inc. a non-profit organization serving over 25,000 children and families in New York City. Barrios-Paoli's prior government service includes appointments as Commissioner at four agencies during the Koch and Giuliani administrations: the Department of Employment, the Department of Personnel (now DCAS), the Department of Housing Preservation and Development and the Human Resources Administration. Additionally, she was the Executive Director of Lincoln Hospital in the South Bronx. A graduate of the School of Anthropology of Universidad Iberoamericana in Mexico City, Ms. Barrios-Paoli also holds a Masters degree and a PhD from the New School for Social Research. She is a former Trustee of the New School.

Kathy Boudin

DIRECTOR OF THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE INITIATIVE: SUPPORTING CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK



Kathy Boudin is the Director of the Criminal Justice Initiative: Supporting Children, Families and Communities, Columbia University School of Social Work and co-founder of the Justice Initiative at Columbia University.

Kathy Boudin focused her work inside prison on the HIV/AIDS epidemic; mother-child relationships across the separation of incarceration; and higher education and basic literacy inside correctional institutions. Her publications have appeared in such journals as *The Harvard Education Review*, *Journal of Corrections Education*, *Women and Therapy*, and *Columbia Journal of Gender and Law*; and she is editor and co-author of the book, *Breaking the Walls of Silence: AIDS and Women in a New York State Maximum Security Prison*. Dr. Boudin also works at the Spencer Cox Center for Health, Mt. Sinai St Lukes NYC where she founded the Coming Home Program providing health care for people returning from incarceration. She works on parole research and reform with RAPP (Return Aging People from Prison) at the Correctional Association of New York and is a consultant to the Osborne Association in the development of the Longtermers Life Narrative and Responsibility Project taking place in the New York State Correctional Facilities, utilizing a restorative practice approach. Her areas of research have included the impact of higher education on incarcerated women, the recidivism rates and life experience of people serving long sentences, and adolescents with incarcerated mothers. She received her doctoral degree from Columbia University Teachers College in 2007.

ORGANIZERS

The Justice Initiative at Columbia University

The Justice Initiative at Columbia University is committed to reducing the nation's reliance on incarceration through education, research and policy. Its mission is to help transform a criminal justice system from one that is driven by punishment and retribution to one that is centered on prevention and healing. The Initiative is interdisciplinary and built around community collaboration. It works in partnership with schools, departments, centers and institutes across Columbia, other universities, government agencies, community organizations, advocates and those directly affected by the criminal justice system.

Release Aging People in Prisons (RAPP) campaign:

The Release Aging People in Prison (RAPP) Campaign is an independent organizing and policy project that aims to establish a parole process in New York that is transparent, all inclusive, and fair, in which the state bases its parole decisions on legitimate public safety risk and individuals' demonstrated personal growth while in prison. RAPP addresses the crisis of aging behind bars—the skyrocketing population of incarcerated people age 50 and older—with strategies for release of elders who do not represent a threat to public safety and could contribute to their communities. These strategies would conserve public resources as well as providing a more just solution to long-term incarceration.

The Osborne Association

The Osborne Association offers opportunities for individuals who have been in conflict with the law to transform their lives through innovative, effective, and replicable programs that serve the community by reducing crime and its human and economic costs. We offer opportunities for reform and rehabilitation through public education, advocacy, and alternatives to incarceration that respect the dignity of people and honor their capacity to change.

The Correctional Association of New York

Founded in 1844, the Correctional Association of New York (the CA) is an independent non-profit organization that advocates for a more humane and effective criminal justice system and a more just and equitable society. In 1846, the CA was granted authority by New York State Legislature to inspect prisons and to report its findings and recommendations to the public. The only private organization in New York with unrestricted access to prisons, the CA has remained steadfast in its commitment to inform the public debate on criminal justice for nearly 170 years. The CA utilizes its unique legislative mandate to expose abusive practices, educate the public and policymakers about what goes on behind prison walls, and advocate for systemic, lasting and progressive change.

Working in collaboration with a broad base of stakeholders and advocates, the CA works to build



Danylle Rudin

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, FLORENCE V. BURDEN FOUNDATION

Danylle Rudin has served as Executive Director of The Florence V. Burden Foundation for eight years. During her tenure there she has expanded The Foundation's work supporting families with incarcerated loved ones and is currently working with the Maine Department of Corrections to expand services to assist women and men to obtain and maintain employment upon their release. The Foundation's most recent initiative – in partnership with The Osborne Association – explores issues of the aging of the prison population. From 1989 to 1994, Danylle served as Assistant Vice President of The Brookdale Foundation, where she started an initiative to assist grandparents serving as primary caregivers to their grandchildren. For the past 15 years, Danylle has been a consultant to aging service providers ranging from storefront senior centers after-school programs to hospitals and nursing homes.



Lawrence White

ORGANIZER OF HOPE LIVES FOR LIFERS PROJECT, AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE

Larry White is currently Organizer of the Hope Lives for Lifers Project at the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC). In this role Mr. White is responsible of the development and advancement of programs that provides guidance and direction to incarcerated individuals serving life , long-term and life-without-parole sentences, and who require special orientation programs and adjustment services that encourage them to live a purposeful and productive prison life. Prior to this position, Mr. White served as Community Advocate and Policymaker Liaison for the David Rothenberg Center for Public Policy at the Fortune Society.

Mr. White has served as chairman of a number of inmate reform organizations during his thirty-two years of imprisonment. As a program developer and facilitator with the N.Y.S. Department of Correctional Services, he developed correctional empowerment programs designed to address the problems of prison adjustment from a cultural perspective. He was a primary advocate for prison college education and, programs for the elderly and sponsored community study groups around issues of criminal justice. Mr. White also played a key role in the development of the Safe and Fair Evaluation Parole Act (SAFE).



William Bunting

ECONOMIST, AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION

Will Bunting is an economist at the American Civil Liberties Union



Lynn Cortella

HEALTH SERVICES CLASSIFICATION ANALYST,
NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND COMMUNITY SUPERVISION

Lynn Cortella is a Registered Nurse for the NYS Department of Corrections and Community Supervision. In her current role she serves as the Department's Health Services Classification Analyst and also oversees the Medical Parole Program. She is a Registered Nurse with 29 years experience in medical surgical nursing and case management. For the past three years she has focused her efforts on community outreach and planning for the placement of individuals who are incarcerated with complex medical needs who are returning home. Her credentials include Certification in Utilization Review as well as Case Management and she sits on the NY Statewide D/C Planning Committee.



Annette Dickerson

FORMER DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AND OUTREACH, CENTER FOR CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS

Annette Warren-Dickerson is an organizer, campaign strategist, human rights advocate and long time supporter of community-based solutions to police violence and accountability models. As the former Director of Education and Outreach at the Center for Constitutional rights for 14 years, Annette was responsible for directing CCRs non litigation strategies around issues addressing and challenging government misconduct and racial justice, the war on terror, surveillance and the criminalization of dissent, domestic and international incarceration detention policies, and policing and the criminal injustice system. A native New Yorker born and raised in Harlem, and a graduate of NYU, Annette is a frequent speaker and lecturer on a number of human rights issues with an emphasis on the significance of people/centered and led movements for social change. Annette's current focus involves consulting on and developing strategic campaigns devoted to issues affecting current and formerly incarcerated people.



Soffiyah Elijah

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, THE CORRECTIONAL ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK

Soffiyah Elijah is the Executive Director of the Correctional Association of New York. She is the first woman and the first person of color to lead the nearly 170-year old organization in its mission to create a fairer and more humane criminal justice system. Ms. Elijah has dedicated her life to human rights and social activism, and is a frequent presenter at national and international forums on criminal justice policy and human rights issues.

An accomplished advocate, attorney, scholar, and educator, Ms. Elijah has practiced criminal and family law for more than 30 years. Prior to leading the Correctional Association, Ms. Elijah served as Deputy Director and Clinical Instructor at the Criminal Justice Institute at Harvard Law School. Before moving to Harvard, she was a member of the faculty and Director and Supervising Attorney of the Defender Clinic at the City University of New York School of Law. Ms. Elijah has also worked as a Supervising Attorney at the Neighborhood Defender Service of Harlem, a Staff Attorney at the Juvenile Rights Division of the Legal Aid Society, and in private practice.



Mujahid Farid

LEAD ORGANIZER OF THE RELEASE AGING PEOPLE IN PRISON (RAPP) CAMPAIGN

Mujahid Farid is a person who spent many of his formative years in youth and adult penal institutions in New York State. During his last incursion into state prison he served thirty-three (33) years before he was released in 2011. While serving time, he earned four (4) college degrees including an Associate's Degree in Business from Regents New York; a B.A. Degree in Arts & Sciences from Syracuse University; a Master's Degree in Sociology from SUNY New Paltz; and a Master's Degree in Ministry from N.Y. Theological Seminary.

Farid was part of a trio that created and proposed the first HIV/AIDS peer education program in New York State prisons (PEPA), which later developed into the widely acclaimed, state-wide program called PACE (Prisoners AIDS Counseling & Education). He also participated in the creation of a college certificate program sponsored by New York Theological Seminary, and he taught accredited introduction to sociology courses for persons confined training for ASAT counseling certification.

Since his release in 2011 Farid has initiated two programs designed to have a substantial impact on providing relief for those confined in New York State prisons, as well as those being released: The RAPP (Release Aging People in Prison) campaign and the Rise & Shine Small Business Coalition. Farid has also received a SOROS Justice Fellowship for organizing and leading the RAPP Campaign, along with a joint legislative commendation for doing so.



Sandra Pullman

ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL, OFFICE OF THE NEW YORK STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL
CIVIL RIGHTS BUREAU

Sandra Pullman is an Assistant Attorney General in the Civil Rights Bureau of the New York State Attorney General's Office, where she prosecutes violations of city, state, and federal antidiscrimination law, with a particular focus on gender identity, criminal history, disability, and reproductive rights. Ms. Pullman also supervises the Bureau's internship program, hiring term-time and summer interns and overseeing their work. Prior to joining the OAG, she worked at Outten & Golden LLP, where she represented employees in individual and class action lawsuits and counseled clients about their rights in the workplace. Ms. Pullman is a 2008 graduate of Harvard Law School. After graduation, she clerked for the Honorable Susan Oki Mollway, Chief Judge in District of Hawaii.



Samuel Roberts

POLICY DIRECTOR AT THE JUSTICE INITIATIVE AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF HISTORY, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY AND ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF SOCIO-MEDICAL SCIENCES, MAILMAN SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Samuel Roberts is Associate Professor of History (Columbia University) and Associate Professor of Sociomedical Sciences (Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University). He is also the Director of the Policy Working Group at The Justice Initiative at Columbia University. He writes, teaches, and lectures widely on African-American history, the history of public health, urban history, and the history of social movements. His book, titled *Infectious Fear: Politics, Disease, and the Health Effects of Segregation* (University of North Carolina Press, 2009) is an exploration of the political economy of health and tuberculosis control between the late nineteenth century and the mid-twentieth century, a periodization which encompasses both the Jim Crow era and the period from the bacteriological revolution to the advent of antimicrobial therapies. He has held several fellowships, including the Thurgood Marshall Dissertation Fellowship; the Schomburg Center for Black History and Culture (New York Public Library) Scholar in Residence Fellowship; a fellowship at the Dorothy and Lewis Cullman Center for Writers and Scholars; and a Career Development Fellowship from the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation. Roberts earned the degree of AB in History and African-American Studies at the University of Virginia, and his MA and Ph.D. in History at Princeton University.



Gloria Rubero

Gloria Rubero spent 26 years in prison, saw five parole boards and came home at 56 years old. She had several strokes before her first parole board. Gloria Rubero received her associate and bachelor's degrees while incarcerated; she was a peer counselor in HIV/AIDS work and did construction and maintenance work. When she came home she first worked at a maintenance job and then was employed by the New York Harm Reduction Educators, working on HIV testing and outreach in Manhattan and the Bronx.



Marc Mauer

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, THE SENTENCING PROJECT

Marc Mauer is one of the country's leading experts on sentencing policy, race and the criminal justice system. He has directed programs on criminal justice policy reform for more than 30 years and serves as Executive Director of The Sentencing Project, a national non-profit organization engaged in research and advocacy on criminal justice policy. Mr. Mauer has written extensively and testified before Congress and other legislative bodies. His critically acclaimed book, *Race to Incarcerate*, was named a semifinalist for the Robert F. Kennedy Book Award, and he is the co-editor of *Invisible Punishment*, a collection of essays that examine the social costs of incarceration. Mr. Mauer frequently lectures before a broad range of national and international audiences, appears regularly on television and radio networks, and has served as an adjunct faculty member at George Washington University and Payne Theological Seminary. Mr. Mauer is the recipient of the Donald Cressey Award for contributions to criminal justice research, the Alfred Lindesmith Award for drug policy scholarship, and the Maud Booth Award for correctional services.



Karen Murtagh

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, PRISONERS' LEGAL SERVICES

Karen L. Murtagh is the Executive Director of Prisoners' Legal Services of New York (PLS), a not-for-profit legal services organization that was founded in 1976 to provide civil legal services to indigent inmates in New York State correctional facilities. She is a graduate of Clarkson University and Albany Law School. She is admitted to practice law in New York State, all Federal District Courts of New York and the U.S. Supreme Court. She has litigated issues concerning prisoners' due process rights at disciplinary hearings, prison conditions, deliberate indifference, the First Amendment and the Prison Litigation Reform Act (PLRA). She has tried cases in both the Court of Claims and Federal Court and has argued numerous cases before New York State courts including the New York Court of Appeals and successfully as amicus before the U.S. Supreme Court in a case challenging the constitutionality of a New York State statute that prohibited prisoners from filing federal 1983 actions in state court. She has worked as a staff attorney, managing attorney, Director of Litigation and Deputy Director for PLS. She has provided extensive training to staff and pro bono attorneys on administrative and Article 78 practice and how to litigate excessive force cases in federal court. She also served on the faculty of Albany Law School as an adjunct professor where she established a clinic program for prisoners' rights and taught Civil Procedure, Administrative Law, Constitutional Law, Court of Claims Practice, and Litigation Skills. She conducts an annual training for CUNY law students in the Criminal Defense Clinic training them on the prison disciplinary process and Article 78 procedure. She has lectured and conducted CLE trainings across the State on prisoners' rights issues. She is a member of the New York State Bar Association and sits on the NYS Bar Association's Civil Rights Committee. She is a Board member of the New York State Defenders Association. She is also an advisor to the NYS Bar Association's Immigration Committee.



Jamie Fellner, Esq.

SENIOR ADVISOR OF THE U.S. PROGRAM OF HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH

Jamie Fellner is engaged in research, documentation and advocacy on US criminal justice issues using a human rights framework. Most recently she has focused on coercive plea bargaining in federal drug cases, the unnecessarily limited use of the federal compassionate release program, the pre-trial detention of low income misdemeanor defendants in New York City, and the treatment of the growing number of aging men and women in US prisons. Her work has also addressed prison rape, racial disparities in drug law enforcement, super-maximum security confinement and the inability of prisons to provide sufficient mental health treatment and conditions of confinement for prisoners with mental illness. She brings to this work decades of national and international professional experience.

Ms. Fellner was a commissioner on the National Prison Rape Elimination Commission. She has authored and co-authored numerous published reports and articles addressing human rights problems in the United States. Her work has been covered extensively by U.S. and international media. Ms. Fellner received her law degree from University of California Berkeley Law School.



Brian Fischer

FORMER COMMISSIONER OF THE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION AND COMMUNITY SUPERVISION

Brian Fischer spent over forty-four (44) in the field of corrections, becoming the Commissioner of the New York State Department of Corrections in 2007, and retiring in 2013. He continues to sit on the Board of Puppies Behind Bars, a program designed to have individuals who are incarcerated train dogs inside the prisons to become service dogs for wounded veterans and the blind. He also sits on the Board of Hudson Link for Higher Education, a program that offers offenders a chance to earn college degrees.

While Commissioner, Mr. Fischer was responsible for all state prisons, a Drug Treatment Campus, five Regional Medical Units, two Residential Mental Health Units and all Parole Reporting Centers throughout the State. While in corrections he helped implement many programs that dealt with services needed by the mentally ill, those convicted of sex offenses and piloted innovative reentry and early release programs, as well as instituted short-term Parole Violator Treatment Centers. Key to many of the changes was the desire to provide treatment based on each persons's needs and emphasis on non-traditional programs like parenting, domestic violence, anger management, theater arts and computer literacy. Prior to his retirement, he consolidated the Division of State Parole and the Department of Corrections into the now existing Department of Corrections and Community Supervision and coordinated the downsizing of the agency.

Mr. Fischer holds a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology, a Master's Degree in Guidance and Counseling and a Master's Degree in Professional Studies.



Elizabeth Gaynes

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, THE OSBORNE ASSOCIATION

Elizabeth Gaynes has led the Osborne Association for 30 years. During Osborne's 80 year history, it has developed and established some of the country's most innovative and effective programs for people involved in the criminal justice system, including their children and families. Osborne offers a wide range of services in the Bronx, Brooklyn, Dutchess County and 20 prisons and jails, including workforce development, substance abuse treatment, wellness and prevention programs, and family-focused services. The Longtermers Responsibility Project addresses the special challenges of people serving very long and life sentences, and has led to Osborne's growing efforts on behalf of incarcerated and recently released elders.

Liz was recently named by the White House as a Champion of Change for Children of Incarcerated Parents, recognizing Osborne's work on behalf of children affected by parental arrest and incarceration, and earlier this month was honored for Women's History Month by the New York State Senate in a Legislative Resolution sponsored by Senator Velmanette Montgomery.

Liz began her career as a criminal defense attorney in Buffalo, representing people incarcerated at Attica during the 1971 prison rebellion, and later worked as a staff attorney for Prisoners Legal Services of New York.



Edward Hammock

FORMER CHAIRMAN OF THE NEW YORK STATE BOARD OF PAROLE

Edward Hammock's first job after graduating from New York University School of Law was as an Assistant District Attorney in the Homicide Investigations and Trials Division of the New York County District Attorney's office. Mr. Hammock was a prosecutor for the New York State Attorney General's office for the Attica prison riot in 1971. He is a former chairman of the New York State Board of Parole and chief executive officer for the New York State Division of Parole. He has been in private practice (criminal law) for the last 25+ years.



Reverend N.J. L'Heureux

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE QUEENS FEDERATION OF CHURCHES

The Reverend N. J. L'Heureux, Jr., has been Executive Director of the Queens Federation of Churches, the ecumenical agency in the Borough of Queens, City of New York, since 1978. As Chief Executive Officer, he provides oversight for the Federation's varied programs. Pastor L'Heureux is president of the Queens Interfaith Hunger Network, publisher/editor of The Nexus of Queens (the online newspaper of the Queens Federation of Churches), chairman of Tri-State Media Ministries, and secretary of the Board of Directors of the Council of Churches of the City of New York. His work emphasizes the inclusiveness of God's Covenant across the boundaries of race, nationality, or class. He is an advocate of the right of religious people to proclaim their message and to seek

their adherents without the impediment of government-enforced sanction. He has exposed for remediation widespread government practices which interfere with the Church's ability to plan and manage its own ministry.

His national leadership includes 13 years of service as Registrar of the National Association of Ecumenical and Interreligious Staff. He has participated in many international conferences for religious freedom. He was invited by the World Council of Churches in November 2011 as one of 25 experts to participate in an Interfaith Study Consultation on Religious Freedom and the Rights of Religious Minorities, held in Istanbul, Turkey.

He holds degrees from Ohio Wesleyan University and from Boston University School of Theology where his studies focused on sociology of religion and social ethics. Ordained by The United Methodist Church in 1969,



Tina Maschi, PhD, LCSW, ACSW

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, FORDHAM UNIVERSITY,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, BE THE EVIDENCE PROJECT

Tina Maschi is an associate professor at the Fordham University Graduate School of Social Service in New York City, President of the National Organization of Forensic Social Work, and Executive Director of the Be the Evidence Project. The mission of the Be the Evidence Project is to create awareness of human rights and social justice issues through research, advocacy, and education and fosters innovative thinking and solutions to social problems, such as the mass incarceration of the elderly. Dr. Maschi also is a licensed clinical social worker over 15 years of clinical experience in correctional health, mental health, and social care in prison and community settings. Her research and practice interests are at the intersection of aging, trauma, mental health, and social justice as well as social work and interprofessional education and workforce development. She has conducted research and intervention projects in both prison and reentry populations, which include aging people, youth, and persons with physical or mental disabilities. She also is a professional musician and artist and incorporates the use of the arts in research, practice, and advocacy efforts. Currently, Dr. Maschi is conducting a multi-state mixed methods research project about health and social inequalities and incarcerated and formerly incarcerated older adults and implementation of new programs, trainings, and evaluation of evidence-based and evidence informed practices and policies, and social media outreach and public awareness campaigns.