

Best Practices for Implementing Decarceration as a Strategy to Mitigate the Spread of COVID-19 in Correctional Facilities

Committee

Emily Wang

Co-Chair

Emily Wang is an associate professor in the Yale School of Medicine and directs the Health Justice Lab. The Health Justice Lab is a collaborative, innovative, interdisciplinary team focused on improving the health of individuals and communities who have been affected by mass incarceration. The Lab has received funding from the National Institutes of Health, Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute, Bureau of Justice Assistance, and Centers of Medicare & Medicaid Innovation for studies ranging from the epidemiology of incarceration and cardiovascular health to mitigating the community impact of gun violence using a participatory approach and assets based framework. Dr. Wang has cared for thousands of individuals with a history of incarceration and is co-founder of the Transitions Clinic Network (TCN), a growing consortium of 30 community health centers nationwide dedicated to caring for individuals recently released from correctional facilities by employing individuals with a history of incarceration as community health workers. Dr. Wang has served on the National Academy of Sciences/Institute of Medicine's Health and Incarceration Workshop, Means of Violence Workshop, and the Steering Committee on Improving Collection of Indicators of Criminal Justice System Involvement in Population Health Data Programs. Dr. Wang has an M.D. from Duke University and a MAS from the University of California, San Francisco.

Bruce Western

Co-Chair

Bruce Western (NAS) is the Bryce professor of sociology and social justice and co-director of the Justice Lab at Columbia University. His research has examined the causes, scope, and consequences of the historic growth in U.S. prison populations. Current projects include a randomized experiment assessing the effects of criminal justice fines and fees on misdemeanor defendants in Oklahoma City, and a field study of solitary confinement in Pennsylvania state prisons. Western is also the principal investigator of the Square One Project that aims re-imagine the public policy response to violence under conditions of poverty and racial inequality. He was the vice chair of the National Academy of Sciences panel on the causes and consequences of high incarceration rates in the United States. He is the author of *Homeward: Life in the Year After Prison* (Russell Sage Foundation, 2018), and *Punishment and Inequality in America* (Russell Sage Foundation, 2006). He is a member of the National Academy of Sciences and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He has been a Guggenheim fellow, a Russell Sage Foundation visiting scholar, and a fellow of the Radcliffe Institute of Advanced Study. Western received his Ph.D. in sociology from the University of California, Los Angeles.

Donald M. Berwick

Member

Donald M. Berwick (NAM) is president emeritus and senior fellow at the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI), an organization that Dr. Berwick co-founded and led as president and CEO for 19 years. He is one of the nation's leading authorities on health care quality and improvement. In July, 2010, President Obama appointed Dr. Berwick to the position of administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), which he held until December 2011. A pediatrician by background, Dr. Berwick has served as clinical professor of pediatrics and health care policy at the Harvard Medical School, professor of health policy and management at the Harvard School of Public Health, and as a member of the staffs of Boston's Children's Hospital Medical Center, Massachusetts General Hospital, and the Brigham and Women's Hospital. He has also served as vice chair of the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force, the first "independent member" of the board of trustees of the American Hospital Association, and chair of the National Advisory Council of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. He is an elected member of the American Philosophical Society, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and of the National Academy of Medicine (formerly the Institute of Medicine [IOM]). Dr. Berwick served two terms on the IOM's governing council and was a member of the IOM's Global Health Board. He served on President Clinton's Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection and Quality in the Healthcare Industry. In 2005, he was appointed "Honorary Knight Commander of the British Empire" by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, the highest honor awarded by the UK to non-British subjects, in recognition of his work with the British National Health Service. Dr. Berwick is the author or co-author of over 200 scientific articles and six books. He also serves now as Lecturer in the Department of Health Care Policy at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Berwick holds an M.D. and MPP.

Sharon Dolovich

Member

Sharon Dolovich is professor of law at University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) School of Law, and director of the UCLA Prison Law & Policy Program. She teaches courses on criminal law, the constitutional law of prisons, and other post-conviction topics, and her scholarship focuses on the law, policy, and theory of prisons and punishment. Dr. Dolovich has been a visiting professor at NYU, Harvard, and Georgetown, and a fellow at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study. She served as deputy general counsel for the Los Angeles Citizens' Commission on Jail Violence, which was charged with investigating use of force in the L.A. County Jail and making recommendations for institutional reform. She also has served as an expert witness and as a consultant on myriad prisoners' rights cases, and has testified before the Commission on Safety and Abuse in America's Prisons and the National Prison Rape Elimination Commission. Dr. Dolovich's recent book, *The New Criminal Justice Thinking* (co-edited with Alexandra Natapoff) was published in April 2017. Dr. Dolovich received a Ph.D. from Cambridge University and J.D. from Harvard Law School.

DeAnna R. Hoskins

Member

DeAnna Hoskins is president of JustLeadershipUSA. Ms. Hoskins has been committed to the movement for justice, working alongside people impacted by incarceration for nearly two decades. She was formerly the senior policy advisor over corrections and reentry with the Department of Justice (DOJ). In this capacity, she represented DOJ's strategies and priorities and oversaw the Second Chance Act portfolio of grants, The National Reentry Resource Center, and Residential Substance Abuse Treatment programs. Ms. Hoskins was designated as the interim deputy director of the Federal Reentry Interagency Council by Attorney General Loretta Lynch. She has experienced the reentry system from all perspectives as she is herself a previously incarcerated individual who has successfully transitioned back into the community, ultimately receiving a pardon from Governor Ted Strickland. She holds a masters' degree in criminal justice from the University of Cincinnati, bachelor's degree in social work, licensed clinical addictions counselor, and certified as an Offender Workforce Development Specialist.

Margot Kushel

Member

Margot Kushel is a Professor of Medicine at University of California San Francisco, and Division Chief and Director of the UCSF Center for Vulnerable Populations, and Director of the UCSF Benioff Homelessness and Housing Initiative. She is a practicing general internist at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital. Margot's research focuses on the causes and consequences of homelessness and housing instability, with the goal of preventing and ending homelessness and ameliorating the effects of homelessness and housing instability on health. She speaks at a local, state and national level about issues of homelessness, and frequently provides testimony to legislative bodies. She received her AB from Harvard College, her MD from Yale and completed residency, chief residency and fellowship in internal medicine at UCSF.

Hedwig Lee

Member

Hedwig Lee is professor of sociology at Washington University, St. Louis. She holds a courtesy joint appointment at the George Warren Brown School of Social Work and is a faculty affiliate in the Department of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. She is also an associate director of the Center for Race, Ethnicity & Equity. She currently serves on the research advisory board for the Vera Institute of Justice and the board for the Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Science. She is also a member of The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine's, Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education, Committee on Population. Her recent work examines the impact of structurally rooted chronic stressors, such as mass incarceration, on health and health disparities. She was a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health & Society Scholar at the University of Michigan from 2009 to 2011. She received her Ph.D. in sociology from the University of North Carolina.

Steven Raphael

Member

Steven Raphael is a professor of public policy at the University of California, Berkeley. His research focuses on the economics of low-wage labor markets, housing, and the economics of crime and corrections. His most recent research focuses on the social consequences of the large increases in U.S. incarceration rates. Dr. Raphael also works on immigration policy, research questions pertaining to various aspects of racial inequality, the economics of labor unions, social insurance policies, homelessness, and low-income housing. He is the author (with Michael Stoll) of *Why Are so Many Americans in Prison?* (published by the Russell Sage Foundation Press) and *The New Scarlet Letter? Negotiating the U.S. Labor Market with a Criminal Record* (published by the W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research). Dr. Raphael is also editor in chief of *Industrial Relations* and a research fellow at the University of Michigan National Poverty Center, the University of Chicago Crime Lab, IZA, Bonn Germany, and the Public Policy Institute of California. He holds a Ph.D. in economics from the University of California, Berkeley.

Josiah D. Rich

Member

Josiah “Jody” Rich (NAM) is a professor of medicine and epidemiology at Brown University, and a practicing infectious disease and addiction specialist providing care to patients at The Miriam Hospital and the Rhode Island Department of Corrections since 1994. He has published over 200 peer-reviewed publications, predominantly in the overlap between infectious diseases, addictions, and incarceration. He is the director and co-founder of The Center for Prisoner Health and Human Rights at The Miriam Hospital (www.prisonerhealth.org) and co-founder of the nationwide Centers for AIDS Research collaboration on HIV in corrections initiative. Dr. Rich has advocated for public health policy changes to improve the health of people with addiction, including improving legal access to sterile syringes and increasing drug treatment for incarcerated and formerly incarcerated populations. He has had continuous NIH research funding for over 2 decades. His primary areas of interest and expertise are in the overlap between infectious diseases and illicit substance use, the treatment and prevention of HIV infection, and the care and prevention of disease in addicted and incarcerated individuals. More recently he has focused on addressing the opioid overdose epidemic. He has testified in congress multiple times and served as an expert advisor to Rhode Island Governor Gina Raimondo’s Overdose Prevention and Intervention Task Force since its inception in 2015. Dr. Rich earned an M.D. from the University of Massachusetts Medical School.

John Wetzel

Member

John Wetzel is secretary of corrections for the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections. Secretary Wetzel’s 22-year career in county corrections culminated in a position of warden at Franklin County Jail where he oversaw a 20 percent population reduction during his tenure. Secretary Wetzel has guided the department in restructuring community corrections, the mental health systems and significant security enhancements while at the same time significantly reducing spending. With 30 years of experience in the corrections field, he served as chair of the Council of State Government’s Justice Center’s Executive Board of which he is now a member. He is currently the president of the Correctional Leaders Association (CLA), formerly the Association of State Correctional Administrators (ASCA), and a member of Harvard’s Executive Session on Community Corrections. On the federal level, he was tapped by the Obama administration to be the corrections expert on the Chuck Colson task force – which was a congressionally-created group tasked with assessing the Federal Bureau of Prisons and providing the administration and Congress with recommendations on improvement. More recently, he was named by the Trump administration to the congressionally-created oversight committee to the federal First Step Act. He is a graduate of Bloomsburg University, and recipient of honorary doctorate degrees from both Indiana University of Pennsylvania and Chestnut Hill College.