

Northstar Public Health Conference on Gun Violence

September 13-14, 2017
Courtyard Marriott Hotel Downtown Minneapolis

Hosted by the School of
Public Health at
the University of
Minnesota,
the Nobel
Peace Prize
Forum, and
Protect
Minnesota

Featuring these Plenary Presenters and Panelists



Dr. Amy Barnhorst

Wednesday, September 13
9:00-11:00am – Plenary 1

Fact vs. Fiction: The Intersection of Guns and Mental Illness

Dr. Amy Barnhorst, MD, graduated from Dartmouth College with a degree in Environmental Earth Sciences and Evolutionary Biology. She attended medical school and completed a psychiatric residency at UC Davis, and joined the faculty soon after graduation. She is now the Medical Director of Sacramento County Crisis Unit adjacent to a 50-bed inpatient psychiatric health facility. She continues in her role as an educator supervising medical students and residents clinically, and teaching seminars about substance abuse, chronic severe mental illness, catatonia, psychopharmacology and personality disorders. Dr. Barnhorst's academic interests include suicide, firearm law and mental illness, violence, and community mental health delivery systems. She serves on the Sierra Sacramento Valley Medical Society Mental Health Task Force, and is a member of the Consortium for Risk-Based Firearm Policy. She has written multiple papers on firearms, mental illness and the law, and has testified as an expert before the California Senate on these issues.



Dean John Finnegan, Jr.

Dr. John Finnegan Jr., PhD, has served as Professor and Dean of the University of Minnesota School of Public Health since 2005. He began his career as a journalist. He joined the faculty in 1985 with a research portfolio centered on public health interventions and campaigns engaging community partners in prevention and health promotion. He recently served as board chair of the Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH) where he helped lead the "Framing the Future" initiative, rethinking the composition of public health education at the undergraduate, graduate levels. As part of that initiative, he co-leads an effort with Dr. Robert Dittus (Vanderbilt University) exploring how primary care and public health can work closer together for the good of population health.



Josh Horwitz

Joshua Horwitz, the Executive Director of the Coalition to Stop Gun Violence and the Educational Fund to Stop Gun Violence, also serves as visiting scholar at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health where he teaches public health advocacy and is a regular blogger for The Huffington Post. He has spent more than two decades working on gun violence prevention issues. In 2013, he was one of the founders of the Consortium for Risk-Based Firearm Policy, a group of mental health and public health experts who have examined the intersection of guns and mental health.



Rep. Dave Pinto

Rep. Dave Pinto is a member of the Minnesota House of Representatives representing District 64B in the Twin Cities metropolitan area. He is also an assistant attorney for Ramsey County. Rep. Pinto grew up in Falcon Heights, Minnesota, attended Harvard University, graduating with a bachelor's degree, and later the University of Virginia, graduating with a M.B.A. and J.D. He was first elected to the Minnesota House of Representatives in 2014, and currently sits on the Commerce and Regulatory Reform, Health and Human Services Finance, and Public Safety and Security committees. In the latter capacity, he is a House author of the Gun Violence Protective Orders bill that was introduced

in 2017. At the Ramsey County Attorney's Office, Rep. Pinto led a team of attorneys prosecuting domestic violence involving children, for which he received an inaugural "Inspire Award" from the Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women. Rep. Pinto is a member of AFSCME Council 5. He has served on St. Paul's Long-Term Capital Improvement Budget Committee, as well as the Highland District Council and the boards of Partners for Violence Prevention and the Minnesota Academic Excellence Foundation.



Jeffrey Swanson

Dr. Jeffrey Swanson, PhD, is Professor in Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Duke University School of Medicine and the author or coauthor of over 200 publications focused on the epidemiology of violence and serious mental illnesses, as well as laws and policies to reduce firearms violence. He is principal investigator of a multi-state study on firearms laws, mental illness and prevention of violence, co-sponsored by the National Science Foundation, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Program on Public Health Law Research (PHLR), and the Brain and Behavior Foundation, and has served as a consultant to policymakers at the state and national levels, health care institutions, foundations, corporate research and legal firm

11:15-12:40pm – Wednesday Lunchtime Panel Discussion **Minnesota Mental Health Leaders Share Their Views**



Sue Abderholden

Sue Abderholden has devoted her career to changing laws and attitudes that affect people with disabilities and their families. For the past 15 years she has served as the executive director for NAMI Minnesota (National Alliance on Mental Illness) where she has grown the organization to be the largest provider of family and public education and support in the state and the state's strongest advocacy organization. She has held leadership positions with Arc of Minnesota, U.S. Senator Paul D. Wellstone and PACER Center. Sue has a B.A. in political science from Macalester College and a master's degree in public health administration from the University of Minnesota. Ms. Abderholden has received numerous awards for her advocacy including the 2013 Gaylord Anderson Leadership Award from the U of M School of Public Health and the National Council for Behavioral Health 2013 Advocacy Leadership Award.



Glenace Edwall

Dr. Glenace Edwall, PhD, PsyD, recently retired as the Acting Assistant Commissioner for Chemical and Mental Health Services at the Minnesota Department of Human Services. She was Director of the Children's Mental Health Division beginning in 2000, and in 2013, became Director of DHS' Adult Mental Health Division. Dr. Edwall has earned doctorates from the University of Minnesota (Ph.D., educational psychology) and from the University of Denver (Psy.D., clinical psychology), and a master's degree in public policy from the Humphrey Institute at the University of Minnesota. She was tenured at Baylor University, where she directed the clinical psychology training program and won teaching and public service awards. Returning to Minnesota in 1991, she held clinical and administrative positions in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Minnesota, Children's Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota, and Fraser Community Services before assuming her state agency position. Dr. Edwall is a past chair of the Children, Youth and Families Division of the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors, and served as vice chair of the board of directors of the National Register of Health Service Providers in Psychology. She was presented with the Diversity Leadership Award by the Minnesota Psychological Association, the Distinguished Service Award of the Minnesota Council of Child Caring Agencies, and the Outstanding Provider Award of the Minnesota Association for Children's Mental Health



Jennifer Polzin

Jennifer J. Polzin became Chief Executive Officer of Tubman in 2015, having first joined Tubman (formerly Family Violence Network) in 1992. Throughout her tenure at the organization, she has served in a variety of capacities working with clients, volunteers, community members and staff, and most recently was Chief of Resource Development and Communications. She has demonstrated leadership expertise in strategic planning, professional collaborations and community engagement initiatives. Jennifer has extensive experience working with individuals and families who have experienced relationship violence, homelessness, addiction, and mental health challenges, and has worked in both shelter and community-based programs. She taught in the Department of Human Relations at St. Cloud State University as adjunct faculty for eight years. She has a bachelor's degree in Speech Communications, and earned her Master's of Arts in Organizational Leadership from St. Catherine University. Her graduate thesis focused on integrating therapeutic humor into nonprofit organizations and direct service work with clients.



Dr. Daniel Reidenberg

Dr. Daniel J. Reidenberg, PsyD, is Executive Director of SAVE (Suicide Awareness Voices of Education), a national non-profit agency working to prevent suicide and help suicide survivors and those suffering with depression. Before coming to SAVE, he was the Director of Family & Children's Service in Minneapolis, overseeing 10 mental health and community-based programs. Dr. Reidenberg's unique background includes working extensively with adolescents and adults who are seriously and persistently mentally ill, chemically dependent, and diverse personality disorders in a variety of in-patient, out-patient, partial-hospitalization and day-treatment and residential programs. Dan has been interviewed by the media on various topics including: children, adolescents, mental and chemical health issues, suicide, parenting and child maltreatment issues, custody, and prostitution. He also consults with psychologists, attorneys, and businesses on healthcare and legal matters. He has been a keynote speaker and guest lecturer and presented numerous workshops locally and nationally. He helped create the Open Door support group and continues to be active in the suicide prevention community.



Dr. Michael Trangle

Dr. Michael Trangle, MD, is the Senior Medical Director for Behavioral Health at HealthPartners Medical Group. He is active in regional quality improvement initiatives and collaboratives, including depression guidelines, improving depression outcomes throughout Minnesota, improving care and life expectancy for patients with serious mental illnesses, and improving the civil commitment process. He is an Adjunct Assistant Professor for the University of Minnesota Medical School for Psychiatry. He is on the Board of Directors of Mental Health Minnesota, Mental Health Governors Advisory Group, Mental Health Association of Minnesota, and Mental Health Resources. He was instrumental in initiating and chairs a collaborative where the psychiatric leaders throughout Minnesota meet to discuss issues and share solutions to improve psychiatric care. He was a leader of a group that won APA's Gold Award for best community project (DIAMOND) in 2010.



Emily Truscott

Emily Truscott (Moderator) joined Tubman in 2016. She is responsible for directing and executing the organization's communications initiatives. Previously, she was the Communications Director for the Missouri Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence, where she guided the development of communications plans, managed a variety of communications channels, and collaborated with development and public policy staff to achieve organizational goals. For eight years, she was a journalist for a group of newspapers in Missouri and Arkansas and eventually became a general manager and editor of print and digital publications. She also worked as a volunteer advocate for a community domestic violence program, primarily providing hotline crisis intervention and court advocacy services. She has a Bachelor of Journalism from the University of Missouri-Columbia.

Thursday, September 14, 9:00-11:00am - Plenary 2

Preventing Urban Gun Violence: What Doesn't Work, and What Does



Erica Ford

Erica Ford, CEO and Founder of LIFE, Camp Inc, grew up in Jamaica, Queens back in the 1980s, where crack use and gun violence was an everyday occurrence. Since then she has dedicated her life to bringing about change, founding the Black Consciousness Youth Movement in New York City high schools, co-founding The Code Club to prevent black crime and imprisonment with her friend, the late Tupac Shakur, and co-coordinating the Million Youth March. In 2002 Erica co-created LIFE Camp (Love Ignites Freedom Through Education), providing at-risk youth the valuable tools they need to stay in school and out of the criminal justice system, and her Lifestyle program, featuring holistic guru Deepak Chopra. Her current Bury Da Beef campaign has put together a citywide coalition/campaign to reduce gun violence. Another recent brainchild, her NY Peace Week, occurs each January and honors Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy of non-violence. Erica's recognized leadership has brought extensive travel and presentations throughout the country and internationally, as well as a 2016 TED Talk is entitled "From Angry Peacemaker to Heart Leader."



Rev. Michael McBride

Rev. Michael McBride, ("Pastor Mike"), is a native of San Francisco and has been active in ministry for over 20 years. In 2012, he became the National Director for the Lifelines to Healing/LIVE FREE Campaign with the PICO National Network, a campaign led by hundreds of faith congregations throughout the United States committed to addressing gun violence and mass incarceration of young people of color. In 2013, Pastor McBride was selected as the #9 Top Clergy Leader to Watch in the US by the Center for American Progress. He has served on a number of local and national task forces with the White House and Department of Justice regarding gun violence prevention, boys and men of color and police-community relationships.



Amber Goodwin

Amber Goodwin is the Founding Director of Community Justice Reform Coalition (CJRC) a national advocacy coalition that promotes and invests in evidence-based policies and programs to prevent gun violence and uplift criminal justice reforms in urban communities of color. CJRC is built on the idea that strategic long-term investments in evidence-based programs and policies that are developed and implemented by communities of color will prevent gun violence and help fix our broken criminal justice system. Their message is that to truly free ourselves from trauma, we must reimagine and redefine what safety and security mean for those at the margins of society.



Nina Vinik

Nina Vinik manages grant making at the Joyce Foundation in support of evidence-based policies and practices to reduce gun deaths and injuries in the United States. Under Nina’s direction, Joyce has funded some of the nation’s most significant research into the impact of state prevention strategies. She also has focused on developing broad stakeholder coalitions to advocate for common sense gun laws to keep our communities safe. Prior to joining the foundation in 2008, Nina, an attorney, served as Legal Director of Legal Community Against Violence (LCAV), a non-profit organization providing legal and technical assistance in support of gun violence prevention policy efforts nationwide, and as Legal Director of the ACLU Foundation of Florida.

11:15-12:40pm – Thursday Lunchtime Panel Discussion *Minnesota Law Enforcement Leaders Share Their Views*



John Choi

John Choi, Ramsey County Attorney, made history on January 3, 2011, when he was sworn in as the first Korean-American chief prosecutor in the country. Since taking office, John has become a state and national leader in the fight against sex trafficking and a champion of engaging men to prevent violence against women and children. He has successfully advanced legislation to reunite families when it’s in foster children’s best interest, implemented new performance-based outcomes for juvenile diversion programs, developed the use of lethality assessment protocols and GPS technology to keep domestic violence victims safe, created pre-charge diversion for adults, and established a Veterans Court. Prior to his tenure with Ramsey County, John served as Saint Paul City Attorney and spent a decade in private practice. John holds a bachelor’s degree in Psychology from Marquette University, a JD from Hamline University School of Law, and he was a Humphrey Fellow at the University of Minnesota.



Chief John Harrington

Chief John Harrington was sworn in as the seventh Chief of Metro Transit Police in September 2012, having begun his law enforcement career in 1977 with the St. Paul Police Department. In 2004, he became Chief of Police for the City of St. Paul, where he served until 2010, when he was elected to represent District 67 in the Minnesota State Senate. In 2012, Harrington resigned from the senate and also stepped down as CEO of Ujamaa Place – a not-for-profit agency he helped to launch that works with African-American men in St. Paul to transition them out of prison or gangs into productive community members. Harrington continues to serve as board chair for Ujamaa Place. Chief Harrington has been a faculty member at Metropolitan State University since 1986, teaching Community Oriented Policing and Gangs. He also serves on a variety of community boards including Metropolitan State University, DeLaSalle High School, the Minnesota Humanities Commission and the Upper Midwest Community Policing Institute. He earned Bachelor of Arts Degree at Dartmouth College in Religion with a minor in Chinese, and a Masters Degree from the University of St. Thomas in Education. He has also graduated from the FBI National Academy, the National Executive Institute and the Police Executive Research Forum.



Ben Schweigert

Ben Schweigert is an Assistant Hennepin County Attorney, and as the Legislative Liaison for the Hennepin County Attorney’s Office has worked on a wide range of legislation relating to gun violence prevention, drug sentencing reform, voting rights, and other public safety and local government topics. He served for five years as a prosecutor in the HCAO’s financial crimes unit, and currently represents the county government on transit, housing, and other legal matters as an attorney in the HCAO’s Civil Division. Prior to joining the Hennepin County Attorney’s Office, he was a litigation associate at Davis Polk and Wardwell LLP in New York and clerked for the Hon. Pierre Leval of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. He graduated magna cum laude from the University of Michigan Law School, the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy, and Swarthmore College. He currently lives in the Kingfield neighborhood in Minneapolis with his wife Samara and two children, and serves on the City of Minneapolis Workplace Advisory Committee.



Sondra Samuels

Sondra Samuels (Moderator) is the President & CEO of the Northside Achievement Zone (NAZ), a collaborative of over 40 partner non-profits and schools. Along with parents, students, partners, and staff, Sondra is leading a revolutionary culture shift in North Minneapolis that is focused on ending multigenerational poverty through education and family stability. Under her leadership, NAZ was named a federal Promise Neighborhood, and has become a nationally recognized model for community and systems change. Ms. Samuels is a 19-year resident of North Minneapolis and a national leader committed to results-based leadership and accountability. She serves on the boards of Minnesota Private College Council, the Center for the Study of Social Policy, and the 2018 Super Bowl Host Committee Advisory Board, and is a member of the leadership team at Generation Next. She was also appointed by Governor Dayton to serve on the Hennepin County Forth Judicial Selection Commission.



Lt. Myron Taylor

Lt. Myron Taylor has been employed by the citizens of Minneapolis, working in the Minneapolis Police Department since 1989. His career started on the city's North Side, the Fourth Precinct, where he worked as a Patrol Sergeant and Investigator, as well as serving as an Investigator in the Juvenile, Robbery, and Weapons units. A Lieutenant since 2011, for the past four years, he has led the Minneapolis Police Department Weapons Unit. Outside of the police department, Lt. Taylor is a Dad, a husband, a Bible study leader, a good friend and a volunteer firefighter.



Chief Mike Tusken

Chief Mike Tusken, Duluth Police, was born and raised in Duluth, MN, growing up in the Morgan Park neighborhood and graduating from Duluth Denfeld High School. He holds an Associate of Applied Science in Law Enforcement from Hibbing Community College, a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from Herzing University and attended Northwestern University Center for Public Safety, completing the 260th Session of the School of Staff and Command. Chief Tusken has served the citizens of Duluth since 1992 as a patrol officer, juvenile investigator, patrol sergeant, financial crimes investigative sergeant, lieutenant/area commander, patrol deputy chief and interim police chief before being promoted to police chief in May of 2016 by Mayor Emily Larson. During his tenure, the chief is responsible for implementing the COMPSTAT Program, building an assessment tool (JDAI) to reduce juvenile incarceration rates of children of color, created a performance measurement system and developed innovative approaches for engaging his staff in community policing. These strategies are responsible for building strong relationships within the community and reducing crime.

Northstar Public Health Conference on Gun Violence Breakout Sessions

Wednesday, September 13, 1:00-2:15pm

New Research on Gun Violence: Preliminary Conclusions on the Impact of Firearm Permitting

Presenters:

Dr. Marizen Ramirez, PhD, MPH, Associate Professor in the University of Minnesota School of Public Health Division of Environmental Health Sciences, Minneapolis, MN

Dr. Beth Virnig, PhD, MPH, Professor and Senior Associate Dean of Academic Affairs and Research, University of Minnesota, School of Public Health, Minneapolis, MN

Description:

In this session, Drs. Virnig and Ramirez will apply a public health lens to the issue of gun violence. Their presentation will review state and national data, consider proven strategies that have worked for other public health problems, and discuss their current work aimed at injury and violence prevention.

About the presenters:

Dr. Marizen Ramirez, PhD, MPH, is an Associate Professor in the University of Minnesota School of Public Health Division of Environmental Health Sciences. Dr. Ramirez is an epidemiologist whose



Dr. Marizen Ramirez



Dr. Beth Virnig

work focuses on public health prevention and intervention strategies aimed at reducing injury and violence. She studies some of the most prevalent injury and violence problems of today to identify effective and evidence-based solutions to prevent trauma and its adverse impacts. Her work focuses on the most vulnerable populations at risk for violence (especially bullying) and injuries: children, persons with disabilities, agricultural workers, minorities, and rural populations. Ramirez has examined policies to prevent and respond to face-to-face and cyberbullying; school- and hospital-based programs of psychological first aid and trauma-informed care to reduce the impacts of trauma household disaster preparedness programs; and policies and parent-based programs to prevent roadway traffic crashes involving agricultural workers and youth. She is currently funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to evaluate Iowa's Anti-bullying Legislation and by the federal Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) to evaluate Parent-Based Interventions to Support Children after Traumatic Injury.

Dr. Beth Virnig, PhD, MPH, is a Professor and Senior Associate Dean for the University of Minnesota School of Public Health. An epidemiologist, she specializes in studies examining access to health care and use and outcomes of that care. Her work explores how health care use patterns are influenced by patients, providers, and markets (is geography destiny?). Much of her time is spent studying health problems faced by older populations and considering questions of access to care as a key factor influencing recovery after injury or diagnosis. Much of her work uses data collected for other purposes including medical billing or population management. This work extends her interest beyond the elderly to younger populations including working aged adults, adolescents, and young children. In her administrative role, Virnig focuses on faculty development, research development, and strategic planning. She works closely with school leadership to ensure that its activities are mission-focused and aimed at building a healthier future.



Kristine Lizdas

Common Obstacles and Realistic Solutions to Implementing and Enforcing Domestic Violence-Related Firearm Prohibitions

Presenter:

Kristine Lizdas, JD, Legal Policy Director, Battered Women's Justice Project, Minneapolis, MN

Description:

This presentation will offer an overview of common obstacles to the implementation and enforcement of existing firearm prohibitions in cases of domestic violence for law enforcement, judges and other legal system professionals. After briefly reviewing existing state and federal legal prohibitions, the presenter will address apparent complications in developing and institutionalizing local processes for disarming domestic violence offenders. While focusing on Minnesota-specific law, the presenter will describe relevant solutions crafted by jurisdictions throughout the country, as highlighted through the Safer Families, Safer Communities project.

About the Presenter:

Kristine Lizdas is Legal Policy Director for the Battered Women's Justice Project (BWJP), a national resource center on domestic violence. She oversees BWJP's national military, custody, and protection order projects, as well as BWJP's National Domestic Violence and Firearms Resource Center and the associated Safer Families, Safer Communities project. Besides the implementation and enforcement of domestic violence firearm prohibitions, Kristine also writes and teaches on gender discrimination issues, criminal and family law practice, and restorative justice. She has served as faculty for the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, the National Judicial Institute on Domestic Violence, the Center for Court Innovation, the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, and the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts. Kristine serves as board member and co-chair for the Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women, and served on the Constituent Advisory Council for the National Domestic Violence Hotline. She is a Consultant for Praxis International's Blueprint for Safety Demonstration Initiative. Prior to joining BWJP, Kristine worked for the Duluth DAIP as a community organizer, working closely with probation, prosecution and rural law enforcement in developing model responses to domestic violence. Her international work includes supervising Georgetown University law students on a domestic violence fact-finding mission in Ghana, and serving as a project evaluator in Armenia and Moldova. Kristine has represented clients through the Volunteer Family Law Program of the Legal Aid Society of Minneapolis, and asylum applicants with Advocates for Human Rights. She is licensed to practice law in Minnesota and Illinois.



Kim Dettmer

Camp Noah: Building Resiliency in Children Impacted by Trauma

Presenter:

Kim Dettmer, Senior Director of Disaster Services and Camp Noah
Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota, Inc., St. Paul, MN

Description:

Children who have experienced trauma can greatly benefit from therapy designed to teach resilience, but trained therapists are not always available. Camp Noah is a national program of Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota which has been proven to teach resilience to traumatized children using a day camp format and volunteers from the community where the children live. Originally designed to teach preparedness and resiliency skills to children impacted by the 1997 Red River flood in Minnesota and North Dakota, the program has evolved to include teaching resiliency skills to children impacted by historical and collective trauma, including gun violence. This presentation will include a brief overview of the Camp Noah curriculum and lessons learned from serving children after the mass shootings in Red Lake and Newtown, as well as in Ferguson, Flint, and North Minneapolis.

About the Presenter:

Kim Dettmer has served in increasingly responsible positions at Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota (LSSMN) since 2005. She is currently the Senior Director for state-wide Disaster Services and the national Camp Noah program. Prior to this, Ms. Dettmer was the Director of Refugee Services at LSSMN and served in various management roles at local non-profits dedicated to providing services to refugees living in Minnesota. She also served as a constituent liaison for two U.S. Senators. Ms. Dettmer spent two years working internationally for the International Rescue Committee and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Ms. Dettmer holds a Master's degree from Arizona State University and received a Mini-MBA in Non-Profit Management from the University of St. Thomas.

Wednesday, September 13, 2:30-3:45pm

MDH on Suicide Part I: National and State Suicide and Violence Data Trends

Presenter:

Melissa Heinen, RN, MPH, CPH, Suicide Epidemiologist/Interim Garrett Lee Smith (GLS)
Project Director Injury & Violence Prevention Section, Minnesota Depart. of Health, St. Paul, MN

Description:

Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) provides surveillance of all violence deaths in Minnesota including, suicide, homicide, unintentional firearm and undetermined deaths. This session will provide trend data in Minnesota by race, gender, and age as it compares to national trends and will describe sub-populations with the greatest risk—including veterans, older adults, youth, and the LGBT community—as well as protective factors.

About the Presenter:

Melissa Heinen has over 15 years of injury and violence prevention and data analysis experience and is the Interim Project Director for the MN GLS grant, National Violent Death Reporting System (NVDRS) Epidemiologist. Melissa has a Registered Nurse degree and a Master's Degree in Public Health with an emphasis in Epidemiology. For the past four years, Melissa served as Minnesota's suicide prevention coordinator. Melissa has demonstrated the capacity to work in close partnership with Minnesota's Tribes, community health organizations, allied mental health providers, an array of state agencies and Minnesota's military population. Melissa has also worked as the director of research and education at a regional poison center and a health statistician at the National Center of Health Statistics.

Increased Access to Firearms, from a Domestic Violence Prevention Policy View

Presenter:

David Keck, JD, Project Director, National Center on Domestic Violence and Firearms
Battered Women's Justice Project, Minneapolis, MN



Melissa Heinen



David Keck

Description:

Domestic violence victims are some of the most overlooked and forgotten firearms victims in our communities. This presentation will begin with a brief overview of gun violence statistics and then focus on specific domestic violence dynamics and the sometimes counter-intuitive behaviors and motivations of survivors of domestic violence. Other topics addressed will include domestic violence-motivated mass shootings, the movement to take up arms for self-defense in domestic violence situations, and the impact that increased presence of firearms has on police procedures.

About the Presenter:

David Keck is the Director of the National Domestic Violence and Firearms Resource Center at the Battered Women's Justice Project, located in Minneapolis. Previously, he served for 13 years as a Trial Attorney in the Oshkosh Office of the Wisconsin State Public Defender, then for ten years as a Circuit Court Commissioner for Winnebago County, Wisconsin, presiding over hearings in restraining orders, family court proceedings, and small claims civil cases. Over the course of his career, David has exhibited a strong commitment to legal and policy work on behalf of survivors of domestic violence, and particularly the impact of firearms on the safety of survivors, their families and their communities.

Black and Blue: Why Context Matters in Race and Law Enforcement

Presenters:

Jason Sole, ABD, President and CEO, Minneapolis NAACP

Paul Schnell, MA, Instructor, University of Saint Thomas, St. Catherine's University, and Metropolitan State University, Saint Paul, MN

Description:

Jason Sole, consultant and educator, and Paul Schnell, former police chief, will take participants on a trip back through their very different lives. One of the presenters grew up in economically deprived neighborhoods in Chicago, became a gang member, committed crimes, and was jailed. The other grew up in a non-diverse community in rural Wisconsin and went on to become a police officer and teacher. The intersection of their lives allowed them to recognize, respect and value both their similarities and their differences.

The session explores and provides a context for understanding the biases we all have, as well as, the unique filters through which we view the world. They will discuss the power of developing diverse relationships, engaging in difficult conversations, and the need to hear the pain, anger, and distrust that exists in large portions of the community—particularly those who interact with the criminal justice system. Exploring these issues is essential for the prevention of both gun violence in the African American community and police shootings.

About the Presenters:

Jason Sole is a visiting professor in criminal justice educator at Hamline University in St. Paul, a Bush Fellow, and President of the Minneapolis NAACP. He is currently putting the finishing touches on his PhD dissertation to complete his doctorate in Public Safety with a specialization in Criminal Justice. Having participated in gang violence and experienced incarceration in his early life, he is now a national keynote speaker and gang trainer, including serving as a national trainer for One Circle Foundation. Through his firm, Jason Sole Consulting LLC, he offers juvenile and criminal justice agencies the tools they need to influence people affected by delinquency, incarceration, poverty and other social ills.

Paul Schnell has more than 20 years of policing experience having worked in urban, suburban, and rural communities. He began his career in the Carver County Sheriff's Office and the St. Paul Police Department, before serving as Chief of Police for the cities of Hastings and then Maplewood. Now he teaches courses in criminal justice ethics, restorative justice, victimology, and violence prevention at the University of Saint Thomas, St. Catherine's University, and Metropolitan State University in Saint Paul, and works in investigations for the MnSCU system. He is the former President of the Minnesota Chiefs of Police Association and an outspoken advocate for gun violence prevention. In addition to his law enforcement experience and expertise, he has a Bachelor's degree in Social Work and is licensed in the State of Minnesota as a Social Worker.



Jason Sole



Paul Schnell

Wednesday, September 13, 4:00-5:15pm

MDH on Suicide Part II: Working Towards Zero Suicides for Youth and Adults

Presenter:

Melissa Dau, MS, Regional Youth Suicide Prevention Coordinator,
Minnesota Department of Health, Mankato, MN

Stephanie Downey, BS, Regional Youth Suicide Prevention Planner,
Injury and Violence Prevention Section, Minnesota Department of Health, St. Paul, MN

Description:

Minnesota's suicide prevention efforts are based on the evidence that most suicides are preventable, involve mental illness, and recovery is possible. In this session, participants will learn how to prevent suicide deaths through evidence-based practices for different populations in Minnesota, including veterans, youth, older adults, working-age adults, and the LGBTQ community, along with being provided with local, state and national resources.

About the Presenters:

Melissa Dau is the Youth Suicide Prevention Regional Coordinator at the Office of Injury and Violence Prevention for the Minnesota Department of Health based out of Mankato, MN. Melissa has extensive experience in family/community education programs, program development (research/evaluation), active listening and crisis intervention. She is very passionate about suicide prevention and eliminating/reducing the stigma associated with mental illness through education and outreach.

Melissa's previous position was in Fargo, North Dakota where she was the coordinator for the North Dakota Suicide Follow-Up Program. Melissa has earned a Bachelor of Science Degree at North Dakota State University in Child Development & Family Science, and a Master's Degree in Human Development & Family Science.

Stephanie Downey is the Regional Youth Suicide Prevention Planner at the Injury and Violence Prevention Section for the Minnesota Department of Health. Stephanie's journey to her work in the field of suicide prevention grew from a passion to serve youth and families. Stephanie's background and knowledge of youth mental health and substance abuse issues is rooted in a 20-year career at a residential treatment facility delivering assessment, mental health and dual diagnosis services. Stephanie spent 9 years coordinating suicide prevention education, awareness and advocacy to communities in the Beltrami County area. Stephanie earned her Bachelor of Science Degree at Bemidji State University in Criminal Justice with minors in Chemical Dependency and Sociology.

The Human Toll of Gun Violence: Survivors Share Their Stories

Presenter:

Rachael Joseph, Director of Outreach and Communications
Protect Minnesota, St. Paul, MN

Description:

Gun violence claims over 33,000 American lives every year, and impacts millions. But what does the experience of losing someone you love to gun violence –or to being a victim yourself—feel like? Protect Minnesota Director of Outreach and Communications and gun violence survivor, Rachael Joseph, will moderate a panel discussion with survivors and victims of various types of gun violence. Survivors will discuss topics such as urban gun violence, gun suicide, mass shootings and the devastating long-term effects these events have on their lives and communities.

About the Presenters:

Rachael Joseph is the Director of Outreach and Communications at Protect Minnesota, the only independent, state-based gun violence prevention organization in Minnesota. She has a degree in Animal Science and Genetics from the University of Minnesota and intended to work veterinary medicine. The trajectory of Rachael's life changed abruptly when her beloved aunt Shelley was murdered in the courthouse shooting at the Hennepin County Government Center on September 29th, 2003. Since then, Rachael has dedicated her life to raising awareness about gun violence and what



Melissa Dau



Stephanie Downey



Rachael Joseph



Sa'Leesha Beeks

can be done to prevent it. In addition to her work for Protect Minnesota, Rachael is a member of the Board of Directors at the Minnesota Alliance on Crime and an Advocacy Consultant at Women Against the Violence Epidemic (WAVE). Formerly, she served as the Minnesota Survivor Lead for the Everytown Survivor Network and Social Media Lead for Moms Demand Action.

Rachael will be joined by:



Rebecca Rhoda

Sa'Lesha 'Bunny' Beeks, is the daughter of Birdell Beeks, an innocent grandmother shot and killed in her vehicle in North Minneapolis in May 2016. Sa'Lesha's daughter was also in the car and survived. She has worked tirelessly to prevent gun violence ever since and recently joined the Board of Directors at Protect Minnesota

Rebecca Rhoda Fisher is a criminal defense attorney who practices in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Federal Court. Currently she is the President of the Warren E Burger Inn of Courts, Council Member and past Chair of the Minnesota State Bar Association Criminal Law Section, and past President of the Minnesota Society of Criminal Justice. Rebecca has been an active advocate for gun violence prevention since her assistant, Chase Passauer, was murdered in her law office on April 7, 2016.



Rick Hendrickson

Rick Hendrickson survived the courthouse shooting at the Hennepin County Government Center on a September 29, 2003. He was shot in the neck at close range by a woman who purchased a gun at a gun show for \$60 without a background check. He still practices law in Minnesota.

Angela Miller is an internationally known author, writer and speaker on grief, loss and trauma. In 2008, Angela's son was shot and killed when he was two years old. She was also shot at and survived. Since then Angela has worked tirelessly to provide compassionate grief support to survivors and bereaved families worldwide. Angela recently joined the Board of Directors at the Minnesota Alliance on Crime.



Angela Miller

Jed Schlegelmilch is a filmmaker who lives in St. Louis Park, Minnesota, with his wife and two children. Jed's older brother, John, died by suicide from a gunshot wound on October 31st, 1992.

Diane Sellgren's daughter, Angela Frankenberry, was able to purchase a gun despite being hospitalized four times during the last year of her life. On July 5, 2011, the anniversary of her father's suicide by gun, Angela used that gun to end her life. Diane authored a bill to keep guns out of the hands of those suffering severe depression and mental illness, which did not make it out of committee. Formerly, Diane has been a Board member at Protect Minnesota, a volunteer Survivor Engagement Lead and Fellow with Everytown for Gun Safety, and has also volunteered with the Newtown Action Alliance and Brady Campaign.



Jed Schlegelmilch

Policing in Minnesota and in the 21st Century: What Works, What Doesn't, and What's Promising?

Presenter:

Dr. James Densley, PhD, Associate Professor of Criminal Justice
Metropolitan State University, St. Paul, MN

Description:

Recent police shootings in the Twin Cities and across the nation have people wondering about police training. This presentation will walk participants through Minnesota's unique system of peace officer training and education, explore the demands of 21st century policing, and assess the validity of the claim that there is a "War on Cops." The myths and realities of police use of force will be examined in the context of discussion around the "weapons effect" in America. The presentation will examine what works, what doesn't, and what's promising in terms of policy and practice to improve police legitimacy and community relations, the effectiveness of de-escalation, and Crisis Intervention Training.

About the Presenter:

Dr. James Densley is an Associate Professor of Criminal Justice at Metropolitan State University, part of the Minnesota State system, and a Fellow of Royal Society of Arts. Since earning his PhD in sociol-



Diane Sellgren



James Densley

ogy from the University of Oxford in 2011, James has quickly established himself as one of the world's leading experts on gangs and youth violence and a prominent voice locally on issues of peace officer education and training. His work has attracted local, national, and international media attention, including work for CNN and Viceland. James is the author of the award-winning *How Gangs Work* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2013) and co-author of *Minnesota's Criminal Justice System* (Carolina academic Press, 2016). He has published more than 30 refereed articles and book chapters in leading social science outlets and has been an invited or plenary speaker on three continents.

Thursday, September 14, 1:00-2:15pm

Regaining Traction on a Slippery Slope: The Next Step Program

Presenter:

Farji A. Shaheer, Mental Health Worker, Next Step Program Developer, and Violence Intervention Specialist, Hennepin County Medical Center, Minneapolis, MN

Description:

Farji Shaheer is Program Developer at Next Step, a hospital-based violence intervention program at Hennepin County Medical Center in Minneapolis that connects youth and young adult victims of violent injury to resources and support. He will explain the long-term physical, psychological and social effects of gunshot wounds in the lives of survivors, and, with the help of a patient, describe the purpose, design and operation of the Next Step program. Subjects addressed will include motivational interviewing and narrative medicine, verbal de-escalation, resilience, staying positive, and self-care. He will also discuss the socio-economic dynamics of environments where the violence is almost engrained into the way of life, the ongoing devastation of PTSD, and the effects of trauma on communities plagued by violence.

About the Presenter:

Farji Shaheer has 15 years' experience in Emergency Psychology at Hennepin County Medical Center in Acute Psychiatric Services, where he serves as Program Developer for the Next Step youth violence intervention program. He also has 30+ years of surviving in hostile urban environments, which has given him deep insights into roles that trauma and PTSD play in perpetuating the cycle of violence. He is a narrative medicine and motivational interview expert who specializes in working with youth and young adults 12-28 years old who are hospitalized because of gunshot wounds.

Farji will be joined by a current patient and other staff members from the Next Step program.

Sandy Hook Promise: Know the Signs

Presenter:

Tim Makris, Managing Director, Sandy Hook Promise, Newtown, CT

Description:

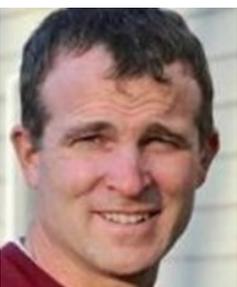
This presentation will show attendees why prevention is so important, and how to bring the no cost, research-based *Know the Signs* programs to help protect children from gun violence in homes, schools and communities. Sandy Hook Promise's programs teach youth and adults how to recognize the signs and signals of a person in need of help before they can hurt themselves or others, and prevent gun-related deaths due to crime, suicide and accidental discharge so that no other parent experiences the senseless, horrific loss of their child.

About the Presenter:

Tim Makris, the father of a Sandy Hook Elementary fourth-grader who was not hurt in the shootings, is a co-founder of Sandy Hook Promise and serves as a Managing Director. Prior to launching Sandy Hook Promise in January, 2013, just a month after the devastation at Sandy Hook Elementary School, Tim worked in product development at several multi-national corporations. He has a BA in Economics from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.



Farji Shaheer



Tim Makris



Dr. Charles Gessert

Thursday, September 14, 2:30-3:45pm

The Shadow Epidemic: The Costs of Non-Fatal Gun Violence Injuries

Presenters:

Dr. Charles E. Gessert, MD, MPH, Senior Research Scientist, Emeritus
Essentia Institute of Rural Health, Duluth, MN

Dr. Caleb Schultz, MD, MPH, Anesthesiologist,
Hennepin County Medical Center in Minneapolis.

Description:

US fatalities from gun violence (over 33,000 annually) are tracked closely by organizations concerned with public health and safety. Non-fatal gun injuries are not cited as frequently, but constitute a “shadow epidemic” with over 73,000 individual survivors of gun violence injuries each year. The costs of this shadow epidemic are enormous, and include direct medical care, loss of employment, and emotional and financial costs to individuals and families, both at the time of injury and for years thereafter. The consequences of this shadow epidemic are illustrated by the experiences of “Troy,” a 36-year-old Marine who shot himself on Super Bowl Sunday in 2017 and survived to face multiple surgeries, prolonged hospitalizations, and a long, slow, uncertain recovery. By sharing Troy’s story and the stories of other gun injury patients, Drs. Gessert and Schultz will underscore the need to address the societal burden of caring for the survivors of non-fatal gun injuries.



Dr. Caleb Schultz

About the Presenters:

Dr. Charles Gessert, MD, MPH, has been a member of the Protect Minnesota Board of Directors since 2015. Dr. Gessert previously served as a Senior Research Scientist in the Essentia Institute of Rural Health in Duluth, MN from 2000 until his retirement in 2013. His research interests included a wide range of clinical and public health issues: end-of-life decision-making, with a special interest in rural-urban differences in end-of-life care preferences; the use of feeding tubes in advanced dementia; and improving our understanding of the normal lifespan. He is currently active in teaching, local community and political action, and advocacy for health care reform. An advocate of safer gun ownership, Gessert also serves on the Board of Directors of Protect Minnesota.

Dr. Caleb Schultz, MD, MPH, received his Bachelor of Science from Duke University, M.D. and M.P.H. from the University of Minnesota, and completed residency in Anesthesiology at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester. He serves on the Edina Community Health Commission, Minnesota Medical Association Policy Council, the Twin Cities Medical Society Board of Directors, and the Minnesota Public Health Association Policy and Advocacy Committee. Dr. Schultz practices Anesthesiology at Hennepin County Medical Center in Minneapolis.

The Neurobiology of Trauma and Successful Interventions

Presenter:

Dr. Deb Semmelroth, DNP, MA, RN, PHN, Duluth, MN

Description:

Research has shown that trauma impacts our lives as well affecting all aspects of our being, physically and emotionally, which can lead to unhealthy responses. This presentation will serve to explore the neurobiology of trauma and how its effects on our brain impacts the aftermath of trauma. The layered effects of trauma impact the quality of our lives; body, mind, and spirit, therefore a discussion of adverse childhood experiences research will be explored. Participants will learn to differentiate between post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and complex trauma, be introduced to effective ways to intervene and connect with a person who has experienced trauma grief, and understand that grief from trauma may vary depending on the individual. Violence is all around us! How can we as professionals intentionally offer words and actions that provide empathy, presence, compassion, soothing, safety, and finally, healing and hope?



Dr. Deb Semmelroth

About the presenter:

Dr. Deb Semmelroth, DNP, MA, RN is a former Professor of Nursing at the College of St. Scholastica in Duluth, MN. With more than 28 years of experience as a registered nurse, Dr. Semmelroth has

taught mental health nursing to undergraduate baccalaureate nursing students. Dr. Semmelroth also worked at the Birch Tree Center, providing stabilization and a healing environment for those experiencing mental health crisis. Dr. Semmelroth co-facilitates a monthly grief support group for family/friends who have lost a loved one to suicide, facilitates a monthly parent resource support group, serves as a speaker for suicide prevention and the bereaved, has served on the local NAMI board of directors, is a member of America Holistic Nurses Association, a member of the Social Work Association, and a recipient of the 2014 St. Mary's Grief Support Center facilitator of the year award. Currently, Dr. Semmelroth is pursuing a clinical MSW.

America the Hostile: Gun Violence as an Indicator of a Society that is Toxic

Presenter:

Dr. Chris Johnson, MD, Emergency Physician,
Allina Health, Minneapolis, MN

Description:

This presentation will describe the pattern of gun violence that has characterized the United States over the past 30 years, assessing who the victims of gun violence are, how that violence is perpetrated and by whom, and identifying distinct patterns of "toxic" social dynamics that lead to other social ills in the United States such as teen pregnancy, high levels of incarceration and increased abuse of intoxicants. These lessons will be applied to find ways to improve our social relationships that would benefit everyone by reducing both the propensity to violence and other serious social problems.

About the Presenter:

Dr. Chris Johnson is an emergency physician currently working with the Allina Health Urgent Care System who serves on the Minnesota Medical Association's Board of Trustees and the Dept. of Human Services Health Services Advisory Council. He is also an active member of the Twin Cities Medical Society and the Minnesota Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians. In his 15 years as a practicing emergency physician, Dr. Chris Johnson has seen the front lines of the opiate and gun violence epidemics and understands the commonalities that drive both. A passionate advocate for healthcare reform, he has lectured on the topic of opioid abuse around Minnesota and in Wisconsin to audiences that have included medical providers, legal task forces, philanthropic organizations and political leaders. Dr. Johnson was a keynote speaker at the August 2015 Pain Pill Problem Summit hosted by Governor Dayton at the University of Minnesota and chairs the Minnesota Department of Human Services Opioid Prescribing Work Group. He has been published locally on the topic of gun violence and locally and nationally on the opioid epidemic.

Thursday, September 14, 4:00-5:15pm

Culture As Weapon/Weapon Is Culture

Presenter:

John Schuerman, Curator and Artist
Instinct Art Gallery, Minneapolis, MN

John will be joined by other area artists.

Description:

This presentation will explore the role that artistic expression can play in raising awareness about the issue of gun violence. The conversation will start among a small group of Minnesota artists who create gun violence-related work. The artists will each present their artwork via projected images and/or video and talk about what they are investigating as artists through this work. Then questions will be posed for the artists and audience to respond to. Participants will gain new perspectives on the effects of gun violence. The artists will encourage audiences to use their imaginations as they try to make sense of stories and statistics about gun violence, and through imagination, make it more real (paradoxically). Participants will also experience a different kind of inquiry into the problems of gun violence, that of the artist. Artists will share their thinking and investigations.



Dr. Chris Johnson



John Schuerman

About the Presenter:

John Schuerman is an independent curator and a self-taught artist and until 2017 was the Gallery Director for Instinct Art Gallery in Minneapolis. Instinct was awarded Best New Gallery by the Star Tribune in 2015, and was a contemporary gallery with an emphasis on art that honors the natural world. Schuerman's deep interest in nature and human nature are reflected in both his art, and his curatorial work, primarily group exhibitions focused on sociological themes. His aesthetic style and social consciousness formed as he grew up on a dairy farm in southern Wisconsin, coming of age during the cultural revolution of the late 60's and early 70's. His provocative exhibits engage viewers on today's most pressing issues: Empathy, Human Overpopulation, Money, Time, Gender Perspectives, Identity, Environmentalism, and Politics. Nearly every exhibit has been covered by the press in one form or another, and several of the exhibitions have traveled elsewhere in the region after their initial run locally. From October 6-20 he is curating an exhibit on gun violence called "Culture As Weapon" at the Space 369 in the Dow Building, featuring the work of seven area artists. For more information go to john@instinctmpls.com.

Rates of Permit to Carry Applications and Denials

Presenters:

Jeff Gigler, Director of Research and Operations, Protect Minnesota, St. Paul, MN

Jeff Mathwig, Research Manager, The Center for Homicide Research, Minneapolis, MN

Description:

This presentation will feature two different analyses related to permit to carry firearms applications.

Permit to Carry Denials in Minnesota: 2006-2016

Jeff Gigler will present Protect Minnesota's analysis of ten years of data from the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension detailing rates of permit to carry firearms application denials in Minnesota by county and zip code. In addition to learning where, why, and how frequently permit to carry applications have been denied over the past ten years, participants will be introduced to the concept of "data mining," a research technique that enables non-academics to analyze public information related to firearms and gun violence.

Examining LGBT+ Concealed Carry Rates: How High Impact Low Frequency Events Affect Gun Ownership and Concealed Carry Permit Usage

Jeff Mathwig will share a recent study by the Center for Homicide Research of how high impact, low frequency events such as mass shootings impact the rate of concealed carry usage when specific groups have been targeted. The mass shooting that targeted gays and lesbians at Pulse Nightclub was the focus of this research study, but its findings have broad applications.

About the Presenters:

Jeffrey Gigler is a former Naval officer and intelligence expert with 30 years' experience in research and analysis in both government and business spheres. He also specializes in strategic planning, market development, and business operations. In his role as Director of Research and Operations for Protect Minnesota, he leads a team of volunteer researchers in analyzing data related to firearms and gun violence.

Jeffrey Mathwig began at the Center for Homicide Research in June 2016 working on the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe's research project focusing on homicide and its relationship to food scarcity and hunger. Mathwig's education includes a bachelor of science degree in both geography and geographic information science (GIS) from Minnesota State University, Mankato (MSU). He specializes in crime-mapping technology using ESRI-ArcMap and QGIS software. As project manager, Mathwig successfully oversaw the Center's most recent project: LGBT+ Concealed Carry Rates Before and After the Pulse Nightclub Shooting. The paper is available on the Center's website. Mathwig's research interests include gun violence prevention, active shooters, and public safety policy.



Jeffrey Gigler



Jeffrey Mathwig



Robin Lloyd

The Economic Cost of Gun Violence in Minnesota

Presenter:

Robin Lloyd, Director of Government Affairs, Americans for Responsible Solutions

Description:

Gun violence in Minnesota exacts a high physical, emotional, and financial toll on our family, friends, and neighbors. We often hear about the heartbreak and physical pain these shootings cause, but there is another aspect of the gun violence epidemic that doesn't receive as much attention: the overwhelming financial cost.

About the Presenter:

Robin Lloyd is the Director of Government Affairs at Americans for Responsible Solutions (ARS), the gun violence prevention organization founded by former Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords and Captain Mark Kelly. Prior to joining ARS, Robin served as the Director of Federal Affairs for the City of New York under Mayor Michael Bloomberg. Previously, Robin served as a legislative aide to Congressman Anthony Weiner (D-NY) and Congressman Ciro Rodriguez (D-TX). Robin is a graduate of Wellesley College and holds a master's degree from Johns Hopkins University.

Robin may be joined by members of the ARS Coalition for Common Sense in Minnesota.