

Marc Cherna, MSW

Director, Allegheny County Department of Human Services

Marc Cherna was appointed Director of the Allegheny County Department of Human Services (DHS) over sixteen years ago. This integrated department, with a budget close to a billion dollars, includes five programmatic offices: Aging; Behavioral Health; Children, Youth and Families; Community Services; and Intellectual Disabilities. His innovative practice and leadership abilities have garnered him prestigious awards by numerous human service, humanitarian, and civic organizations such as: the Betsey R. Rosenbaum Award for Excellence in Child Welfare Administration from the National Association of Public Child Welfare Administrators; the Urban League's Ronald H. Brown Civic Leadership Award; the Good Government Award from the League of Women Voters, the Social Work Citizen of the Year from the National Association of Social Workers; and the Coleman Award for Excellence in Community Service from the University of Pittsburgh's Institute of Politics.

Under Mr. Cherna's direction, the DHS State Forensics Program was the recipient of a 2005, Innovations in American Government award given by the Ash Institute for Democratic Governance and Innovation at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government. He serves on many boards and committees including the University of Pittsburgh, School of Social Work's Board of Visitors, the University of Pittsburgh's Institute of Politics Board of Fellows, and the Executive Committee of the National Association of Public Child Welfare Administrators.

Mr. Cherna began his career in human services as a youth worker 40 years ago. He has extensive work experience in the field, including four years as the Director of Planning, Allocations and Agency Relations with the United Way of Union County, New Jersey and 13 years with the New Jersey Department of Human Services as an Assistant Director in the Division of Youth and Family Services.

He received his B.A. degree from the State University of New York at Binghamton and an M.S.W. from the Hunter College School of Social Work in New York.

Howard Davidson, PhD

Director, American Bar Association Center on Children and the Law
Staff Director, American Bar Association Commission on Youth at Risk

Howard Davidson has been actively involved with the legal aspects of child protection for more than 4 decades. He has directed the American Bar Association (ABA) Center on Children and the Law since its 1978 establishment. The Center provides extensive training, technical assistance, consulting, and publications for lawyers, child welfare agencies, juvenile (dependency) courts, and those providing legal representation in child abuse and neglect cases.

Mr. Davidson served as chair of the United States Advisory Board on Child Abuse and Neglect and is a founding board member of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. He also serves on the board of End Child Prostitution and Trafficking (ECPAT-USA), and on the Maryland Children's Justice Task Force.

Mr. Davidson has authored many legal articles on child maltreatment as well as legal commentaries for chapters of the American Psychiatric Association book, *Family Violence: A Clinical and Legal Guide*. His recent writings include *A Common Bond: Maltreated Children and Animals in the Home— Guidelines for Practice and Policy*, *International Legal Principles for Judges and Child Welfare Agencies to Apply with Unaccompanied and Undocumented Immigrant Children*, and several articles in the *Encyclopedia of Interpersonal Violence*.

In the 1970s Mr. Davidson spent five years as a legal services attorney exclusively representing children in juvenile court. He also created the Children's Law Project at Greater Boston Legal Services, one of the country's first children's law centers.

Mr. Davidson received a B.A. degree from Boston University and a Juris Doctorate degree from the Boston College Law School.

Rev. Dr. W. Wilson Goode, Sr., D. Min.

President, Amachi, Inc.

W. Wilson Goode, Sr. is the President of Amachi, Inc., a nationally acclaimed, model faith-based program for mentoring children of incarcerated parents. He also is a Distinguished Senior Resident Fellow, Program for Research on Religion and Urban Civil Society (PRRUCS), University of Pennsylvania. His innovative and ground-breaking work garnered him two prestigious awards: the Civic Ventures \$100,000 *Purpose Prize*, and the Philadelphia Inquirer's *Citizen of the Year*. He is an ordained Baptist Minister with 57 years of service at the First Baptist Church of Paschall located in southwest Philadelphia.

Dr. Goode has served as an officer in the U. S. Army. He also led ground-breaking work in faith-based housing for low and moderate income persons. He was the first African American member, and later became Chairman, of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission. He again broke racial barriers with his appointment as Managing Director for the City of Philadelphia. He would follow that as the City's first African American Mayor for two terms. He subsequently spent 7 years as Deputy Assistant Secretary of Education under the Clinton Administration. He left that position in 2000 to help organize the Amachi program, which is now his ministry and life's work.

Dr. Goode is Chairman of the Philadelphia Leadership Foundation, and Self, Inc., a nonprofit corporation dedicated to homeless men and women. He is a Board Member of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southeast PA, and previously served as the Chairman. He is also a Board Member of America's Promise Alliance, Leadership Foundation, Eastern University, Palmer Theological Seminary, the former chair of the Free Library of Philadelphia, former chair of Cornerstone Christian Academy, Southwest Leadership Academy Charter School, Communities In Schools of Philadelphia, Inc., and serves as Chair of Partners for Sacred Places. He is a member of Sigma Pi Phi and Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternities.

Dr. Goode has earned degrees from Morgan State University (BA), the University of Pennsylvania (MA), Eastern Baptist, now Palmer, Theological Seminary (D. Min.), and fourteen honorary doctorates.

Todd E. Lloyd, MSW

Child Welfare Policy Director, Pennsylvania Partnerships for Children

Todd Lloyd has 15 years of combined child welfare practice, program and public policy experience in Pennsylvania. He is currently employed as the Child Welfare Policy Director at Pennsylvania Partnerships for Children (PPC), a statewide, independent, and nonpartisan child advocacy organization based in Harrisburg. Mr. Lloyd leads a statewide child welfare reform initiative at PPC called *The Porch Light Project: Forever Family for Every Child*. This initiative seeks to improve public policies in order to promote better safety, permanency, and well-being outcomes of children and families. The project has successfully advanced a number of important child welfare reforms since its launch in 2008, including spearheading state passage of a foster youth bill of rights, voluntary post-adoption contact agreements, and extension of foster care and permanency subsidies to age 21 under the federal *Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act*.

Prior to his work in public policy, he was responsible for managing the Independent Living Project through the University of Pittsburgh's Child Welfare Resource Center. The Center provides monitoring, training, and technical assistance to the state's Independent Living Programs serving youth in foster care. In this role, he also supported the expanded use of various promising child welfare practices by county children and youth agencies, and oversaw the monitoring and technical assistance of state-funded family centers. Mr. Lloyd began his child welfare career working in various capacities at a county children and youth agency.

Linda Mauro, DSW Professor of Social Work

Temple University College of Health Professions and Social Work

Linda Mauro is a Professor Emeritus at Temple University's School of Social Work. She also served as Interim Dean and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs at Temple. Her areas of special interest are child welfare, family violence, and child placement.

She is a member of the Philadelphia Department of Human Services Child Fatality Review Committee and a member of the Steering Committee for the Improving Outcomes for Children Initiative. She has served on the boards of numerous social agencies, provided training in the field of child welfare, and was a Child Welfare Fellow at the University of California at Berkeley, School of Social Welfare. She is a recipient of the Lindback Award for Excellence in Teaching and the Support Center for Child Advocates Distinguished Advocate Award.

Dr. Linda Mauro earned a M.S.W. in 1978 and a D.S.W. in 1985 from the University of Pennsylvania, School of Social Work. Her dissertation topic was *"The Impact of Foster Care on Lives of Foster Families"*.

Kathleen G. Noonan, JD

Division of General Pediatrics, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

Kathleen Noonan is a co-director of Policy Lab at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Research Institute. A lawyer by training, she has worked extensively at the intersection of health and welfare law and policy, especially as it relates to children. Ms. Noonan was a founding co-director of PolicyLab in 2008, working to develop the Center's policy arm before departing in 2010 to assume a position as Clinical Associate Professor of Law at the University of Wisconsin Law School.

While at Wisconsin, Ms. Noonan taught health law, started and co-directed the JD-MPH program and launched the school's Government and Legislative Law Clinic to give students first-hand experience working on legal issues with policy significance. Ms. Noonan also currently serves as mediator in several class action public impact cases concerning health and human services. She has worked with dozens of state and local government agencies to help them restructure their policies and systems, often as a result of regulatory changes, lawsuits or crisis.

Earlier in her career, Ms. Noonan spent seven years as a senior associate and engagement manager with Casey Strategic Consulting, the consulting arm of the Annie E. Casey Foundation. While at Casey, she led engagements around the country aimed at producing positive public system change for health and human services agencies. Ms. Noonan was also a practicing attorney at the Boston firm of Hill & Barlow where she focused on real estate, specifically involving the use of Low-Income Housing Tax Credits in affordable housing projects. She served as a law clerk to United States District Judge Morris E. Lasker and has worked in public policy positions in New York City with the Citizens' Committee for Children of New York, Inc., and Bank Street College of Education, Division of Social Policy.

David Sanders, PhD

Chairperson, DHS Community Oversight Board

Executive Vice President, Systems Improvement, Casey Family Programs

David Sanders joined Casey Family Programs in July 2006. He provides strategic direction over the foundation's work with child welfare systems to improve practice, with an emphasis on safely reducing the number of children in foster care. In 2013, Dr. Sanders was appointed by President Obama to a key administrative post as chair of the Commission to Eliminate Child Abuse and Neglect Fatalities. In the same year, Dr. Sanders also was selected to chair the Los Angeles Blue Ribbon Commission.

Dr. Sanders has spent his entire career in the human services field. Prior to joining Casey Family Programs, he directed all operations for the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services, the largest county system in the country. During his tenure, the department saw its foster care population decrease as safety and stability measures improved. He previously served 10 years as director of the Hennepin County (Minnesota) Children, Family and Adult Services Department, managing a staff of 1,450. As director, he was responsible for all state and federally mandated social services to children, families, and adults in the county. Early in his career, Dr. Sanders worked in Minneapolis, first as a senior clinical psychologist in the Hennepin County Mental Health Center, and later as chief clinical psychologist. Dr. Sanders also was vice president of the National Association of Public Child Welfare Administrators in 2005.

Dr. Sanders was the recipient of the 2008 Grace B. Flandreau Award from the National Council on Crime and Delinquency, recognizing his significant contributions to juvenile justice and child welfare. The National Association of Public Child Welfare Administrations honored Dr. Sanders in 2007 with the Peter W. Forsythe Award for Leadership in Public Child Welfare. In 2003, he received the Congressional Angels in Adoption Award, and in 2005 he received the Princeton Club of Southern California's Service to the Community Award.

Dr. Sanders graduated with honors from Princeton University with a bachelor's degree in psychology and received his Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the University of Minnesota.

Judith Silver, PhD

Psychologist, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

Judith Silver is a Clinical Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychology in Pediatrics, University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine, where she is the associate director of the *Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities Program*, a post-graduate fellowship for health care professionals. She is a pediatric psychologist at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, and director of Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice Initiatives at its Center for Pediatric Traumatic Stress.

Dr. Silver's clinical work has focused on children with disabilities and high-risk infants, with a special focus on the health and developmental needs of young children involved with the child welfare system. From 1992–2007 she directed the *Starting Young Program*, a pediatric developmental evaluation program for young Philadelphia children under 3 involved with the child welfare system. Dr. Silver has presented numerous educational programs on early childhood health, development, and mental health for child welfare professionals, legal advocates, and judges. Since 2001, she has chaired or co-chaired the *Committee on the Health Care Needs of Children in Substitute Care*, a community task force which aims to reduce barriers to well-being among this vulnerable population.

Dr. Silver has served on national advisory committees related to young children in foster care, including the National Advisory Committee for the *Child Welfare League of America (CWLA) Standards of Excellence for Health Care Services for Children in Out-of-Home Care* and the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry/CWLA Foster Care Mental Health Collaborative. Her publications are related to the health and development of children involved with the child welfare system.

Phyllis Stevens

Founder and Executive Director, Together as Adoptive Parents, Inc. (TAP)

Phyllis Stevens is founder and Executive Director of Together as Adoptive Parents, Inc. (TAP), a nonprofit, multi-racial adoptive, foster, and kinship organization in Pennsylvania. Ms. Stevens and her husband have six children, one birth son, four that were adopted, and one foster son. She has conducted trainings and presented locally and nationally on topics such as parent support group development, adoption subsidies, post-adoption/permanency services, special needs adoption, cultural competency, recruitment and retention, and grant writing. In addition, Ms.

Stevens served on the North American Council on Adoptable Children (NACAC) Board of Directors for eight years. She serves on Pennsylvania's Statewide Adoption and Permanency Network (SWAN) Advisory Board. She is vice president of the Pennsylvania State Resource Family Association. She served 5 years as vice president of the Delaware Valley Adoption Council.

Ms. Stevens is a technical assistance consultant for the National Resource Center for Recruitment and Retention of Foster and Adoptive Parents, at AdoptUsKids. She also is a technical assistance consultant for the National Child Welfare Resource Center for Adoption. Ms. Stevens has won many awards locally and nationally for her work with children.

Ameera Sullivan

Case Manager, Behavioral Health Special Initiative, Philadelphia
Department of Behavioral Health & Mental Retardation Services

Ameera Sullivan is an Intensive Case Manager for the Behavioral Health Special Initiative, which serves the homeless population in Philadelphia. As a youth, Ms. Sullivan was once part of DHS' foster care system in Philadelphia and brings that experience to the COB. Ms. Sullivan is especially passionate about the challenges facing older youth as they age out of foster care.

Ms. Sullivan is currently working on a Master's Degree in School Counseling at Eastern University. She majored in Psychology at Temple University where she received her undergraduate degree.

Carol Tracy, Esq

Executive Director, Women's Law Project (WLP)

Carol Tracy is the Executive Director of the Women's Law Project. She has presided over major legal and policy victories to improve the lives of women and their families, and specializes on the intersection of reproductive rights, economic security, and freedom from sexual and domestic violence.

The Law Project's work combating violence against women includes litigation, advocacy for public policy change, and community education. It led a major reform effort on the police handling of sex crimes in Philadelphia. Carol co-chairs the city's Domestic Violence Law Enforcement Committee, and has been an advisor to the White House and the Department of Justice on issues of violence against women.

Carol is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and the Temple University Beasley School of Law. She is also a lecturer at the University of Pennsylvania. She has served on numerous boards of directors of non-profits agencies in Philadelphia and is active in the public interest legal community. She is the recipient of numerous awards and honors.

Maria Walker

Project Manager, University and Community Partnerships Drexel University

Maria Walker has worked in a variety of capacities to improve the lives of Philadelphians. Currently, as Project Manager for Drexel University's Office of University and Community Partnerships, her portfolio of grant oversight includes the Lenfest Early Childhood Education Initiative and the Lenfest After School Initiative to improve educational outcomes for youth in Mantua. She also continues to oversee Drexel's KEYSLOT: Freedom Rings Partnership, a citywide program to bridge the digital divide among low-income Philadelphians, and the KEYSLOT Computer Center at Drexel's Dornsife Center for Neighborhood Partnerships.

Previously, Ms. Walker was Executive Director of After School Activities Partnerships, an organization with the mission to keep Philadelphia youth in grades K–12 safe and active after school. She has worked as a newspaper journalist and editor for several weekly and daily papers in Philadelphia and the Midwest. As a special assistant to United States Representative Tom Foglietta (D-Phila.), she worked primarily with community, government, and union representatives on base closure and environmental issues. Her experience also includes advocacy and training to assist women on welfare find employment.

Ms. Walker has a B.A. in English from Temple University. She is a Philadelphia resident, the mother of three boys, and an active member of her local park organization. She serves as a board member to Dress for Success Philadelphia, Moxie Women Committee, and the City Lights Network in Southwest Philadelphia.

Tracey A. Williams Parent Advocate

Tracey Williams currently works for the Free Library of Philadelphia. She has expertise in working with the Department of Human Services (DHS) to obtain necessary support and services required for successful reunification.

She is currently involved with DHS' Improving Outcomes for Children (IOC) initiative. A key aspect of the IOC initiative is supporting and strengthening families. Ms. Williams is a facilitator at Parent Cafes. Parent Cafes are guided conversations that are conducted with parents in welcoming settings around five protective factors: parent resilience: be strong and flexible; social connections: parents need friends; knowledge of parent and child development: being a great parent is part natural and part learned; concrete support in times of need: we all need help sometimes; and social and emotional competent of children: parents need to help their children communicate. Ms. Williams also serves on the Advisory Board of the Achieving Reunification Center (ARC).

She is an active member of Truth Memorial Baptist Church. She is a part of the hospitality kitchen ministry and also works with the Philabundance program. She also is a member of the C.A.R.E. ministries outreach program for women and children in need of support and social services.

She attended Camden County College in Blackwood, New Jersey. She took classes in liberal arts and sciences. Ms. Williams is a proud mother of two daughters.

Shelly D. Yanoff

Former Executive Director, Public Citizens for Children and Youth (PCCY)

A lawyer by training and an advocate by disposition and experience, Shelly Yanoff has been working for children and families for more than four decades. Her work at Philadelphia Citizens for Children and Youth and Public Citizens for Children and Youth (PCCY) has been instrumental in increasing funding and improving programming in child health, child welfare, public education, child care, youth development, and family well-being.

Ms. Yanoff has been the region's leading child advocate for the interests of children and youth since the mid-1960s, when she crafted the strategy to save the "Get Set" day care program for 5,000 youngsters in Philadelphia. In the mid 1990s she helped to organize over 10,000 people from the region to go Washington to urge investment in children.

As Executive Director of PCCY, Shelly played a major role in expanding the scope and quality of services to children and their families. Through her leadership PCCY became instrumental in analyzing budgets and identifying unmet needs, connecting children and families to needed services, increasing public investment in child care and afterschool programs, creating special programs to support families in raising children, helping reduce the number of kids with lead paint poisoning, and helping improve education opportunities for children.

Ms. Yanoff is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and the Villanova University School of Law. She was appointed Chair of the Governor's Commission on Children and Families in 2005 and was a member of the Philadelphia Commission on Children, the Philadelphia Workforce Investment Board, and the Public Interest Law Center. She is a board member of the Free Library of Philadelphia. She has been the recipient of many awards including the Gimbel Philadelphia Award, The John B. Patterson Award for Excellence in Public Education, The Fleurette Angel National Child Advocate Award, and the Red Cross Clara Barton Humanitarian Award

Vanessa Garrett Harley, ESQ

Commissioner, Philadelphia Department of Human Services

Vanessa Garrett Harley was appointed Commissioner of the City of Philadelphia Department of Human Services (DHS) in August of 2014. DHS is the largest child welfare agency in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, serving approximately 100 thousand children and families each year. Prior to her appointment, Garrett Harley served as Deputy Commissioner of the Children and Youth Division at the Department of Human Services. In this position she was responsible for child welfare services provided to the children and families of Philadelphia in the hotline, intake, ongoing services and adoption divisions of DHS. These services are strategically designed to ensure the safety, permanency and well being of the Department's clients.

Garrett Harley is a staunch advocate for children and families with over a decade of service with the City of Philadelphia. Prior to arriving at DHS, she served as the Chair of the Social Services Law Group of the City of Philadelphia Law Department where she was responsible for providing legal advice to the City's social services agencies. Ms. Garrett Harley supervised the work of both the Child Welfare Unit and the Health and Adult Services Unit. She joined the Child Welfare Unit in 2002 and was promoted to Chair in 2007. Prior to working in the Child Welfare Unit, she worked in the Major Trials Unit of the Claims section of the Law Department.

Ms. Garrett Harley's past legal experience also includes working for the federal government, corporate counsel and private practice. She is a graduate of Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. with a dual major in Government (Public Administration) and Sociology; she received her J.D. from Temple University School of Law. She is also a 2007 graduate of the Urban League Leadership Forum, a program that identifies and trains minority leaders and establishes a forum for promoting effective leadership in all sectors of society.

Ms. Garrett Harley is also a 2007 graduate of the Urban League Leadership Forum, a program that identifies and trains minority leaders and establishes a forum for promoting effective leadership in all sectors of society.

Cindy W. Christian, M.D

Chair, Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Professor of Pediatrics, Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania

Cindy Christian is a Professor of Pediatrics at The Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, a pediatrician at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, and currently serves as an Assistant Dean for Diversity and Inclusion at the medical school. In 2010, Dr. Christian was appointed as the first medical director for the Philadelphia Department of Human Services, leading the development of policies and strategies to improve the health of Philadelphia's dependent children.

Dr. Christian has devoted much of her clinical and academic work to the care of abused children. She is a faculty director of the Field Center for Children's Policy, Practice and Research at The University of Pennsylvania. She is a member of the American Academy of Pediatrics' section on Child Abuse and Neglect, and presently serves as the Chair of the Academy's Committee on Child Abuse and Neglect. She is a founding member of the Ray E. Helfer Society, and is a member of a number of other local and national organizations devoted to the care of abused and neglected children. In 2007, Dr. Christian was named Pennsylvania Pediatrician of the Year by the Pennsylvania chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Dr. Christian completed her pediatric residency and child abuse pediatrics fellowship at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

Arthur C. Evans Jr., PhD

Commissioner, Philadelphia Department of Behavioral Health & Mental Retardation Services

Arthur C. Evans Jr. is the Commissioner of Philadelphia's Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual disAbility Services (DBHIDS), a \$1 billion healthcare agency. In this capacity, he is leading a major initiative to transform how behavioral health care and intellectual disability services are delivered in the city. Since Dr. Evans' appointment in November 2004, Philadelphia has begun a transformation of its system to one that focuses on recovery for adults, resilience for children, and self-determination for all people with intellectual disabilities.

Dr. Evans is a clinical and community psychologist. He holds a faculty appointment at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. He has also held faculty appointments at the Yale University School of Medicine and Quinnipiac University. Dr. Evans has extensive experience in transforming systems of care while serving in several national leadership roles.

Prior to coming to Philadelphia, Dr. Evans was the Deputy Commissioner for the Connecticut Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services (DMHAS). He was instrumental in implementing a recovery-oriented policy framework, addressing health care disparities, and increasing the use of evidence-based practices.

Dr. Evans has served or is currently serving in several national leadership roles that include: Chair of Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration; Partners for Recovery Initiative Steering Committee; Co-Chair of National Action Group on Fostering System Reform for Adults with Serious Mental Illness; Member of the Federal Center for Substance Abuse Treatment Advisory Committee; Chair of the National Advisory Committee for the Robert Wood Johnson's Path To Recovery Project; and President of the Board of Directors of the New England Institute of Addiction Studies Inc. (NEIAS).

Dr. Evans is highly committed to serving underserved individuals and ensuring that all people have access to effective, quality services.