



Session 6 | Community & Stakeholder Engagement Intensive: Part I

July 28, 2020

3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. EDT

Civilian oversight agencies should consider and continually assess what steps should be taken to communicate and engage with the broader community. It should be done in a way that will allow continued understanding of the community's needs *and* allow the community to know what work is being done by the oversight agency. Different approaches to communicating and engaging with the broader community have been adopted over the years and the increased use of social media has reshaped outreach strategies and the reach of oversight community engagement practices. One requirement, however, remains consistent: the need to acknowledge and engage with all stakeholders within the broader community. This acknowledge and engagement allows oversight agencies to build relationships, effectively communicate, and effect meaningful and sustainable change.

In addition to discussing different stakeholder groups, this session will explore methods for effectively engaging them throughout the oversight process; how to address their differing expectations and needs; and key elements in establishing and maintaining credibility and legitimacy with various stakeholder groups.

Speakers:

- Cameron McElhiney, Director of Training & Education, NACOLE, Indianapolis, IN
- Ursula Price, Executive Director, New Orleans Workers' Center for Racial Justice, New Orleans, LA

Cameron McElhiney | Cameron McElhiney is the Director of Training and Education for NACOLE. As the Director of Training and Education, Ms. McElhiney plays a leading role in designing, coordinating, delivering, and evaluating local, regional, and national training programs. She also provides support to oversight practitioners and advocates across the country.

Ms. McElhiney first became involved with civilian oversight in 1998 when she was appointed to the Indianapolis Citizens' Police Complaint Board. She served with this Board for six years, including two as President. Since 2004, Ms. McElhiney has performed work for NACOLE as a contractor, later transitioning to the conference coordinator with a primary focus on planning and supporting the Annual Conference, and eventually becoming NACOLE's first full-time employee. In addition to her work with NACOLE, she volunteers with local civic organizations and assists them with fundraising and membership drives, budgeting, succession planning, governance issues, and special events.

Cameron received her undergraduate degree in political science from DePauw University and resides in Indianapolis, Indiana with her husband and daughters.

Ursula Price | Born and raised in rural Mississippi, Ursula has been organizing for criminal justice reform in New Orleans since 2001. She joined Safe Streets/Strong Communities as a community organizer in the wake of Hurricane Katrina and helped drive a historic campaign for police accountability. This led to the creation of the Independent Police Monitor, which Ursula joined in 2010 and helped lead for eight years.



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Please note, content and speakers subject to change.

As Deputy Police Monitor, Ursula led a team that held the New Orleans Police Department accountable to the community through independent monitoring and investigations. As Director of Community Relations, she helped develop a police/community mediation program, a rights and responsibilities curriculum and guide, and helped organize New Orleans' first public forum in which officers and civilians worked together to develop an anti-retaliation policy. Ursula is on the board of BreakOUT! and is an experienced fundraiser and organizational development thinker.

Ursula has served as the Executive Director for New Orleans Workers' Center for Racial Justice (NOWCRJ) since 2018 and her background has been invaluable as the NOWCRJ has continued to lean into advocating for criminal justice reform, including the elimination of fines and fees that criminalize poverty, expanding anti-bias policies to police departments beyond New Orleans and pushing back on the unchecked expansion of the city's surveillance apparatus. She is passionate about member-led organizing and about building diverse coalitions that span urban and rural communities, that unite Black and Brown workers, and that bring an explicit gender lens to the work.

