



Session 17 | Oversight and Our Youth: Programs Addressing Impacting the School to Prison Pipeline

August 18, 2020

3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Oversight agencies have a great opportunity to address policies and procedures relating to law enforcement presence and authority and impact within educational institutions. This is especially important for law enforcement presence in under-resourced communities and communities of color. Law enforcement officers are often the first decision point for juvenile justice system involvement for youth and have a responsibility to understand the impact of their roles as gatekeepers. Research demonstrates that youth charged for low-level delinquency in increasingly harsh school environments usually begin a cycle of criminal justice system involvement which carries long-lasting consequences to adulthood. Multiple oversight agencies have responded to policing in schools through innovative programs seeking improved relations between youth and law enforcement. This panel discussion will focus on three distinct models of youth/officer programming to increase safety, trust and understanding between youth and law enforcement.

Denver's Office of the Independent Monitor has developed an evidence-based model which educates law enforcement on adolescent development and educates youth on their constitutional rights and their responsibilities when in contact with law enforcement. Chicago also have an innovative youth-focused programming engaging youth in oversight and procedural justice. Each program will provide approaches about how the oversight can have innovative youth/police programming.

Speakers:

- Ephraim Eaddy, Public Information Officer, Civilian Office of Police Accountability, Chicago, IL
- Gianina Horton, Youth Outreach Project Manager, Office of the Independent Monitor, Denver, CO
- Nathaniel Magee, Officer, CityWide Impact Team Denver Police Department, Denver, CO

Speaker Biographies

Ephraim Eaddy | Ephraim Eaddy was born and raised in the city of Chicago and is a graduate Northern Illinois University with a B.A. degree in Journalism where he also played Division 1 basketball. After completing his college experience, Ephraim returned to Chicago and began his grassroots efforts as Director of Community Programs for the People's Community Development Association of Chicago developing job training programs, case management strategies and employment opportunities for hard to employ residents of the city of Chicago. In 2004 he began working with the Safer Foundation, one of the largest non-profit organization in the country exclusively serving people with criminal records, as Manager of Faith & Community Programs and with specific oversight of the three-year Ready4Work demonstration program funded by the United States Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration.

In 2011 Ephraim began working for Chicago Public Schools, the third largest school district in the country, where he provided direction to over 150 faith and community-based organizations impacting



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thousands of children and families around the city on behalf of the district. He currently serves as the Public Information Officer and Spokesperson for the Civilian Office of Police Accountability (COPA) with direct oversight over community engagement, public affairs and news affairs and is committed to building trust in civilian police oversight.

Gianina Horton | Gianina Horton believes in the art of storytelling as a messenger for reconciliation and empathy. Born and raised in Denver, Colorado, Gianina witnessed the rotating door of the criminal justice system and the harmful impacts of incarceration on family members. After graduating from Colorado College with a degree in Political Science, she sought opportunities to serve her community to counter the impact of the criminal justice system. Gianina currently works for the City and County of Denver's Office of the Independent Monitor (OIM), an independent agency that oversees the Denver Police and Sheriff Departments. Gianina manages OIM's Youth Outreach Project, Bridging the Gap: Kids & Cops, which educates law enforcement on adolescent development and de-escalation techniques when in contact with youth, educates youth on their constitutional rights and responsibilities when in contact with law enforcement, and convenes community-led facilitated dialogue between youth and law enforcement. In 2018, Gianina received a Denver My Brother's Keeper Award from Mayor Michael Hancock for her service to youth of color in Denver. On her free time, Gianina practices kickboxing, weightlifting, reading and spending time with family.

Nathaniel Magee | Nathaniel Magee served in the United States Marine Corps from 2008-2013 before joining the Denver Police Department in 2014. As a Denver Police officer, Nathaniel served community members in Denver's Northwest region and recently, in 2019, was appointed by Chief Pazen to the Citywide Impact Team. Nathaniel is an instructor for the Office of the Independent Monitor and Denver Police Department's "Effective Police Interactions with Youth" course which educates law enforcement on adolescent development and de-escalation techniques as it relates to youth/police interactions. He has participated in over 20 Bridging the Gap: Kids & Cops Forums since 2016. Nathaniel is currently working on a dual master program in Criminal Justice and Public Administration at the University of Colorado-Denver.

