



## **50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY FORUM**

*Four panels exploring themes of social justice, featuring local community leaders*

**Saturday, December 3, 2016**

Morning Panel | 10:30AM–12:00PM

Lunch | 12:00PM–1:00PM

*Available for purchase from Dudley Dough in the lobby of the Bolling Building for \$10.*

Afternoon Panel | 1:00PM–2:30PM

**Stay connected!**



**#HH50 #HaleyHouse50**

 **Food Access & Health**

**Moderator: Rose Arruda (MA Department of Agricultural Resources)**

Rose Arruda is the Urban Agricultural Program Coordinator at the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources. Rose works to build community partnerships, promote local initiatives, and support urban farming enterprises to produce, cultivate and sell agricultural products. She is also the coordinator of the new Massachusetts Food Venture Program. The program is designed to promote and support MA based food ventures that will generate economic development and food access in low-moderate income communities. Previous work includes operations for former Governor Deval Patrick and First Lady Diane Patrick, over a decade of community organizing in Boston's Roxbury, Dorchester and Mattapan neighborhoods on issue based and political campaigns. She would be remiss to not note that her first career as a dairy farmer has come in quite handy.

**Duck Caldwell (Boston Area Gleaners)**

Since 2010, Duck Caldwell has served as Executive Director of Boston Area Gleaners—a nonprofit organization dedicated to rescuing surplus farm crops for people in need. Originally a volunteer gleaner, she is passionate about building a supply chain that moves surplus nutritious food (that would otherwise be plowed under) from farms to people who need better access to fresh produce. Under her leadership, BAG has seen an 800% budget increase and exponential growth in capacity, from 37,545 pounds gleaned in 2010 to 364,282 pounds gleaned in 2015. She is a carpenter by trade, has been a business owner, and has worked with farmers in VT and NH as a produce buyer for natural foods cooperatives across the northeast. Duck lives with her wife, children, and terrier named Thatcher in Arlington.

**Liz Sheehan Castro (Worcester Food Bank)**

Liz Sheehan Castro has been working on food justice issues in Worcester for the past 7 years, first with the Worcester Food Policy Council and now with the Worcester County Food Bank. Liz is passionate about social justice and racial equity. When she's not working, she loves playing with her toddlers, exploring the great outdoors, and dancing in her kitchen.

**Kathy Cunningham**

**(UMass Center for Agriculture, Food and the Environment)**

Kathy Cunningham has more than 25 years' experience as a public health/ community dietitian within the Boston area. As the obesity epidemic grew, Kathy joined the Chronic Disease Prevention and Control at the Boston

Public Health Commission. There she provided the nutrition expertise behind many of the city-wide obesity and chronic disease prevention messages you have seen across the city. Kathy is also one of the founding members of The Boston Organization of Nutrition and Dietitians (BOND) of Color INC. BOND members have a diverse practice range to provide cultural nutrition health and wellness education to expand Boston 's Community of Colors' knowledge for purchasing, preparing and serving healthy foods to reduce chronic illness.

Kathy currently is one of two SNAP-Ed Multi-Level Specialists who coordinate, and promote Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program – Education (SNAP-Ed) multi-level initiatives and activities that determine policies, systems, and environments influencing Massachusetts SNAP participants' food choices and physical activity. In this position she works collaboratively with the Massachusetts Department of Transitional Assistance, other state agencies (such as the Department of Public Health and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education), all Massachusetts SNAP-Ed Implementing Agencies and UMass, and other appropriate community agencies to address obesity in the Massachusetts SNAP population.

#### **Frank Martinez Nocito (MA Department of Transitional Assistance)**

Frank Martinez Nocito, Project Director for the Healthy Incentives Program (HIP) at the Massachusetts Department of Transitional Assistance (DTA), has devoted his career to advocating for public health. Over the past decade, he has consistently and successfully brought local food into the conversation about healthy eating and food access.

## **Community & Activism**

#### **Moderator: Eric Martin (Haley House)**

Eric Martin works at Haley House as Volunteer Coordinator and Development Assistant, and he is also the technology instructor for Haley House's Transitional Employment Program. Outside of Haley House, Eric has worked as an educator, researcher, and community organizer. Eric has served on the Leadership Committee for the Boston Coalition for Police Accountability, worked as researcher for Intelligent Mischief on their project titled the *Black Body Survival Guide*, and was an active participant in Occupy Boston and Occupy Wall Street.

#### **Tina Chery (Louis D. Brown Peace Institute)**

Chaplain Clementina Chéry is the founder, President, and CEO of the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute in Boston, Massachusetts. The Peace Institute is a center of healing, teaching, and learning for families and communities impacted by murder, grief, trauma, and loss. Chaplain Chéry and her family founded the Peace Institute in 1994 after her fifteen-year old son Louis D. Brown was

murdered in the crossfire of a shootout. With over two decades of experience as a survivor serving families impacted by murder, Chaplain Chéry has developed the best practices in the field of homicide response. Her ultimate goal is to transform society's response to homicide so that all families are treated with dignity and compassion, regardless of the circumstances.

### **Kathe McKenna (Haley House)**

A graduate of the College of New Rochelle (she studied art) and native of New York, Kathe McKenna arrived in Boston in the mid-1960s as a community organizer for the progressive Catholic student movement. Mutual friends introduced her to like-minded John McKenna and soon after they married in order to enact their shared vision of providing hospitality for people living on the streets in the Catholic Worker Tradition, which became Haley House. Kathe served as the visionary leader of Haley House for 43 years until she transitioned to her current role as Director of Special Projects in 2013. She is a revered teacher in the Buddhist tradition, has served on many boards, mentored hundreds of people, received dozens of awards and honors, and takes great joy in being a feisty mother, grandmother, friend and beer connoisseur.

### **Porsha Olayiwola (The House Slam at HHBC)**

Porsha Olayiwola is the 2014 Individual World Poetry Slam Champion and 2015 National Poetry Slam Champion. She bested more than seventy of the highest ranked slam poets in the world to earn these titles and is now one of the most sought after spoken word artists on the national circuit. Black, poet, dyke-god, hip-hop feminist, womanist: Porsha separates herself from the field of issue-based performance poets by applying advanced political analysis to examine injustice while providing perspective on concrete solutions. A native of Chicago, Porsha now resides in Boston where she organizes, writes and teaches. In July 2014, Porsha co-founded The House Slam with poet Janae Johnson. The House Slam is Boston's first poetry slam venue. Under the duo's leadership, the venue placed first at their first national competition and placed third in their second competition in 2016. As an educator, Porsha Olayiwola works as the Lead-Teaching Artist & Program Manager at Mass Leap, a youth literary organization. Porsha's grand passion exist at the intersection of youth and poetry and as a result, her most profound moments exist when in the classroom or kicking back with a few youth poets. As an artist, Porsha challenges herself to tell the stories that are silenced, or erased, the stories that are difficult to release from the tip of our tongues, the stories that bring together communities, and maybe, in some small way, change the world. Her goal is maintain a cipher of self that is uncontrollable, undocumented and just plain ole dope.

### Shamara Rhodes (Bringing Back Boston)

Shamara Rhodes is the visionary of Bringing Back Boston (BBBMA), a coalition formed to address mental and public health issues, including trauma. Born, raised and currently residing in Dorchester, Shamara holds a BA in Criminal Justice from Cedar Crest College. She is also a candidate for Suffolk University's Master of Science in Crime and Justice Studies. Shamara was previously the Program Assistant for YouthBuild USA Juvenile & Criminal Justice Initiatives providing resources to opportunity youth. In her spare time, she enjoys listening to music, reading and traveling. She is also the resident DJ for Haley House Slam Poetry. Being raised by her grandmother who was a two-time survivor of breast cancer, Shamara realized public health is more than environmental pollution. Having lived in neighborhoods considered "high crime areas" pushed Shamara to focus on issues that directly affect the community. Domestic violence, inadequate health care services, lack of affordable housing and many other contributing factors that leaves communities of color in need of resources; these are all foci of BBBMA..

### Christian Williams (National Lawyers Guild)

Christian Williams is a Massachusetts public defender and National Lawyers Guild member. Chris has worked for years as an activist and organizer in Boston, with Occupy Boston, the Boston Workers Alliance, Boston to Palestine and anti-war organizing efforts.

## LUNCH | 12:00PM–1:00PM

Available for purchase from Dudley Dough in the lobby of the Bolling Building for \$10.

## AFTERNOON PANELS | 1:00PM–2:30PM

### Housing & Homelessness

**Moderator: Jim Greene (Emergency Shelter Commission, City of Boston)**

Jim Greene is a public servant and homeless advocate at the City of Boston Department of Neighborhood Development, with a special focus on addressing street homelessness. Over the past 30 years, Jim's work has taken him from direct service on Boston's streets and shelters to policy work in the Mayor's Office, the Boston Public Health Commission and DND. Jim is a proud

alumnus of the University of Notre Dame, and a long-time fellow traveler of the Haley House community.

### **Lyndia Downie (Pine Street Inn)**

Lyndia Downie has been Pine Street Inn's President & Executive Director since 2000. Lyndia first joined the organization after reading the obituary of Paul Sullivan, Pine Street's founder and long-time director. Inspired by his life story, she felt compelled to work at Pine Street, and was hired as an administrative assistant in 1984. She has held positions at nearly every level of the organization, from heading the operations of the Men's Inn shelter, to overseeing public affairs and development, to serving as vice president for programs. Pine Street is now the largest provider of permanent supportive housing for formerly homeless men and women in New England. During her tenure, Pine Street Inn has more than tripled its inventory of permanent supportive housing and now has more than 900 units of housing. Her collaboration with other key agencies, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and the City of Boston has contributed to an 18% percent decrease in the number of homeless individuals living on the streets and in shelters in Boston in the past decade.

### **Thaddeus Miles (Mass Housing)**

Thaddeus Miles is an artist of community, who sees beauty through his camera's lens and in the rich mosaic of our diverse communities. As Director of Community Services for MassHousing, Thaddeus is the architect of an expansive range of programs that build safe, vibrant, and engaged communities across Massachusetts. He is a Veteran of the Air Force and believes deeply in the promise of democracy as one that lifts and unites all people. Thaddeus' great passion for young people has motivated innovative mentoring and enrichment programs such as the Think Big Dream Big initiative and the Neighborhood Network National Consortium that promote peace, creative self-expression, and accountable leadership. He is also the founder of HoodFit, a movement which amplifies the positive attributes of community to promote wellness of body and mind, resilience, and strategic problem solving for youth and families.

### **Darnell Johnson Right to the City Boston Regional Coordinator**

Darnell coordinates the Boston Alliance in its core strategies of base building, community leadership development, political education, and community building. RTCB is focused on fighting the root causes of gentrification and displacement. We are building power for long-term transformation change. Darnell joined RTC's staff in 2014 after years of community and labor organizing focusing on the intersections of race, class, gender and oppression. Darnell is a founding member of the African American Theatre Company at

the University of Louisville and has been seen on stage with Actors Theatre of Louisville, the Kentucky Opera and the Juneteenth Legacy Theatre

### **Harry Smith (Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative)**

Harry Smith is Director of Sustainable Economic Development at the Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative (DSNI). He has more than twenty years of experience in organizing to promote affordable housing and community economic development in Boston's neighborhoods. Before coming to DSNI, Harry served as Director of Organizing and Community Planning at the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Development Corporation and consulted with numerous community development and youth organizations on organizing, economic development, housing, and leadership initiatives. A graduate of Brown University, Harry has a Masters in Community Economic Development from Southern New Hampshire University.



## **Mass Incarceration**

### **Moderator: Mo Barboza (Health Resources in Action)**

Mo Barbosa is the Assistant Director for Training and Capacity Building at Health Resources in Action. Prior to joining HRiA, he was Program Coordinator for the Fellowship Center in St. Louis, MO and Director of the Area 4 Youth Center in Cambridge, MA. Mo delivers training, provides technical assistance, and participates in field building initiatives. He promotes the professionalization of the field through his work on legislation, youth worker networks, and partnerships with higher education. As a trainer, Mo builds the skills of participants while keeping connections to theory. A long time facilitator of community processes, he works with gangs, parents, youth, political organizations, tenant councils and community resident groups. His current community work is in the Area 4/Port neighborhood of Cambridge focusing on violence and other community issues. Mo chairs the Men of Color Task Force for the City of Cambridge, serves on the boards of the Phillips Brooks House Association, the Port Action Group and the Design Studio for Social Intervention, serves on his local board of health and is a trustee of the Cambridge Health Alliance, a hospital system in the greater Boston area. Additionally, he has participated in various local, state, and national boards and steering committees focusing on a wide range of issues from youth work to international relations.

### **Rahsaan Hall (American Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts)**

In this role Rahsaan helps develop the ACLU of Massachusetts' integrated advocacy approach to address racial justice issues. Through legislative advocacy, litigation and community engagement, the program works on issues that deeply impact communities of color and historically disenfranchised

communities. Prior to joining the ACLU of Massachusetts Rahsaan was the Deputy Director of the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights and Economic Justice and prior to that he served as an Assistant District Attorney for the Suffolk County District Attorney's Office. Rahsaan serves on the board of directors for several organizations—including the Hyams Foundation—and he is also an ordained reverend.

### **Mallory Hanora (Families for Justice as Healing)**

Mallory Hanora is a prison abolitionist who has been living and organizing in Boston for 13 years. Mallory works with Families for Justice as Healing to end incarceration of women. Mallory also volunteers with the Massachusetts Bail Fund which posts bail for people who cannot afford it. Previously, Mallory coordinated the Massachusetts Juvenile Justice Task Force on Racial Disparities.

### **Jeremy Thompson (Haley House Transitional Employment Program)**

Jeremy Thompson has worked with Haley House Bakery Café for 5 years. He started as Catering Coordinator and now holds the position of Café/TEP Manager. He works closely with the community to support programming such as the award-winning bi-monthly House Slam Poetry Event. Jeremy has been managing the TEP program for the last two years, overseeing 12 trainees and amplifying the mental health portion of the program..

### **Bruce Western**

#### **(Rappaport Institute, Harvard Kennedy School of Government)**

Western is a professor of sociology and Guggenheim Professor of Criminal Justice Policy, and Faculty Chair of the Program in Criminal Justice at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government. Western served as vice chair of the National Academy of Sciences Committee on the Causes and Consequences of High Incarceration Rates in the United States, and he is the principal investigator on the Harvard Executive Session on Community Corrections and the Boston Reentry Study. He is the author of the award-winning book, *Punishment and Inequality in America*, a study of the growth and social impact of the American penal system. His first book, *Between Class and Market*, examined the development and decline of labor unions in the postwar industrialized democracies. He is currently studying the social impact of rising income inequality in the United States.

*Haley House uses food and the power of community to break down barriers between people, transfer new skills, and revitalize neighborhoods. We believe in radical solutions: solving problems at their root by challenging attitudes that perpetuate suffering and by building alternative models.* [www.haleyhouse.org](http://www.haleyhouse.org)



**HALEY HOUSE**