
2019 Youth Reinvestment Grant ESC Member Biographies

(This list will be updated as bios are received. ... indicates bio is pending)

David Steinhart, Chair, is the Director of the Commonweal Juvenile Justice Program and is the Senate's appointee to the Board of State and Community Corrections. He is an attorney-advocate with a long track record of advising California legislators on juvenile justice law and policy. He was principal drafter of California laws removing children from adult jails, creating homeless youth programs and widening children's access to mental health care. In 2007, Mr. Steinhart had a key role in the design of SB 81—the landmark juvenile justice reform that realigned non-violent youth from the state Division of Juvenile Justice to local control with \$100 million per year in state funds. He served two terms as a California State Juvenile Justice Commissioner. He is a lead trainer for the Annie Casey Foundation's national Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative. He is the author of multiple reports and publications on juvenile justice system issues.

Arthur Bowie is currently in private practice in Sacramento after recently retiring from the Office of the Public Defender for Sacramento County. He managed the Juvenile Division of the Public Defender's Office for over 10 years and was the Supervising Assistant Public Defender for that office's Research and Training Division for four years. During his tenure managing the Juvenile Division of his office, Mr. Bowie litigated numerous delinquency cases at the jurisdictional (trial court) level, in the California Courts of Appeal, and the California Supreme Court. Despite his "retired" status, Mr. Bowie is providing ongoing training and technical assistance to rural juvenile defenders as the Training Attorney for Pacific Juvenile Defender Center's (PJDC) Juvenile Training Ambassadors Program. He is also a lecturer in the Criminal Justice Division of the College of Health & Human Services at Sacramento State University. He has been a lecturer and presenter for continuing legal education for CPDA, the National Juvenile Defender Center, the MacArthur Foundation Models for Change (Washington, DC), and PJDC, among other state and national organizations.

Rev. Beverly F. Brook is a community minister with Peace United Church of Christ and a chaplain at the Santa Cruz County Juvenile Detention Facility, providing spiritual and supportive services to the youth and their families. She serves as a Commissioner with the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commission in Santa Cruz County. Rev. Brook facilitates *Healing from Violence* classes in the Santa Cruz County women's and men's jail facilities. She currently serves on the Santa Cruz Police Chief's Advisory Board. Previously, Rev. Brook was a supervising probation officer with the United States Probation Office in the Northern District of California. She co-authored the, *Supervising the Mentally Disordered* Offender chapter of the U. S. Probation and Parole Policies and Procedures Manual. Rev. Brook represents Peace UCC with Communities Organized for Relational Power in Action (COPA), a faith-based multi-county community organizing group working on restorative and equitable justice issues; and, the Tent of Abraham, an interfaith alliance of local Muslim, Christian and Jewish communities.

Michelle Scray Brown has served as Chief Probation Officer at the San Bernardino County Probation Department since 2009, where she has held several positions since 1985, including Assistant Chief Probation Officer and Deputy Chief Probation Officer. She earned a Master of Arts degree in criminal justice from California State University, San Bernardino. Since May of 2015, Chief Brown has served on the State Advisory Committee for Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

Captain Paul M. Espinosa was appointed to the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) in April of 1994. During the course of his career, he has worked a variety of assignments at nine different Community Police Stations within 3 different geographic Bureaus. At the rank of detective, he was assigned to Rampart Area and investigated major assault crimes, crimes against persons, and burglaries. In 2012, he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant and was assigned as a Watch Commander at West Los Angeles and West Valley Areas, OIC at the North Hollywood Gang Impact Team and as the Commanding Officer of Foothill Detective Division. In 2015, he was promoted to the rank of Captain of Police and was assigned as the Commanding Officer of Foothill Patrol Division. In 2016, Captain Espinosa was assigned as the Commanding Officer of In-Service Training Division, where he oversaw training for all in-service personnel. In 2017, he was assigned as the Commanding Officer of Juvenile Division, where he oversees the Abused Child Section, Child Protection Section, and the Internet Crimes Against Children Unit. He was designated by the Chief of Police as the Department's Youth Diversion Coordinator.

Jane Halladay Goldman, PhD, is the Director of the Service Systems program at the National Center for Child Traumatic Stress (NCCTS), the coordinating site of the National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN). In this role she is responsible for supporting diverse national, cross-disciplinary, and collaborative efforts to make child- and family-service systems more trauma-informed. Ms. Goldman works with researchers, frontline practitioners, family members and young adults, child trauma experts, and partners from juvenile justice, child welfare, education, healthcare, and mental health systems to identify gaps, establish priorities, and implement Network initiatives that will promote the identification, referral and appropriate support for culturally diverse children, adolescents, and families who have experienced trauma. She presents to national audiences on child trauma, creating trauma-informed service systems and programs, trauma-informed child welfare and juvenile justice systems, trauma-informed organizational assessment, cross-system collaboration, and child trafficking. Her publications address cross-system collaborations for justice involve-youth and trauma-informed organizational assessment, and she is the creator of the NCTSN Trauma-Informed Organizational Assessment (TIOA).

Josh Green is the Director of Criminal Justice Programs at the Urban Peace Institute (UPI) in Los Angeles. In his role at UPI, Mr. Green partners with communities and individuals to develop policies and community solutions for those impacted by violence. Mr. Green served on Los Angeles County's Countywide Criminal Justice Coordinating Council Youth Diversion Subcommittee and the County's Blue Ribbon Commission on Public Safety. He currently serves on the County's Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council

and chairs that body's Community Advisory Committee. Mr. Green attended Harvard Law School where he was the editor-in-chief of the Harvard Journal on Racial and Ethnic Justice.

Judge Donna Quigley Groman is a Superior Court Judge assigned to the Mental Health Division of the Los Angeles Superior Court. She previously served as Supervising Judge of the Youth Justice ("Juvenile Delinquency") Division of the Los Angeles Juvenile Court. She served as faculty to the Center for Judicial Education and Research (CJER) in California, teaching delinquency law to judges statewide. She is a member of the CJER Juvenile Law Curriculum Committee and the co-chair of the California Chief Justice's Keeping Kids in School Initiative. In 2018, Judge Groman was awarded the California Judicial Council's highest honor – the Distinguished Service Award for her work in YRG ESC Member Bios Page 2 of 2 Rev. 9.26.18 Juvenile Court. Judge Groman received her J.D. from the Washington College of Law, American University, in 1979.

Brooke Harris is a Managing Attorney and Adjunct Professor at Loyola Law School's Center for Juvenile Law and Policy (CJLP). At the CJLP, she supervises and trains clinical law students in the zealous representation of Los Angeles' most vulnerable youth in juvenile delinquency court. She manages teams of law students, social workers, education advocates, and other key stakeholders for each of her juvenile clients, in order to provide holistic representation and prevent further involvement with the justice system. She also teaches Advanced Trial Skills. Prior to her work at the CJLP, Ms. Harris was a legal fellow and Post-Disposition Reentry Attorney at the National Juvenile Defender Center, where she facilitated reentry services for underserved youth reentering the community after a juvenile adjudication in Contra Costa County. Prior to her fellowship, Ms. Harris spent nearly five years representing indigent clients in misdemeanor, felony, and juvenile cases as a trial attorney at the Contra Costa County Public Defender's Office

Gerry Lopez is a Managing Deputy District Attorney for Riverside County. Since 1996, Mr. Lopez's prosecutorial career has been dedicated toward youth delinquency prevention and intervention programs and strategies. In 2015, Mr. Lopez became the first ever supervisor of a newly created, one-of-a-kind, and cutting edge prosecutorial team called the Crime Prevention Unit. This unit is responsible for enhancing public safety through extensive community-wide strategies and programs that support youth at-risk and deter them from criminality and the criminal justice system. He has been honored as Juvenile Prosecutor of the Year in Riverside County, the State Prosecutor of the Year by the California School Resource Officers' Association, and he received the Community Advocate Award by Hispanic Lifestyle Magazine.

Christina Maricic is a 25-year-old, Mexican American, single mother, first-generation college student studying Public Policy and pursuing a Master's in Public Administration at the University of Southern California. She proudly identifies herself as a formerly incarcerated youth, former foster youth, homeless youth and sex trafficking survivor of Los Angeles. Ms. Maricic is currently a small business owner and licensed Continuing Education Unit trainer, providing education development training to foster

parents, community-based organizations, law enforcement, college universities, as well as county and State officials. She is an appointed Policy Council Representative for the Coordinated Entry System through Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority. Ms. Maricic works with city policy executives to end youth homelessness by leveraging resources, and bridging gaps between youth, programs and partners by being a representative of the Homeless Youth Forum of Los Angeles. She has advocated for disfranchised communities at the local and state level; she has received several awards for community impact and leadership along with a Proclamation from L.A. County Board Supervisor Hilda L. Solis. Her interests are focused on advocating for prevention, equal access and accountability policy for the safety and welfare of children in California. Ms. Maricic aims to become a political actor within the public sector where she can the peruse rights for equal access to higher education for disfranchised communities, enhance public safety, and progress the welfare for youth effects by the state systems.

Meghan Medlin has 9 years' experience working with high risk young adults 18-28 years old providing workforce training and wraparound services, and over 10 years' experience creating programming and services for youth populations. She led the Orange County Re-Entry Partnership (OCREP) for 6 years identifying, linking and coordinating services between providers for both adult and youth populations. She has served on Orange County's Prop 47, AB109 and Stepping Up Initiative Committees as well as served on the county's Continuum of Care Board. She has mentored children with incarcerated parents, tutored grades 2-12 in math and chemistry, served on boards for nonprofits that work with youth, and currently serves on the Orange County Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council. Ms. Medlin has a master's degree in Criminology, Law & Society from UC Irvine and a certificate of completion in Gang Prevention & Intervention. She currently runs a consulting business, Medlin Workforce & Reentry Solutions LLC in Orange County CA.

Laura John Ridolfi of Berkeley is the Law and Policy Analyst for the W. Haywood Burns Institute. Ms. Ridolfi provides technical assistance to Burns Institute sites in analyzing whether and to what extent policies and practices contribute to disparities in juvenile justice systems. She also assists in developing local strategies to reduce disparities. Prior to the Burns Institute, Ms. Ridolfi worked for several juvenile and criminal justice organizations and was a Fulbright Fellow in Kenya, where she conducted original research on the juvenile justice system. Ms. Ridolfi is a graduate of the University of California Berkeley School of Law. There, she coordinated the Boalt Hall Chapter of the National Lawyers Guild and the Youth and Education Law Society, where she created and implemented a street law program for youth in San Francisco and Alameda County juvenile detention facilities. She also clerked for East Bay Community Law, representing youth and adult ex-offenders in sealing or expunging their criminal records, and the San Francisco Public Defender, Juvenile Division.

Brook Smith, Associate Director of The Children's Initiative, supports the overall organizational development and operation while providing support to the CEO in carrying out the mission of The Children's Initiative and implementing strategies to meet its goals and objectives. As the former Juvenile Justice Director, Mr. Smith was responsible for

supporting the County of San Diego's juvenile justice reform, promoting reform in the areas of increased prevention and interventions services, family engagement, promoting an equitable system, and increased services to youth with mental health needs. He coordinated and directed the activities of local juvenile justice coordinating bodies, including the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council and the Juvenile Justice Comprehensive Strategy Task Force, and is responsible for updating/publishing the San Diego *Comprehensive Multi-Agency Juvenile Justice Plan*. As the Assistant Program Director for the San Diego Choice Program of the June Burnett Institute, Mr. Smith was responsible for overseeing day-to-day operations of a \$3 million Best Practice Juvenile Justice Prevention and Intervention Model as recognized by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

Patricia Soung is the Director of Youth Justice Policy and Senior Staff Attorney at the Children's Defense Fund-California, leading its work to reform juvenile and criminal justice systems, and increase investments in youth development and communities. Previously, Ms. Soung worked at the Center for Juvenile Law and Policy at Loyola Law School, the National Center for Youth Law, and the Children and Family Justice Center, Northwestern University of Law as a Soros Justice Fellow. Throughout, she has represented youth in juvenile trial, appellate and post-conviction matters, and taught college and law students. Ms. Soung earned her JD from Northwestern University School of Law and B.A. from Stanford University.

Paul Watson is the President/CEO of The Global Action Research Center...