

THE CITY OF ATLANTIC CITY O.N.E. NEIGHBORHOOD EVOLUTION PRESENTS:
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE INSTITUTE OF RESEARCH FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE IN ACTION

ANATIONAL CALL TO HEAL THE FRONTLINE AND S.A.V.E. OUR CITIES

2ND ANNUAL
NATIONAL



PULL UP 4 PEACE 26

CONFERENCE
FOR VIOLENCE PREVENTION ★

GALVANIZING COMMUNITIES | SHOWCASING SOLUTIONS | STRATEGIZING FOR THE FUTURE

JUNE 23-25TH, 2026

SHOWBOAT RESORT
801 BOARDWALK, ATLANTIC CITY, NJ 08401

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



2ND ANNUAL
NATIONAL



PULL UP 4 PEACE

26

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A NATIONAL CALL TO HEAL THE FRONTLINE AND S.A.V.E. OUR CITIES

JUNE 23-25 2026
ATLANTIC CITY

2ND ANNUAL
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**PULL UP
4 PEACE**
CONFERENCE
FOR VIOLENCE PREVENTION ★

26

The Pull Up 4 Peace Conference is more than a gathering—it's a national call to heal the frontline and S.A.V.E. our cities:

Every day, violence prevention leaders, frontline workers, policymakers, and community organizations fight to save lives, heal trauma, and create safer cities. But now, more than ever, this movement is at risk. With funding cuts threatening critical programs and burnout at an all-time high, we must come together—not just to strategize, but to heal, restore, and celebrate our impact.



TOGETHER WE CAN S.A.V.E OUR CITIES

LET'S HEAL | BUILD | LEAD

WELCOME TO PULL UP 4 PEACE

A three-day national experience built to honor the frontline, equip the movement, and ignite a shared vision for safer, healthier, and more just communities.

This is more than a conference.

This is a sacred space for the healers, builders, and leaders who carry the weight of community trauma on their shoulders every day — and still show up with love.

As violence prevention programs across the country battle burnout, rising violence, and shrinking budgets, we're answering with hope, strategy, and collective power.

This year's theme — S.A.V.E. (Stand Against Violence Everywhere) — is not just a slogan. It's a rallying cry. A call for us to stand together, heal together, and lead together toward a future where peace is possible and public safety begins with community care.

WHAT TO EXPECT ?

- **Keynotes & Panels** featuring national and local leaders shaping the future of violence prevention
- **Workshops & Breakouts** offering fundamental tools, training, and peer learning for those doing the work
- **Healing Spaces** for spiritual renewal, collective care, and emotional restoration
- **Think Tanks** to build shared strategy and policy alignment across cities
- **Youth Showcases & Film Screenings**, lifting the next generation and our powerful stories
- **Networking & Celebration** to build relationships that sustain this work for the long haul

PULL UP 4PEACE

CONFERENCE
FOR VIOLENCE PREVENTION ★

TAKE THE PLEDGE.

A Declaration to Heal, Protect, and Lead

I pledge to pull up —
For my people.
For my block.
For my city.

I stand with the healers.
I ride with the builders.
I believe in the power of peace.

I choose to S.A.V.E. our cities —
To Stand Against Violence Everywhere.
To center love in a world full of loss.
To protect the wounded and lift the weary.
To build systems rooted in healing, not harm.

I honor the legacy of those we've lost
by pouring into the ones who are still here.

I will not wait for permission.
I will not beg for peace.
I am the strategy.
I am the solution.
I am the spark.

From this day forward, I vow to:
Speak truth.
Interrupt harm.
Practice radical care.
Move in purpose.
And never stop believing that change is possible
— because we are the ones bringing it.

We are the frontline.
We are the movement.
We are the future.

Let's heal. Build. Lead. Together.

STAY CONNECTED. TELL YOUR STORY. MOVE THE WORK FORWARD.

Pull Up 4 Peace is more than a conference — it is a national movement of frontline workers, credible messengers, survivors, youth leaders, researchers, artists, organizers, and community builders committed to healing our communities and changing the future. Before you leave, make sure you stay connected and take action.



1

SUBMIT TO THE JOURNAL OF SOCIAL JUSTICE IN ACTION


Have research, a community case study, policy analysis, personal narrative, reflection, or field lesson that can help move the work forward?

The Journal of Social Justice in Action is accepting submissions from frontline leaders, scholars, students, practitioners, organizers, and people with lived experience.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR WORK CONNECTED TO:

- ✓ Healing justice
- ✓ Community violence intervention
- ✓ Reentry and second chances
- ✓ Youth leadership
- ✓ Women, healing, and leadership
- ✓ Public safety and policy
- ✓ Storytelling, research, and movement building

 **SUBMISSION DEADLINE:**
SEPTEMBER 30, 2026

 **SUBMIT TO:**
dbrooks@theirsja.org



2

VISIT THE STORYTELLING ROOM

Your story is not just your testimony — it is a tool for change.

Stop by the Storytelling Room in the Film Room during the conference to share your voice, record reflections, participate in storytelling prompts, and learn how personal stories can be used to shift narratives, inspire action, and document the movement.



LED BY
INSPIRED JUSTICE /
JLOVE CALDERON



**CHECK YOUR ITINERARY
FOR OPEN ROOM TIMES.**



3

SHARE YOUR CONFERENCE EXPERIENCE

We want to see the conference through your eyes.

Post your favorite moments, quotes, photos, videos, reflections, and takeaways from Pull Up 4 Peace 2026.

USE THE OFFICIAL HASHTAG:

#PullUp4Peace2026

TAG US:

@pullup4peace



4

FOLLOW THE MOVEMENT

Stay connected for conference highlights, speaker clips, storytelling features, future events, training opportunities, and ways to keep building after we leave Atlantic City.



INSTAGRAM:
@pullup4peace



WEBSITE:
www.pullup4peace.com



EMAIL:
info@pullup4peace.com

**JOIN THE MOVEMENT —
STAY INFORMED, GET
INVOLVED, MAKE AN IMPACT.**

**PULL UP
4 PEACE 26
CONFERENCE**
FOR VIOLENCE PREVENTION ★

When you leave this conference, take the healing, the strategy, the relationships, and the fire back to your city.

- ✓ Tell the story.
- ✓ Build the partnership.
- ✓ Train the next leader.
- ✓ Protect the frontline.
- ✓ Keep pulling up for peace.

**ONE MOVEMENT. MANY CITIES. ONE MISSION: PEACE.
WE ARE THE FRONTLINE. WE ARE THE CHANGE.
WE ARE PULL UP 4 PEACE.**

9:00 AM – 11:00 AM	REGISTRATION, BRUNCH AND NETWORKING Attendee check-in, breakfast and brunch service, vendor browsing, informal networking, and conference welcome. This is a heavier brunch and lunch service because the main stage runs straight through the afternoon.				
11:00 AM – 11:15 AM	INVOCATION				
11:15 AM – 11:30 AM	WELCOME ADDRESS – HOST CONVENERS Welcome attendees, honor partners, acknowledge the host city, set the tone, and frame the purpose of the next three days.				
11:30 AM – 11:45 AM	OPENING REMARKS – ATLANTIC CITY MAYOR MARTY SMALL				
11:45 AM – 12:00 PM	OPENING ENERGIZER – OG SHABAZZ				
12:00 PM – 12:45 PM	MAIN STAGE PLENARY: ATLANTIC CITY ANTI-VIOLENCE Participants: Moderator Talib-Diyn Tally (One Neighborhood Evolution); Demaris Jones, Mona Tally, Jarrod Barnes, Omar McDaniels & Tracy Parker				
12:45 PM – 1:45 PM	HOST CONVENERS MOVEMENT CHARGE Each founding convener shares the work they lead, what they have learned from the frontline, and the charge they are giving the room. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr. Jamila T. Davis: From lived experience to legacy: storytelling, research, and professionalizing the frontline. Angelo Pinto, Esq.: From lived experience to legacy: storytelling, research, and professionalizing the frontline. Lakeesha Eure: Wounded Healers, public safety, women in leadership, CVI and government. A.T. Mitchell-Mann: Credible messengers, frontline leadership, street intervention, and community trust. Marcus McAllister: Training and technical assistance, spirituality, and the soul of the CVI movement. Dr. Chico Tillmon: Training, research, CVILA, and leadership pipelines. Talib-Diyn Tally: Wellness, discipline, men's work, and healing the frontline. 				
1:45 PM – 2:15 PM	MAIN STAGE PLENARY: NEW JERSEY CITIES ANTI-VIOLENCE Participants: Steve Campos; Rey Chavis, Newark Community Street Team; Trenton Community Street Team; Perry Shaw; John Fuqua; Chris Williams; Dr. Liza Chowdhury, Paterson Healing Collective				
2:15 PM – 3:00 PM	NATIONAL LEADERS Moderated by Marcus McAllister and A.T. Mitchell-Mann A national main stage block featuring leaders and city models from across the country. Featured cities: Birmingham, New Orleans, St. Louis, Chicago, and additional national cities.				
3:00 PM	ANNOUNCEMENTS: STORYTELLING FOR CHANGE Participants: JLove Calderon and Camilo Mandela				
3:00 PM – 4:00 PM	BREAKOUT BLOCK A				
	ROOM 1 (BOURBON, FEATURED) YOUTH ONLY SESSION: YOUNG LEADERS AND THE FUTURE OF PEACEBUILDING Presenters: CeAndre Mitchell, Ashaya Dowell, Dennis McKenzie, Cammerin Norwood	ROOM 2 (HEART AND SOUL) MOVING BEYOND THOUGHTS & PRAYERS TO BUILD SAFE CITIES Presenters: Marcus McAllister; Tara Brown; Arnell (Bronx Connect Inc.); Rev. Al Cohen (TAG, Teens Against Guns, Harlem NY); Pastor Gill Monrose, Imam Amin and Bishop Robert Hargroves	ROOM 3 (HARLEM) BUILDING ECOSYSTEMS FOR VIOLENCE PREVENTION (NEWARK, DELAWARE, NEW YORK, AND CHICAGO) Presenters: Delaware: Darryl Chambers; Jessica Paul, Newark; Carrie Buntain, Dr. Chico Tillmon	ROOM 4 (SCARDUZIO) HEALING THE WOUNDED HEALER Presenters: Deputy Mayor Lakeesha Eure, Dr. Asheena Baez, Dr. LaTasha Sampson	ROOM 5 (ISLAND) CREDIBLE CLINICIANS: THE ROLE OF SOCIAL WORK IN VIOLENCE INTERVENTION Presenters: Dr. Donnette Green; John Crepsac; Denisah Williamson (Newark)
4:00 PM – 5:00 PM	BREAKOUT BLOCK B (PRACTITIONER SUPPORT)				
	ROOM 1 (BOURBON, FEATURED) SET HER FREE, HEALING CIRCLES AND WOMEN REENTRY Moderator: Dr. Jamila T. Davis Presenters: Dr. Donna Hylton; Nafeesah Goldsmith; Cassandra Severe; Dr. LaTasha Sampson & Michelle West	ROOM 2 (HEART AND SOUL) RESTORING CONNECTION, REGULATING SYSTEMS, REGENERATING COMMUNITIES (CREATING HEALING COMMUNITIES) Presenters: Dr. Asoye Uhurubey; Dr. Nicole Patrick; Keisha Coleman	ROOM 3 (HARLEM) BUILT FOR THIS: POWER, MONEY, LEADERSHIP & MOVEMENT BUILDING FOR THE FRONTLINE Lead Presenter: Juanita Pye Featuring: Dr. Lauren Footman and Tahirah Moore	ROOM 4 (SCARDUZIO) JUNIOR VIOLENCE INTERRUPTERS: MENTORING YOUTH TO CHANGE Presenters: Kareem Smith; Mikeya Howard; Dennis McKenzie; Lakeisha Smith; Altariq Best; Shadee Dukes, Al Nur	ROOM 5 (ISLAND) FAMILIES OF THE WRONGFULLY CONVICTED Presenters: Derrick Hamilton; Renny Smith; A.T. Mitchell-Mann (Man Up Inc.); Free AT campaign
5:00 PM – 6:00 PM	FILM SCREENING AND TALKBACK: STORYTELLING FOR CHANGE The first official film and storytelling slot, using film as a tool for healing, narrative change, and movement-building. Possible films: Marcus McAllister film, the Pull Up 4 Peace documentary short; short frontline storytelling clips.				
8:00 PM	NETWORKING POOL PARTY AND MIXER A relaxed evening of networking, music, connection, and celebration.				



Moving from inspiration to infrastructure. Building systems. Strengthening strategy.
Leading with impact.

 7:00 AM	MORNING WELLNESS (OPTIONAL) Stretch. Breathe. Center. Prepare your mind and body.	 LOBBY / EXHIBITION AREA
 8:00 AM	BREAKFAST Fuel up for the day ahead.	 LOBBY / EXHIBITION AREA
 9:00 AM	MINDFUL MEDITATION – DR. ASHEENA BAEZ Ground yourself. Set your intention.	 MAIN STAGE
 9:15 AM	MAIN STAGE: SURVIVORS SPEAK: HEALING AFTER THE UNTHINKABLE with Oressa Napper-Williams; Kimberly Hill; Jamie Meekins; Sharif Amenhotep, Andre Dodson, Candance Kemp	 MAIN STAGE
 10:00 AM	CHARGE TO THE FRONTLINE – WALLO 267 A powerful call to action for the movement.	 MAIN STAGE
 10:15 AM	FROM THE BLOCK TO THE MAIN STAGE: THE PHILLY ECOSYSTEM AND THE POWER OF CREDIBLE MESSENGERS Participants: M. Rickey Duncan, CEO, NOMO Foundation; Jamie Jalil Meekins, F.A.S.T. Foundation / Pushing Progress Philly (P3); Anton Moore, Director, Mayor's Office of Neighborhood and Community Action; Assata Thomas, Executive Director, Philadelphia Division of Reentry; Medd Wells, President, ODaat?; Imani Butler, Program Manager, PeaceKeeper Credible Messenger Academy; Omar Muse, Director, Eddie's House Community Crisis Intervention Program; Chantay Love, Executive Director, EMIR Healing Center; Zakariyya Abdur-Rahman; President, Nicetown CDC; and additional Philadelphia changemakers.	 MAIN STAGE
 11:15 AM	TAKE YOUR POWER BACK – UNTIL FREEDOM Participants: Angelo Pinto, Esq.; Tamika D. Mallory; Yandy Smith; Mysonne Linen	 MAIN STAGE
 11:45 AM	POLITICS RULES EVERYTHING Conversation with Tamika D. Mallory and Mayor Ras J. Baraka	 MAIN STAGE
 12:00 PM	ORGANIZING, VOTING, CLEAN SLATE, AND JUSTICE-IMPACTED LEADERSHIP Participants: Angelo Pinto, Esq.; Dr. Sheena Meade; Desmond Meade; Mysonne Linen	 MAIN STAGE
 1:00 PM	FREEDOM LUNCH: THE ROLE OF MUSIC AND COMMUNITY VIOLENCE INTERVENTION Participants: Phatal; Iron Mike Perry; Mysonne Linen; Altarik Best Food for the body, Music for the soul.	 LOBBY / EXHIBITION AREA
 2:00 PM	FROM FRONTLINE TO LEADERSHIP: COMMUNITY VIOLENCE INTERVENTION LEADERSHIP ACADEMY IN ACTION Moderator: Dr. Chico Tillman; featuring Marcus McAllister Invest. Learn. Lead.	 MAIN STAGE

3:00 PM – 4:00 PM BREAKOUT BLOCK C, ROUND 1: SYSTEM BUILDERS

<p>ROOM 1 (BOURBON, FEATURED)</p> <p>FRONTLINE TO PROFESSION: CREDENTIALING, WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT, AND THE FUTURE OF CVI</p> <p>Moderator: Dr. Jamila T. Davis</p> <p>Presenters: Dr. Jarralynne Agee, Miles College Dr. Divine Pryor, Medgar Evers College Assata Thomas ShaQuana S. Carter Cedric Thompson</p>	<p>ROOM 2 (HEART AND SOUL)</p> <p>CVI, COMPETITIVE GRANTS AND CONFLICT: NAVIGATING FUNDING, POWER, AND AUTHENTIC COMMUNITY IMPACT</p> <p>Presenters: Rey Chavis Dr. Liza Chowdhury John Fuqua</p>	<p>ROOM 3 (HARLEM)</p> <p>CREDIBLE MESSENGERS, HIGH-RISK INTERVENTIONISTS, AND PUBLIC SAFETY: MEDIATION, DE-ESCALATION, AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION</p> <p>Presenters: Big E Gilly Delgado Carlos Jones Brotha Milz Dushoun Almond Carlos Cortijo Jermain Merritt</p>	<p>ROOM 4 (SCARDUZIO)</p> <p>FROM CRISIS TO PATHWAYS: CAPSTONE CVILA</p> <p>Presenters: Marisol Rivera Raquel Bolton</p>	<p>ROOM 5 (ISLAND)</p> <p>PREVENTING THE DESTRUCTION OF YOUNG BLACK MALES: STATE OF EMERGENCY</p> <p>Presenters: Shombay Bandele Shadee Dukes "Eight the Great" Chris Williams</p>
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4:00 PM – 5:00 PM BREAKOUT BLOCK C, ROUND 2: SYSTEM BUILDERS

<p>ROOM 1 (BOURBON, FEATURED)</p> <p>WE ARE THE SOLUTION: JUSTICE-IMPACTED LEADERS TRANSFORMING REENTRY AND SYSTEMS</p> <p>Participants: Dr. Divine Pryor Akbar Pray Edwin "Chino" Ortiz A-Tariq Witcher Dr. Donna Hylton Tamika McReynolds Dr. Ayana Bean</p>	<p>ROOM 2 (HEART AND SOUL)</p> <p>CVI AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP: HOW TO START YOUR OWN BUSINESS</p> <p>Presenters: Antonio Henderson Lance Feurtado Jovan Davis Sampson Styles</p>	<p>ROOM 3 (HARLEM)</p> <p>LIFE AFTER GUNSHOT WOUNDS: WHEELS UP, GUNS DOWN</p> <p>Presenters: Garrison Redd Jeffrey Williams and others</p>	<p>ROOM 4 (SCARDUZIO)</p> <p>TECHNOLOGY FOR PEACE: DIGITAL TOOLS TO CONNECT AND PROTECT; COLLECTING DATA TO SHOW IMPACT</p> <p>Presenters: Cedric Thompson Jelani Anglin Shadee Dukes</p>	<p>ROOM 5 (ISLAND)</p> <p>JUVENILE REENTRY AND INSTITUTIONAL VIOLENCE</p> <p>Presenters: Ray Winans Anthony Williams Casey Melvin</p>
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★ **STORYTELLING FOR CHANGE IS FEATURED DURING THE BREAKOUT SESSIONS (3:00 PM – 5:00 PM).**
Lived experiences and frontline narratives are woven throughout these sessions.

5:00 PM – 6:00 PM FILM ROOM – FILM SERIES



FEATURED FILMS:

- 1 **Lakey da Great Mind**, documentary
"Queensbridge"
- 2 **Chris Patterson**, documentary
"Licensed to Operate: Violence Interrupter"



A curated film series highlighting
healing, narrative change, and
movement-building.

(FILM ROOM)

8:00 PM – 11:00 PM
(SHARP)



SNEAKER BALL AND ALL-WHITE AFFAIR: FOUR HOURS OF PEACE

Performances, keynotes, acknowledgments, talent show, and cypher.
Performers include Phatal, Iron Mike Perry, and Mysonne,
with additional performers to be confirmed.

Showboat Hotel. Community-building, networking, celebration, and fellowship.
Service includes dinner-style reception food or heavy hors d'oeuvres.
Day Two activity: bring your best.



7:00 AM	EARLY BIRD HEALING AND WELLNESS
8:00 AM	BREAKFAST
9:00 AM	<p>THE MORNING CHARGE: MEN'S & WOMEN'S GATHERING (CONCURRENT SESSIONS)</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div data-bbox="367 907 901 1444"> MAIN STAGE – MEN'S CAFÉ Participants: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Kenny Carter (FAITH, Fathers Alive in the Hood, Queens NY) • AU Hogan (Life Camp Inc., Queens NY) • Gold Child (Unity Movement, Chicago, Illinois) • A.T. Mitchell-Mann • Mysonne Linen • Talib-Diyn Tally </div> <div data-bbox="941 907 1508 1444"> HEART AND SOUL – WOMEN'S CAFÉ Participants: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stephanie McGraw (WARM) • Dr. Iesha Sekou (Street Corner Resources Inc.) • Dominica Simms (Kalamazoo, Michigan) • Freedom Jones </div> </div>
11:00 AM – 12:30 PM	<div style="text-align: center;"> <h1>PULL UP 4 PEACE</h1> <h2>WALK</h2> </div> <p> WE WALK. • WE HEAL. • WE UNITE. • WE TRANSFORM.</p>
12:30 PM	CLOSE OUT, ACTION STEPS, AND PICTURES MAIN STAGE

HOST CONVENERS



DR. JAMILA T. DAVIS
NEW YORK, NY

Dr. Jamila T. Davis

Co-Founder, Institute for Research in Social Justice in Action

Dr. Jamila T. Davis is a justice-impacted scholar, author, and activist whose work transforms pain into purpose. As co-founder of the Institute for Research in Social Justice in Action, she uplifts community-led solutions through research rooted in lived experience. After serving time in federal prison, Dr. Davis used education and advocacy to become a national voice for healing justice, reentry equity, and policy change. Today, her leadership bridges academia and the streets—empowering others to rise, disrupt cycles of harm, and reclaim their power through truth, knowledge, and collective action.



ANGELO PINTO, ESQ.
NEW YORK, NY

Angelo Pinto, Esq.

Co-Founder, Institute for Research in Social Justice in Action & Until Freedom

Angelo Pinto is a nationally recognized civil rights attorney, strategist, and movement builder who has spent his career fighting for justice at every level—from courtrooms to Capitol Hill. As co-founder of both the Institute for Research in Social Justice in Action and Until Freedom, he merges legal expertise with grassroots power to shift policy, dismantle systems of oppression, and elevate community-led change. From co-architecting campaigns like #RaiseTheAge and #FreeMeekMill to training the next generation of leaders, Pinto's work is bold, unapologetic, and rooted in the belief that real justice starts with those closest to the pain.



A.T. MITCHELL-MANN
BROOKLYN, NY

"A.T." Mitchell-Mann

NYC Gun Violence Prevention Czar & Executive Director, Man Up! Inc.

A.T. Mitchell is a nationally respected violence prevention leader and the founding Executive Director of Man Up! Inc., one of New York City's premier Cure Violence organizations. Appointed as NYC's first-ever Gun Violence Prevention Czar, Mitchell brings decades of frontline experience, strategic vision, and lived expertise to the fight for safer communities. His leadership has shaped city policy, empowered credible messengers, and helped redefine how urban violence is addressed—as a public health crisis rooted in trauma, not criminality. Mitchell continues to lead with purpose, accountability, and deep commitment to the people he serves.



TALIB-DIYN TALLY
ATLANTIC CITY, NJ

Talib-diyn "Talib" Abdullah

Founder & Executive Director, One Neighborhood Evolution (O.N.E.)

Talib-diyn "Talib" Abdullah is a respected credible messenger, street interventionist, and founding director of Atlantic City's One Neighborhood Evolution (O.N.E.). Formerly incarcerated for RICO conspiracy in 1994, Talib served time in Lewisburg Federal Penitentiary. Since returning home in 2002, he has committed his life to erasing the harm of his past by becoming a peacemaker for his community. Through O.N.E., he leads direct interventions to prevent violence, mentor youth, and mediate conflict—saving lives and restoring hope. His leadership has been key in reducing gun violence across Atlantic City and building a citywide culture rooted in trust, transformation, and truth. Talib isn't just building peace—he's living it.

HOST CONVENERS



DEPUTY MAYOR
LAKEESHA EURE
NEWARK, NJ

Deputy Mayor Lakeesha Eure

Office of Violence Prevention and Trauma Recovery, Newark, NJ

Deputy Mayor Lakeesha Eure is a frontline healer, social worker, and city leader redefining public safety in Newark through a trauma-informed lens. A survivor and lifelong advocate, she leads the Office of Violence Prevention and Trauma Recovery with compassion, courage, and lived wisdom. Her work bridges mental health, crisis response, and community empowerment—meeting violence as a public health issue and transforming how cities show up for their most vulnerable. At Pull Up 4 Peace, Deputy Mayor Eure represents the heart of the movement: a commitment to healing, truth, and liberation from the inside out.



DR. CHICO TILLMAN
CHICAGO, IL

Dr. Chico Tillman, PhD

Executive Director, Community Violence Intervention Leadership Academy, University of Chicago Crime Lab

A system-impacted scholar and frontline leader, Dr. Chico Tillman turned a 16-year prison sentence into a catalyst for change—earning a PhD and dedicating his life to ending gun violence through community intervention. As Executive Director of the University of Chicago Crime Lab's Community Violence Intervention Leadership Academy, he trains CVI leaders to build sustainable, trauma-informed programs nationwide. Previously, he led READI Chicago and served as a national CVI strategist. Recognized by the White House and featured in national media, Tillman blends academic rigor with lived wisdom to guide a new era of healing justice.



MARCUS MCALLISTER
CHICAGO, IL

Marcus McAllister

Dean of Students, CVI Leadership Academy, University of Chicago Crime Lab & Founder, McAllister Consultancy & Training LLC (MC&T)

Marcus McAllister is a nationally sought-after violence interruption expert, former national trainer for Cure Violence Global, and Dean of Students for the Crime Lab's Community Violence Intervention Leadership Academy. A visionary leader with two decades of frontline experience—from the streets to executive training—he empowers teams, cities, and national systems to treat violence as a public health issue, not just crime. Through MC&T, he bridges lived wisdom and strategic expertise, guiding cities to build trauma-informed CVI models and catalyzing a nationwide movement of healing-centered public safety.

GUEST SPEAKERS



MAYOR MARTY SMALL SR.
ATLANTIC CITY, NJ



SHABAZZ THE OG
PHILADELPHIA, PA



MAYOR RAS J. BARAKA
NEWARK, NJ



WALLO 267
PHILADELPHIA, PA



YANDY SMITH
NEW YORK, NY



MYSONNE LINEN
NEW YORK, NY



TAMIKA D. MALLORY
NEW YORK, NY



LINDA SARSOUR
NEW YORK, NY



JARROD BARNES
ATLANTIC CITY, NJ



MONA TALLY
ATLANTIC CITY, NJ



OMAR MCDANIELS
ATLANTIC CITY, NJ



TRACY PARKER
ATLANTIC CITY, NJ



DEMARIS JONES
ATLANTIC CITY, NJ



DESMOND MEADE
ORLANDO, FL



DR. SHEENA MEADE
ORLANDO, FL



DR. ASOYE' UHURUBEY
JACKSONVILLE, FL



KEISHA COLEMAN
JACKSON, MS



DR. NICOLE PATRICK
CHICAGO, IL

And more to be announced!

GUEST SPEAKERS



GOLDEN CHYLD
CHICAGO, IL



JARMAINE MERRITT
CHICAGO, IL



DOMINICA SIMS
KALAMAZOO, MI



RAQUEL BOLTON
CHICAGO, IL



RICKY DIP USHER
ATLANTA, GA



JASON WATSON
ST LOUIS, MO



JAMIE MEEKINS
PHILADELPHIA, PA



ANTON MOORE
PHILADELPHIA, PA



RICKEY DUNCAN
PHILADELPHIA, PA



ASSATA THOMAS
PHILADELPHIA, PA



OMAR MUSE
PHILADELPHIA, PA



IMANI BUTLER
PHILADELPHIA, PA



MEL WELLS
PHILADELPHIA, PA



ZAKARIYYA ABDUR-RAHMAN
PHILADELPHIA, PA



CHANTAY LOVE
PHILADELPHIA, PA



CEANDRE MITCHELL
BROOKLYN, NY



ORESSA NAPPER-WILLIAMS
BROOKLYN, NY



LANCE FEURTADO
QUEENS, NY



KIMBERLY HILL
BROOKLYN, NY



BIG E
STATEN ISLAND, NY



IRON MIKE
STATEN ISLAND, NY



DR. KENNY CARTER
QUEENS, NY



DR. ISHA SEKOU
NEW YORK, NY



GARRISON REDD
BROOKLYN, NY



PASTOR GIL MONROSE
BROOKLYN, NY

And more to be announced!

GUEST SPEAKERS



GILLY DELGADO
BRONX, NY



MARISOL RIVERA
BROOKLYN, NY



RENNY SMITH
BROOKLYN, NY



AU HOGAN
QUEENS, NY



JOHN CREPSAC
QUEENS, NY



CARLOS JONES
BROOKLYN, NY



DUSHOUN ALMOND
BROOKLYN, NY



DERRICK HAMILTON
BROOKLYN, NY



STEPHANIE MCGRAW
NEW YORK, NY



TARA BROWN-ARNELL
BRONX, NY



BROTHA MILZ
BROOKLYN, NY



TAHIRAH MOORE
BROOKLYN, NY



CARLOS CORTIJO
BRONX, NY



ANTONIO HENDERSON
HARLEM, NY



IMAM AMIN
ATLANTIC CITY, NJ



DR. DIVINE PRYOR
BROOKLYN, NY



DR. DONNA HYLTON
BROOKLYN, NY



AUDREY "AJ" JOHNSON
BROOKLYN, NY



DR. ASHEENA BAEZ
NEW YORK, NY



JELANI ANGLIN
BROOKLYN, NY



FREEDOM JONES
BALTIMORE, MD



RAY WINANS
DETROIT, MI



AYANA BEAN
BOSTON, MA



MICHELLE WEST
DETROIT, MI



DARRELL REDMOND
PORTSMOUTH, VA

And more to be announced!

GUEST SPEAKERS



JOVAN DAVIS
WASHINGTON, DC



SHAQUANA S. CARTER
WASHINGTON, DC



COUNCIL MEMBER LATONYA TATE
BIRMINGHAM, AL



ANTSKI WILLIAMS
BIRMINGHAM, AL



ANDRE DODSON
CLEVELAND, OH



LAKEISHA "STONY" SMITH
CLEVELAND, OH



KAREEM SMITH
CLEVELAND, OH



DENNIS MCKENZIE
CLEVELAND, OH



MIKEYA HOWARD
CLEVELAND, OH



JAUNITA PYE
CHICAGO, IL



CANDANCE KEMP
BIRMINGHAM, AL



DR. JARRALYNNE AGEE
BIRMINGHAM, AL



CAMMERIN NORWOOD
DOVER, DELAWARE



DR. LAUREN FOOTMAN
WILMINGTON, DE



SAMSON STYLES
BROOKLYN, NY



JEFFREY WILLIAMS
HARLEM, NY



STEVEN CAMPOS
STATE OF NEW JERSEY



AKBAR PRAY
NEWARK, NJ



AL-TARIQ WITCHER
NEWARK, NJ



EDWIN ORTIZ
NEWARK, NJ



KYLEESHA WINGFIELD-HILL
NEWARK, NJ



SHOMBAY BANDEDE
NEWARK, NJ



REY CHAVIS
NEWARK, NJ



CHRIS WILLIAMS
NEWARK, NJ



JESSIAH PAUL MUHAMMAD
NEWARK, NJ

And more to be announced!

GUEST SPEAKERS



SHADEE DUKES "8 THE GREAT"
NEWARK, NJ



DENISAH WILLIAMSON
NEWARK, NJ



AL NUR
NEWARK, NJ



SHARIF AMENHOTEP
NEWARK, NJ



CASEY MELVIN
PATERSON, NJ



DR DONNETTE GREEN
NEWARK, NJ



NAFEESAH GOLDSMITH
NEPTUNE, NJ



CASSANDRA SEVERE
NEWARK, NJ



DR LIZA CHOWDHURY
PATERSON, NJ



PERRY SHAW III
TRENTON, NJ



JOHN FUQUA
BRIDGETON, NJ



TAMIKA MCREYNOLDS
JERSEY CITY, NJ

OFFICIAL DJ



IAMYOUNGHITTA
ATLANTIC CITY, NJ

LIVE PERFORMANCES



AZ
BROOKLYN, NY



AISHA HALL
NEW YORK, NY

"WE DO NOT GATHER BECAUSE THE WORK IS EASY.
WE GATHER BECAUSE THE PEOPLE DOING THE WORK DESERVE TO BE SEEN,
STRENGTHENED, AND RESTORED.

WE ARE THE FRONTLINE.
WE ARE THE MOVEMENT.
WE ARE THE FUTURE."



And more to be announced!

COMMUNIVERSITY

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Because our stories change lives

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DAY 1 BREAKOUT SESSION GUIDE

HEALING THE BLOCK: THE ATLANTIC CITY OPENING

Day 1 breakout sessions are designed to help participants move from inspiration to application. After gathering on the main stage, participants will enter smaller rooms created for learning, healing, strategy, and real conversation.

These sessions offer practical tools, healing-centered strategies, and real-world models that frontline workers, youth leaders, community organizations, city partners, advocates, and credible messengers can take back to their own communities.



ONGOING CONFERENCE LAB



STORYTELLING FOR CHANGE: FILM, VOICE, AND MOVEMENT MEDIA LAB

- LOCATION:** Film Room
- LED BY:** Inspired Justice Productions, led by *JLove Calderon*
- AVAILABLE:** During breakout hours and throughout the conference

Your story is more than testimony. It is a tool for healing, advocacy, public education, and movement building.

Storytelling for Change is an interactive media and storytelling lab designed to help participants understand how personal experience, community truth, and frontline wisdom can be shaped into stories that educate, heal, organize, and inspire action. Throughout the conference, Inspired Justice Productions will guide participants through the art of storytelling. Participants will engage with guided prompts, learn how to frame their message, and explore how film, interviews, and testimony can help document the work happening in communities across the country.

This lab is designed for frontline workers, survivors, youth leaders, credible messengers, advocates, and community builders who want to use their voice with purpose, power, and responsibility.



WHAT YOU'LL WALK AWAY WITH



A deeper understanding of how storytelling can be used as a tool for healing, advocacy, and social change.



Practical prompts and techniques for shaping personal and community stories with clarity and purpose.



Insight into how film, interviews, and testimony can help shift narratives, document the movement, and inspire action.



An opportunity to participate in a live storytelling experience, with filming opportunities available throughout the conference.



KEEP THIS IN MIND

As you move through Day 1, pay attention to the stories, lessons, strategies, and moments that stay with you.

**TELL THE STORY.
BUILD THE PARTNERSHIP.
TAKE THE STRATEGY HOME.**



BREAKOUT BLOCK A: HEALING FOCUSED

Sessions in this block focus on healing, connection, prevention, and building stronger communities.

1



YOUTH
EMPOWERMENT

YOUTH ONLY SESSION: YOUNG LEADERS AND THE FUTURE OF PEACEBUILDING

ROOM: Bourbon

PRESENTERS:

CeAndre Mitchell,
Ashaya Dowell, Dennis McKenzie,
Cammerin Norwood

SESSION DESCRIPTION:

This youth-centered session creates space for young leaders to speak honestly about violence, healing, leadership, and what peacebuilding looks like from their perspective. Participants will explore how young people can move from being seen only as 'at risk' to being recognized as strategists, leaders, and solution-builders in their communities.

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- Understand the role of youth voice in violence prevention and peacebuilding.
- Explore how young people can lead change in schools, neighborhoods, and cities.
- Identify ways to turn lived experience, creativity, and leadership into community impact.

2



FAITH &
COMMUNITY
ACTION

MOVING BEYOND THOUGHTS & PRAYERS TO BUILD SAFE CITIES

ROOM: Heart and Soul

PRESENTERS:

Marcus McAllister, Tara Brown,
Arnell, Rev. Al Cohen,
Pastor Gil Monroe, Imam Amin,
Bishop Robert Hargroves

SESSION DESCRIPTION:

This session challenges communities to move beyond symbolic responses after violence and toward coordinated action, infrastructure, and accountability. Faith leaders, frontline practitioners, and community safety leaders will explore how cities can build real safety strategies rooted in relationships, trust, healing, and prevention.

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- Learn how communities can move from reaction to organized response.
- Explore the role of faith leaders, community institutions, and frontline workers in violence prevention.
- Identify practical strategies for building safer cities through partnership, presence, and prevention.

3



SYSTEMS &
COLLABORATION

BUILDING ECOSYSTEMS FOR VIOLENCE PREVENTION

ROOM: Harlem

PRESENTERS:

Darryl Chambers,
Jessiah Paul,
Carrie Buntain,
Dr. Chico Tillman

SESSION DESCRIPTION:

This session focuses on how cities build violence prevention ecosystems that connect government, grassroots organizations, frontline workers, service providers, researchers, and community leaders. Using examples from multiple cities, presenters will explore what it takes to build coordinated systems instead of isolated programs.

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- Understand what a strong violence prevention ecosystem looks like.
- Learn how city agencies, community organizations, and frontline workers can work together more effectively.
- Identify ways to strengthen coordination, referrals, partnerships, and shared accountability across the field.

DAY 1 BREAKOUT SESSION GUIDE

HEALING THE BLOCK: THE ATLANTIC CITY OPENING



BREAKOUT BLOCK A: HEALING FOCUSED

Sessions in this block focus on healing, connection, prevention, and building stronger communities.

4



HEALING &
REGULATION

RESTORING CONNECTION, REGULATING SYSTEMS, REGENERATING COMMUNITIES

ROOM: Scarduzio

PRESENTERS:

Dr. Asoye Uhurubey,
Dr. Nicole Patrick,
Keisha Coleman

SESSION DESCRIPTION:

This session explores healing communities from the inside out by focusing on trauma, regulation, relationships, and systems change. Presenters will help participants understand how violence impacts the body, families, organizations, and neighborhoods — and how healing-centered approaches can restore connection and community capacity.

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- Understand how trauma affects individuals, organizations, and communities.
- Learn strategies for supporting emotional regulation and healing in frontline spaces.
- Explore how healing-centered practices can help communities restore connection and rebuild trust.

5



CLINICAL &
CREDIBLE
MESSENGERS

CREDIBLE CLINICIANS: THE ROLE OF SOCIAL WORK IN VIOLENCE INTERVENTION

ROOM: Island

PRESENTERS:

Dr. Donnette Green,
John Crepsac,
Denisah Williamson

SESSION DESCRIPTION:

This session explores the powerful intersection between credible messenger work, social work, trauma care, and violence intervention. Participants will examine how clinical training and lived experience can work together to support people impacted by violence, incarceration, grief, and community trauma.

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- Understand how social work can strengthen violence intervention strategies.
- Explore how credible messenger work and clinical support can complement one another.
- Identify ways to build trauma-informed support systems for frontline workers, survivors, youth, and families.



BREAKOUT BLOCK B: PRACTITIONER SUPPORT

Sessions in this block focus on healing practitioners, supporting reentry, and strengthening the field.

6



WOMEN,
HEALING &
REENTRY

SET HER FREE: HEALING CIRCLES AND WOMEN REENTRY

ROOM: Bourbon

MODERATOR:

Dr. Jamila T. Davis

PRESENTERS:

Dr. Donna Hylton,
Nafeesah Goldsmith,
Cassandra Severe,
Dr. LaTasha Sampson,
Michelle West

SESSION DESCRIPTION:

This session centers the experiences of women impacted by incarceration, trauma, violence, and reentry. Through a healing-centered lens, presenters will explore how women rebuild their lives, reclaim their voices, and lead movements after surviving systems that were never designed to protect them.

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- Understand the connection between trauma, incarceration, reentry, and healing for women.
- Explore healing circle models that support restoration, sisterhood, and leadership.
- Identify strategies for building women-centered reentry programs rooted in dignity, voice, and power.



BREAKOUT BLOCK B: PRACTITIONER SUPPORT

Sessions in this block focus on healing practitioners, supporting reentry, and strengthening the field.

7



HEALING & SUSTAINABILITY

HEALING THE WOUNDED HEALER: GRIEF, BURNOUT, AND SUSTAINABILITY IN CVI

ROOM: Heart and Soul

PRESENTERS:

Deputy Mayor Lakeesha Eure,
Dr. Asheena Baez,
Dr. LaTasha Sampson

SESSION DESCRIPTION:

Frontline workers, credible messengers, violence interrupters, and community healers often carry the grief of families, neighborhoods, and lives lost while still being expected to show up, respond, lead, and serve. This session examines grief, burnout, secondary trauma, and the emotional weight of community violence intervention work. Presenters will discuss how frontline leaders and organizations can care for the wounded healer, build healthier teams, and create sustainability practices that protect both the people and the movement.

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- Understand how grief, burnout, and secondary trauma show up in CVI and frontline work.
- Explore healing-centered practices that help frontline workers process loss, stay grounded, and remain emotionally supported.
- Identify organizational strategies for building wellness, supervision, rest, reflection, and sustainability into violence prevention work.

8



POWER & MOVEMENT BUILDING

BUILT FOR THIS: POWER, MONEY, LEADERSHIP & MOVEMENT BUILDING FOR THE FRONTLINE

ROOM: Harlem

LEAD PRESENTER:

Juanita Pye

FEATURING:

Dr. Lauren Footman and
Tahirah Moore

SESSION DESCRIPTION:

This session is designed for frontline leaders, credible messengers, violence interrupters, and community-based organizations ready to move from survival mode to sustainable power. Led by Juanita Pye, this workshop will help participants explore what it takes to build stronger organizations, understand power and money, develop leadership infrastructure, and create sustainable models that can support the work beyond one grant, one contract, or one funding cycle.

The conversation will also bring in funding and ecosystem-building perspectives, helping participants better understand how to position their work, build meaningful partnerships, communicate impact, and strengthen the infrastructure needed for long-term community safety. This session is for the frontline leaders who know they were built for this work — and are ready to build something that lasts.

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- Understand how frontline organizations can build power, structure, and sustainability.
- Explore strategies for financial sustainability beyond grants and short-term funding.
- Learn how to position community-based work within broader funding, partnership, and ecosystem-building opportunities.
- Identify ways to strengthen leadership, workforce pipelines, partnerships, and long-term movement infrastructure.

9



YOUTH LEADERSHIP

JUNIOR VIOLENCE INTERRUPTERS: MENTORING YOUTH TO CHANGE

ROOM: Scarduzio

PRESENTERS:

Kareem Smith,
Mikeya Howard,
Dennis McKenzie,
Lakeisha Smith,
Atariq Best,
Shadee Dukes,
Al Nur

SESSION DESCRIPTION:

This session explores how youth can be trained, mentored, and developed as emerging peacebuilders, school safety leaders, and junior violence interrupters. Presenters will share lessons from youth engagement, mentorship, school-based violence prevention, and workforce development models that help young people transform their lives while becoming assets to their communities.

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- Learn how to build a youth violence prevention and mentorship pipeline.
- Explore strategies for preparing young people to serve as peer leaders and peacebuilders.
- Identify ways to connect youth leadership to workforce development, school safety, and community change.

10



JUSTICE & ADVOCACY

FAMILIES OF THE WRONGFULLY CONVICTED

ROOM: Island

PRESENTERS:

Derrick Hamilton,
Renny Smith,
A.T. Mitchell-Mann,
Free AT Campaign

SESSION DESCRIPTION:

This session centers the families, loved ones, and advocates impacted by wrongful convictions and long-term incarceration. Presenters will explore the emotional, legal, financial, and community impact of wrongful convictions while highlighting the power of advocacy, family leadership, and public campaigns to fight for freedom and justice.

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- Understand how wrongful convictions impact families, communities, and future generations.
- Explore strategies for building public awareness, support networks, and advocacy campaigns.
- Identify the connection between justice reform, reentry, healing, and community violence prevention.



DAY 2 BREAKOUT SESSION GUIDE

SYSTEMS & STRATEGY: THE NATIONAL DAY

Day 2 breakout sessions are designed to help participants move from inspiration to infrastructure. These sessions focus on professionalizing the frontline, strengthening organizations, building leadership pathways, navigating funding, using technology, advancing reentry, and developing sustainable models for community violence intervention and healing-centered public safety.




In addition to the scheduled breakout sessions, participants will have access to the **Storytelling for Change: Film, Voice, and Movement Media Lab** located in the Film Room. This ongoing lab will be available during breakout hours and throughout the conference for participants who want to learn the art of storytelling, engage with guided prompts, and participate in filming opportunities led by Inspired Justice Productions.



ONGOING CONFERENCE LAB



STORYTELLING FOR CHANGE: FILM, VOICE, AND MOVEMENT MEDIA LAB

-  **LOCATION:** Film Room
-  **LED BY:** Inspired Justice Productions, led by **JLove Calderon**
-  **AVAILABLE:** During breakout hours and throughout the conference

SESSION DESCRIPTION:

Storytelling for Change is an interactive media and storytelling lab designed to help participants understand how personal testimony, lived experience, and community narratives can be used to educate, heal, organize, and inspire action. Throughout the conference, Inspired Justice Productions will guide participants through the art of storytelling, helping them explore how to shape their stories with purpose, power, and responsibility.

Participants will engage with storytelling prompts, learn how to frame their message, and have opportunities to be filmed during the conference. This space will help frontline workers, survivors, youth leaders, credible messengers, and community builders see storytelling as more than personal expression — it is a tool for healing, advocacy, public education, and movement building.

KEY TAKEAWAYS:



Learn how storytelling can be used as a tool for healing, advocacy, and social change.



Explore prompts and techniques for shaping personal and community stories with clarity and purpose.



Understand how film, interviews, and testimony can help document the work, shift narratives, and inspire action.



Participate in a live storytelling experience with opportunities to be filmed throughout the conference.



KEEP THIS IN MIND

As you move through Day 2, pay attention to the strategies, tools, and connections that can help strengthen systems and sustain impact.

**BUILD THE SYSTEM.
STRENGTHEN THE STRATEGY.
TAKE THE MODEL HOME.**





Frontline to Profession: Credentialing, Workforce Development, and the Future of CVI

1



PROFESSIONAL PATHWAYS & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

FRONTLINE TO PROFESSION: CREDENTIALING, WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT, AND THE FUTURE OF CVI

ROOM: Bourbon

MODERATOR: Dr. Jamila T. Davis

PRESENTERS:

Dr. Jarralynne Agee, Miles College
Dr. Divine Pryor, Medgar Evers College
Assata Thomas
ShaQuana S. Carter
Cedric Thompson

SESSION DESCRIPTION:

This session explores how community violence intervention work can move from informal frontline labor to recognized professional pathways. Presenters will discuss credentialing, higher education partnerships, workforce development, career pipelines, and the future of CVI as a respected and sustainable field.

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- ✓ Understand how credentialing can help professionalize the CVI workforce.
- ✓ Explore ways to connect frontline workers to college credit, certifications, and career pathways.
- ✓ Identify strategies for building workforce pipelines that honor lived experience while expanding opportunity.

2



FUNDING & SYSTEMS STRATEGY

CVI, COMPETITIVE GRANTS AND CONFLICT: NAVIGATING FUNDING, POWER, AND AUTHENTIC COMMUNITY IMPACT

ROOM: Heart and Soul

PRESENTERS:

Rey Chavis
Dr. Liza Chowdhury
John Fuqua

SESSION DESCRIPTION:

This session examines the realities of funding community violence intervention work, including competition, power dynamics, organizational tension, and the pressure to prove impact. Presenters will explore how grassroots organizations can protect authenticity, build partnerships, and navigate funding systems without losing sight of the community.

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- ✓ Understand how funding structures can create both opportunity and conflict in CVI ecosystems.
- ✓ Learn strategies for navigating competition, collaboration, and power dynamics.
- ✓ Identify ways to center authentic community impact while meeting funder, city, and reporting expectations.

3



PUBLIC SAFETY & CONFLICT RESOLUTION

CREDIBLE MESSENGERS, HIGH-RISK INTERVENTIONISTS, AND PUBLIC SAFETY: MEDIATION, DE-ESCALATION, AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION

ROOM: Harlem

PRESENTERS:

Big E, Gilly Delgado
Carlos Jones
Brotha Milz
Dushoun Almond
Carlos Cortijo
Jermain Merritt

SESSION DESCRIPTION:

This session centers the frontline skills used by credible messengers and high-risk interventionists to prevent violence before it escalates. Presenters will discuss mediation, de-escalation, conflict resolution, street outreach, relationship building, and the real-time decision-making required to interrupt harm and protect community life.

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- ✓ Learn practical approaches to mediation, de-escalation, and conflict interruption.
- ✓ Understand the role of credible messengers in building trust and preventing retaliation.
- ✓ Explore how frontline public safety work can be strengthened through training, coordination, and accountability.

**STRONG SYSTEMS. STRONGER COMMUNITIES.
SMARTER SOLUTIONS. LASTING CHANGE.**



4



SYSTEMS & STRATEGY

FROM CRISIS TO PATHWAYS: CAPSTONE CVILA

ROOM:

Scarduzio

PRESENTERS:

Marisol Rivera, Raquel Bolton

SESSION DESCRIPTION:

This session highlights how frontline leaders can move from crisis response to long-term pathways for leadership, healing, and community transformation. Through the lens of the Community Violence Intervention Leadership Academy, presenters will explore how training, reflection, and applied learning can help practitioners build stronger models of impact.

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- ✓ Understand how leadership development strengthens frontline violence prevention work.
- ✓ Explore how crisis response can be connected to long-term pathways for healing and opportunity.
- ✓ Identify lessons from CVILA that can be applied to local programs, teams, and community safety strategies.

5



YOUTH PROTECTION

PREVENTING THE DESTRUCTION OF YOUNG BLACK MALES: STATE OF EMERGENCY

ROOM:

Island

PRESENTERS:

Shombay Bandeale,
Shadee Dukes "Eight the Great",
Chris Williams

SESSION DESCRIPTION:

This session addresses the urgent conditions impacting young Black men and boys, including violence, trauma, disconnection, criminalization, poverty, and lack of opportunity. Presenters will discuss how communities can respond with mentorship, healing, accountability, culture, education, and coordinated support systems that protect and develop young Black males.

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- ✓ Understand the social, emotional, and structural factors impacting young Black males.
- ✓ Explore strategies for mentorship, intervention, healing, and leadership development.
- ✓ Identify community-based approaches that move young men from survival to purpose, safety, and opportunity.

6



SYSTEMS & STRATEGY

WE ARE THE SOLUTION: JUSTICE-IMPACTED LEADERS TRANSFORMING REENTRY AND SYSTEMS

ROOM: Bourbon

FEATURED SESSION PARTICIPANTS:

Dr. Divine Pryor, Akbar Pray,
Edwin "Chino" Ortiz, A-Tariq
Witcher, Dr. Donna Hylton,
Tamika McReynolds,
Dr. Ayana Bean

SESSION DESCRIPTION:

This session centers justice-impacted leaders who have transformed their lived experience into leadership, advocacy, reentry innovation, and systems change. Participants will explore how people closest to incarceration and community harm are building solutions, shifting policy, mentoring others, and leading movements rooted in redemption, dignity, and opportunity.

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- ✓ Understand the leadership role of justice-impacted people in reentry and systems reform.
- ✓ Explore how lived experience can become a foundation for advocacy, mentorship, and policy change.
- ✓ Identify strategies for building reentry models that center dignity, opportunity, and long-term transformation.





7



ENTREPRENEURSHIP

CVI AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP: HOW TO START YOUR OWN BUSINESS

ROOM: Heart and Soul

PRESENTERS: Antonio Henderson,
Lance Feurtado, Jovan Davis, Sampson Styles

SESSION DESCRIPTION:

This session explores entrepreneurship as a pathway for frontline workers, credible messengers, returning citizens, and community leaders who want to build businesses rooted in purpose and impact. Presenters will share lessons on starting, growing, and sustaining businesses while staying connected to community transformation.

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- ✓ Learn foundational steps for starting a business or community-centered enterprise.
- ✓ Explore how entrepreneurship can create economic mobility for frontline workers and justice-impacted leaders.
- ✓ Identify ways to turn lived experience, skills, and community credibility into sustainable business opportunities.

8



SURVIVOR HEALING

LIFE AFTER GUNSHOT WOUNDS: WHEELS UP, GUNS DOWN

ROOM: Harlem

PRESENTERS: Garrison Redd,
Jeffrey Williams, and others

SESSION DESCRIPTION:

This session centers the lived experiences of survivors of gun violence and the long road of healing, adaptation, grief, advocacy, and purpose after injury. Presenters will explore the physical, emotional, social, and economic impact of surviving gun violence while highlighting resilience, disability justice, community care, and violence prevention.

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- ✓ Understand the long-term impact of gun violence on survivors, families, and communities.
- ✓ Explore how grief, survival, and resilience shape the healing journey after violence.
- ✓ Identify ways to support survivors beyond the immediate crisis through care, advocacy, and opportunity.

9



SYSTEMS &
STRATEGY

TECHNOLOGY FOR PEACE: DIGITAL TOOLS TO CONNECT AND PROTECT; COLLECTING DATA TO SHOW IMPACT

ROOM: Scarduzio

PRESENTERS: Cedric Thompson,
Jelani Anglin, Shadee Dukes

SESSION DESCRIPTION:

This session explores how technology, data systems, and digital tools can support violence prevention, outreach, coordination, and impact reporting. Presenters will discuss how community organizations can use data without losing the human-centered nature of the work, while also strengthening communication, accountability, and sustainability.

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- ✓ Understand how digital tools can help organizations coordinate services, outreach, and referrals.
- ✓ Learn how data can be used to tell the story of impact and support sustainability.
- ✓ Explore ethical and community-centered approaches to technology in violence prevention work.

10



JUVENILE REENTRY

JUVENILE REENTRY AND INSTITUTIONAL VIOLENCE

ROOM: Island

PRESENTERS: Ray Winans, Anthony Williams,
Casey Melvin

SESSION DESCRIPTION:

This session examines the challenges young people face when returning home from juvenile facilities, detention, placement, or other institutional settings. Presenters will explore the connection between institutional harm, community violence, trauma, reentry barriers, and the need for stronger transition supports for youth and families.

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- ✓ Understand how institutional violence and confinement impact young people after release.
- ✓ Explore reentry strategies that support healing, stability, accountability, and opportunity.
- ✓ Identify ways to strengthen community-based supports for youth returning from juvenile systems.

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FEATURED TITLES:

Money Moves: The Official Wealth Code for Teens by Isaiah Stewart & Dr. Jamila T. Davis

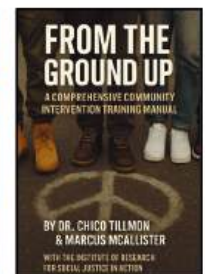
LeadHer Healing: A Self-Love & Trauma Recovery Journal for Women

We Got Us: Peer-to-Peer Mental Health Guide by Dr. Juan Rios

From the Ground Up: A CVI Training Manual by Marcus McAllister, Dr. Chico Tillmon & Team

Voices of Consequences: Healing Curriculum for Incarcerated Women by Dr. Jamila T. Davis

Set Her Free: Stories of Survivors Behind Bars (book & film project)



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