

TOWARD JUSTICE

**REDUCING HARM AND
IMPROVING HEALTH AND SAFETY**

Evening Reception

Monday, December 4, 2017

6:00pm–8:00pm

*Hilton Garden Inn
Albany, NY*

Full-day Symposium

Tuesday, December 5, 2017

8:00am–4:30pm

*Hilton Garden Inn | Albany Medical College
Albany, NY*

katal
CENTER FOR HEALTH,
EQUITY, AND JUSTICE

EVENT LOCATION

ALBANY MEDICAL COLLEGE
43 New Scotland Ave, Albany, NY 12208

HILTON GARDEN INN

62 New Scotland Ave, Albany, NY 12208

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Monday, December 4, 2017

Reception

6:00PM–8:00PM

6:00PM–8:00PM



Hilton Garden Inn
USS Ballroom

EVENING NETWORK RECEPTION

Informal opportunity for Albany Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) stakeholders and Toward Justice attendees to meet each other and network around pre-arrest diversion, public health, and public safety.

Toward Justice

Tuesday, December 5, 2017

Symposium

8:00AM–4:30PM

8:00AM–8:30AM

 **Albany Medical College**
Auditorium: ME-700

REGISTRATION & REFRESHMENTS

8:30AM–9:00AM

 **Albany Medical College**
Auditorium: ME-700

WELCOME REMARKS

CO-EMCEE'S

Keith Brown
Director of Health and Harm Reduction
Katal Center for Health, Equity, and Justice

Melody Lee
Managing Director
Katal Center for Health, Equity, and Justice

SPEAKERS

Mayor Kathy Sheehan
City of Albany

Dan McCoy
County Executive, Albany County Executive's Office

DA David Soares
Albany District Attorney's Office

Dr. Alice Green
Executive Director, Center for Law and Justice

Louis Filhour
CEO, Better Health for Northeast NY

Jacob Reider
CEO, Alliance for Better Health

9:00AM–10:15AM

 **Albany Medical College**
Auditorium: ME-700

OPENING PLENARY The Current Context

As communities across the country grapple with the urgent crises of mass incarceration and the growing problem of opioid overdose deaths, there is increasing interest in alternative approaches to securing public health and safety. These discussions take on the greatest urgency in municipalities which are continually challenged by major public health and public safety issues related to substance misuse, mental health, and poverty. In places across the country, many “traditional” approaches have proven ineffective at addressing these problems, while often leading to unjust and biased outcomes for marginalized communities.

In this opening plenary, speakers discuss how many cities and counties in the U.S. are now experimenting with innovative programs, partnerships, and approaches to reduce the scope of criminalization, securing health and safety, and advancing justice and equity for everyone.

MODERATOR

Kassandra Frederique
New York State Director, Drug Policy Alliance

PANELISTS

Chief (Ret.) Brendan Cox
Director of Policing Strategies, LEAD National Support Bureau

Monique Tula
Executive Director, Harm Reduction Coalition

Kate D'Adamo
Partner, Reframe Health and Justice Consulting

Deborah Small
Executive Director, Break the Chains

Robert Suarez
Community Leader, Peer Network of NY / VOCAL-NY

Allan Clear
Director of Drug User Health, New York State Department of Health AIDS Institute

10:15AM-10:30AM

BREAK

Attendees head to 1 of 3 concurrent morning breakout sessions:

CONCURRENT SESSION 1:

Albany Medical College
Auditorium: ME-700

CONCURRENT SESSION 2:

Hilton Garden Inn
USS Albany Ballroom: Sonneborn

CONCURRENT SESSION 3:

Hilton Garden Inn
USS Albany Ballroom: Cogswell

10:30AM-11:45AM



CONCURRENT SESSION 1



Albany Medical College
Auditorium: ME-700

MAKING DIVERSION WORK Case Management and Services in a Harm Reduction Context

The role of case management is essential to the effective development of LEAD and other diversion programs. How does case management function to effectively address issues related to drug user health, overdose, homelessness, mental health, poverty, and sex work? How can case management functions be set up to address barriers to care, deficiencies in service/treatment infrastructures, stigma, and other challenges? In this workshop, speakers will discuss providing case management service to, and working with, extremely marginalized populations, using a harm reduction oriented framework.

MODERATOR

Stephanie Lao

Executive Director, Catholic Charities Care Coordination Services

SPEAKERS*

Mark Jenkins

Founder and CEO,
Greater Hartford Harm
Reduction Coalition

Daniel Atzmon

Baltimore LEAD Program
Manager, Behavioral
Health System Baltimore

Emma Fabian

Director of Substance
User Health Policy,
Evergreen Health Services

Amy Jones

Community Engagement
Coordinator, Center for
Law and Justice

*Speakers cont'd on page 7

SPEAKERS (CONT'D)

Eileen Corcoran

Opioid Overdose
Prevention Coordinator,
Educational Alliance

10:30AM-11:45AM



CONCURRENT SESSION 2



Hilton Garden Inn
USS Albany Ballroom:
Sonneborn

MAKING DIVERSION WORK The Critical Role of Law Enforcement Agencies

The landscape around the role of law enforcement in society has changed over time, and is currently undergoing yet another shift, particularly with regards to addressing issues of addiction, mental illness, and poverty. This workshop will focus on how police and prosecutors can adopt a public health approach to increase public safety. Speakers will address various models, including LEAD, and how law enforcement agencies are responding to community demands for diversion, equity, public safety, and public health.

MODERATOR

Chief (Ret.) Brendan Cox

Director of Policing Strategies
LEAD National Support Bureau

SPEAKERS

Sheriff Craig Apple

Albany County Sheriff's
Office

DA David Soares

Albany District Attorney's
Office

Lt. Melissa Gipson

Albany Police Department

Lt. Steve Olson

Baltimore Police
Department

Krista Dunn

Project Director, National
Justice Database, Center
for Policing Equity

Ronald Hampton

Chair, Institute of the
Black World 21st Century
Police Reform and
Accountability Task Force

10:30AM-11:45AM

 **CONCURRENT
SESSION 3**

 **Hilton Garden Inn**
USS Albany Ballroom:
Cogswell

MAKING DIVERSION WORK

Anchoring the Process in Community Public Safety Groups

Community and public safety groups play a crucial role in the development and implementation of public health and public safety interventions. Some models bring law enforcement and community members together around a common goal in ways that are very different than their previous relationships to one another. Where and how are community public safety groups collaborating with law enforcement to develop diversion programs? What are the benefits and limits to such an approach? How do community public safety groups see diversion work fitting into efforts to end mass incarceration and the war on drugs?

This workshop will explore the ways in community public safety groups are working to address issues of public safety, racial disparities in arrests, and reorient governmental responses to poverty, mental health, and substance use.

MODERATOR

Lorenzo Jones

Co-Executive Director

Katal Center for Health, Equity, and Justice

SPEAKERS

Dr. Alice Green

Executive Director, Center
for Law and Justice

Kyung-Ji Rhee

Deputy Director, Center
for NuLeadership

Robert Suarez

Community Leader,
Peer Network of NY /
VOCAL-NY

Beatrice Codianni

Founder, Sex Workers and
Allies Network (SWAN)

Lyndon Cudlitz

Founder and Principal
Consultant, Lyndon
Cudlitz Consulting,
Education & Training

11:45AM-12:15PM

 **Albany
Medical College**
Auditorium: ME-700

EXTENDED BREAK

Grab Lunch

Attendees head back to Albany Medical College Auditorium ME-700. Lunch will be provided and can be brought into the auditorium during the lunch plenary.

12:15PM-1:15PM

 **Albany
Medical College**
Auditorium: ME-700

LUNCH PLENARY

Community-Driven Diversion: Albany LEAD

In Albany, NY, the city's innovative Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) program is an innovative approach to advance health and safety in the community. In LEAD, individuals who would typically be arrested and jailed for low-level offenses often driven by psychosocial challenges are instead diverted to harm reduction-based case management and outreach services. Albany was the third City in the nation to launch LEAD, the first city on the East Coast, the first to advance innovations including partnerships with medical providers, as well as the first to develop and incorporate a Community Leadership Team, and a community-oriented data workgroup.

In this plenary, speakers will share how Albany LEAD came about and the central role that community engagement played in both creating the context to make LEAD possible, but also ensuring that it remains true to its objectives, grounded in community accountability and striving to continuously improve.

MODERATOR

Melody Lee

Managing Director

Katal Center for Health, Equity, and Justice

SPEAKERS*

Dr. Alice Green

Executive Director, Center
for Law and Justice

DA David Soares

Albany District Attorney's
Office

Acting Chief Bob Sears

Albany Police Department

*Speakers cont'd on page 10

SPEAKERS (CONT'D)

Stephanie Lao
Executive Director,
Catholic Charities Care
Coordination Services

Keith Brown
Director of Health and
Harm Reduction, Katal
Center for Health, Equity,
and Justice

MODERATOR

Monique Tula
Executive Director, Harm Reduction Coalition

SPEAKERS

Liz Evans
Executive Director,
Washington Heights
CORNER Project/New York
Harm Reduction Educators

Mark Jenkins
Founder and CEO, Greater
Hartford Harm Reduction
Coalition

John Barry
Executive Director,
Southern Tier AIDS
Program (STAP)

Terrell Jones
Community Leader, Peer
Network of NY /VOCAL-NY

Maia Szalavitz
Author

1:15PM–1:30PM

BREAK

Attendees head to 1 of 3 concurrent afternoon breakout sessions:

CONCURRENT SESSION 4:

**Albany
Medical College**
Auditorium: ME-700

CONCURRENT SESSION 5:

Hilton Garden Inn
USS Albany Ballroom:
Sonneborn

CONCURRENT SESSION 6:

Hilton Garden Inn
USS Albany Ballroom:
Cogswell

1:30PM–2:45PM



CONCURRENT SESSION 4



**Albany
Medical College**
Auditorium: ME-700

BEYOND DIVERSION

Municipal Strategies for Preventing Overdose Deaths and Promoting Healthier, Safer Communities

There is a growing understanding that the criminal legal system is not the right mechanism to respond to the health crisis of opioid addiction and overdose deaths; indeed, many law enforcement leaders themselves have said that communities “cannot arrest their way out of the problem.” While pre-arrest and pre-booking diversion programs play an important role, alone they are not enough, and communities are looking for additional innovations to strengthen public health and public safety. What are other strategies being used or tested to save lives and improve health and safety? What are the opportunities and challenges for systemic reform? In this session, attendees will learn about innovative approaches to advance health and safety, including New York’s Drug User Health Hubs, new approaches to Medication Assisted Therapy (MAT), expansion and integration of harm reduction services, and Comprehensive User Engagement Spaces.

1:30PM–2:45PM



CONCURRENT SESSION 5



Hilton Garden Inn
USS Albany Ballroom:
Sonneborn

MAKING DIVERSION WORK

Funding at the Intersection of Public Health and Public Safety

To make diversion programs work, it often requires collaborations with systems that intersect and make up the social safety net, like healthcare (including mental health, substance use), housing, education, etc. It also requires an intersectional approach to community engagement—such as when community public safety groups collaborate with law enforcement to build diversion practices.

What opportunities do these intersections create for funding and reinvestment? How can municipalities maximize the potential of these intersections to secure funding to support diversion and systemic change?

In this session, participants will hear from representatives from government, private foundations, and businesses about how municipalities can identify resources to support innovative, community-based diversion programs. Speakers will explore how Albany’s LEAD initiative was

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(CONT'D)

developed and implemented to avoid duplication and amplify existing resources; how NY's Delivery Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) Program was used to fund LEAD in Albany; and how pre-arrest diversion and other public health-public safety partnerships intersect with the goals of the healthcare system.

MODERATOR

Keith Brown

Director of Health and Harm Reduction
Katal Center for Health, Equity, and Justice

SPEAKERS

Brian Byrd

Program Officer, New York
State Health Foundation

Dr. Sonya Hovsepian

Medical Director, Alliance
for Better Health

Dr. Stephen Giordano

Director, Albany County
Department of Mental Health

Dr. Kallana Manjunath

Medical Director, Better
Health for Northeast NY

Bridgette Butler

Deputy Director, Criminal
Justice Initiative

1:30PM-2:45PM



CONCURRENT
SESSION 6



Hilton Garden Inn
USS Albany Ballroom:
Cogswell

BEYOND DIVERSION

Legislative and Policy Reform

While municipalities advance local reforms like pre-arrest diversion, it's critical to keep in mind that local realities are shaped by a broader policy context. What would pre-arrest diversion look like if the drug war was over, or if sex work and drug possession were decriminalized? If health care and drug treatment were widely available and destigmatized, would the nation be facing an overdose and addiction crisis of the same scale?

What reform steps are needed in state legislatures to end mass incarceration and the war on drugs? What are the obstacles to reform? How can local work be leveraged to

support statewide and even federal change? In this panel, community stakeholders and elected officials discuss their efforts for legislative reform at the state level to strengthen health, equity, and justice for everyone.

MODERATOR

Mo Farrell

Policy Strategist, Katal Center for Health,
Equity, and Justice

SPEAKERS

Kassandra Frederique

New York State Director,
Drug Policy Alliance

Assemblywoman

Linda Rosenthal
New York State Assembly,
District 67

Clifton Garmon

Senior Policy Analyst,
VOCAL-NY

Erin Burns-Maine

Director of State
Policy, Corporation for
Supportive Housing

Tyrrell Muhammad

Project Associate,
Correctional Association
of New York (*invited*)

2:45PM-3:00PM



Albany
Medical College
Auditorium: ME-700

BREAK

Coffee + Tea, Snacks

Attendees head back to Albany Medical College Auditorium ME-700 from breakout sessions. Coffee, tea, and snacks will be provided.

3:00PM-4:15PM



Albany
Medical College
Auditorium: ME-700

CLOSING PLENARY

Toward Justice: Racial Equity in Diversion and Reform

Racial disparities are a hallmark of the criminal justice system in the United States. From policing, to pretrial detention, to sentencing, to reentry - racial disparities pervade the system, and are an area of growing concern and action across the country.

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(CONT'D)

In municipalities throughout New York, Connecticut, and the country, community leaders, law enforcement officials, and lawmakers are collaborating for systemic change. Where are the opportunities for change? What steps need to be taken to advance systemic reform?

In this closing plenary, speakers will address the defining question of how to advance racial equity in diversion efforts and in legislative reform.

MODERATOR

gabriel sayegh

Co-Executive Director

Katal Center for Health, Equity, and Justice

SPEAKERS

Dr. Alice Green

Executive Director, Center for Law and Justice

Deborah Small

Executive Director, Break the Chains

Christopher Burbank

Director of Law Enforcement Engagement, Center for Policing Equity

Dr. Divine Pryor

Executive Director, Center for NuLeadership

Alisa Wellek

Executive Director, Immigrant Defense Project

4:15PM-4:30PM



Albany Medical College
Auditorium: ME-700

CLOSING REMARKS

CO-EMCEE'S

Keith Brown

Director of Health and Harm Reduction
Katal Center for Health, Equity, and Justice

Melody Lee

Managing Director
Katal Center for Health, Equity, and Justice

SPEAKER

Dr. Alice Green

Executive Director, Center for Law and Justice

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Harm Reduction Coalition

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Office of the Albany County Executive

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Reframe Health and Justice

Southern Tier AIDS Program

Team Esteem On The Hill, Youth Empowerment Program

UAlbany Students for Sensible Drug Policy

University at Albany School of Public Health

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