



Health, Education, and Funders to End Homelessness Affinity Groups

Closing the Vaccination Gaps

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Program & Speakers' Bios



Danielle Torain, J.D.

Director, Open Society Institute-Baltimore

Danielle Torain was named the director of Open Society Institute-Baltimore in January 2020.

A proud Baltimore native, Torain brings a decade's experience in the public, nonprofit, and philanthropic sectors to the job. A graduate of the University of Richmond and the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law, Torain worked in the Baltimore Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice, leading a citywide initiative to strengthen systems of support for incarcerated youth, and worked on

local jobs programs with the Mayor's Office of Employment Development. She was senior director of strategy and development at the Center for Urban Families, and spent four years at the Annie E. Casey Foundations' Baltimore Civic Site, leading its place-based strategies in workforce development and economic inclusion, community capacity building and resident leadership. For the past several years, she has worked as an organizational development consultant, helping to advise and build capacity for social justice nonprofit groups.

In the aftermath of Baltimore's 2015 uprising following the death of Freddie Gray, Torain helped launch several initiatives aimed at connecting emerging activists with the philanthropic resources needed to carry out their work. In 2016, while with Baltimore Civic Site, Torain helped plan OSI-Baltimore's Solutions Summit and led a panel discussion about job and economic development.

Torain's work has been recognized through numerous honors and awards. In 2012, she was named one of the Maryland Daily Record's "Leading Women," an honor given to women under 40 for their "professional experience, community involvement and commitment to inspiring change." She was also named a "Maritime Magic Rising Star of Baltimore" by the Baltimore Business Journal, and given a "Spirited Women Award" in recognition of "everyday women who are making extraordinary contributions to their community and those around them."



Scott Nolen, Ph.D., J.D.

Director of the Addiction and Health Equity Program, Open Society Institute - Baltimore

Scott Nolen has held a variety of research, legislative, and advocacy positions in the public health and juvenile and criminal justice fields. Before joining the Open Society Institute–Baltimore, he worked as a health scientist at the National Institutes of Health. As a part of the National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities, Nolen led a project focused on driving the national discussion on health disparities. Prior to that, Nolen was the director of the Equal Justice Program at the New Jersey Institute for Social Justice, which allowed Nolen to act as a health care and criminal justice advocate who could combine his legal training with his background in social science research to address issues of racial and social equity.



From 2008 to 2009, Nolen served as a Congressional fellow for the American Association for the Advancement of Science working on health care reform in the Office of Senator Olympia J. Snowe. As a child psychology fellow for the New York State Psychiatric Institute, Nolen conducted and published research on mental health and juvenile justice issues and led probation officer training on identifying suicidal youth. He also worked as a post-doctoral fellow at Boston Children’s Hospital Adolescent Medicine Clinic, where he provided mental health services to youth in schools, emergency rooms, and outpatient clinics.

Nolen holds a law degree from Harvard and a PhD in clinical psychology from Duke University and has taught numerous classes on diversity, health and criminal justice.



Jennifer Arice White, MSPH
Senior Policy & Community Engagement Officer, The Horizon Foundation

Jennifer Arice White, MSPH Senior Policy & Community Engagement Officer Jennifer Arice White, MSPH is a social justice and equity advocate committed to speak truth to power about power. She is committed to making systemic changes that will improve the health and wellbeing of her community. At the Horizon Foundation, Jennifer nurtures relationships across the County, engage and mobilize residents to support the Foundation’s programming and

policy campaigns, such as Streets for All and Howard County Unsweetened. Jennifer is committed to building the equity and advocacy muscle of community members and partners in Howard County. Most

recently, Jennifer served as the Community Advocacy Director at the American Heart Association in Baltimore, MD. In her role, she advanced local policy campaigns that focused on active transportation, tobacco control and other systems level changes across the Greater Baltimore Region. Prior to serving as the Community Advocacy Director, Jennifer served as the Health Equity Partnerships Manager with Voices for Healthy Kids, an initiative in partnership with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the American Heart Association. In this role, she focused on building the equity infrastructure of the Initiative and the American Heart Association, which strengthened existing partnership efforts and strategic engagement in advocacy campaigns. Jennifer earned her Bachelor of Arts in Political Theory & Constitutional Democracy and Social Relations & Policy from James Madison College and the Honors College at Michigan State University in East Lansing, MI. In addition, she earned her Master of Science in Public Health degree in Reproductive, Perinatal & Women’s Health from The Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health in Baltimore, MD. Jennifer is a proud member of Upsilon Epsilon Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, Patapsco River (MD) Chapter of the Links, Incorporated and Silver Life Member of the NAACP.

