



Juvenile Justice Vision 20/20 and the
Michigan Judicial Institute Present



2023 SPRING TRAINING CONFERENCE

June 15 & 16, 2023

*Navigating the Juvenile Justice Landscape:
Youth Hate Crimes, Identity-Based Bullying, and Gangs*

The time is now! Join us for a **LOW COST, in-person** conference that will examine these *timely and critical* topics relating to juvenile justice! Learn from national and state subject matter experts; share in the discussions; and explore strategies to *prevent, identify, and act* to improve the landscape for the sake of juvenile justice-involved youth, families, and communities.

Thursday, June 15, 2023

Liz Ryan, Administrator OJJDP, Washington, D.C. – TBC*

Liz Ryan became Administrator of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention on May 16, 2022, following appointment by President Joseph R. Biden. Prior to leading OJJDP, Ms. Ryan served as president and CEO of the Youth First Initiative, a national campaign focused on ending the incarceration of youth by investing in community-based alternatives. Ms. Ryan founded the Youth First Initiative in 2014; under her leadership, it achieved the closure of youth prisons in six states and redirected more than \$50 million to community-based alternatives to incarceration.



Ms. Ryan founded the Campaign for Youth Justice in 2005 and served as its president and CEO until 2014. A staunch advocate for youth, Ms. Ryan co-founded and co-chaired Act 4 Juvenile Justice, a campaign to reauthorize the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act. She has written extensively about juvenile justice reform, including articles, editorials, reports, and chapters of books.

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Since 2020, Ms. Ryan has worked as a student investigative journalist with the Louisiana State University Cold Case Project, focusing on the murders of African Americans by the Ku Klux Klan during the civil rights era. Ms. Ryan also worked with families of the Martinsville Seven and other advocates to successfully obtain posthumous pardons for seven young Black men who were executed in Virginia in 1951 for the alleged rape of a white woman.

Ms. Ryan will discuss youth hate crimes, bullying, gangs, and how these juvenile justice issues relate to the work of OJJDP. She will share her expertise, OJJDP's available resources, and the organization's commitment to help those who work in the juvenile justice field combat youth hate crimes and identity-based bullying.

Rick Eaton – Director of Research/Museum of Tolerance – The Wiesenthal Center – Los Angeles, CA

Rick Eaton is the Director of Research at the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles. As Co-Director of the Center's Digital Terrorism and Hate Project. He has supervised the production of all 25 editions of the Digital Terrorism and Hate interactive report. Along with Associate Dean Rabbi Abraham Cooper and Associate Director of Research Emily Thompson, Rick regularly meets with Facebook, Twitter, Google/YouTube, TikTok, Roblox and other social networking companies to give feedback and assist in shaping policy. He has worked extensively with California P.O.S.T. (Peace Officer Standards and Training) and been a subject-matter expert on 11 educational "Tele-Courses" produced by P.O.S.T. and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Rick has twice testified in Congressional hearings and conducted many staff briefings on Capitol Hill. In an undercover role, he has met many leading, white supremacists, militia figures, Islamic extremists and helped expose Nazis in Argentina. In his 37 years with SWC, Rick has conducted hundreds of training sessions with law-enforcement, educators, civic groups, and schools. He deeply understands hate groups, the effectiveness of social media in their recruitment and expansion and of violent extremism, radicalization of young people, and strategies to stop the "new era of hate".



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Myrieme Churchill – Parents for Peace – Boston, MA

Ms. Churchill is the executive director of *Parents for Peace*. She has more than 30 years of experience working as a psychotherapist. Her therapy and coaching background were essential to the development of the Parents for Peace helpline model, and her native language skills have facilitated Parents4Peace establishing connections with counter extremism in Montreal and Quebec, France, and Belgium. She is an expert on de-radicalization strategies and interventions, and her work has been featured in NPR, The Washington Post, MSNBC and Bloomberg.



Dr. Dorothy Espelage - University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill, NC – TBC*

Dorothy L. Espelage, Ph.D., is a William C. Friday Distinguished Professor of Education at the University of North Carolina. Over the last 22 years, she has authored over 200 peer-reviewed articles, six edited books, and 70 chapters on bullying, homophobic teasing, sexual harassment, dating violence, and gang violence. Her research focuses on translating empirical findings into prevention and intervention programming. Dr. Espelage will share her extensive knowledge on identity-based bullying – how it differs from generalized bullying, its impact on victims, and strategies to address this problem.



*TBC = to be confirmed

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Friday, June 16, 2023

Jordan Garza – Homeland Security – Ohio

With over twenty-five years of experience and expertise in the understanding of hate groups, extremism, and radicalization, Mr. Garza is the Regional Prevention Coordinator at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Center for Prevention Programs and Partnerships (CP3). He is an expert in targeted violent crimes, mass shootings, and in the prevention and intervention relating to such crime and hate groups. Mr. Garza is the recipient of multiple awards for his work forming partnerships among federal, state, and local government and the building of local prevention frameworks that prevent targeted violence and terrorism.



Martel Smith – Ingham County Juvenile Court – Lansing, MI

Mr. Smith is a probation officer who has worked in Lansing for over twenty years. His lived experience growing up on the streets has helped him understand how and why young people join “gangs”, and he offers a new perspective on gangs in the 21st Century.

Mr. Smith has devoted his professional career to helping youth get out of gangs and also, has employed multiple prevention techniques to keep youth out of gangs by understanding their needs and what it takes to create resilience and resistance to the temptations on the street. A professional with great energy, expertise to share, and a story to tell, we are honored to have him share his story and insights with us.



Eat. Drink. Change Lives. – Dallas, TX - The Cafe' Momentum Documentary – A Very Special Viewing

This is a remarkable program which will urge all of us to approach justice-involved youth in a more creative manner! Café Momentum's mission is to transform young lives by equipping a community's most at-risk youth with life skills, education, and employment opportunities to help them achieve their full potential. Working alongside the Juvenile Justice Department and local community partners, Café Momentum strives to teach our country's youth that it is possible to break the cycle of incarceration and violence many of our youth have faced. The Café' Momentum Model focuses on creating safe environments for youth, ages 15-19, where the kids can gain self-confidence and learn marketable skills to ensure a more successful future.

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Please join us for this special sharing of the Cafe' Momentum Model, and learn about an opportunity to partner with Cafe' Momentum in your community with its help or just be inspired!!

Conference Dates: June 15 & 16 (half day), 2023

Conference Location: Grand Valley State University, Pew Campus, Charles W. Loosemore Auditorium
401 West Fulton Street, STE 122 E, Richard M. DeVos Center, Grand Rapids, MI 49504

For CEU(\$20) information – coming soon – visit:

Email Rayshena Wilson at wilsora@gvsu.edu

To Register: \$40 Regular Registration/\$20 Student

<https://www.gvsu.edu/juvenilejusticevision2020/>

Registration Questions? Email Rayshena Wilson at wilsora@gvsu.edu

Accommodations Reservation Link – [Juvenile Justice Vision 20/20](#) Holiday Inn, downtown Grand Rapids - \$114/night

*A sincere thanks to the School of Criminology, Criminal Justice &
Legal Studies for their continual support!*

