

Addressing Health Inequities in Promise Neighborhoods

Speaker Biographies

Amy Carroll-Scott is an Associate Professor in the Department of Community Health and Prevention at the Drexel Dornsife School of Public Health. Her research focuses on understanding and addressing urban health inequities and underlying social inequities, in partnership with community anchor institutions. This consists of social epidemiological and mixed methods studies applied to the lived experience of urban neighborhoods and schools. Current projects include evaluation of the West Philadelphia Promise Neighborhood initiative, multi-city policy surveillance of law enforcement reform efforts since George Floyd's death, a feasibility study of community-led place-based systems of research oversight, and a literature review of community-led systems transformation frameworks. Prior to Drexel, Dr. Carroll-Scott was Director of Research for the Yale Community Alliance for Research and Engagement. She received her Master of Public Health at University of California Berkeley, her PhD from University of California Los Angeles, and was a postdoctoral fellow at Yale School of Public Health. She is co-lead of the Policy and Community Engagement Core of the Drexel Urban Health Collaborative, the Philadelphia local data intermediary of the National Neighborhood Indicators Partnership.

Stacey B. Stephens is the Director of the B'more for Healthy Babies Upton/Druid Heights Program at the University of Maryland School of Social Work's Promise Heights Initiative. With meaningful partnerships with residents and community partners, she has led the team who has accomplished a 75% reduction in the infant mortality rate over the past ten years. This has resulted in the elimination of the disparity between Black and White infant deaths in this community. She has over 26 years of experience in assisting underserved women and children gain access to medical and mental health services throughout Baltimore and the DC Metropolitan area. Stephens is a Clinical Instructor at the University of Maryland School of Social Work and an Adjunct Professor at Morgan State University School of Social Work, where she teaches and inspires future healthcare professionals. She was a governor appointed member of the Maryland taskforce to study perinatal mental health. She is also a Certified Diversity Practitioner which enables her to help individuals, groups, organizations and communities effectively manage cultural differences, influence system change and create equity in the healthcare and educational sectors.

Peter A. Tatian is a senior fellow at the Urban Institute and research director for Urban-Greater DC. He is an expert on US housing policy, particularly in the areas of housing assistance and affordable housing preservation. He advises nonprofits on performance management and evaluation and heads Urban's work providing technical assistance on data collection and use to grantees of the US Department of Education's Promise Neighborhoods initiative. Tatian directed the evaluation of the National Foreclosure Mitigation Counseling program, which has provided counseling services to more than 1 million troubled homeowners. He has also studied the impacts of public and supportive housing on neighborhoods and has worked on housing policy reform in eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. Tatian is a member of the DC Local Initiatives Support Corporation advisory committee, the Park Morton New Communities steering committee, and the United Planning Organization community reinvestment advisory council.

Joshua M. Sharfstein is Vice Dean for Public Health Practice and Community Engagement, director of the Bloomberg American Health Initiative, and Professor of the Practice in Health Policy and Management at Johns Hopkins University. Previously, he served as the Secretary of the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, the Principal Deputy Commissioner of the US Food and Drug Administration, as Commissioner of Health for Baltimore City, and as health policy advisor for Congressman Henry A. Waxman. He is an elected member of the National Academy of Medicine and the National Academy of Public Administration.