Expanding How We Understand Youth Well-Being

Speaker Biographies

Amelia Coffey is a senior research associate in the Center on Labor, Human Services, and Population at the Urban Institute, specializing in qualitative and community-engaged methods. Her work focuses on research and evaluation of policies and programs intended to support stability, mobility, and well-being for families and young people. She leads several projects focused on identifying the strengths, needs, and challenges of transition-age youth and engaging young people in developing solutions. She is particularly interested in lifting up the experiences of people at the intersection of work and public assistance to identify how the public sector can ensure their basic needs are met. Coffey holds a master’s degree in social policy research from the London School of Economics.

Hannah Sumiko Daly is a research associate in the Center on Labor, Human Services, and Population at the Urban Institute whose work focuses on various supports for young people and families, mainly using qualitative and community-engaged research methodology. She aims to contribute to work that works towards rethinking our public systems and building abundant public systems that trust people and allow them to thrive. She has a BA in Public Health with a minor in Anthropology from the University of California, Berkeley.

Florencia Gutierrez has worked at the Annie E. Casey Foundation for the past 10 years. In her role as a Senior Associate she manages the production of the KIDS COUNT Data Book and related national publications and the KIDS COUNT Data Center. Florencia also provides technical data and research support to the KIDS COUNT network. And leads the Census work for the Foundation. She holds two master’s degree in Education and Public Policy from the University of Texas-Austin.

Kathryn L. S. Pettit is a senior fellow in the Metropolitan Housing and Communities Policy Center at the Urban Institute, where her research focuses on neighborhood change and how communities use data for more effective and equitable decisionmaking. Pettit is a recognized expert on several small-area local and national data sources and on the use of neighborhood data in research, policymaking, and program development. She has conducted research on many topics, including neighborhood redevelopment, federally assisted housing, and local housing markets and conditions. Pettit directs the National Neighborhood Indicators Partnership, a network of more than 30 local organizations that supports local communities in their use of data to shape strategies and investments that ensure all neighborhoods are places where people can thrive. She frequently presents the model and accomplishments of the network and local partners. She has produced two books on the role of data in community change: Strengthening Communities for Neighborhood Data and What Counts: Harnessing Data for America’s Communities.

Juan D. Martinez is a Senior Program Manager at the Aspen Institute Forum for Community Solutions. He is a co-founder of Fresh Tracks, a youth-led cross-cultural revolution, rooted in the healing power of the outdoors, as well as implementing the tribal and indigenous community of practice for the Opportunity Youth Forum. His work has helped to grow the silo-breaking strategy for systems change and youth power building while also lifting up successful stories of civic engagement and community organizing. Juan has over 15 years of nonprofit management and implementation of strategy and was named a National Geographic Explorer in 2011 for his work to engage the rising generation of youth to the healing power of the outdoors. Juan also serves on The Wilderness Society’s governing council, is a TED Speaker and author, and is dedicated to bringing the power of equity and justice to life through youth and community-driven solutions. Juan has committed to help empower the next generation of leaders dedicated to addressing
systems of inequity and access to opportunities by working with community leaders, non-profits, and businesses across the country. Juan resides in Springfield, Illinois, with his wife, Vanessa.

Kimberly Spring, Ph.D. is the director of research and evaluation, leading the team responsible for developing and managing evaluations of programs and system reform initiatives that advance the efforts of the Foundation and others. She also supervises investments in research on Casey issues and populations of focus. She first joined the organization as senior associate in 2013, playing a key role in research and evaluation activities related to the Baltimore Civic Site and other community change efforts. Prior to joining the Foundation in 2013, she worked as a research and policy analyst at the federal agency, the Corporation for National and Community Service. She has more than 14 years of experience in the design and management of research, evaluation, and performance measurement in the areas of child and youth development, family economic success, economic inclusion, community and neighborhood change, social and organizational networks, and civil and political engagement. Spring completed a master's degree in comparative cultural studies from Ohio State University and a master's in international development studies from George Washington University. She received her Ph.D. in sociology from the New School for Social Research in New York City.