Carmela J. DeCandia
Director, The National Center on Family Homelessness at AIR

Carmela DeCandia is a licensed clinical psychologist with specialties in trauma, child and adolescent development, program development, and assessment. Throughout her career, she has worked with underserved populations, including young parents and children, families experiencing homelessness and trauma, and those involved in the child welfare system. She has spent more than 20 years in roles that include service delivery, program management, clinical director and vice president. DeCandia spent over a decade at St. Mary’s Center for Women and Children in Dorchester, MA, working with families experiencing homelessness and trauma to achieve residential and economic stability, educational advancement, and emotional well-being.

Dr. DeCandia has worked as a school psychologist conducting school-based assessments. She has also taught as adjunct faculty at Lesley University about understanding trauma in the lives of children and adolescents. She received a mastery certificate in Global Mental Health from the Harvard Program in Refugee Trauma.

Agenda
Noon – 1:30 P.M.
• Registration and lunch
• Welcome
  Cheryl Vince
  Senior Vice President & Director, Health & Social Development Program, AIR

  Presentation: “Introduction to Trauma Informed Care”
  Carmela J. DeCandia
  Director, The National Center on Family Homelessness at AIR

  Discussion
  Jane Stevens
  Editor, Aces Too High News (moderator)
  Larke N. Huang
  Director of the Office of Behavioral Health Equity, SAMHSA
  Cheryl Sharp
  Senior Advisor, National Council for Behavioral Health
  Bonnie Stone
  President and CEO, Women in Need

• Q&A
• Closing Remarks

BIOGRAPHIES

Carmela J. DeCandia
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Carmela DeCandia is a licensed clinical psychologist with specialties in trauma, child and adolescent development, program development, and assessment. Throughout her career, she has worked with underserved populations, including young parents and children, families experiencing homelessness and trauma, and those involved in the child welfare system. She has spent more than 20 years in roles that include service delivery, program management, clinical director and vice president. DeCandia spent over a decade at St. Mary’s Center for Women and Children in Dorchester, MA, working with families experiencing homelessness and trauma to achieve residential and economic stability, educational advancement, and emotional well-being.

Dr. DeCandia has worked as a school psychologist conducting school-based assessments. She has also taught as adjunct faculty at Lesley University about understanding trauma in the lives of children and adolescents. She received a mastery certificate in Global Mental Health from the Harvard Program in Refugee Trauma.
In 2003, Dr. Huang served as an appointed Commissioner on the President’s New Freedom Commission on Mental Health and on the Carter Center Mental Health Board.

Dr. Huang recently received the following honors: The American Psychological Association, Nicholas Hobbs Award for Children’s Mental Health, 2013; Distinguished Contributions to Psychology in the Public Interest, American Psychological Association, 2007; Dr. James Jones Lifetime Achievement Award, APA, 2007; Outstanding Psychologist of the Year, National Alliance of the Mentally Ill (NAMI), 2005; Presidential Citation, APA, 2011 and 2004; Distinguished Contributions Award, Asian American Psychological Association, 2004; Champion for Children’s Mental Health Needs, Federation of Families for Children’s Mental Health, 2003.

She received her doctorate from Yale University.

Cheryl Sharp
Senior Advisor, Trauma-informed Services, National Council for Behavioral Health

Cheryl Sharp holds the unique perspective of a person who struggled with severe mental health challenges, a trauma survivor, a family member of a loved one who died as a result of mental health challenges, and a provider of substance abuse and mental health services. Sharp has worked with adult trauma survivors for more than 30 years and trains and speaks internationally on trauma-informed care. She is an advanced level WRAP facilitator, Mental Health First Aid USA trainer/ instructor, and trainer of Intentional Peer Support. Sharp is also an ordained minister. She has worked as a hospice/medical social worker and as a director of social services for a skilled nursing facility. She received the Lou Ann Townsend Courage Award for her contributions to persons with psychiatric disabilities. As the leader of the National Council’s Trauma-Informed Care Learning Communities, Sharp has led more 500 organizations in the implementation of trauma-informed care. Sharp holds a master’s degree in social work (MSW) and is an Advanced Level WRAP Facilitator (ALWF).

Jane Stevens
Editor, ACEs Too High News

Jane Ellen Stevens is founder and editor of ACEsTooHigh.com, a news site for the general public, and its accompanying community of practice social network, ACEsConnection.com. The sites focus on research on adverse childhood experiences, and practices based on that research. The sites are supported by funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and The California Endowment. A longtime health, science and technology journalist, Stevens has written for The Boston Globe, The New York Times, The Washington Post, Los Angeles Times and National Geographic. For several years, she specialized in violence epidemiology. She began reporting about the ACE Study and related research in 2005.

She has lived and worked in Kenya and Indonesia, and has been to Antarctica—in the winter—three times on reporting fellowships. She is the recipient of several fellowships—including the Knight-McCormick Leadership Institute Fellowship and the Reynolds Journalism Fellowship. She is on the advisory board for ReportingOnHealth.org, a site for the California Endowment Health Journalism Fellowships; a member of the National Association of Science Writers; Journalism and Women Symposium; and the Online News Association.

Bonnie Stone
President and CEO, Women in Need

Bonnie Stone is President and CEO of Win (Women In Need) a not-for-profit agency providing transitional shelter and affordable, permanent supportive housing to homeless and disadvantaged women and children in New York City. Since joining Win in 2000, Stone has helped the organization grow to one of the largest providers of transitional shelter for homeless families, operating nine shelters and almost 239 affordable, permanent housing units with supportive services. With a staff of nearly 400 and more than 300 volunteers, Win currently serves 3,700 people including 2,200 children every night.

For more than 30 years, Stone has served the people of the City of New York in a variety of government and civic leadership roles. As Deputy Assistant Commissioner of the New York City Department of Health, Stone ran city drug abuse treatment services. As Deputy Administrator of the Human Resources Administration, Stone opened and operated more than 10,000 beds for homeless people, and oversaw the administration of protective services for adults, shelters for battered women, homecare services for the elderly and disabled, and family planning clinics. As Deputy Commissioner in the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, Stone was instrumental in reorganizing the administration and daily operations of the department, clearing serious backlogs and restoring public confidence after a prolonged period of crisis.

As Vice President of the MTA Long Island Railroad, Stone designed and implemented the first overall marketing strategy and program for ridership growth. She also created a division for government and community affairs, marketing, media relations and public information, reporting directly to the President of the LIRR. Stone also served as the Chief Operating Officer of Selfhelp Community Services, a large not-for-profit agency where she was responsible for a variety of programs for the elderly.

Stone is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin and holds two master’s degrees: one in psychological measurement from Columbia University and one in urban planning from New York University. A native New Yorker, she resides in Lower Manhattan with her husband Jack Deacy.