



CHAPIN HALL
CENTER FOR CHILDREN
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

**The Overrepresentation of Children of Color in
America's Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare Systems**

*A Symposium Sponsored by
The Center for Juvenile Justice Reform at the Georgetown Public Policy Institute and
Chapin Hall Center for Children at the University of Chicago*

Friday, March 14, 2008

8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

**Marriott Conference Center, Leavey Center
3800 Reservoir Road, NW, Washington, DC 20057
Georgetown University, Washington, DC
(202) 687-3200**

Purpose: To bring together policymakers, practitioners, researchers, and advocates to discuss how overrepresentation and disparate treatment of minorities might be reduced across systems of care.

Results: Participants will leave the symposium with a deeper understanding of the issue's complexities and implications, and with specific ideas for how to increase collaboration across systems and advance policy and practice in order to reduce racial disparities.

AGENDA

- I. Registration and Continental Breakfast (8:00-8:30)**
- II. Welcoming Remarks (8:30-8:40)**
 - Shay Bilchik, J.D., Director, Center for Juvenile Justice Reform
 - Matt Stagner, President, Chapin Hall Center for Children
- III. Keynote Address (8:40-9:00)**
 - Dr. David Sanders, Executive Vice President of Systems Improvement, Casey Family Programs
- IV. Presentation of "Reducing Racial Disparities in Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice: An Overview of Policy and Practice" and Commentaries (9:00- 10:30)**
 - Dr. Jeffrey Butts, Research Fellow, Chapin Hall
 - Dr. Bridgette Lery, Researcher, Chapin Hall
 - Dr. Ada Skyles, Associate Director, Research Fellow, Chapin Hall
 - Dr. Fred Wulczyn, Research Fellow, Chapin Hall
 - Dennette Derezotes, Executive Director, Race Matters Consortium at Westat
 - Raquel Mariscal, Senior Consultant, Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative, Annie E. Casey Foundation

Break 10:30-10:45

V. Communities Doing Promising Work in Reducing the Disparate Treatment of Children of Color in Their Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare Systems (10:45-12:00)

- Joyce James, Assistant Commissioner for Child Protective Services, Texas Department of Family and Protective Services
- Elizabeth Kromrei, Child Protective Services Field Director, Texas Department of Family and Protective Services
- Jim Stegmiller, Project Consultant, Multnomah County, Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative
- Michael Ware, Director, Family Services for Self Enhancement, Inc. (SEI)

VI. LUNCH (12:00- 1:00)

VII. Cross-Systems Initiatives to Address Disproportionality (1:00-2:15)

- Mary Nelson, Administrator, Division of Child and Family Services, Iowa Department of Human Services
- The Honorable Joe E. Smith, District Associate Judge, District 5C
- John Spinks, Vice-President, PACE Juvenile Justice Center

Break 2:15- 2:30

VIII. Policy Implications for Reducing Racial Disparities and Disproportionality in Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice (2:30-4:15)

- Kay E. Brown, Acting Director, U.S. Government Accountability Office
- Christine M. Calpin, Acting Associate Director, U.S. Children's Bureau, Administration on Children, Youth and Families
- Zulima Espinel, Congressional Staffer, Senate Committee on the Judiciary
- Sonja Nesbit, Congressional Staffer, Congressman Charles B. Rangel's Office
- Mark Soler, Executive Director, Center for Children's Law and Policy
- Linda Spears, Vice-President, Child Welfare League of America

IX. Concluding Comments (4:15 – 4:30)

- Shay Bilchik, Director, Center for Juvenile Justice Reform
- Matt Stagner, President, Chapin Hall Center for Children