



Join Us For A Dialogue
Beyond Bars: Improving Futures by Reconnecting Children & Their Incarcerated Parents



April 1, 2010 8:00-10:30 am
UMASS-Boston Student Center Room 3540(3rd Floor)
100 Morrissey Boulevard Boston, MA 02125-3393
For more information: [Kimberly E. Zouzoua](mailto:Kimberly.E.Zouzoua@umass.edu) 774 766-6915
Please [RSVP](#) by March 19, 2010.

Participant Bios



The facilitator for the day's program is **Representative Kay Khan** who is the State Representative for the 11th Middlesex District, which includes Newton Lower Falls, Auburndale, Waban, West Newton, Newtonville, Newton Corner and parts of Newton Centre. The district includes 14 of Newton's 31 precincts.

Kay is serving her eighth term in office and is the longest-serving current state legislator from Newton. During the 2006 election Kay ran unopposed, however, in 2004 she was in a contested race, and won with 73.3% of the vote. Throughout her career in the legislature, she has been a leading voice on providing affordable and compassionate health care, public education, affordable

housing and human services. She has a record of strong support for improved transportation and a healthier environment and has been the legislature's leading advocate for progressive policies for incarcerated individuals including women and their children.



Harold W. Clarke joined the Nebraska Department of Corrections in 1974 as a counselor. He rose through the department, becoming warden at the Nebraska State Penitentiary in 1987. In August of 1990, he was appointed Director of the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services, a position he held until 2005, when he left Nebraska to become the Secretary of the Washington State Department of Corrections. In November of 2007, Mr. Clarke left Washington to become the Commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Correction. He is currently serving as the president of the American Correctional Association. He also served as president of the Association of State Correctional Administrators. His awards include the Legacy Award from the Association of Women

Executives in Corrections in 2007, the Pioneer Human Services Partner of the Year Award in 2006, the Michael Francke Award from the Association of State Correctional Administrators in 1997, the Citizen of the Year Award from the Nebraska Association of Substance Abuse Directors in 1996 and the Dedicated Correctional Service Award in 1994.



Andrea J. Cabral was sworn in on November 29, 2002 as the 30th Sheriff in the history of Suffolk County. She is the first female in the Commonwealth's history to hold the position. She was appointed to the position in 2002 by former Governor Jane Swift and elected to a full term in 2004. She brings an extensive legal background and a commitment to public safety to her position. Sheriff Cabral is responsible for the operation of the House of Correction, the Suffolk County Jail and the Civil Process Division. The Suffolk County Sheriff's Department is the largest sheriff's department in the Commonwealth and the 30th largest in the United States. It has 1,051 employees, including

executive managers, corrections officers, investigators, educators, health care providers, caseworkers and administrative staff, whose primary responsibility is to provide safe care, custody, control and rehabilitative support for more than 2,700 offenders daily. The average operating budget for the Department is \$122 million.



Ayanna Pressley, on November 3, 2009 made history when was elected to an At- Large seat on the Boston City Council. She is the first woman of color elected to the Council in its 100 year history. The only woman in the field of 15 candidates, Pressley finished a strong 4th place in the general, collecting more than 41,000 votes. In keeping with the historic nature of her win, Pressley formed and is chairing a new standing committee, the Committee on Women & Healthy Communities. The committee will concern itself with the adequate delivery of city services and programming for youth, families, seniors and new Bostonians, with particular focus on girls and women. Although newly elected, Pressley is no stranger to public service. Her political career spans more than 16 years, in various behind-the-scene capacities at the federal level of government. Pressley previously worked as a Senior Aide for Congressman Joseph P. Kennedy II and United States Senator John Kerry. Immediately prior to her run for office, Pressley was serving as Senator Kerry's Political Director, responsible for managing his relationships with elected officials at the city, state and federal level and various community leaders.



William J. (Bill) Leahy's legal career has been dedicated to the representation of indigent persons, first as a trial and appellate defender with the Massachusetts Defenders Committee for ten years, then as the first leader of the Public Defender Division of the Committee for Public Counsel Services (CPCS) from 1984 to 1991, and since 1991 in his current position as CPCS chief counsel. Bill was a member from 1991 to 2005 of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court Standing Advisory Committee on the Rules of Criminal Procedure, and was a member of the Boston Bar Association Executive Council from 2003 to 2006. He has been an Adviser to the American Law Institute's (ALI) Model Penal Code sentencing project since 2001. He is an active member of the National Legal Aid and Defender Association and is currently a member of the Executive Committee of the American Council of Chief Defenders. In April, 2007, Bill was appointed to serve on Governor Deval Patrick's Anti-Crime Council. From 2008-2009 he served on the Boston Bar Association's (BBA) Civil Gideon Task Force, and from 2009 to date he has participated as a member of the BBA's Wrongful Conviction Task Force.



Allen Casad is the Director of the Massachusetts Division of Casey Family Services, the direct service arm of the Annie E. Casey Foundation. In Massachusetts, Casey Family Services provides Intensive Foster Care, Collaborative Permanency Planning, a community-based Family Resource Center and Intensive Family Preservation Services. His professional experience includes work as a family therapist, clinical and program supervision of family preservation and reunification services and child protective services casework. He received his master's degree in social work from the University of Iowa and holds a certificate of advanced clinical practice from Boston University.



Paige Ransford is a Senior Research Associate for The Center for Women in Politics & Public Policy at the McCormack Graduate School at UMass Boston. She has a B.S. in Criminal Justice from Northeastern University and her M.A. in Applied Sociology from UMass Boston. Subsequent to working at UMass Boston, Paige worked at the Suffolk County House of Correction as a caseworker and Life Skills educator. She brought her interest and expertise in the field of women in criminal justice to the Center for Women in Politics & Public Policy and has served as researcher/project director for a number of studies about women in prison. These include a subsequent study on incarcerated women and maintaining family connections and the "Parenting from Prison: Family Relationships of Incarcerated Women in Massachusetts" study. Paige is also a researcher for the Gender and Multicultural Leadership project, which is a national study of America's political leadership, with a focus on race, ethnicity, and gender.



Tara Dendy is the Program Director of McGrath House which is a 30-bed facility serving female offenders referred by the Suffolk County Sheriff's Department, the Federal Bureau of Prisons and the Massachusetts Parole Board. She has been working with women and children for the past sixteen years and her experience has taken her into the areas of homelessness, therapeutic communities, detoxification and domestic violence. Ms. Dendy is a licensed LADC1. She joined McGrath House, a program of Community Resources for Justice, in December 2008. The services at McGrath House are provided in a gender-responsive environment, geared to meet the unique and complicated needs of the women involved with the program. The average length of stay at McGrath House is approximately 5 months. Ms. Dendy's goal has been to successfully transition women from difficult situations into self sufficiency.

Edward G. Jacobs MSW is Director of Grants and Sponsored Projects employed by the Plymouth County District Attorney. He was a Massachusetts Juvenile Probation Officer for 13 years, Director of a Juvenile Detention Center, and in private practice for eight years. He holds a Masters degree of Clinical Social Work from Boston College with 30 years experience in the juvenile justice and forensic mental health field, completing his clinical training at McLean Hospital in Belmont Mass. with his concentration on addictions and adolescent behavioral health and is on the faculty at Bridgewater State, Curry College and Stonehill College located in Massachusetts.