

Bay Area Social Justice Forum - February 2, 2013
Afternoon Workshops - 2:45 pm - 4:00 pm

1B. Organizing for Social Change (repeat of Morning Workshop Session – see Workshop 1A for description)

See Workshop 1A for workshop description and presenter bio.

2B. Putting a Face on Youth Homelessness – Clabon Adams, Covenant House

Presenter Info: Oakland native Clay Adams has been employed with Covenant House California since 2008 as an outreach worker assisting homeless and at-risk youth 18-24 years of age, access crisis services at Covenant House's 30 bed shelter in Jack London Square. He has been a SEM Network Member since 2008 where he has the opportunity to advocate and educate others by raising national attention to this prevalent, yet often neglected, issue. Clay has received training by Girl's Education and Mentoring Services (GEMS) in NYC – a flagship program assisting sexually exploited minors. Known for his genuine, personable style, Clay is able to form powerful connections with youth and tirelessly advocates on their behalf through his work with OPD, Oakland City Council, and many more. In addition to his dedicated work in Oakland and throughout Alameda County, he enjoys reading and is a self-proclaimed "movie buff." Clay is a father to a teenage girl, who provides him with the inspiration to empower young women and girls everywhere.

3B Protecting California's Water, Air, and People from Fracking - Adam Scow, Food and Water Watch. Come learn about the devastating effects of hydraulic fracturing (fracking) on our water supply and on the environment and learn how you can get involved!

Presenter Info: **Adam Scow** is the California Campaigns Director at Food & Water Watch. He is responsible for developing strategy for local, state, and national campaigns. He currently serves on the planning committee for the annual California Water Policy Conference sponsored by Public Officials for Water and Environment Reform. Previously, Adam researched California irrigation subsidies and water transfers in Washington D.C. He holds a degree in Political Science from U.C. Berkeley.

4B Collective Action to Cut Poverty - Eric McDonnell, Executive Vice President of United Way of the Bay Area (repeat of morning session)

See Workshop 4A for workshop description and presenter bio.

5B. The Immigration Moment; Moving the Issue Forward - Rev. Deborah Lee and Michael D. James The Immigration Moment: This participatory workshop will engage participants in a critical examination of the current personal, political, economic, and historic moment in the movement for immigrant, civil and human rights. Together we will engage in understanding more deeply the need for immigration justice and what that will look like going forward.

Presenter Info: **Rev Deborah Lee** is the Director of the Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights, a program of Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice-California. Since 1994, the Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights has been a faithful voice, accompanying and advocating for the full participation and dignity of immigrants. Deborah has worked at the intersection of faith and social justice for over 20 years as an educator and organizer on issues of race, gender, a just economy, anti-militarism and immigration. Her work has consistently bridged different ethnic communities, generations, and

geographies in creative and transformational processes. She is an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ.

Michael James is a grassroots popular educator dedicated to the development of young community leaders. Michael is the architect of "Critical Faith," a transformative pedagogy which integrates spirituality and personal and community healing, with political consciousness, cultural and class awareness, and social action to empower people in the work of changing the world.

6B. Beyond Conviction: Restorative Justice and Prison Reform – Meg Bowerman, JustFaith Ministries, Jaimee Karroll, Jack Dison, Jerry Elster

This workshop will explore, through the life stories of victims, offenders and those working within the system, how we restore the lives of both victims and offenders into wholeness and harmony with our community and how a restorative justice model can lead the way to effective prison reform.

Presenter Info: Meg Bowerman, JustFaith Ministries, and others

JAIMEE KARROLL, MA, is an award-winning writer and educator who is dedicated to facilitating dynamic learning experiences. She regularly develops and evaluates educational curriculums for at-risk and professional audiences. As a survivor of a violent crime now working in the prisons to interrupt cycles of violence, she is often invited to train professional and inmate audiences about the damaging effects of child abuse and violent sexual assault. Since 2005, she has facilitated and been engaged in Victim/Offender impact dialogues in various juvenile and adult incarceration institutions and re-entry sites throughout California. She is the Training, Evaluation, Curriculum Director at Insight Prison Project, the staff liaison for the Learning Assessment Committee, a Lead Facilitator/Trainer of the Victim Offender Education Group curriculum, the lead consultant for IPP-supported replication initiatives, and a mediator of severe and violent crime. She was honored as a Hero of Forgiveness (for her work with violent offenders) at the 12th International Forgiveness Day (2008).

Jerry Elster is an African American Man who was raised in South Central Los Angeles. Like countless young disadvantaged urban youth he succumbed to the lure of drugs, gangs, and street crimes. He spent over a quarter of century in prison for the slaying of a gang rival. While there he made the transformation from being part of the problem to becoming part of the solution. He likes to say that some people go to Penn State; he went to the state pen. He holds Associate of Arts degrees in Ministry and General Education and currently, he is a Senior at Cal State East Bay, majoring in Psychology. The founder of NMT/The Ripple Effects, a none prophet; whose Mission is "to stem the tide of violence and detrimental behavior". He works for Legal Services for Prisoners With Children and is a proud member of All of Us or None. He serves on the Board of Directors for Insight Prison Project, a Restorative Justice organization. Jerry's trials have taught him how essential it is for people (as well as formerly incarcerated people) to speak and be heard in their own voices. People without a voice are a people without hope. His goal is for the full restoration of human and civil rights for everyone, including the formerly incarcerated.

Jack Dison retired in 2000 from a career in higher education which included faculty appointments (sociology/criminology) and administration. He then moved to California where he pursued further graduate studies including work at the Center for Peacemaking and Conflict Studies at Fresno Pacific University. In the past eight years he has spent much of his time in various restorative justice activities and projects. He facilitates small groups of offenders at various prisons and jails in the Bay Area. He facilitates victim-offender dialogues and circles of support and accountability – all through various nonprofit organizations, criminal justice agencies, and free lance.