

Summit Speakers

CVI GRANTEE SUMMIT 2025



Claudia Bracho

Community Violence Intervention Specialist
Urban Peace Institute

With nearly 30 years of experience in Community Violence Intervention (CVI), Claudia has dedicated her work to Black and Brown communities impacted by gang violence. She leads, facilitates, and instructs with the Los Angeles Violence Intervention Training Academy (LAVITA) to support the personal and professional development of CVI workers.

She also facilitates Leadership and Instructor Development (LID) programs and contributes to Training & Technical Assistance (TTA) efforts. Her work is focused on dismantling the pipeline to prison, advocating for the removal of individuals from gang databases, and supporting those affected by gang injunctions. She proudly serves on the board of LAVIC (Los Angeles Violence Intervention Coalition).



Hiag Brown

Co-Director

POIC

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Leader | Mentor | Community Advocate | Wrestling Coach

As a proud Portland native, my life story is a testament to resilience, redemption, and an unwavering commitment to service. My journey began with early success as a wrestling champion, earning multiple titles and gaining recognition as one of the top competitors on both national and international stages. Wrestling instilled in me the discipline, determination, and focus that continue to guide me today.

While my athletic achievements shaped my character, I also faced significant challenges. On November 28, 1998, I was federally indicted under the RICO Act for conspiracy to traffic a controlled substance (cocaine). On January 8, 2001, I was sentenced to 57 months in federal prison. This chapter of my life became a defining moment—a period of deep reflection, personal growth, and renewed purpose. Upon my release on November 17, 2004, determined not to let my past define me but instead to use my experiences as a catalyst for transformation, both for myself and for those around me.

Since my release, I have committed my life to creating meaningful change in my community. Leveraging my own journey, I have mentored high-risk youth, supported victims of gun violence, and championed the needs of individuals facing systemic barriers. Through innovative initiatives such as school outreach programs, public transit safety projects, and violence prevention efforts, I have worked to empower others, expand opportunities, and foster safer, more equitable communities.

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My passion lies in helping others overcome adversity. I take pride in mentoring young athletes and at-risk individuals, bridging divides among diverse community groups, and advocating for impactful solutions. Whether through direct engagement with youth, collaboration with community partners, or providing support to families in need, I am deeply committed to service and transformation.

Every step of my journey has been guided by the belief that challenges can become opportunities—not just for personal growth but for the betterment of the community. I am driven by the power of redemption and the importance of leading with resilience, compassion, and purpose. My ultimate goal is to inspire others to harness their potential, embrace their strength, and contribute to a better future for themselves and their community.



Sterling Cunio

Founder/Principle

S.R. Collaborative Consulting

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Sterling Cunio, is an award winning author, playwright and poet. An Oregon Literary Arts Fellow, Pen America Arts for Social justice Fellow, and a World Yes Jammer whose work has been published in The Marshall Project, L.A. Book review and performed by various artist including Grammy award winning musician Antino Sanchez.

Sterling was on the board of Directors of Oregon's Transformative Justice Community and acted as lead facilitator for Regroup, a support and empowerment network of Returning Citizens that played an instrumental role in abolishing the authorization of slavery from Oregon's constitution.

Along with currently working for Church at The Park in Salem serving it's houseless community, Sterling also works as a lead consultant on the Ubuntu Climate Initiative, a global climate resilience movement focusing on Reuniting people and planet through joy, art and sustainability.



Tony DeFalco

Executive Director, Latino Network

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Tony DeFalco joined Latino Network as the Executive Director in February 2021, where he and his team work to positively transform the lives of Latinx youth and families in education, leadership, and civic engagement in Oregon. He brings decades of experience in nonprofit management, fundraising, advocacy and coalition-building across diverse sectors in the region and state, coupled with a deep understanding of the issues facing Latinx and communities of color. His past experiences include working with Native American tribes across the country to re-acquire culturally significant lands and working with a broad coalition of environmental groups, commercial and recreational fishing groups and scientists to protect ocean health. Prior to his role at Latino Network, DeFalco worked for Verde for 10 years, partnering with the community to innovate anti-displacement, environmental protection, and economic development efforts.

Signature achievements include transforming a 25-acre landfill into Cully Park in northeast Portland's Cully neighborhood and development of Living Cully, an innovative collaboration of Hacienda CDC, Habitat for Humanity and the Native American Youth & Family Center to prevent displacement of low-income residents from the rapidly gentrifying Cully neighborhood. At Verde he co-led passage of the Portland Clean Energy Fund, a first-of-its-kind effort nationally to bring investment to low-income and people of color communities in Portland to combat climate change. He holds a bachelor's degree in Ethnic Studies with a minor in Chicano Studies and a master's in Natural Resources Planning from Humboldt State University.

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Tony currently serves as the board chair of the Coalition of Communities of Color and was appointed by Governor Brown to the Urban Flood Safety & Water Quality District in 2019. Tony has served on numerous boards including Earthjustice, Audubon Portland and as a founding board member for the Center for Diversity and the Environment.

Tony is a proud member of Cohort V of Latino Network's UNIDOS leadership development program and also an American Leadership Forum of Oregon Fellow (Class 33).



Nike Greene

Founder, Triple Threat Mentoring

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Nike Greene is the Founder and CEO of Triple Threat Mentoring, a program which serves young girls of color in the inner city. She is the Head Girls basketball Coach at the local High School and a community leader. She recently published her first book, a memoir, "NIKE, More than a Name it's My Life: From Trauma to Triumph." She is a Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist and has over 30 years of urban youth program experience. Her life mission is to exemplify living out loud for all to see and experience our internal power to transform us individually. In addition, Nike speaks and trains locally and around the world with a focus on healing from trauma and personal growth, gun violence prevention and DV prevention. She is happily married to Herman for 28+ years and going strong! They have four children and three grandchildren. Nike can be contacted at nikegreene@gmail.com



Annie Herz

Executive Director

Sponsors, Inc.

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Annie Herz has more than 25 years of progressive leadership experience in the nonprofit and higher education sectors, in addition to decades as a trainer and leadership consultant.

She serves as the Executive Director of Sponsors, Inc., a national model in reentry services. Sponsors was founded in 1973 and serves over 1,000 people annually, providing a robust array of housing and reentry services.

Annie brings a wealth of knowledge and experience related to organizational development, leadership development, conflict resolution, restorative justice and reentry.



Roy Moore

Director

POIC

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Roy Moore serves as the Co-Director of the Community Care Team and Healing Hurt People program at POIC+RAHS. With over eight years of dedicated service to the organization, he leads strategic efforts in violence prevention and intervention across Portland and beyond. Roy began his tenure at POIC+RAHS as a Community Outreach Worker, leveraging his deep-rooted ties to the local community to build trust and foster impactful change.

Throughout his career, Roy has worked in close partnership with the City of Portland and elected officials to manage several high-impact violence prevention contracts. Nationally, he collaborates with organizations such as Everytown for Gun Safety, the Health Alliance for Violence Intervention (HAVI), and the National Institute for Criminal Justice Reform (NICJR), contributing his expertise to inform policy and practice.

A recognized leader in the field, Roy has presented at numerous national conferences and is acknowledged for his pivotal role in advancing Medicaid reimbursement for Hospital-based Violence Intervention Programs (HVIPs). His work continues to influence how public health and community safety intersect across the country.

Roy is a certified Peer Support Specialist and holds credentials in Trauma-Informed Care, Understanding Violence as a Public Health Issue, HEAT (Habilitation, Empowerment, Accountability, Therapy), Life Coaching Best Practices, De-escalation, and Implicit Bias.



Ximena Ospina

Youth Empowerment and Violence Prevention Director

Latino Network

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Ximena is the Director of Latino Network's Youth Empowerment & Violence Prevention (Y EVP) Division, where she currently oversees 16 programs, collaborates with juvenile justice systems, and is a leader in Latinx youth violence prevention.

Born in Colombia, she migrated to the US in 2001 and began working with youth and families at the intersections of the juvenile justice system. She is also a part of the JREP statewide evaluation committee, Multnomah County Gun Violence Review Committee, Multnomah County Gun Violence Review Implementation Committee, Restorative Justice Grant Advisory Committee from the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission, and most recently selected to be a part of the National Strategies for Youth and Neighborhood Centered (SYNC) Safety Learning Community.

She holds certifications in youth system transformation, juvenile probation, mediation, and gang specialization. Ximena also co-founded the EBP+ Collective, a national collaboration of CBOs providing culturally specific violence prevention programming.



Ryan Samuelson
LISC Safety & Justice

Ryan brings myriad experience promoting equitable, data-driven, community-oriented public safety strategies in communities throughout the U.S. He has administered multi-million-dollar training and technical assistance (TTA) programs focused on collaborative problem solving, community-based violence and crime prevention and intervention, enhancing support for victims, and opioid and multi-substance use prevention.

Ryan has worked both in local and national contexts to help communities build coalitions that connect residents to systems of power, engage law enforcement and prosecutors in alternative approaches that reduce over-enforcement and over-incarceration, and partner with civic and community-based organizations to collectively implement evidence-based solutions to safety challenges.

He was an instructor for the Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology at the University of Missouri-Kansas City while also serving as a consultant for the Kansas City No Violence Alliance (NoVA), the Jackson County (MO) Prosecutor's Office, and the Kansas City (MO) Police Department on U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation grants. Previously, Ryan worked for the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), where he was responsible for over \$10 million in DOJ TTA grant funding and holds a Master of Science from Arizona State University and a Bachelor of Arts in English from Drake University.



Terrance Staley
Chief Executive Office
Alliance of Concerned Men

Terrance Staley served his country through three tours in Iraq and is a recipient of the Army's Combat Action Badge. He now serves his community through Alliance of Concerned Men (ACM) conflict resolution initiatives and transformational programs and has received certification from Harvard University. He is a TA (Technical Assistant) to IIR, LISC, the White House Intervention Collaborative Task Force, and CBPS Collective.



James Stark
Senior Program Officer, LISC Safety & Justice
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James Stark joined LISC in January 2018 and currently serves as Project Manager for the National CVIPI Field and Resource Support Center, the BJA STOP School-Based CVI Approaches grant program and as a training and technical assistance lead for OJJDP funded grantees.

Prior to these current roles, James was a training and technical assistance lead for BJA funded grantees funded to use data and collaborative partnerships to reduce violent crime. James began working in the safety field in 2007 overseeing the implementation of the Massachusetts Shannon Grant gang reduction program and helped develop and implement the Massachusetts Safe and Successful Youth Initiative (SSYI) grant program. James holds a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from Northeastern University and a Master's Degree in Public Administration from the University of Massachusetts, Boston.



James Timpson
Managing Director
ROCA Impact Institute

For over 20 years, JT has developed extensive expertise and leadership in violence intervention initiatives. JT previously helped drive the successful expansion of Roca Baltimore as a founding Director and has now joined the Roca Impact Institute as Managing Director of Community Violence Initiatives. He serves as a subject matter expert on building community partnerships, safety and risk mitigation, understanding brain science, trauma, and behavior change interventions. In his role, JT oversees and scales the Roca Impact Institute's training and coaching initiatives with Community Violence Intervention programs across the country, cultivates strategic partnerships, and fosters national visibility for Rewire CBT as an individual behavior and systems change strategy.

JT's passion and expertise extend well beyond his work at Roca. He currently serves as a committee member for the Baltimore Mayor's Cabinet for Boys and Young Men of Color. JT also serves as an advisor on both the Johns Hopkins Innovation Fund, and the Accountability Board Selection Committee for Johns Hopkins University. He is a two-time panelist on gun violence for the Amnesty International Annual General Meeting, and in 2021 he was awarded Hometown Hero for Gun Violence by Amnesty International.