



About the Speakers

Eric Chyn

Eric Chyn is currently an Assistant Professor in the Department of Economics at the University of Virginia (UVA) and a Faculty Research Fellow at the Rhode Island Innovative Policy Lab (RIIPL) at Brown University. His primary research fields are labor and public economics. In his recent work, he has focused on studying the effects of government programs on long-run outcomes of children. He holds a PhD in Economics from the University of Michigan where he was also a trainee in the Population Studies Center.

Bill Evans

Bill Evans co-founded the Wilson Sheehan Lab for Economic Opportunities with Jim Sullivan at the University of Notre Dame in 2012. In 2007, he was named the Keough-Hesburgh Professor of Economics, and currently serves as the Chair of the department. Before coming to Notre Dame, he spent 28 years in the Atlantic Coast Conference, having completed his undergraduate work at Wake Forest University in 1983, his Ph.D. in Economics at Duke University in 1987, and having spent 20 years on the faculty in the Department of Economics at the University of Maryland. He is a Research Associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research and the Director of Research of the Ford Family Program in Development at Notre Dame. His principle research interests are in applied microeconomics, and he has worked on topics in labor economics, the economics of education, public finance, industrial organization, and health economics.

Curtis Johnson

Curtis is the Senior Director of Housing Strategy for Catholic Charities, USA. He has worked in the affordable housing industry for nearly three decades at key positions with large and small housing authorities, municipalities and community development corporations. Johnson has overseen more than \$100M in public and private financing to develop, manage and/or sell over 1000 units in award winning projects. He created an award winning homeless prevention program and administered a successful affordable homebuyer assistance program resulting in over 600 first-time homeowners. Johnson has graduate and undergraduate degrees from Delaware and Tufts Universities respectively and believes that affordable housing adds value both economically and socially to the communities and residents it serves.

Melissa Kearney

Melissa is a Professor in the Department of Economics at the University of Maryland. She is also a Research Associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER), a non-resident Senior Fellow at Brookings, an affiliate of the Notre Dame Wilson-Sheehan Lab for Economic Opportunities (LEO), and an affiliate of the MIT Abdul Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL). Melissa served as Director of the Hamilton Project at Brookings from 2013-2015 and currently serves on the Project's Advisory Council. Prior to joining the Maryland faculty in 2006, Melissa was a fellow at the Brookings Institution and Assistant Professor at Wellesley College. She has held leadership positions in the Association for Public Policy and Management (APPAM) and is a member of the Research Advisory Council of the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy. She has testified before Congress on the issue of income inequality. Melissa's research focuses on issues of social policy, poverty, and inequality. Her work has been published in leading academic journals and has been frequently cited in the popular press. Melissa teaches Public Economics at both the undergraduate and PhD level at the University of Maryland. Professor Kearney received her PhD in Economics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 2002 and her BA from Princeton University in 1996. She studied on a National Science Graduate Research Fellowship and a Harry S Truman Scholarship.



Ky Le

Ky was born in California at Camp Pendleton where his parents arrived as refugees from Vietnam in 1975. He grew up in San José and attended UC Davis, earning Bachelor's Degrees in History and Political Science. While at Davis, Ky earned his commission through the UC Davis Army ROTC. After college, Ky served on active duty for four years as an Army Intelligence Officer, spending most of his time in Germany and Kosovo.

Ky returned to San José in 2001 and spent six years managing shelter and housing programs with a local nonprofit organization. He started working for the County in 2008, coordinating the County's implementation of the local Mental Health Services Act (MHSA). Since 2011, Ky has had the privilege and opportunity of working on the County's expansion in meeting the housing needs of its most vulnerable and poorest residents. He has served as a key player of a coalition built to solve homelessness. The coalition includes staff from many County departments, partners from cities and other government agencies, and many community-based organizations.

Jens Ludwig

Jens Ludwig is the McCormick Foundation Professor of Social Service Administration, Law, and Public Policy at the University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy and School of Social Service Administration, director of the University of Chicago Crime Lab, and co-director of the University of Chicago Urban Education Lab. He also serves as a non-resident senior fellow in economic studies at the Brookings Institution, research associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER), and co-director of the NBER's working group on the economics of crime. His research focuses on social policy, particularly in the areas of urban poverty, crime, and education.

In the area of urban poverty, Ludwig has participated since 1995 on the evaluation of a HUD-funded randomized residential-mobility experiment known as Moving to Opportunity (MTO), which provides low-income public housing families the opportunity to relocate to private-market housing in less disadvantaged neighborhoods.

Prior to coming to Harris, Ludwig was a professor of public policy at Georgetown University. He is currently on the editorial boards of *American Economic Journal: Policy*, the *Journal of Quantitative Criminology*, and the *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, and was formerly co-editor of the *Journal of Human Resources*. In 2012 he was elected vice president of the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM), the professional society for public policy schools. Ludwig received his BA in economics from Rutgers College and his MA and PhD in economics from Duke University. In 2006 he was awarded APPAM's David N. Kershaw Prize for Contributions to Public Policy by Age 40. In 2012 he was elected to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies of Science.



Marcella Maguire

Marcella Maguire has worked towards solutions for ending homelessness and cross sector collaboration for 25 years, with expertise in health care policy, administration, clinical services, program development, data analytics, financing, and operations management. As the Director for Health Systems Integration for CSH, Dr. Maguire provides expertise and direction for CSH's vision that Housing is a Platform for Healthy Communities. She works with national leaders around policy advancement and collaborates closely with Regional Hubs and the Consulting and Training team, to support states and localities advance policy and implementation that builds a culture of health for all members of our community. Prior positions include with the cities of Washington DC and Philadelphia. In Washington, DC, she pioneered Housing First Services with the city's first Assertive Community Treatment team. In Philadelphia, she began as liaison from Addiction Services to Mental Health. She brought the Housing First model to Philadelphia and led their nationally recognized efforts on street outreach services. She worked for and with the city's Managed Care Organization, Community Behavioral Health to organize Medicaid resources to assist the city's efforts around ending homelessness. She led start up efforts on a variety of system initiatives, including developing addiction treatment programs for people experiencing chronic street homelessness, the city's partnerships between the MCO and the Housing Authority and transformation of Philadelphia's Mental Health residential system to one based in Permanent Supportive Housing. Marcella earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Catholic University and Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy in Clinical/Community Psychology from Georgia State University.

Ed Olsen

Ed Olsen is a professor of economics and public policy at the University of Virginia, where he served as chairman of the economics department and was heavily involved in the creation of its new public policy school. His research specialty is low-income housing policy. He has published papers on housing markets and policies in leading professional journals, and he wrote the chapter on low-income housing programs in the 2003 National Bureau of Economic Research volume on means-tested transfers in the United States and the chapter on U.S. housing policy in the 2015 North-Holland Handbook of Regional and Urban Economics. Ed worked on the National Housing Policy Review that led to the U.S. housing voucher program, was a visiting scholar at HUD during its Experimental Housing Allowance Program, has testified on low-income housing policy before Congressional committees seven times and has been an expert witness on the topic in two major class-action lawsuits, and was a consultant to the GAO and HUD, a member of the 2007 National Academy of Sciences Committee to Evaluate the Research Plan of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and a member of the MTO Technical Review Panel.

Igor Popov

Igor Popov is an Economist and Data Scientist at Airbnb. His research explores housing, homelessness, and technology, and he teaches undergraduate economic policy analysis at Stanford University. He earned his Ph.D. in economics from Stanford University in 2016 and lives in the San Francisco Bay Area with his wife and son.



Amy Rynell

Amy Rynell's entire career has been devoted to ending poverty and increasing opportunity. She leads Heartland Alliance's Research & Policy Division which works to advance meaningful public policy and programmatic solutions to social issues. Amy has compiled an extensive body of work, including research on social issues and solutions, achieving policy and systems change, and launching major programmatic innovations. In addition to getting her BA from the University of Notre Dame, Amy was also a football star, flag football that is, winning the campus championship and making the all-star team for both offense and defense. Hard to top, she went on to get her AM from the University of Chicago's School of Social Service Administration, and is now channeling her zest for learning into figuring out how to raise an adventurous, joyful toddler.

M William Sermons

M William (Bill) Sermons is Senior Director of Research and Evaluation for Catholic Charities USA. In this capacity, Bill is responsible for documenting the impact of the Charity Charities ministry; facilitating relationships with external researchers that are researching the impact of Catholic Charities interventions; and building evaluation capacity at the national office and in member agencies through the county. Prior to joining CCUSA, Bill has served and Director of the Homelessness Research Institute, Outcomes Director at Mary's Center for Maternal and Child Care and Executive Vice President for Research at the Center for Responsible Lending.

Beth Shinn

Marybeth (Beth) Shinn is a Professor of the Department of Human and Organizational Development at Peabody College, Vanderbilt University. Her primary research focus is homelessness, including cross-sectional and longitudinal studies to understand the precursors of homelessness for families and older adults and experimental interventions to understand what combinations of housing and services end it for families and individuals with serious mental illnesses. She has also worked on targeting prevention programs, evaluated the coverage of street counts, examined the consequences of homelessness for children, and written about what we can learn about preventing homelessness from international comparisons.

Jane Stenson

Jane Stenson currently serves as the Senior Director for Poverty Reduction Strategies for Catholic Charities USA, the national office for the 2,300 Catholic Charities agencies in the United States. In this role, Ms. Stenson is responsible for supporting agencies identify and implement best practice in multiple program areas including poverty reduction, food and nutrition, asset development and aging services. Ms. Stenson also provides networking support and consultation with agencies in selective areas.

Ms. Stenson serves on the Board of the Council on Accreditation, NY, (an international, independent, not-for-profit, child- and family-service and behavioral healthcare accrediting organization).

Ms. Stenson received a B.A. from Trinity College, Washington, DC and a Masters in Social Work, MSW from St. Louis University, St. Louis, Missouri.



James Sullivan

James is the Rev. Thomas J. McDonagh, C.S.C. Associate Professor of Economics at the University of Notre Dame. He has been a visiting scholar at the National Poverty Center and a visiting professor at the University of Chicago. His research examines the effectiveness of anti-poverty programs at the national, state, and local level. He also studies the consumption, saving, and borrowing behavior of poor households, as well as poverty and inequality measurement. His work has appeared in the top journals in the economics profession and his research is routinely covered by the popular press. In 2015 he testified at a hearing on evidence-based policy for the U.S. House of Representatives. In 2012, with fellow Notre Dame Professor William Evans, James founded the Wilson Sheehan Lab for Economic Opportunities (LEO). LEO is a research center that works with service providers and policymakers to identify effective and scalable solutions to reduce poverty in America. Sullivan received his bachelor's degree from the University of Notre Dame and his Ph.D. from Northwestern University.

Andrew Valsamis

Andrew Valsamis is the Veterans Resource Manager with Catholic Charities Diocese of Camden in their Ready Vet Go Program. In this role, he manages all possible resources for any Veteran, including lost military records, death benefits, GI Bill. He also assists Veterans with employment search and resume assistance. Andrew is no stranger to dealing with Veterans, having spent two years as a Senior Case manager in Cumberland and Salem counties in New Jersey. Prior to joining Catholic Charities he was a small business owner and heavily involved in his community. Hailing from a military family, Andrew is passionate about Veterans and helping those in need to overcome the barriers they face on a daily basis, so they can achieve both short-term and long-term stability.

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