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**Policy Director,
Co-Director Childhood
Studies Program &
Adjunct Assistant
Professor,
2009-present**

Schubert Center for Child Studies, Case Western Reserve University, Department of Anthropology, Cleveland, OH www.cwru.edu/artsci/schubert/

- Work with *Schubert* staff and faculty associates to identify and implement strategies to bridge child-related research, education, policy and practice, and to enhance community partnerships in order to promote effective public policy and practice for the well-being of children. Provide technical assistance as appropriate on child and youth related policy matters. Recent projects include school discipline and school resource officer improvements through state legislative reforms; advancement of developmentally-appropriate and trauma-informed policy and practice through city of Cleveland collaborations; and engagement on state and local policies addressing child lead exposure.
- Supervise graduate students, prepare research and policy briefs and develop community forums on CWRU faculty child-related research. Supervise the 2017 founding and implementation of a CWRU student volunteer organization, *Art Forward*, providing art as a therapeutic outlet for youth confined in the county juvenile detention center.
- Present and train on various topics related to child well-being and developmentally-informed policies and practices. Coordinate special engagements and issue (research) briefs on specific topics of interest concerning vulnerable children and youth. Assist in other *Schubert* program and research activities as appropriate.
- Teach undergraduate child policy curriculum, consisting of the following courses: Child Policy (CHST 301/ANTH 305), Experiential Learning in Child Policy (CHST 302), Externship in Child Policy and Capstone (CHST 398, 398C).
- Co-Director of Childhood Studies Minor, Department of Anthropology.
- Provided child and youth services related research and organizational development consultation. Clients included the Southern Poverty Law Center, Voices for Ohio's Children, the Center for Innovative Practices, the National Juvenile Defender Center, and the Youth Law Center.

**Consultant
2008-2009,
2004 – 2005**

**Director
May 2008-
Sept. 2008**

Cuyahoga County Office of Early Childhood/ Invest in Children, Cleveland, OH www.investinchildren.us

- Lead the county's Office of Early Childhood (OEC), a unique public-private partnership dedicated to mobilizing resources to ensure the well-being of all young children in the county, provide supportive services to parents and caregivers, and build awareness, momentum, and advocacy in the community around children and family issues. Serving over 65,000 children annually, the OEC is responsible for coordinating and managing early childhood and parent support services, with provider partner contracts.

**Executive Director
Oct. 2005 –
May 2008**

Alliance of Child Caring Service Providers, Cleveland, OH www.allianceccsp.com

- Lead an organization comprised of over thirty non-profit child-serving agencies that collectively focused on public-private partnership building and public policy advocacy in the child welfare, behavioral health care and juvenile justice systems in order to enhance their ability to effectively serve children and families in Cuyahoga County. Alliance agencies provide a range of child caring services, including foster care, residential treatment, adoption, partial hospitalization, school and community-based mental health services, special education services, in-home supportive services and numerous other specialized services.

**Co-Founder
& Associate Director
1997-2004**

Juvenile Justice Project of Louisiana (“JJPL”), New Orleans, LA www.ijpl.org

- Co-founded JJPL, moving it from a three-person start-up to a premier state-wide advocacy and legal reform organization of 19 staff dedicated to transforming the juvenile justice system and improving legal representation and treatment opportunities for youth. Conducted federal conditions of confinement litigation in juvenile prisons and pro bono impact litigation for young people in juvenile court.
- Management functions included: organizational development; fund development; training and supervision; and, incubating and facilitating incorporation of independent projects, including a family engagement organization and youth alternative program.
- Strategic research and policy development, with legislative, law committee and advisory board work resulting in major policy reform, including passage of Louisiana Act 1225, groundbreaking statewide juvenile justice reform. Appointed to Bipartisan State Joint Legislative Juvenile Justice Commission, Advisory Board (2002-2004). Served on Louisiana Law Institute, Children’s Code Committee (2001- 2004).
- Managed JJPL’s Youth Defender Initiative: developed resources and training for juvenile public defenders, organized a statewide coalition, conducted media outreach, coordinated and authored a state assessment of legal services, recruited speakers and testimony for public hearings and achieved key statutory reforms.
- Expert investigator for American Bar Association Juvenile Justice Center/ National Juvenile Defender Center juvenile court studies in Ohio (2003), Georgia (2001), Texas (2000) [and Florida (2006)] assessing access to and quality of counsel.

**Research Associate
1991-1994**

Harder+Co. Research & Consulting, San Francisco, California

- Project manager and social research consultant serving foundations, government agencies and community-based organizations, with a focus on vulnerable populations. Conducted program evaluation, strategic planning, applied research, and qualitative and quantitative data design, collection and analysis. Co-authored numerous publications.

**Mediator/
Case Manager
1989-1990**

Victim Offender Reconciliation Program, Catholic Charities, Oakland, California

- Assisted in program planning and development for pioneering community restorative justice mediation and court diversion program for juvenile court-involved youth. Mediated cases; completed case intakes; monitored cases; advised probation officers; recruited, trained and supervised volunteer mediators; and conducted outreach.

**Counselor
1989**

LaCheim Residential Treatment Center, Richmond, California

- Supervised, counseled and gave crisis support to emotionally disturbed children.

**Hospice Volunteer
1988**

Missionaries of Charity, Calcutta, India

- Gave basic health and hospice care to malnourished infants, children and frail adults.

**Juris Doctor
1996**

University of Michigan Law School, Ann Arbor, Michigan

Scholarships: Center for The Education of Women; Student-Funded Fellowship. Recipient of Criminal Trial Advocacy Award. Capital appellate law clerk, Equal Justice Initiative, Montgomery, Alabama (1996). Refugee law clerk, *Proyecto Adelante*, Dallas, Texas (1995).

**Public Policy Fellow
1991**

Coro Foundation, Public Policy Leadership Program, San Francisco, California

Interned at: Citibank F.S.B.; U.E.S.F. Teacher Union; The Children & Youth Policy Project, ISSC, UC Berkeley; Alameda County Administrator Office; and Oakland Community Organization.

**Bachelor of Science
1988**

Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois

Major: Communication Studies. Minor: Psychology.

Urban Studies legal advocate internship, Lifespan (1987).

**SELECTED
ACTIVITIES &
ASSOCIATIONS**

Ohio Public Defender Commission, Governors DeWine and Kasich appointee, 2014-present
Cuyahoga County Division of Children and Family Services Advisory Board, County Executive and Council Appointee, 2019-present
Ohio Lead Free Kids Coalition, Co-Founder & Co-Chair, 2019-present
Lead Safe Cleveland Coalition, Steering Committee appointee, 2019-present
Mental Health Response Advisory Committee, Policy and Quality Improvement Sub-Committees Co-Chair, ADMHAS CEO appointee, 2016-present
Ohio Department of Education, Social and Emotional Standards Advisory Group, 2018-2019
Ohio Department of Education, Strategic Plan, Student Supports, Climate & Culture Workgroup, 2017-2018
Magnolia Clubhouse, Board of Directors, 2011-present; Secretary 2016-present, Governance Committee Chair, 2015-2019
Attorney General Mental Health Task Force, Juvenile Justice Sub-Committee, 2014-2018
Stand Together Against Neighborhood Crime Everyday (STANCE), U.S. Dept. of Justice U.S. Attorney Northern District of Ohio, member 2014-present
Youth Risk Behavior Survey Advisory Board, CWRU PRC, 2013-present
Art Forward, CWRU Student organization faculty mentor and supervisor, 2017-present
Cuyahoga County Defending Childhood, Governing Board, 2011-2016
Community Police Commission Selection Committee, Mayor appointee, 2015-2019
Cuyahoga County Court Appointed Special Advocates, Steering & Program Committee, 2014-2018
Ohio Fostering Connections Task Force, 2014-2017
Voices for Ohio's Children "Juvenile Justice Initiative", 2006-2010
Juvenile Justice Coalition of Ohio, Board of Directors, 2005-2016
Juvenile Justice Project of Louisiana, Board of Directors, 2005-2011
United Way Strong Families = Successful Children Vision Council, Promoting Access to Behavioral Healthcare for Reentry Population Task Force, 2007-2008
Cuyahoga County Transition-Age Youth Planning Initiative, 2007-2008
Ohio Department of Mental Health, Childhood Trauma Strategic Plan Work Group, 2007-2008
Ohio Department of Youth Services, Cognitive-Behavioral Treatment Group, 2007-2008
COHHIO Youth Empowerment Program, Transitions Committee, 2005-2007
Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court Citizens Advisory Board, 2005-2008
Invest in Children, Sub-Committee: Effective Parents & Families, Ongoing Services, 2006-2008
Ohio Early Care & Education Campaign (groundWork), 2006-2008
Governor Strickland State Transition Workgroups, Team Member for: Child Welfare, Mental Health and Juvenile Justice work groups, 2006
State of Louisiana, Bipartisan State Joint Legislative Juvenile Justice Commission, Advisory Board, 2002-2004.
Louisiana Law Institute, Children's Code Committee, 2001- 2004.

PROFESSIONAL LICENSES

Member (currently inactive status): Louisiana Bar Association, 1998; Pennsylvania Bar Association, 1997

HONORS

Alcohol and Drug Addiction Mental Health Services Board “Community Partner Collaboration Award”, 2017 and “Child Advocate of the Year” Award, 2016.

Suzanne Brookhart Harrison Award for Exceptional Service to Children from Beech Brook, 2014.

Justice for Youth Award from JJPL, 2003

SELECTED LECTURES, TRAININGS & PRESENTATIONS

Ohio Lead Free Kids Coalition, Lead Action Plan Statehouse Release, Co-Convener. Columbus, OH, February 2020.

Ohio Legislative Children’s Caucus, Healthy & Nourishing Homes Panel, “Ohio Lead Free Kids Coalition Briefing”, Panelist. Columbus, OH, November 2019.

Schubert Center “The Ohio Budget for Child Researchers”, Presenter. Cleveland, OH, October 2019.

Lead Solutions Summit, “Advancing Primary Prevention of Childhood Lead Poisoning in Ohio”, Presenter. Cleveland, OH, June 2019.

Ohio Healthy Homes Network, Ohio Policy and Budget Initiatives in Lead Poisoning Prevention: Current Status and Future Possibilities, Co-Presenter; and Panel Moderator. Columbus, OH, June 2019.

Ohio Office of the Public Defender, 15th Annual Ohio Juvenile Defender Summit, “21st Century Policing: What Best Practices Should Look Like-A Developmental Approach to Policing”, Plenary Speaker; “Policing without Standards-Strategies Promoting Constitutional Treatment of Youth by Law Enforcement”, Panel Moderator. Columbus, OH, May 2019.

Columbus Community Safety Advisory Commission, “How Do We Best Equip Police to Handle Youth? A Developmental Approach to Policing” Columbus, OH, April, 2019.

CWRU Diversity 360, “Equity in the Era of Safe Schools & the School-to-Prison-Pipeline”, Cleveland, OH, December, 2018.

National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement, “Strengthening Police-Youth Interactions: A Developmental Approach to Policing” Cleveland, OH, November, 2018.

Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board, “How Do We Best Equip Police to Handle Youth? A Developmental Approach to Policing” Columbus, OH, March 2018.

Inamori International Center for Ethics & Excellence, Co-Panelist on Ethical Leadership with Inamori Ethics Prize Marian Wright Edelman, September, 2017.

Schubert Center Conversation Series, “From Strategies to Solutions: Cleveland’s Evolving Story of Improving Youth & Police Interactions,” Co-Presenter & Moderator, April, 2017.

Shooting Without Bullets Day of Justice, Co-Youth Workshop Leader, February, 2017.

Ohio Justice Alliance for Community Corrections Conference, “Keeping Peace in Schools in Partnership with Police,” Co-Presenter, October, 2016.

Ohio Office of the Public Defender, 12th Annual Ohio Juvenile Defender Summit, Keynote Speaker, September, 2016.

Healing Justice Alliance Annual Conference, “Turning Tragedy into Opportunity: Reforming Police Interactions with Youth”, Co-Panelist, Baltimore, MD, August, 2016.

National Association of Social Workers, Ohio Chapter Regional Conference, “Science of Social Work: Focus on Transitional Youth,” Keynote Speaker, May, 2016.

National Blueprints Conference, “Getting it Right: Realigning Juvenile Corrections in Ohio to Reinvest in What Works,” Co-Presenter, Denver, CO, April, 2016.

Ohio Police Juvenile Officers’ Association, “As the Teen World Turns,” Co-Trainer,

Columbus, OH, May, 2016.

University Hospitals Rainbow Babies Children, pediatric resident advocacy series, “Policing Children & Youth: Why Age Matters & How,” Presenter, April, 2016.

Coalition for Juvenile Justice Annual Conference, “Turning Tragedy into Opportunity: Reforming Police Interactions with Youth,” Presenter & Moderator, Washington D.C., April, 2016.

CWRU Social Justice Institute, “School Pushout and the Criminalization of Childhood,” Lecturer, April, 2016.

Council on State Governments Justice Center, “Improving Outcomes for Youth in the Juvenile Justice System: A 50-State Forum,” Plenary Panelist, Austin, TX, Nov., 2015.

Attorney General Conference on Law Enforcement, “School Police Partnerships” and “Promoting Procedural Justice to Improve Police-Youth Interactions”, Co-Trainer, Columbus, OH, Oct., 2015.

Strategies for Youth “Policing the Teen Brain” juvenile justice trainer, Cleveland Division of Police, 2015-present.

NAACP, Southeastern Ohio Branch, Keynote Speaker, Jackson, OH, Oct., 2015.

Ohio Office of the Public Defender, 11th Annual Ohio Juvenile Defender Summit, “Procedural Justice: Integrating Fairness into the Delinquency Process”, Presenter, Columbus, OH, 2015.

Vera Institute of Justice. *The State of Juvenile Justice: A National Conversation about Research, Results, and Reform* Congressional Briefing “Returning Home: Creating Paths for Success in Communities,” Washington D.C., Panelist, 2015.

Facing Race National Conference, “Implicit Bias: The State of Science and Moving from Research to Action”, Presenter, Dallas, TX, 2014.

Society for Research on Adolescence, “Bridging Research, Practice, and Policy for the Well-Being of Adolescents: The Story of Real-World Research-Informed Legislative Reform for Youth,” Panelist, 2014.

National Blueprints Conference, “, “Bridge to Somewhere: How Research Made Its Way into Legislative Juvenile Justice Reform in Ohio,” Co-Presenter, Denver, CO, April, 2014.

Ohio Association of Child Caring Agencies, “Moving from School ‘Pushout’ to Positive Discipline Practices & Partnerships,” Panelist, 2014.

Children’s Law Center Inc., “The ABC’s of covering the juvenile justice system,” Panelist, 2012.

MacArthur *Models for Change* Conference, Plenary Speaker, Washington D.C., December 2011.

Schubert Center for Child Studies, “Bridge to Somewhere: How Research Made Its Way into Juvenile Justice Reform in Ohio,” Presenter, 2011.

Ohio County Commissioner Association, Voices for Ohio’s Children Panelist, 2011.

Ohio Association of Child Caring Agencies, “Juvenile Justice Reform: Celebrating our Shared Successes and Opportunities to Improve Even More,” Panel Facilitator, 2010

Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, “Translating Science to Inform Public Policy”, Panelist, Boston, MA, 2010.

Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences, Case Western Reserve University, Advocacy Seminar, Guest Lecturer, 2007

Youth Empowerment Program, Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio, Youth Issues Training, Presenter, 2007

Urban Child Research Center of the Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs, Cleveland State University, 2007 Brown Bag Luncheon Speaker Series, “ABCs of

Children's Mental Health" Guest Speaker, 2007

State Budget Children's Briefing Series, Voices for Ohio's Children, Presenter, Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice Budget Issues, 2006, 2007

We Believe Ohio "The State Budget as a Moral Document" Forum, Trinity Cathedral, Guest Speaker, State Budget Impact on Children, 2007

Rethinking Juvenile Justice Statewide Conference, Organizer and Panelist, Columbus, Ohio, 2006

LA Public Defender Association, Juvenile Section Coordinator & Trainer, 1999-2004

Tulane Medical School, Child & Adolescent Psychiatry Grand Rounds, Presentation, 2004

American Bar Association, Annual Juvenile Defender Leadership Summit, Workshop Presenter, 1998-2003

State Juvenile Justice Commission Planning Board, Retreat Facilitation, 2004

LSU Law School, Juvenile Law, Guest Lecturer, 2001, 2003, 2004

Students at the Center, New Orleans Public Schools, Youth Education Workshop Series, Presenter, 2003

Loyola University School of Law, Juvenile Law, Juvenile Reform Presentation 2000, 2003

Children's Services Collaborative/Pyramid Parent Training, Best Practices Workshop, Trainer 2001

Leadership Louisiana, Institute on Juvenile Justice, Adolescent Development Principles, Guest Speaker, 2001

Louisiana Environmental Action Network, Annual Youth Conference, Presenter, 2002

Governor's Conference on Juvenile Justice, Adolescent Development Workshop, Presenter, 2000

U.S. Department of Justice "National Defender Leadership Project", Vera Institute 1998

**PUBLICATIONS,
ARTICLES & OPINION
EDITORIALS**

Kobulsky, Julia M. & Cage, Jamie & Celeste, Gabriella, 2018. "The perceived effects of volunteer use by public child welfare agencies," Children and Youth Services Review, Elsevier, vol. 89(C), pages 27-33.

Owen J. and Larson, A. ed., Researcher-Policymaker Partnerships: Strategies for Launching and Sustaining Successful Collaborations. Routledge (2017). Chapter 2: Motivations for Collaboration, contributing author.

A Citizen's Guide to the Cleveland Consent Decree with a Special Focus on Implications for Children & Young People," Schubert Center for Child Studies (2017).

"Tamir Rice shooting was not reasonable, no matter what 'legal experts' say," Cleveland Plain Dealer Guest Columnist G. Celeste, (November 15, 2015).

Getting it Right: Realigning Juvenile Corrections in Ohio to Reinvest in What Works (2015).

A Bridge to Somewhere: How Research Made its Way into Legislative Juvenile Justice Reform in Ohio, a case study (2013).

"Housing young criminals in adult prisons may put public at risk," Cleveland Plain Dealer Guest Columnist G. Celeste, (June 2, 2012).

Schubert Center for Child Studies Research & Policy Briefings (2009-present).

Celeste G. & Puritz, P., (2002-2003). The Children Left Behind: An Assessment of Access to Counsel and Quality Representation in Delinquency Proceedings in Louisiana. Southern University Law Review, 30 S.U. L. Rev.

Framework for Transforming the Juvenile Justice System, Voices for Ohio's Children Briefing Paper (2008).

The Louisiana Juvenile Defender Trial Practice Manual, JJPL and Southern Juvenile Defender Center, contributing editor (2007).

Juvenile Justice is Youth Development, Voices for Ohio's Children White Paper (2006).

Fixing a Broken System: A Framework for a Juvenile Justice Community Based Services Continuum, JJPL and You Who Coalition (2004).

Making Your Voice Heard: Family Advocacy Handbook, JJPL (1999, 2000-2004 revised editions).

The Critical Role of Juvenile Defenders: Best Practices & Responsibilities, JJPL (2002).

Defending Our Future: A Call to Action, The Advocate, LACDL (September 2002).

The Children Left Behind: A Review of the Status of Defense for Louisiana's Children and Youth in Delinquency Proceedings, JJPL and ABA Juvenile Justice Center (2002).

On-site Investigator and Contributor for ABA Juvenile Justice Center (State Juvenile Counsel Assessments:

- *An Assessment of Access to Counsel and Quality of Representation in Delinquency Proceedings in Florida, National Juvenile Defender Center (Fall 2006).*
- *Justice Cut Short: An Assessment of Access to Counsel and Quality of Representation in Delinquency Proceedings in Ohio, ABA Juvenile Justice Center and National Juvenile Defender Center, Central Juvenile Defender Center, Children's Law Center and Juvenile Justice Coalition, Inc. (March 2003).*
- *An Assessment of Access to Counsel and Quality of Representation in Delinquency Proceedings in Georgia, ABA Juvenile Justice Center and Southern Center for Human Rights with collaborators (July 2001).*
- *Selling Justice Short: Juvenile Indigent Defense in Texas, Texas Appleseed Fair Defense Project and ABA Juvenile Justice Center with collaborators (October 2000).*

Child Resource Directory, Berkeley, CA, The Children and Youth Policy Project, Institute for the Study of Social Change (1991), database developer and editor.

There's No Place Called Home: A Needs Assessment of Homeless Children in Shelters in Alameda County, Acevedo, A., Celeste, G., Griswold, D., Hatamiya, L. Samaha, J.P., Coro Foundation, CA (March 1991), co-author and investigator.

** Research and evaluation consulting reports, brochures and promotional documents, and various other professional papers not included in this list.*