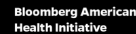


# POLICIES THAT **REDUCE GUN VIOLENCE** WORK



## Speaker Bios

### **Georges Benjamin, MD**

Executive Director, APHA

@publichealth

Georges C. Benjamin, MD, is one of the nation's most influential physician leaders. As executive director of APHA since 2002, he is leading the Association's push to make America the healthiest nation in one generation. A former secretary of the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Benjamin is board-certified in internal medicine and a master of the American College of Physicians, a fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration and a fellow emeritus of the American College of Emergency Physicians. He is a member of the National Academy of Medicine and also serves on the boards of the Reagan Udall Foundation and Research!America.

### **Charles Branas, PhD**

Gelman Endowed Professor, Epidemiology

Chair, Department of Epidemiology

Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health

@EpiProfCharlie @ColumbiaMSPH

Charles Branas has conducted research that extends from urban and rural areas in the US to communities across the globe, incorporating place-based interventions and human geography. He has led win-win science that generates new knowledge while simultaneously creating positive, real-world changes and providing health-enhancing resources for local communities. His pioneering work on geographic access to medical care has changed the healthcare landscape, leading to the designation of new hospitals and a series of national scientific replications in the US and other countries for many conditions: trauma, cancer, stroke, etc. His research on the geography and factors underpinning gun violence has been cited by landmark Supreme Court decisions, Congress, and the NIH Director. Dr. Branas has also led large-scale scientific work to transform thousands of vacant lots, abandoned buildings and other blighted spaces in improving the health and safety of entire communities. These are the first citywide randomized controlled trials of urban blight remediation and have shown this

intervention to be a cost-effective solution to persistent urban health problems like gun violence. He has worked internationally on four continents and led multi-national efforts, producing extensive cohorts of developing nation scientists, national health metrics, and worldwide press coverage.

**Shani Buggs, PhD, MPH**

Affiliated Research Analyst

Center for Gun Policy and Research, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

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Shani Buggs is a Postdoctoral Fellow with the Violence Prevention Research Program at the University of California Davis. Her primary areas of research include community-level gun violence prevention programs and policies, comprehensive approaches to reducing violence through policies and programs at the local, state, and federal levels, and intersections between drugs, drug law enforcement, and gun violence. Buggs has worked for years with Baltimore Mayor's Office, Police Department, and other city agencies and leaders to help coordinate efforts and provide technical assistance to enhance Baltimore's violence reduction and prevention strategies. She completed her graduate degree in Public Health and her doctorate in Health and Public Policy at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

**Carnell Cooper, MD**

Chief Medical Officer, Northeast Methodist Hospital

Dr. Carnell Cooper has more than twenty-five years of experience as a medical executive for healthcare systems in Maryland and Texas; he is currently the chief medical officer of Northeast Medical Hospital in San Antonio. He was based for a number of years in Baltimore, where he was professor of surgery at the University of Maryland School of Medicine and created the Violence Intervention Program, the country's most comprehensive hospital-based program to help repeat victims of intentional violence. For this work, he was named a 2009 CNN Hero in the Community Crusader category. Dr. Cooper has authored a number of articles about violence. He completed his medical training at Yale University and Duke University School of Medicine, and served in the United States Army Reserve Medical Corps from 1998 to 2003.

**Cassandra Crifasi, PhD**

Deputy Director, Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Policy and Research

Assistant Professor, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

@DrCrifasi

Cassandra Crifasi is an assistant professor of Health Policy and Management at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Her primary research interests focus broadly on public safety including injury epidemiology and prevention, gun violence prevention and policy, attitudes and

behaviors of gun owners, and underground gun markets. Crifasi teaches courses in research and evaluation methods and serves as Deputy Director of the Johns Hopkins-Baltimore Collaborative for Violence Reduction. She earned her PhD in Health Policy and Management from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health in 2014 and an MPH in Environmental and Occupational Health from the Dornsife School of Public Health at Drexel University in 2010.

**Linda Christine DeGutis, DrPH**

Executive Director, Defense Health Horizons

Adjunct Professor, Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University

@Degutislc

Linda C. DeGutis is Executive Director of Defense Health Horizons, sponsored by the Henry M. Jackson Foundation and based at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS), which envisions and develops promising ideas to assist the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs), the Service Surgeons General, and the Defense Health Agency achieve the goals outlined in the Military Health System Quadruple Aim. She also serves as the Chief Science Officer (pro bono) for The Avielle Foundation, which focuses its efforts on the relationships between brain health, compassion and violence. Her research has focused on substance abuse prevention, SBIRT, alcohol policy, and injury and violence prevention. Previously, Dr. DeGutis was Director of the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control at the CDC. She came to Atlanta from Yale University where she was on the faculty of the Department of Emergency Medicine, and the Department of Environmental Health at the School of Public Health, where she was Director of the Research Division in Emergency Medicine, and Director of the Yale Center for Public Health Preparedness. She served as a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Fellow in the office of the late Senator Paul Wellstone (D-MN). She has held multiple leadership roles in state and national organizations; is Past President of the American Public Health Association; and a member of the National Academy of Medicine.

**Shannon Frattaroli, PhD**

Core Faculty, Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Policy and Research

Associate Professor, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

@SF4publichealth

Shannon Frattaroli is an associate professor of Health Policy and Management at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health where she serves as core faculty with the Center for Gun Policy and Research. Frattaroli teaches courses in Public Health Policy Formulation, Implementation Research and Practice, and Qualitative Research Methods. Her research focuses on policy and advocacy strategies designed to prevent injury and violence – particularly firearm-related domestic violence, with particular attention to how interventions are implemented once in place. Frattaroli is committed to efforts that advance the translation of research findings into policy and practice. Toward that end, she is involved in the educational efforts and scholarship about Gun Violence Restraining Order laws that provide a

process for temporarily dispossessing people of their firearms when they are exhibiting dangerous behaviors. She is co-lead of the Extreme Risk Protection Order (ERPO) implementation project of the Bloomberg American Health Initiative.

**Joshua Sharfstein, MD**

Vice Dean, Public Health Practice and Community Engagement  
Director, Bloomberg American Health Initiative  
Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health  
@drjoshs

Joshua M. Sharfstein is the Vice Dean for Public Health Practice and Community Engagement for the Bloomberg School of Public Health. Dr. Sharfstein is also the Director of the Bloomberg American Health Initiative. Previously, he served as the Secretary of the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, the Principal Deputy Commissioner of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Commissioner of Health for Baltimore City, and health policy advisor for Congressman Henry A. Waxman.

**Jeffrey Swanson, PhD**

Visiting Scholar, Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Policy and Research  
@jeffswansonduke

Jeffrey Swanson is professor in Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Duke University School of Medicine and a Visiting Scholar at the Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Policy and Research. Swanson is a sociologist who collaborates across disciplines to build evidence for policies and laws to reduce firearm-related violence and suicide, and to improve outcomes for adults with serious mental illnesses in the community. He is an author of over 200 publications on subjects including the social environmental context of violence in mental illness, implementation of state firearm restrictions related to mental health adjudications, effectiveness of involuntary outpatient commitment, and psychiatric advance directives. Swanson lead the research group that published the first empirical evaluations of risk-based, temporary firearm removal laws in Indiana and Connecticut, precursors to Extreme Risk Protection Order laws that were later adopted in many states. He received the 2011 Carl Taube Award from the American Public Health Association and the 2010 Eugene C. Hargrove, MD, Award from the North Carolina Psychiatric Foundation, both for outstanding career contributions to mental health research. Swanson served as a member of the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation Research Network on Mandated Community Treatment and the Methods Core of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Public Health Research Program. He frequently serves as a consultant to policymakers at the national and state levels.

**Daniel Webster, ScD**

Director, Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Policy and Research

Bloomberg Professor of American Health, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health  
@DanielWWebster1

Daniel Webster is the inaugural Bloomberg Professor of American Health at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health where he directs the Center for Gun Policy and Research and serves as co-lead of the Violence Prevention Workgroup of the Bloomberg American Health Initiative. Webster is one of the nation's leading experts on the prevention of gun violence and has published over 120 articles in scientific journals on topics including gun policy, violence prevention, youth violence, intimate partner violence, suicide, and substance abuse. He is the lead editor and a contributor to *Reducing Gun Violence in America: Informing Policy with Evidence and Analysis* (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2013). Webster's research has informed policies to reduce gun violence at the local, state, and federal level. He previously led Baltimore's Homicide Review Commission and now leads the Johns Hopkins-Baltimore Collaborative for Violence Reduction. His awards include the American Public Health Association's David Rall Award for science-based advocacy (2015), Baltimore City's Health Equity Leadership Award (2016), Pioneer Award from the Injury Free Coalition for Kids (2017), and Johns Hopkins University Distinguished Alumni Award (2017).

**April Zeoli, PhD, MPH**

Associate Professor, School of Criminal Justice, Michigan State University  
@AprilZeoli

April M. Zeoli is an Associate Professor in the School of Criminal Justice at Michigan State University. She earned her PhD from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, where she studied health and public policy, specializing in violence prevention. Dr. Zeoli conducts interdisciplinary research, with a goal of bringing together the fields of public health and criminology and criminal justice. Her main field of investigation is the prevention of intimate partner violence and homicide through the use of policy and law. Specifically, she is interested in the role of firearms in intimate partner violence and homicide, as well as the civil and criminal justice systems responses to intimate partner violence. Recently, she evaluated the association of state-level intimate partner violence-related legal restrictions on firearm purchase and possession with intimate partner homicide rates, finding that some of these laws may reduce intimate partner homicide rates. She is currently studying the implementation of firearm relinquishment procedures for those intimate partner violence offenders who can no longer legally possess them. She is also studying the criminal histories of those who go on to commit intimate partner homicide to identify potential intervention points. Dr. Zeoli is on the editorial board of the scholarly journal *Injury Prevention* and serves as the research expert for the National Domestic Violence and Firearms Resource Center.