

KEEPING PEOPLE HOUSED

Exploring Strategies for Preventing Homelessness

Tuesday, March 10th, 2015 | 8:00 - 10:00 a.m. | New York University School of Law | #NYChousing

PANELISTS: **Gilbert Taylor**
Commissioner, Department of Homeless Services

Rosanne Haggerty
President, Community Solutions

Dan O'Flaherty
Professor of Economics, Columbia University

Joanne Oplustil
President & CEO, CAMBA

MODERATOR: **Ingrid Gould Ellen**
Faculty Director, NYU Furman Center; Professor of Urban Planning and Public Policy, NYU Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service

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ABOUT THE PANELISTS

GILBERT TAYLOR

Commissioner, Department of Homeless Services

Commissioner Gilbert Taylor was appointed by Mayor Bill de Blasio as head of the City's Department of Homeless Services (DHS) on December 31, 2013. Prior to his appointment at DHS, Commissioner Taylor spent more than two decades in various leadership capacities serving low-income children and families in the public and non-profit sectors. Most recently Commissioner Taylor worked for the Administration for Children's Services (ACS), serving as the Executive Deputy Commissioner in the Division of Child Protection. The division was the largest in the agency, consisting of more than 3,500 employees tasked with investigating over 50,000 reports of child maltreatment annually. During his tenure at ACS, Commissioner Taylor had also served as the Deputy Commissioner for the agency's division of Family Court Legal Services, which involved overseeing all Family Court Litigation Units, the agency's Juvenile Justice Initiative and the Family Assessment Program (PINS Diversion). While at ACS, Commissioner Taylor was instrumental in the creation and implementation of Childstat, a tool that continuously monitored child protective casework and performance data from those families that were the subjects of abuse and/or neglect allegations. Furthermore, he improved the safety and risk assessment practice within the Division of Child Protection, which directly contributed to a reduction in the number of children being placed into foster care, resulting in an all time low census of fewer than 12,000 children in care when he left the agency. Commissioner Taylor received his law degree from the University of Illinois, College of Law and received his undergraduate degree from Cornell University.

ROSANNE HAGGERTY

President, Community Solutions

Rosanne Haggerty is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Community Solutions. She is an internationally recognized leader in developing innovative strategies to end homelessness and strengthen communities. Community Solutions assists communities throughout the United States in solving the complex problems facing their most vulnerable residents by leading large-scale change initiatives including the 100,000 Homes and Zero: 2016 Campaigns to end chronic and veteran homelessness, and neighborhood partnerships that bring together local residents and institutions to change the conditions that produce homelessness and perpetuate poverty. Earlier, Ms. Haggerty founded Common Ground Community, a pioneer in the development of supportive housing and research-based practices that end homelessness. Ms. Haggerty is a MacArthur Foundation Fellow, an Ashoka Senior Fellow, and a Hunt Alternative Fund Prime Mover. In 2012, she was awarded the Jane Jacobs medal for new ideas and activism from the Rockefeller Foundation. She serves on the boards of the Alliance for Veterans, Citizens Housing and Planning Council, and Iraq-Afghanistan Veterans of America. She is a Life Trustee of Amherst College.

DAN O'FLAHERTY

Professor of Economics, Columbia University

Dan O'Flaherty is a Professor of Economics at Columbia University specializing in urban economics. Over the last twenty years, he has studied homelessness and was part of the community impact evaluation of the Homebase Program in New York City. Professor O'Flaherty's publications include *Making Room: The Economics of Homelessness*, *City Economics*, and *How to House the Homeless*, co-edited with the Furman Center's Ingrid Gould Ellen, as well as numerous papers. His most recent book, *The Economics of Race in the United States*, will be published by Harvard University Press this coming spring. Professor O'Flaherty holds a Ph.D. from Harvard University.

ABOUT THE PANELISTS (cont'd)

JOANNE OPLUSTIL

President and CEO, CAMBA

Joanne M. Oplustil serves as President and CEO of CAMBA and CAMBA Housing Ventures (CHV). For more than 35 years, Ms. Oplustil has been responsible for all aspects of the agency's management, operational, planning, and development activities. CAMBA currently has a budget of more than \$120 million and a staff of over 1,400. In her tenure as President and CEO, she has raised over \$847 million in support of CAMBA, completed \$174.2 million in affordable and supportive housing development of 605 units, with another \$263.4 million investment and 755 units in construction, and \$51.5 million and 100 units in predevelopment. In addition, CAMBA/CHV has partnered in the development of 660 units of housing totaling \$233.4 million in development costs. CAMBA/CHV and Ms. Oplustil have been recognized for innovative practices and outstanding achievement in community development. Under her leadership, CAMBA has become one of the largest and most successful agencies in the city, with funding from more than 20 different federal, state, and local government entities, in addition to support from reputable foundation and private donors. In addition to her professional position, Ms. Oplustil serves on the boards of Human Services Council, CAMBA Legal Services, Brooklyn Dreams School, and the School Sisters of Notre Dame Education Center. Ms. Oplustil received her Bachelor's degree in Economics from Brooklyn College, followed by two Master's degrees: one in Economics and a second in Health Care Policy and Administration.

INGRID GOULD ELLEN (Moderator)

Faculty Director, NYU Furman Center; Professor of Urban Planning and Public Policy, NYU Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service

Ingrid Gould Ellen is the Paulette Goddard Professor of Urban Policy and Planning at NYU's Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service and Faculty Director of the NYU Furman Center. Her research centers on neighborhoods, housing, and residential segregation. Professor Ellen is author of *Sharing America's Neighborhoods: The Prospects for Stable Racial Integration* (Harvard University Press, 2000) and editor of *How to House the Homeless* (Russell Sage Foundation, 2010) and has published articles in such journals as the *Journal of Urban Economics*, the *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, the *Journal of the American Planning Association*, and *Housing Policy Debate*. Professor Ellen teaches courses in microeconomics, urban economics, and urban policy research. Before coming to NYU, she held visiting positions at the Urban Institute and the Brookings Institution. She attended Harvard University, where she received a Bachelor's degree in Applied Mathematics, a Masters of Public Policy, and a Ph.D. in Public Policy.



The NYU Furman Center advances research and debate on housing, neighborhoods, and urban policy. It is a joint center of the New York University School of Law and the Wagner Graduate School of Public Service.

The Moelis Institute for Affordable Housing Policy works to improve the effectiveness of affordable housing policies and programs by providing housing practitioners and policymakers with information about what's working and what isn't, and about promising new ideas and innovative practices.

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