

Preventing Violence is Critical to Our Nation's Public Health: A Facilitated Discussion with Public Health Webinar

Tuesday, October 4, 2011
2:00 PM – 3:30 PM EST

Panelists' Biographies

Moderator



Larry Cohen, MSW
Executive Director, Prevention Institute

Larry Cohen is founder and Executive Director of Prevention Institute, a non-profit national center dedicated to improving community health and equity through effective primary prevention: taking action to build resilience and to prevent illness and injury before they occur. With an emphasis on health equity, Larry leads public health efforts at the local, state, and federal level on injury and violence prevention, mental health, transportation and health, and food and physical activity-related chronic disease prevention. Larry has advanced a deeper understanding of how social determinants shape health outcomes and Prevention Institute provides resources, conceptual frameworks, and tools to help communities address the underlying causes of health inequities. Prevention Institute has also successfully lead state and national efforts to incorporate a focus on and investment in primary prevention as a significant part of health care reform and stimulus funding for communities. Prior to founding Prevention Institute in 1997, Larry formed the first U.S. coalition to change tobacco policy and created the nation's first multi-city smoking ban. He established the Food and Nutrition Policy Consortium, which catalyzed the nation's food labeling law. Larry also helped shape vehicle safety policy, including strategy to secure passage of bicycle and motorcycle helmet laws, and strengthen child and adult passenger restraint laws.

Panelists



John M. Auerbach, MBA
Commissioner, Massachusetts Department of Public Health
President, Association of State and Territorial Health Officials

John Auerbach was appointed Massachusetts's Commissioner of Public Health in April, 2007. Under his leadership the Department has developed new and innovative programs to address racial and ethnic disparities, to promote wellness (including the Mass in Motion campaign), to combat chronic disease and to support the successful implementation of the state's health care reform initiative.

Prior to his appointment as Commissioner, Auerbach had been the Executive Director of the Boston Public Health Commission for 9 years. He had previously worked at the State Health Department for a decade, first as the Chief of Staff and later as an Assistant Commissioner overseeing the HIV/AIDS Bureau.



Barbara Shaw
Director, Illinois Violence Prevention Authority

Barbara Shaw has over thirty years of experience working at community, state and national levels mobilizing the public, private, and community sectors to address a range of social program and policy issues including poverty, family violence, affordable housing and community development, violence prevention and children's mental health. Her work has led to the establishment of many new organizations, resources, policies and programs that seek to improve the safety, health, and well-being of children, families and communities. Currently, Ms. Shaw is the Director of the Illinois Violence Prevention Authority, a state agency charged with planning, coordinating, funding and evaluating violence prevention efforts in Illinois. She also serves as Chair of the Illinois Children's Mental Health Partnership, having led the efforts to pass the Illinois Children's Mental Health Act which created the Partnership, and as senior advisor to CDC for the development of STRYVE a National Youth Violence Prevention Strategy.



Howard Spivak, MD
Director, Division of Violence Prevention, CDC

Dr. Spivak has extensive experience in the field of youth violence prevention as well as management and leadership in the public sector at the state and local level and in academia.

He has served as Director of Adolescent Services for the City of Boston, during which he cofounded the first community-based public health youth violence prevention program in the nation. As Deputy Commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, he was in charge of all prevention and community oriented programs in the department, and among other activities developed the first office for violence prevention at the state level, advanced the funding of the first school-based health centers in MA, and was the PI of one of the first emergency room weapon-related injury surveillance projects developed with funding from the CDC.

Dr. Spivak has held a number of senior academic appointments including Professor of Pediatrics and Community Health at Tufts University, directed pediatric and adolescent primary care programs at several academic medical centers, published numerous academic and general public articles on youth violence, spoken around the country and internationally on violence related issues, and worked with many community programs both in Boston and nationally addressing youth violence prevention as well as other violence-related concerns.



Adewale Troutman, MD, MPH
Past Director, Louisville Department of Public Health and Wellness

Adewale Troutman identifies himself through his commitment to social justice, human rights, community activism, health equity and national and global health. His life's work has been a testimony to this fact. Dr. Troutman has over 40 years of dedication through action to the principles of universal freedoms and the elimination of racism, injustice and oppression. His unique educational background has been a major factor in this quest. Dr. Troutman has an MD from New Jersey Medical School, a Masters in Public Health from Columbia University, Masters in Black Studies from the State University of

New York in Albany, and as of October 2009, board certification from the National Board of Public Health Examiners. He is a residency trained Family Physician graduating from residency at the Medical University of South Carolina. His career has included clinical emergency medicine, hospital administration, academic and public health practice. He served as an Associate Professor in the University of Louisville's School of Public Health and Information Sciences while directing the Metro Louisville Department of Public Health and Wellness.

His experience includes special consultancies with the World Health Organization in Thailand and Japan, health assessment missions in Angola, Jamaica and Zaire and training in India and Austria. His commitment to Justice has evolved into his nationally recognized efforts to create health equity and the supremacy of the social determinants of health, the founding of the first Center for Health Equity at a local health department and the creation of the Mayors Healthy Hometown Movement. He is also credited with the passage of one of the strongest anti-smoking ordinances in the country. Dr Troutman has had multiple publications including "What if We Were Equal", co-authored with former Surgeon General and Assistant Secretary of Health, Dr David Satcher. His awards and recognitions include the Medistar physician of the year award, the St Stephens Community Man of the Year Award, the Ottenheimer Award for Social Justice, The Power to End Stroke Award and numerous others.

He is featured in the nationally televised PBS series; Unnatural Causes; Is Inequality Making Us Sick? Dr Troutman serves a member or past member of the National Board of Public Health Examiners, the Academy for Health Equity, the Health and Human Services Secretary's Advisory Committee on Health Promotion Disease Prevention Healthy People 2020, the Health and Human Services Secretary's Advisory Committee on Infant Mortality, the Board of Directors of Public Health Law and Policy, the Executive Board of the American Public Health Association the African American Heritage Center and the National Association of County and City Health Officers.