

The Johns Hopkins Office of the Provost and the Urban Health Institute present  
The Fourth Annual Symposium on the Social Determinants of Health

# Healing Together: Community-Level Trauma

*Its Causes, Consequences and Solutions*

#SDH2015

Monday, April 20, 2015

Turner Auditorium, 720 Rutland Avenue

## PROGRAM

*1 in 10 children in Baltimore  
have experienced **violence** in their neighborhood...*



*more than half have  
sustained significant*

# TRAUMA



JOHNS HOPKINS  
UNIVERSITY



Johns Hopkins  
Urban Health  
INSTITUTE

# HEALING TOGETHER: COMMUNITY-LEVEL TRAUMA ITS CAUSES, CONSEQUENCES AND SOLUTIONS

MONDAY, APRIL 20, 2015

TURNER AUDITORIUM

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY EAST BALTIMORE CAMPUS

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## OBJECTIVES

1. To create a learning opportunity that will bring faculty, administration, and students from Baltimore's area colleges and universities together with local community-based organizations, city agencies, engaged community residents, service professionals and community leaders to increase awareness of the impact of chronic exposure to trauma and stress on the health in Baltimore.
2. To bring together experts (researchers and practitioners) from all relevant sectors to share evidence-based strategies and innovative practices that decrease the effects of chronic exposure to stress and trauma on individual and community health.
3. To encourage innovative partnerships for collaboration and practice in the area of trauma-informed communities between Hopkins, area colleges and universities, service organizations and local residents.
4. To identify opportunities and priorities for Baltimore during the next few years to alter existing policies, strengthen service systems, and promote awareness of trauma as health issue.

## CONSIDERATIONS AND APPROACHES

1. Engage people at the personal as well as the professional / cognitive level
2. At the conclusion of each session (as the panels are switching) ask one question to which people can respond to by email/Facebook/Twitter or just contemplate
3. Use ACES questionnaire as survey lead-in to the program
4. Have a clear call to action at the end and link with policy

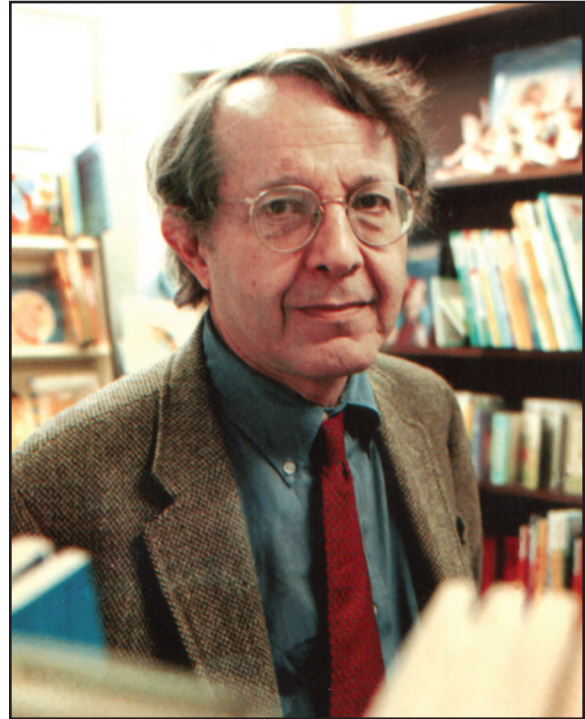
## KEYNOTE SPEAKER - JONATHAN KOZOL

In the passion of the civil rights campaigns of 1964 and 1965, Jonathan Kozol gave up the prospect of a promising career in the academic world, moved from Harvard Square into a poor black neighborhood of Boston, and became a fourth grade teacher. He has since devoted nearly his entire life to the challenge of providing equal opportunity to every child in our public schools.

*Death at an Early Age*, a description of his first year as a teacher, received the 1968 National Book Award in Science, Philosophy, and Religion. Among his other major works are *Rachel and Her Children*, a study of homeless mothers and their children, which received the Robert F. Kennedy Book Award, and *Savage Inequalities*, which was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award in 1992. His 1995 best-seller, *Amazing Grace: The Lives of Children and the Conscience of a Nation*, received the Anisfield-Wolf Book Award in 1996, an honor previously granted to the works of Langston Hughes and Dr. Martin Luther King. Nobel Laureate Toni Morrison wrote that *Amazing Grace* was “good in the old-fashioned sense: beautiful and morally worthy.” Elie Wiesel said, “Jonathan’s struggle is noble. His outcry must shake our nation out of its guilty indifference.”

Ten years later, in *The Shame of the Nation*, a description of conditions that he found in nearly 60 public schools, Jonathan wrote that inner-city children were more isolated racially than at any time since federal courts began dismantling the landmark ruling in *Brown v. Board of Education*. *The Shame of the Nation* appeared on The New York Times bestseller list the week that it was published.

Jonathan’s most recent book on childhood and education is *Fire in the Ashes*, a sweeping narrative that follows a group of children in a destitute community out of their infancy and elementary grades, through their secondary years, into their late teens, and beyond. Some of their stories are painful and heart-breaking, but others are dramatic tributes to the resilience and audacity of courageous children who refuse to be defeated by the obstacles they face and find their way at last to unexpected and triumphal victories.



This June, Jonathan will publish his most personal book to date, a story of his father’s life as an eminent physician -- a specialist in disorders of the brain -- and his astonishing ability, at the onset of Alzheimer’s disease, to diagnose himself, explain the causes of his sickness, and then to narrate, step by step, his slow descent into dementia. The title of the book is *The Theft of Memory*. Early readers describe it as a fascinating story of the bond between a father and his son and the way that bond intensifies even as the father’s cogency and verbal gifts progressively abandon him.

To Jonathan’s friends and allies in the world of education: Jonathan wants to make it clear that he does not intend to give up the struggle for our children and the challenges our schools are facing in an era of persistent inequality and obsessive testing. He continues to visit children in their classrooms and to give encouragement to overburdened but devoted principals and teachers. He’s been doing that for over fifty years. He isn’t stopping now.

#SDH2015

# AGENDA

## 8:30 – 8:40 a.m. Welcome

**Robert Lieberman, PhD**  
Provost, Johns Hopkins University

**Robert Blum, MD, PhD, MPH**  
Director, Johns Hopkins Urban Health Institute

## 8:40 – 9:25 a.m. Keynote: The Shame of the Nation: The Toxic Effects of Hyper-Segregated and Unequal Education in an Era of Obsessive Testing

**Jonathan Kozol**  
National Book Award–winning author of *Savage Inequalities*, *Death at an Early Age*, *The Shame of the Nation*, and *Amazing Grace*

## 9:25 – 9:30 a.m. Spoken Word Artist

**Derick Ebert**  
Baltimore City Youth Poet Laureate

## 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Panel 1: Context: What is Trauma? Who Experiences It? What Are the Root Causes? What is Required to Heal?

**Christina Bethell, PhD – Moderator / Presenter**  
Professor, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

**James Garbarino, PhD**  
Professor, Loyola University Chicago  
**James Hudziak, MD**  
Professor, University of Vermont, College of Medicine

## 10:30 – 10:45 a.m. Break

## 10:45 – 11:55 a.m. Panel 2: Creating Trauma-Informed Systems: Police, the Community and the Courts

**Phil Leaf, PhD – Moderator**  
Professor, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

**Sam J. Abed, JD**  
Secretary, Department of Juvenile Services

**Anthony Batts, PhD, MBA**  
Commissioner, Baltimore City Police Department

**Gary Dittman**  
Pastor, Amazing Grace Lutheran Church

## 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. Lunch and Roundtable Discussions

## 1:00 – 1:05 p.m. Spoken Word Artist

**Khadijah Butler, “Fatherless”**

**1:05 – 2:35 p.m. Panel 3: Trauma-Informed Schools**

**Cheryl Holcomb-McCoy, PhD – Moderator**  
Professor, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs, Johns Hopkins University

**Susan Cole, JD**  
Director, Trauma and Learning Policy Initiative, Harvard Law School

**Christopher Blodgett, PhD**  
Child and Family Research Center, Washington State University

**Tamar Mendelson, PhD**  
Associate Professor, Center for Adolescent Health, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

**Godwin Higa**  
Principal, Cherokee Point Elementary School, San Diego

**2:35 – 3:40 p.m. Panel 4: What Has Been the Impact of Trauma-Informed Initiatives in Other Cities? What Lessons Can Be Learned?**

**Robert Blum, MD, PhD, MPH – Moderator**  
Director, Johns Hopkins Urban Health Institute

**Steve Berkowitz, MD**  
Director, Penn Center for Youth and Family Trauma Response and Recovery

**Tony Iton, MD, JD, MPH**  
Senior Vice President for Healthy Communities, California Endowment

**Ivan Juzang**  
Founder and President, MEE Productions

**3:40 – 3:45 p.m. Spoken Word Artist**

**Mary Bowman**  
Poet, Singer, Advocate for people living with HIV/AIDS, “Honest Poem”

**3:45 – 5:00 p.m. Panel 5: Trauma Informed Clinical and Support Services**

**Tina Cheng, MD, MPH – Moderator**  
Division Chief and Professor, Johns Hopkins Medicine

**Victor Garcia, MD, FACS, FAAP**  
Founding Director, Trauma Services, Cincinnati Children’s Hospital

**Laurel Kiser, PhD, MBA**  
Associate Professor, Family Informed Trauma Treatment Center, University of Maryland School of Medicine

**Annette March-Grier, RN**  
President, Roberta’s Place

**Leana Wen, MD, MSc**  
Commissioner, Baltimore City Health Department

**5:00 – 5:15 p.m. A Call to Action**

**The Honorable Stephanie Rawlings-Blake**  
Mayor, City of Baltimore

**5:15 – 5:30 p.m. Closing Remarks**

**Robert Lieberman, PhD**  
Provost, Johns Hopkins University

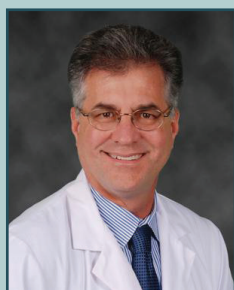
**Robert Blum, MD, PhD, MPH**  
Director, Johns Hopkins Urban Health Institute

## BIOGRAPHIES



**Sam Abed, JD**, is the Secretary of the Maryland Department of Juvenile Services (DJS), a position he has held since 2011. Mr. Abed is responsible for managing the statewide juvenile justice agency, which strives to make communities safer by getting troubled youth the support and services they need to become productive citizens. Prior to coming to Maryland, he held multiple positions in local and state government in Virginia, including Deputy Director of Operations at the Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice and Commissioner for the Virginia Commission for National and Community Service. He also worked as a prosecutor for the City of Norfolk and the Sussex County Commonwealth's Attorney's Office.

**Anthony W. Batts, PhD, MBA**, is the Police Commissioner of the Baltimore City Police Department, the eighth largest city police department in the country. With more than three decades of law enforcement experience, Batts previously served as chief of police for two of California's largest police agencies, located in Oakland and Long Beach, California. During his tenure in California, he presided over major reductions in crime and violence. He also is credited with reforming the City of Oakland's police agency to focus on data-driven policing. Batts has received numerous awards, including the Governor's Award for the most effective crime fighting program in California (1991), the NAACP Community Service Award (2006), and the Long Beach Police Department Meritorious Award for Heroism (1992).



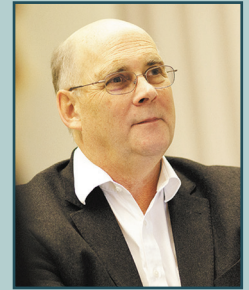
**Steven Berkowitz, MD**, is the Director of the Center for Youth and Family Trauma Response and Recovery and a consultant to the Philadelphia Department of Behavior Health and Intellectual Disabilities. He also is a child and adolescent psychiatrist and an associate professor of clinical psychiatry at the University of Pennsylvania, Department of Psychiatry. His work focuses on the development of interventions for children who have experienced trauma, and in particular on crisis and early intervention. Dr. Berkowitz is also a nationally recognized expert on police-mental health collaborations and was one of the architects of the Child Development-Community Policing Program, a model that was replicated in

15 communities throughout the United States. He has written, lectured and taught extensively in the area of childhood trauma and its treatment.

**Christina Bethell, PhD, MBA, MPH**, is a Professor in the Department of Population, Family and Reproductive Health in the Bloomberg School of Public Health at JHU. She is the founding director of the Child and Adolescent Health Measurement Initiative (CAHMI) and the National Data Resource Center for Child and Adolescent Health. CAHMI is a national initiative established to advance a high quality, patient- and consumer-centered health care system for children, youth and families. Dr. Bethell serves as principal investigator for the development, validation and implementation of child, youth and family health and health care quality tools. She is committed to contributing to the development of systems of care that proactively address the social and emotional factors in early life essential to promoting health.



**Christopher Blodgett, PhD**, is the Director of the Collaborative Learning for Educational Achievement and Resilience (CLEAR) Trauma Center at Washington State University. The CLEAR Trauma Center focuses on model development and dissemination to help systems like early learning, primary health care, and K-12 education become trauma-informed by adapting the science of resilience, brain development, and trauma treatment to these universal systems. Working with partners in more than one dozen communities across the state of Washington, Dr. Blodgett and his team test strategies to improve outcomes by addressing trauma as the principal challenge to the success of any system caring for children and families.



**Robert Wm. Blum, MD, PhD, MPH**, is the William H. Gates, Sr. Professor and Chair of the Department of Population, Family and Reproductive Health, at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health as well as the Director of the Johns Hopkins Urban Health Institute. He is a Past-President of the Society for Adolescent Medicine; has served on the American Board of Pediatrics; was a charter member of the Sub-Board of Adolescent Medicine is a past chair of the Alan Guttmacher Institute Board of Directors and served as chair of the National Academy of Sciences Committee on Adolescent Health and Development. In 2006, The National Academy of Sciences' Institute of Medicine elected Dr. Blum into membership.

He is a consultant to The World Bank and UNICEF as well as the World Health Organization where he has served on the Technical Advisory Group of the Child and Adolescent Health Department as well as the Scientific and Technical Advisory Group of the Human Reproductive Program.

**Tina Cheng, MD, MPH**, is Professor of Pediatrics at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine with a joint appointment in the Department of Population, Family and Reproductive Health at the Bloomberg School of Public Health. She is Chair of Pediatrics at Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center, Vice Chair of Johns Hopkins Department of Pediatrics and Division Chief of General Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine. She also is a principal investigator of the NIH-funded DC Baltimore Research Center on Child Health Disparities with Howard University and the Children's National Medical Center and Johns Hopkins Centro SOL (Center for Salud and Opportunity for Latinos). Her clinical work, teaching and research focus on child health disparities, violence prevention and primary care models to promote positive youth development and family health.



**Susan Cole, JD, M.Ed**, is the director of the Trauma and Learning Policy Initiative (TLPI), a joint program of Harvard Law School and the non-profit children's rights organization Massachusetts Advocates for Children (MAC). At Harvard she holds a joint appointment as Education Law Clinic Director and Lecturer on Law and is a Senior Project Director at MAC. Ms. Cole's work is based on research at the intersection of psychology, education and law that links traumatic experiences to a host of learning, relational and behavioral difficulties

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at school. She is the lead author of *Helping Traumatized Children Learn*, volumes 1 and 2. Volume 1 summarizes research on trauma's impact on learning and provides a framework for schools to become trauma sensitive. Volume 2, based on TLPI's direct work in schools, provides a guide for helping schools become trauma sensitive. Both are available at [www.TraumaSensitiveSchools.org](http://www.TraumaSensitiveSchools.org) for no charge.

**Gary Dittman** is the Pastor of Amazing Grace Lutheran Church in the McElderry Park neighborhood of East Baltimore, where he has served the community since 2009. The congregation is deeply committed to being a healing presence in the community, and through his leadership, has greatly expanded the programming at the Center for Grace-Full Living, a wellness center which houses a food pantry, after-school programming for children in the community and The Revolution Within (TRW). TRW seeks to give community members space to heal through various offerings such as mindfulness meditation, martial arts, hip hop dance, aerobics, music appreciation, creative writing, storytelling and acupuncture. The center also offers community gardening and health and cooking classes and collaborates with as many community partners as possible (including the Johns Hopkins community) to create a network of wrap-around holistic services.



**James Garbarino, PhD**, is the Senior Faculty Fellow at the Center for the Human Rights of Children at Loyola University Chicago and holds the Maude C. Clarke Chair in Humanistic Psychology. Dr. Garbarino has served as a consultant for many organizations, including the National Committee to Prevent Child Abuse, the National Institute for Mental Health, the American Medical Association, the U.S. Advisory Board on Child Abuse and Neglect, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. He serves as an expert witness in criminal and civil cases involving issues of violence and children and has authored or edited several books, including *Listening to Killers: Lessons Learned From My 20 Years as a Psychological Expert Witness in Murder Cases* (2015, University of California Press), *See Jane Hit: Why Girls Are Growing More Violent and What We Can Do About It* and *Children and the Dark Side of Human Experience: Confronting Global Realities and Rethinking Child Development*.

**Victor Garcia, MD**, is the Founding Director of the Children's Trauma Center at the Cincinnati Children's Hospital. He also is a professor in Department of Surgery at the hospital and director of trauma services. In addition to his work in trauma, he led the effort to establish the country's first pediatric weight loss surgery center. He also was the driving force behind CoreChange, an initiative to address poverty, violence and disease in the most blighted neighborhoods of Cincinnati. His ongoing work to eliminate childhood health and social disparities has led to numerous awards, including the Martin Luther King, Jr, Humanitarian Award and the National Jefferson Award. Dr. Garcia has an uncompromising belief in the power of systems thinking and stakeholder engagement to solve society's most intractable problems.







**Godwin Higa** is the Principal at Cherokee Point Elementary School in the City Heights neighborhood of San Diego. He has been an administrator with the San Diego Unified School District for the last 15 years and is committed to making discipline policy changes within the district. His school was recently recognized by the Huffington Post as one of the few trauma-informed schools in the nation. Under his leadership, there have been zero suspensions for the last two years. Mr. Higa is passionate about his students' success and demands that all students are treated with the utmost respect so they can succeed and thrive in academics and later in life. His goal is to create a trauma-informed school district as well as spread the approach to the wider community, the state, and the nation.

**Cheryl Holcomb-McCoy, PhD, M.Ed,** is currently the Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs at The Johns Hopkins University and a Professor of Counseling and Human Development at the School of Education. She specializes in the measurement of multicultural self-efficacy and cultural competence in counseling, the evaluation of urban school counselor preparation and training, and school counselors' influence on low-income students' college readiness. Dr. Holcomb-McCoy is currently an Associate Editor of the *Journal for Counseling and Development*, and she has served on numerous journal editorial boards. Because of her expertise in college counseling, Dr. Holcomb-McCoy was selected to participate as a consultant to the Obama Administration's *Reach Higher Initiative*.



**James Hudziak, MD,** is Professor of Psychiatry, Medicine and Pediatrics in the College of Medicine at the University of Vermont. He is director of the Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry as well as the Vermont Center of Children, Youth, and Families. In addition, Dr. Hudziak is an Adjunct Professor of Psychiatry at Washington University in St. Louis, Dartmouth Medical School and Professor of Genetics of Childhood Behavior Problems at ERASMUS MC of The Netherlands. He is principle investigator on a number of NIH grants, including one of the genomic and neuroanatomical correlates of child abuse. He is known internationally for his work in the psychiatric genetics and developmental neuroimaging of child and adolescent behavior.

**Ivan J. Juzang, MBA,** is the Founder and President of MEE Productions, Inc., an innovative research and communications company. For two decades, Mr. Juzang and his team have tackled some of the toughest social and public health issues across America. Mr. Juzang has become a leading expert in the field of behavior health communications and social marketing, and he has an exceptional knowledge of the public health, social, and educational issues faced by underserved communities. He specializes in conducting qualitative research that elicits informative, accurate, and authentic responses, using proprietary focus group research and data analysis methodologies he designed in order to determine the motivation and persuasion techniques that best reach and influence any target population.



**Laurel J. Kiser, PhD, MBA**, is a psychologist and Associate Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Maryland School of Medicine as well as a team leader at the UM Family-Informed Trauma Treatment Center. She has investigated the effects of post-traumatic stress disorder and physical/sexual abuse on children and adolescents as well as family processes related to stress and trauma. Her current research focus is on the protective role of rituals and routines within families, schools, and neighborhoods, and the development of interventions to strengthen rituals and routines and reduce the effects of trauma. She co-directs the UM Medical Center's Child Trauma Clinic and leads Maryland's workforce development initiatives regarding child trauma.



**Phillip Leaf, PhD**, is the Director of the Center for the Prevention of Youth Violence and the Senior Associate Director of the Johns Hopkins Urban Health Institute. Dr. Leaf also is a professor in the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health's Department of Mental Health with joint appointments in the Department of Mental Hygiene, the Medical School's Department of Psychiatry and Behavior, and the School of Education. Dr. Leaf's research involves epidemiologic studies of mental illness and substance abuse and the effectiveness of universal and targeted school-based programs. His work focuses on preventing youth violence and promoting positive youth development.

**Robert Lieberman, PhD**, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, Johns Hopkins University is the 14th provost of The Johns Hopkins University. In this role, Dr. Lieberman is the chief academic officer and second-ranking member of the senior administration, responsible for promoting and coordinating the university's teaching and research mission. He oversees the university's nine schools as well as several interdisciplinary programs and academic centers. Provost Lieberman is a well-known scholar on issues of race and politics in America, social welfare policy and the welfare state. He authored the books *Shifting the Color Line: Race and the American Welfare State* and *Shaping Race Policy: The United States in Comparative Perspective*.



**Annette March-Grier, RN**, is the Founder and President of Roberta's House Family Grief Support Center. As the inspiration and driving force behind Roberta's House, she works tirelessly to increase the community's knowledge of children's grief. Along with the board of directors and staff, she establishes relationships with foundations, social service agencies and other mental health providers in order to provide services to families in need. Ms. March-Grier has facilitated bereavement programs for 30 years and has presented numerous workshops on grief, stress, and holistic healing in various churches, schools, community centers as well as hospitals. Most recently she was selected by CNN, as one of

the Top Ten CNN Heroes, 2014 for changing the world. Annette is also the successor and Vice President of her family's nationally recognized funeral service business, March Funeral Homes.

**Tamar Mendelson, PhD**, is an Associate Professor at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and an alumni of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health & Society Scholars program. Trained as a clinical psychologist, her research addresses the development, evaluation, and dissemination of prevention strategies to improve maternal and child mental health, with a focus on underserved urban populations. Her current projects include evaluations of mindfulness-based and cognitive behavioral approaches for improving emotional and behavioral outcomes in urban middle school students.



**Stephanie Rawlings-Blake** is the current Mayor of Baltimore and a lifelong Baltimorean. Growing up in Baltimore's Ashburton neighborhood, her parents, Howard and Nina Rawlings, instilled in her a passion for public service that has defined her life. She succeeded former mayor Sheila Dixon on February 4, 2010, when the latter resigned. At the time, Mayor Rawlings-Blake was the President of the Baltimore City Council, a position she had held since 2007. She was a member of the city council from 1995-2010; in 1995, became the youngest person ever elected to the City Council at age 25. Under Mayor Rawlings-Blake's leadership, Baltimore experienced its lowest homicide rate in a generation and made nation-leading progress reforming the school system to improve academic achievement and accountability.

**Leana S. Wen, MD, MSc, FAAEM**, the Commissioner of the Baltimore City Health Department, as well as an emergency physician, patient advocate, and public health leader. Since January, Dr. Wen has been responsible for a department of more than 1,100 employees with wide-ranging responsibilities that include management of acute communicable diseases, animal control, chronic disease prevention, emergency preparedness, food service inspections, HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases (STD), maternal-child health, school health, senior services, and youth violence issues. The author of the critically-acclaimed book *When Doctors Don't Listen: How to Avoid Misdiagnoses and Unnecessary Tests*, Dr. Wen has given four popular TED and TEDMED talks on patient-centered care, public health leadership, and healthcare reform.



# Join the Conversation!

If you have any questions during today's Social Determinants of Health Symposium, you can:

- Post them on **Facebook** or tweet them on **Twitter** using **#SDH2015**
- Email them to us at [urbanhealth@jhu.edu](mailto:urbanhealth@jhu.edu) with **#SDH2015** as the subject line.

## Who we are

Established in 2000, the UHI serves as an interface between Johns Hopkins University and the Baltimore community in which it resides. Together with its university and community partners, the UHI explores ways that the research, teaching, and clinical expertise of the University can be better harnessed for the benefit of the residents of Baltimore.

## Our Mission

To serve as a catalyst that brings together the resources of Johns Hopkins Institutions with the City of Baltimore, and especially East Baltimore, to improve the community's health and well-being, and in so doing serve as a model of community-university collaboration regionally and nationally.

## Contact Us

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