



# BEST PRACTICES CLEARINGHOUSE

## - Lessons from the Field -

### Preventing and Intervening in Identity-Based Bullying

*Wednesday, October 19, 2022 | 3:00 – 4:30 PM ET*

#### *SPEAKER BIOS*

#### **Bryan Williams**

Director, Office of Safe and Supportive Schools, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, U.S. Department of Education



Mr. Bryan Williams is the Director of the U.S. Department of Education’s Office of Safe and Supportive Schools (OSSS). In this role, Mr. Williams oversees a broad portfolio of programs designed to support school and community efforts to foster safety and promote positive learning environments, including activities related to school climate and safety, the mental health and well-being of students and staff, and readiness and emergency management.

Mr. Williams has been with the Department since 1995. Prior to being named as Director in 2021, Mr. Williams served as the Group Leader for the Student Support and Academic Enrichment (Title IV, Part A) team and as a Program Analyst within OSSS.

#### **Christopher Allen**

Behavioral Scientist, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Division of Violence Prevention, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)



Dr. Christopher T. Allen, PhD, is a Behavioral Scientist at the CDC’s National Center for Injury Prevention and Control in the Division of Violence Prevention. Dr. Allen earned a PhD in Clinical-Community Psychology and Graduate Certificate in Women’s & Gender Studies from the University of South Carolina, an MA in Forensic Psychology from John Jay College of Criminal Justice, and a BA in with dual majors in Psychological & Brain Sciences and Sociology from Dartmouth College.

## Stephanie Rapp

Program Manager, Delinquency Prevention and Child Protection Division, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)



Mrs. Steffie Rapp is a Program Manager for the Delinquency Prevention Child Protection Division of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention in the Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. She works with the Internet Crimes against Children Task Force Program, Prevention of Youth Hate Crimes and Identity-based Bullying Initiative, Gang Intervention Programs, and issues related to trauma and mental health. In addition, Mrs. Rapp is on the editorial board of [www.stopbullying.gov](http://www.stopbullying.gov). Prior to coming to OJJDP in 2004, for 9 years Mrs. Rapp was the Executive Director of her own school-based, nonprofit gang and violence prevention/intervention program in West Baltimore. She received her MSW at Simmons College in Boston, Massachusetts and is licensed to practice clinical social work.

## Saman Ali

Student



Ms. Saman Ali is a current UC Berkeley student pursuing interdisciplinary studies with an emphasis on business and economics. She grew up in Danville, CA and joined the Islamic Networks Group (ING) in the beginning of high school where she became a certified youth speaker for [presentations](#) about Muslims and their Faith in schools.

## Maggie Siddiqi

Director, Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships, U.S. Department of Education



Ms. Maggie Siddiqi joined the U.S. Department of Education in May 2022. Prior to joining the Biden-Harris administration, Ms. Siddiqi served as senior director of the Religion and Faith team at the Center for American Progress, where she led the organization's work on religious liberty and engaged a coalition of diverse faith leaders to advance progressive policies. Prior to that, Ms. Siddiqi spent nearly a decade in national organizations serving American Muslim communities, with a focus on interfaith relations and faith-based advocacy. Ms. Siddiqi started her career by interning for U.S. Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee (TX) and serving as a field organizer in President Obama's 2008 presidential campaign.

## Jodie Middleton

Principal, Auburn Elementary School, Avondale School District, MI



Ms. Jodie Middleton is the proud principal of Auburn Elementary—a No Place for Hate School in Auburn Hills, MI. Ms. Middleton began her career as a special education teacher, and for the last twelve years, she has been a building principal at elementary and middle school levels. Ms. Middleton also serves as a MEMSPA (Michigan Elementary and Middle School Principal Association) board member for her region. In all her roles, Jodie prioritizes using an equitable lens to best serve her students, their families, and the surrounding community.

## Caterina Rodriguez

Director of K-12 Anti-Bias Programs, Anti-Defamation League



Ms. Caterina Rodriguez is a diversity, equity and inclusion specialist and facilitator with experience in the education, public health and corporate fields. Ms. Rodriguez is currently ADL's National Director of Anti-Bias K-12 Programs and manages the strategy, development and implementation of ADL's signature school programs that reach over 1 million students and over 100,000 adults across the nation every year. She first joined ADL in 2016 as the Florida Region's Associate Education Director where she coordinated and implemented programs in schools across the state of Florida. Before her time at ADL, Ms. Rodriguez worked in the public health sector to help create equitable access and practices for LGBTQ youth of color and for the HIV/AIDS community across New England. Ms. Rodriguez earned a Master of Social Work from Boston College, a Master of Arts in Christian Studies from Duke Divinity School, and two Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Religious Studies from Duke University.

## Victoria Rodriguez-Roldan

Director of Public Policy, GLSEN



Ms. Victoria M. Rodríguez-Roldán is the GLSEN Director of Public Policy, a role into which she comes from a broad intersectional expertise in issues impacting trans identity, disability, and racism and racial justice. Particular areas of expertise and focus are the intersections of issues affecting people living at the intersections of transgender identity, disability and mental illness through a social justice lens. She frequently speaks on discrimination issues impacting the trans and disability communities. She has been profiled in multiple national media outlets and has been published in multiple academic journals. Prior to joining

GLSEN, she was Senior Policy Manager at AIDS United, and before that she spent five years as senior policy counsel at the National LGBTQ Task Force where she led the Trans/GNC Justice Project and the Disability Justice Project. She currently serves on the board of directors of multiple disability, LGBTQ and social justice non-profit organizations. Ms. Rodríguez-Roldán holds a B.A. in psychology with honors from the University of Puerto Rico, and a J.D. from the University of Maine School of Law. She has lived in the DC area since 2014.