

September 11 Families  
For  
**peaceful**  
tomorrows

# A Healing Conversation

To end a culture of  
violence and intolerance

New York State Building  
Melba's 125 3rd Floor

163w. 125th Street,  
New York NY 10027

September 6, 2014

## About September 11 Families for Peaceful Tomorrows

September 11 Families for Peaceful Tomorrows is an organization founded by family members of those killed on September 11th who have united to turn our grief into action for peace. By developing and advocating nonviolent options and actions in the pursuit of justice, we hope to break the cycles of violence engendered by war and terrorism. Acknowledging our common experience with all people affected by violence throughout the world, we work to create a safer and more peaceful world for everyone.

### Our Goals

1. To promote dialogue on alternatives to war, while educating and raising the consciousness of the public on issues of war, peace, and the underlying causes of terrorism.
2. To support and offer fellowship to others seeking nonviolent responses to all forms of terrorism, both individual and institutional.
3. To call attention to threats to civil liberties, human rights, and other freedoms in the U.S. as a consequence of war.
4. To acknowledge our fellowship with all people affected by violence and war, recognizing that the resulting deaths are overwhelmingly civilian.
5. To encourage a multilateral, collaborative effort to bring those responsible for the September 11, 2001 attacks to justice in accordance with the principles of international law.
6. To promote U.S. foreign policy that places a priority on internationally-recognized principles of human rights, democracy and self-rule.
7. To demand ongoing investigations into the events leading up to the September 11, 2001 attacks that took the lives of our loved ones, including exhaustive examinations of U.S. foreign policies and national security failures.

# Program

11:30

**Welcome**

12:00

**Gun Control Discussion**

2:30

**Break**

3:00

**Islamophobia Discussion**

5:30

**Reception**

# Gun Control Discussion

## Moderator



**Tanya Douglas** is the Director of the Disability Advocacy Project (DAP) at Manhattan Legal Services (MLS) and coordinates the Veterans Justice Project at MLS which is a program of Legal Services NYC. She is also the chair of the first Legal Services NYC's Diversity Committee, co-facilitator of the New York State Legal Services/Legal Aid Diversity Coalition, and a member of the design team for Management Information Exchange( MIE) . Tanya is a cradle Catholic. She is dedicated parishioner at St Charles Borromeo Church/ Chapel of the Resurrection. Tanya is vice-chair of the Central Harlem Vicariate.

## Gun Control Panelists



**Lisa Bloom** - Host of Court TV for eight years, Lisa is now a legal analyst for NBC. Lisa also runs a prominent Los Angeles law firm, TheBloomFirm.com, representing celebrity clients and ordinary people seeking justice in their lives. As a television legal analyst, Lisa is known for her in-depth analysis of headline-grabbing trials, hard-hitting and unbiased interviews of lawyers, crime victims, defendants and government officials. Lisa has covered every major crime and justice story of our time. Lisa's passion is international war crimes tribunals, which seek to bring to justice perpetrators of genocide and other crimes against humanity.



**Rev. Matthew Crebbin** is the Senior Minister the Newtown Congregational Church, UCC and Coordinator of the Newtown Interfaith Clergy Association. A sought after preacher and lecturer, his ministry has focused upon theological dialogue, ecumenical and interfaith partnerships, youth and young adults and justice and peace advocacy. Since the events at Sandy Hook Elementary School in 2012, Rev. Crebbin has worked with a broad coalition of faith leaders in CT and nationally to build bridges of understanding and compassion between diverse communities. Promoting peace and reconciliation, Rev. Crebbin supports the passing of gun safety legislation and finding means to reduce gun violence locally and nationally. Matt is married to Martha; they have four children and a black lab.



**Jackie Rowe-Adams** is the founder of Harlem Mothers S.A.V.E. (Stop Another Violent End). Formed in 2006 with the support of NYS Assemblyman, Keith L.T. Wright, the goal is to prevent another mother from experiencing the agony of losing a child to gun violence. Adams utilizes the power of the media to bring attention and to find solutions to the proliferation of illegal guns on the streets of NYC.

They provide peer-to-peer support to mothers and family members who have lost loved ones. Ms. Rowe-Adams has lost two children to gun violence. Her son Anthony, age 17 was murdered by two young men who thought Anthony was staring at them. Tyrone, age 28 was shot to death by a 13year-old during a robbery.



**Chet Whye** is Campaign Director of Harlem4Obama and the Founder of the Harlem4 Center for Change. Whye, a former senior missile engineer for Martin Marietta Aerospace, has served many political efforts from the 1988 Jesse Jackson presidential campaign to the election of Congressman Charlie Rangel. In response to police brutality in Denver, Chet Whye and two colleagues established the Denver police review board. Whye became Chief

Commissioner of the Denver Public Safety Review Commission. He also worked to suppress gang violence during the height of Denver's Crips and Bloods war. Harlem4 Center for Change is a multicultural advocacy organization dedicated to providing a community forum for the village of Harlem. Harlem4 has led efforts in health care reform, food justice and the reversal of Harlem's status as a fresh food desert, senior activism and youth empowerment.

## Islamophobia Discussion

### Moderator



**Dr. Sarah Sayeed** is the Director of Community Partnerships at the Interfaith Center of New York and a board member of Women in Islam, Inc., . She and Sr. Aisha Al-Adawiya. collaborated with Islamic Social Services Association to publish, "Women-Friendly Mosques and Community Centers: Reclaiming Our Heritage." Dr. Sayeed earned a degree in Sociology and Near East Studies from Princeton University and an M.A. and Ph.D. in Communication from the Annenberg School for Communication, University of Pennsylvania. She holds a certificate in Reconciliation Leadership through the Institute for Global Leadership. Her work at the Interfaith Center of New York and with Muslim communities is featured in an exhibit of the Tribute World Trade Center Visitor Center, titled "Renewing Our American Dream after 9/11."

## Islamophobia Panelists



**Imam Al-Hajj Talib 'Abdur-Rashid** is the religious and spiritual leader (Imam) of The Mosque of Islamic Brotherhood Inc.. Imam 'Abdur-Rashid is also the Amir(President) of the Majlis Ash-Shura (Islamic Leadership Council) of Metropolitan New York. Nationally, he serves as the Deputy Amir (Vice President) of The Muslim Alliance in North America, under the leadership of Imam Siraj Wahhaj.



**Debbie Almontaser**, is the founding and former principal of the Khalil Gibran International Academy and Board President of the Muslim Consultative Network. Almontaser is a published writer; Contributions include chapters in *The Day Our World Changed: Children's Art of 9/11*, *Forever After: New York City Teachers on 9/11*. Almontaser consulted for Nick Jr. Muslim American Series Project, Independent Production Fund's Islam Project, Islam Access Project Channel 13, the Interfaith Center of NYC, and CAMBA's Diversity Project. She was named Muslim Leader of Tomorrow by the American Society for Muslim Advancement in 2006.



**Rev. Gregory Chisholm, S.J.** is a member of the Society of Jesus, the Jesuits. He is currently Pastor of the Roman Catholic Church of St. Charles Borromeo/Resurrection Chapel in the Archdiocese of New York. In the last two years Fr. Chisholm has been missioned by the Society of Jesus to service in the Archdiocese of New York. Archbishop Dolan appointed him as Pastor of the Church of St. Charles Borromeo/Resurrection Chapel in Harlem, effective July of 2011.



**Cyrus McGoldrick**, a graduate of Columbia University, is a community organizer, educator, writer and artist, born and raised in the US and living in NYC. In 2013 he co-founded the charitable enterprise Muslim Renaissance Group and published his first book of poetry, *I of the Garden*. He co-hosts the weekly radio show Muslim State of Mind on WBAI 99.5 FM, and serves in advisory and organizing roles with a number of community and social service organizations, including Muslims Giving Back, Getting Out & Staying Out, and Turning Point for Women & Families.

## September 11 Family Committee Members

### Terry Greene, Project Director



Terry Greene serves as Project Director for September 11th Families for Peaceful Tomorrows. Terry's brother, Donald Freeman Greene, was among the passengers aboard United Flight 93 that crashed in Shanksville, Pennsylvania after passengers retook control of the flight. Don was a hero to those in his family long before 9/11 in the way he lovingly took care of his children, wife, and the rest of his family and community with such tremendous joy. Terry joined Peaceful Tomorrows to assure a safe world for her son and Don's children.

### Colleen Kelly, Rule of Law Chairperson



Kelly is one of the founding members of September 11th Families for Peaceful Tomorrows. Colleen's brother Bill was at a breakfast conference at Windows on the World and was killed during the terrorist attacks. In January, 2003, Colleen joined a person-to-person Peaceful Tomorrows delegation to Iraq to learn about the conditions facing civilians in the aftermath of two wars, sanctions, and the threat of new military action there. Eleven years later, Iraqi civilians still face the threat of brutal violence. Colleen is currently the coordinator of Peaceful Tomorrows'

Rule of Law initiative, working on major issues such as justice for humanitarian crimes, Guantanamo and torture. She received the Pax Christi 2011 Teacher of Peace award.

### Gloria Williams, Symposium Co-Chairperson



Ms. Williams is sister in law to Fire Fighter Vernon Cherry, who was killed in the WTC on September 11th, 2001. Ms. Williams serves as member of 9/11 Families for Peaceful Tomorrows Steering Committee. She is Co-Chair of The Islamophobia Committee and The Symposium Committee, She is wife of PT Member Ken Williams. The family includes two daughters and Angel the grandcat. The family resides in the Bronx.

### Robyn Bernstein, Symposium Co-Chairperson



Robyn Bernstein has been an active member of 'Peaceful Tomorrows' since 2003. She lost her mother at the World Trade Center on 9-11-01. Currently, Ms. Bernstein is serving as a member of the Steering Committee and co-chair of the Islamophobia and Intolerance Committee. Ms. Bernstein is on the advisory board of the organization Common Ground for Justice and Peace ([www.commonground.jphl.org](http://www.commonground.jphl.org)), whose mission is an interfaith intercultural action group supporting the non-violent BDS movement. Ms. Bernstein is president

of Ma'yan Tikvah, a small Jewish congregation in Wayland, Massachusetts.

## Dedication

*We dedicate this Symposium  
in memory of our loved ones and all souls lost  
on September 11-2001*



*You are forever in our hearts.*

*September Eleventh Families For Peaceful Tomorrows*