



Mr. Press is a partner in the law firm of Van Ness Feldman, where he has spent the past 45 years representing Native American tribes as well as heading the firm's pro bono program. From 2012 through 2017, Mr. Press was an adjunct professor at Columbia University where he taught undergraduate courses on current issues facing Native Americans. In the process of teaching, he learned about the ACE study and the neuroscience developments regarding historical trauma. Recognizing how trauma-informed programs can help address many of the problems plaguing Native American communities as well as other communities in the United States, he presently devotes much of his time to promoting trauma-informed initiatives on a pro bono basis. Along with a Native American psychologist, he founded and serves as general counsel to the Roundtable on Native American Trauma-Informed Initiatives. Recognizing that his 45 years of experience advocating with Congress on Native American issues could be used to benefit the development of trauma-informed programs, he co-founded and serves as chairman of the policy committee for the Campaign for Trauma-Informed Policy and Practice. In that capacity he helped to advocate for several trauma-informed provisions that have been included in recent Congressional legislation and works with local trauma informed groups to educate their Congressional representatives about trauma science. He also cofounded and serves on the board of Trauma-Free NYC, an organization composed of faculty members from Columbia University working to promote trauma-informed initiatives in New York City.



Erin Connolly is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and Certified Yoga Teacher currently working in the Upper Darby School District. Erin is a graduate of Temple University (BSW), Widener University (MSW), Education Policy Leadership Center (Fellow), and Beyond Asana Yoga Teacher Training (CYT). Over the past 20 years, she has worked with and on behalf of trauma impacted children, families, and communities through trauma-competent advocacy, education, and healing-centered engagement and practice.

Erin thrives on interconnectedness and multi-disciplinary approaches which is reflected in her prior work; as a Community Engagement Coordinator for Pennsylvania's Early Childhood Initiative, as a Social Worker at Children's Hospital of Pennsylvania, as a Forensic Interviewer for a Child Advocacy Center, as the Trauma Initiatives Impact Manager with the United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey, and as an Adjunct Professor at Widener University's School of Social Work. Erin is an unwavering advocate for creating communities and systems of care that promote whole-being wellness and strength-based services for all.



Building Community Resilience

Milken Institute School
of Public Health

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

Sumner M. Redstone
Global Center for
Prevention & Wellness

As Policy Director at the [Sumner M. Redstone Global Center for Prevention and Wellness](#) at the Milken Institute School of Public Health, Jeff works with local, national, and global partners to develop, promote and advance policies to prevent and treat obesity and build healthy and resilient communities.

Prior to joining the Redstone Center, Jeff served at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as Chief of Staff for the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) where he was responsible for the day-to-day management of the agency. His work there included finalizing regulations for Head Start, Child Care, Child Support and other key human services programs. He also led the agency's work related to the water crisis in Flint, Michigan and the Zika virus, and coordinated ACF's work on White House priorities, including human trafficking, Affordable Care Act enrollment and outreach, and the Unaccompanied Children's program. Before joining HHS, Jeff worked in Congress for eight years. He was Legislative Director for Texas Congressman Beto O'Rourke, where he managed the legislative office, with a focus on improving Veterans Administration health care delivery and issues impacting the U.S./Mexico border. Prior to that, Jeff was Legislative Director & Counsel for California Congressman Pete Stark, the Chair/Ranking Member of the Ways & Means Health Subcommittee. He managed Stark's legislative agenda, with a focus on poverty, child welfare, health, the environment, and Social Security. Prior to joining Mr. Stark's staff, Jeff was a staff attorney at the Homeless Persons Representation Project in Baltimore, where he represented indigent clients in public benefits, housing, and civil rights matters.

Jeff was born and raised in Baltimore. He is a member of the Maryland Bar and a graduate of St. Mary's College of Maryland and the University of Baltimore School of Law.



CTIPP

Campaign for Trauma-Informed
Policy and Practice

Jesse Kohler is the Director of Development at North Light Community Center and the fundraising chair and a board member for CTIPP. At North Light, in addition to coordinating organizational fundraising efforts, he also successfully launched a trauma-informed initiative called Lowering Overdose and Violence Epidemics (LOVE). Prior to these positions, Jesse received a Master's in Educational Leadership while working as an intern for the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General Josh Shapiro in the Office of Public Engagement, working to help develop and launch the Pennsylvania Trauma-Informed Care Network. He is still involved with this effort, now on the advisory board for the initiative. Jesse is passionate about creating positive social change and believes that while addressing trauma does not solve all of the world's problems, it is a powerful step forward that we can take together to address a multitude of social issues, which will lead to further progress in the future.



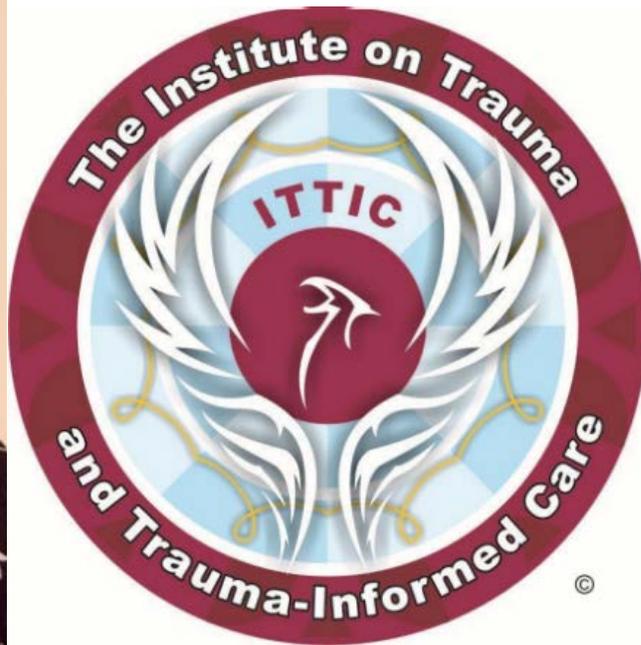
Saint Francis
MINISTRIES

Marlo Nash is a policy advocacy and systems strategist whose career includes executive leadership roles in national and state non-profit child advocacy networks. In her role as National Director of Partnerships and Policy, she leads Saint Francis Ministries Washington, DC office and works nationally to facilitate connections among federal and state policymakers and public agencies, private human services organizations, issue coalitions, and a national network of partners and clients for policy development, advocacy campaigns, systems change leadership, constituent mobilization, and more. She brings a background of working on policies and systems changes designed to build and restore well-being for children and families through early childhood and child welfare systems.

Prior to joining Saint Francis, Nash served as the senior vice president of public policy and mobilization at the Alliance for Strong Families and Communities. In this role, she led the nationwide Alliance network to develop evidence- and practice-informed contributions to the language of the Family First Prevention Services Act that are a part of this major, new federal child welfare law. Today, in her role with Saint Francis, Marlo is consulting and partnering with providers and state leaders to shepherd various aspects of state-level Family First implementation.

Other national roles have included advancing the critical policy voice of the nation's largest network of multi-issue child advocacy organization's as vice president of membership for the organization known today as the Partnership for America's Children, and amplifying the voices of former foster youth as executive director of the National Foster Youth Institute. She was originally recruited to work in Washington, DC from her home state of Oklahoma by United Way of America, where she served as the vice president of community impact and oversaw the implementation of two national community impact initiatives for the 1,300-member network: Success By 6 and 2-1-1. While at United Way, she also helped direct the community mobilization efforts of the Ad Council's Born Learning campaign.

Before making national contributions, Nash spent 10 years with the Oklahoma Institute for Child Advocacy, where she worked with policymakers and stakeholders, including a statewide network of child advocacy leaders, and a network of public and private leaders that she helped establish to improve early childhood systems. After serving on the Oklahoma Governor's School Readiness Task Force, she helped start the Oklahoma Partnership for School Readiness (OPSR). Early in her career, she held senior level positions in central Oklahoma's child care resource and referral and the U.S. military child care system.



Whitney Marris is in her final year of studies at the University at Buffalo School of Social Work. Whitney currently serves as an intern at the Institute on Trauma and Trauma-Informed Care, where she contributes to efforts to help organizations and systems plan for, implement, and sustain trauma-informed culture change. Drawn first to restorative justice work upon bearing witness to the moving narratives of remarkably resilient justice-involved individuals who almost universally endorsed legacies of trauma, Whitney is committed to building solutions that integrate trauma-informed and human rights lenses to engender a more equitable and just world. Whitney currently resides in the Washington, DC metro area with her partner, Alex, and their Schnoodle, Jennifer.