

**Occasional Series on Reentry Research  
Prisoner Reentry Institute at John Jay College of Criminal Justice**

**Transitional Jobs for Ex-Prisoners: Early Impacts from a Random Assignment  
Evaluation of the Center for Employment Opportunities (CEO)**

**Panelist Biographies**

**March 21, 2008**

**Dan Bloom** co-directs the Welfare and Barriers to Employment Policy Areas at MDRC, a New York City-based think tank that has pioneered random assignment and other methodologies that evaluate policies and programs targeted to low-income people. Mr. Bloom was a member of the team that developed the Parents' Fair Share Demonstration, a multisite test of programs that provided employment, fatherhood and child support services to noncustodial parents with children on welfare. Mr. Bloom also served on the management team for the HHS-funded Employment Retention and Advancement project.

Since coming to MDRC in 1988, Bloom has written more than 25 research reports and a book summarizing lessons learned from studies of welfare-to-work programs. Mr. Bloom has a master's degree in public policy from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

**David Hansell** is the Commissioner of the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA), the state agency charged with oversight of support programs and economic assistance for low-income New Yorkers. Mr. Hansell was named to this post by Governor Eliot Spitzer and his appointment was confirmed by the New York State Senate.

Mr. Hansell most recently served as Chief of Staff of the New York City Human Resources Administration (HRA). Prior to joining HRA, Mr. Hansell served in a range of positions at Gay Men's Health Crisis, including Director of Legal Services and Deputy Director for Government and Public Affairs.

From 2000-2006, he was an Adjunct Assistant Professor at the New York University Wagner School of Public Service. Mr. Hansell is a graduate of Haverford College and Yale Law School.

**Michele Sviridoff** serves as the Deputy Criminal Justice Coordinator for New York City where she focuses on Juvenile Justice and Justice System Analysis, Research and Planning.

Prior to joining the Bloomberg administration, Ms. Sviridoff served as Research Director and Deputy Director at the Center for Court Innovation. Ms. Sviridoff has also served as a Senior Research Associate at the Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University where she helped design a multi-site demonstration program for recently released individuals from prison.

Ms. Sviridoff authored Dispensing Justice Locally, a study of the implementation and effects of the Midtown Community Court.

Ms. Sviridoff is a graduate of Smith College and she holds an M.Phil. from Yale University.

**Mindy Tarlow** is the Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer of the Center for Employment Opportunities (CEO), a New York-based nonprofit corporation that provides employment services to men and women returning from prison and detention to New York City. Ms. Tarlow began her association with CEO as a Program Director at the Vera Institute of Justice in 1994, where she managed the successful spin-off of CEO from Vera.

Prior to joining CEO, Ms. Tarlow spent close to ten years at the New York City Office of Management and Budget. Ms. Tarlow guided many criminal justice projects during her tenure in government including co-authoring the Mayor's Safe Streets, Safe City Omnibus Criminal Justice Program. Ms. Tarlow is also an Adjunct Professor at New York University's Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service.