

AUDACIOUS THINKING



| PUNISHING THE
X POOR
OVERTURNING A CASH BAIL SYSTEM
THAT PENALIZES PEOPLE FOR THEIR
ECONOMIC STATUS

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WORKING TOWARD SOLUTIONS

DIRECTOR'S NOTE
BY DIANA MORRIS

OSI-BALTIMORE SPOTLIGHT: CRAIG ROCKLIN & BOBBI NICOTERA



OSI-Baltimore welcomed two new staff members this year. We are thrilled to have **Craig Rocklin** as our new Director of Development. Craig formerly was the Director of Advancement and Alumni Relations at George Mason University School of Policy, Government and International Affairs. He has also worked with the American Red Cross, the Children's Defense Fund, and the Human Rights Campaign. Craig grew up in Baltimore and is happy to be return home to raise funds for social justice work.



We are equally thrilled to welcome **Bobbi Nicotera** as our Communications Specialist. Most recently, Bobbi was the Communications Specialist for the International Injury Research Unit of the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health Department of International Health. She previously held other positions at the School of Public Health and also worked as an Education Specialist for the Pennsylvania Office of the Attorney General. In her spare time, Bobbi is a staff editor for the Baltimore Review and is on the planning committee for the Baltimore CityLit Festival.

The Baltimore Uprising generated pockets of activism throughout the city, led by new as well as experienced advocates. It caused people across Baltimore to recognize the implications of hyper-segregation, caused both by red-lining and years of disinvestment. And it motivated people across class and race lines to take a hard look at the unacceptable conditions in which too many Baltimoreans live, and to propose changes.

At the Open Society Institute, we have taken steps to support these efforts, with the goals of maintaining higher levels of citizen engagement and identifying concrete solutions that city residents and policymakers can support. No Boundaries Coalition, for example, held 11 hearings to capture the

experiences of Baltimoreans with police; it disseminated the resulting publication widely, including to the Department of Justice, which is conducting a pattern and practice investigation of the Baltimore Police Department. The findings of that investigation provide an important

opportunity for all city residents to understand the practices that have soured police-community relationships over the years and the measures that could re-instate trust and change the role of police from “warrior” to “guardian.”

To ensure that there would be significant community engagement in the investigation and in any consent decree that follows, Open Society Institute convened local advocates and their counterparts from five other cities where Department of Justice investigations have taken place. Lead staff from the Department of Justice also participated. Recognizing that the investigation is a tool but not a panacea for addressing all police problems, the advocates stressed the importance of creating a parallel process, both to contribute to the findings but also to monitor the implementation of recommendations or consent decree provisions. Simultaneously, advocates supported by Open Society Institute worked at the state level, resulting in a modification of the Maryland Law Enforcement Bill of Rights, which was notorious for providing protections to police that limited the ability for citizens to make complaints or participate in reviews. Now, each jurisdiction, including Baltimore City, will determine whether citizens serving on a police misconduct review board have a vote.

While negative national press may not reflect it, we know that Baltimore is very capable of finding solutions to difficult problems. Earlier this year, Open Society Institute published two briefs that set

forth our work with the city to design and implement solutions that are attracting significant national interest: our initiative to introduce and make widely available buprenorphine to treat opioid addiction; and the establishment of a comprehensive overdose program. These briefs are available at osibaltimore.org.

With the election of new city leadership, we want to build on residents' motivation to address the most challenging impediments to building healthy families and communities by convening a Solutions Summit on December 10 (for more information go to solutionssummitbaltimore.org). Focused on Jobs, Justice and Behavioral Health, this day-long meeting will build on earlier convenings that engage community members, practitioners, advocates, academicians, and civic leaders to identify top priorities for the new mayor and city council to address.

We know that Baltimore is very capable of finding solutions to difficult problems.



SAVE THE DATE DEC 10, 2016
More information at solutionssummitbaltimore.org

We believe that these inclusive meetings will allow for the kind of engagement and debate that lead to sound policy recommendations. With a relatively short list of priorities delivered to the city's new leaders, residents will be able to monitor their implementation over the next year.

We know that it is critical that we do not lose the momentum of the uprising if we are to address the problems that hold so many of our residents in concentrated poverty. Years of disinvestment can only be remedied by significant investment. And broad citizen engagement will provide important direction to our leaders.

STRENGTH IN NUMBERS

CHECKING IN WITH THE COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIPS PROGRAM AS IT BUILDS AN ALUMNI NETWORK

Working individually, OSI-Baltimore's 170-plus Community Fellows have achieved remarkable success. Working together as a network, their impact is immeasurable. After a formal analysis of the Community Fellowships program, OSI-Baltimore began to think more about how to better help fellows access and collaborate with one another to strengthen and expand their work.

And as the latest class of fellows transitions into the Alumni Network, Pamela King, director of OSI-Baltimore's Community Fellowships and Initiatives, says the program will deepen its efforts to build the capacity of the network. OSI recently invited about 30 leaders from the Alumni Network to a two-and-a-half-day Fellows Network Summit to renew relationships and develop strategies to enhance the power of the network to advance social justice issues in Baltimore. "Fellows are a diverse group of people who share something in common," King says. "They take on leadership roles and face great odds to do the kind of very

important social change work that our communities need. At OSI, we work with them individually, but we also take them through an elaborate process to make them a part of a formal network. There's power in connections and partnerships. We want to strengthen that power."

OSI recently conducted an analysis of the Network and will continue to use it as a learning tool, so that each class's experience is enhanced, and Baltimore can benefit. "The goal here is to build those relationships in a deeper way so that those who are interested in social change and social justice work feel

more connected to the work," King says. "And in the long run, greater change will occur."

We talked to eight of our 2014 Fellows as they completed their 18-month fellowship and joined the Alumni Network about their plans for the future and their continued dedication to the Community Fellowships Program.



AGATHA SO

Undocumented workers across Baltimore raise families, work for local businesses, and pay taxes but often are unable to buy homes in the city because banks won't lend to them. Agatha So set out to change that with Pathways to Homeownership, a project to connect undocumented families with financing and other critical resources.

"I worked with more than 200 Latino families in Baltimore over the course of the project," says So, herself the daughter of immigrants. "Some of these people have been here for years. Their kids go to school here, but they don't have access to affordable financing because of their status." The scope of the project has expanded in more ways than one. So's new financial capability program, Viviendas Sanas Y Seguras (Safe and Healthy Housing), will build on the lessons learned through Pathways to Homeownership to support Latino families in the process of achieving

financial goals. Viviendas Sanas Y Seguras will engage families through ongoing programming as well as social media. Meanwhile, So's host organization, Southeast Community Development Corporation, will partner with local businesses and nonprofits to launch an initiative to expand access to mortgage credit to more low-income Baltimore families. "Lacking documentation isn't the only reason Baltimore families get denied mortgages," says So. "People with bad credit history or a life-changing event that altered their credit score are also at risk." So she will continue to look for ways to engage with the OSI-Baltimore Fellows Network.



BRIAN FRANCOISE

In an effort to "blur the lines" between some of Baltimore's most segregated neighborhoods, Brian Francoise, director of the Sister Neighborhood Arts Program (SNAP!), has developed "seed ensembles." These intergenerational, interracial community groups use the performing arts and poetry to begin a dialogue about issues including

neighborhood segregation and inclusive, equitable community development. One seed ensemble wrote and performed a play about discriminatory housing covenants in Baltimore. Following the play, a panel of activists and scholars discussed the issue with the audience. "Art prepares the way so that people from different backgrounds and generations can talk to each other and hopefully organize together," Francoise said. In the future, SNAP! wants to blend performing arts with community organizing. "We'd like to find a way to better use the arts

to engage the community around topics such as workforce development and environmental protection," Francoise says. "I'm excited to be a part of the OSI-Baltimore Fellows' network because each one of the fellows brings a variety of skills to the table. And because a lot of us are working on interconnected issues, we collaborate on and support each other's projects," he adds.



CATHERINE GONZALEZ

When Catherine Gonzalez began a student loan debt assistance program, she had planned to focus on obtaining relief for borrowers who had been harmed by predatory for-profit schools. But over the past 18 months, she discovered the need was much broader. "Many student loan borrowers face problems including deceptive practices

by debt collectors and lack of information about a borrower's rights and options," Gonzalez says. "Compounding these problems is the rise in predatory student loan 'debt relief' companies that lure desperate borrowers into paying large sums of money by promising to resolve student loan issues."

In the future, Gonzalez will continue collaborating with outside organizations and private attorneys to ensure that low-income borrowers understand their rights and options as borrowers. "I also want to get more people interested in addressing issues related to student loan

abuses," she says. "It's wonderful to be a part of the OSI-Baltimore Fellows' Network because it facilitates connections between fellows that maximize the impact of our individual projects while increasing our collective impact on the community," Gonzalez says. "I'm looking forward to building on the relationships I've made through the network and continuing to make new connections."



ZINA MAKAR

Zina Makar started her fellowship in partnership with the Public Defender's Office with the goal of representing poor defendants by employing the power of habeas corpus—a legal procedure that keeps governments from holding people indefinitely without showing cause (see page 10). Her project was moving along steadily when the Baltimore Uprising

shook the city and landed many protesters in jail. Hundreds were arrested during the riots and protests and some were held for days or even months. Some were slapped with bail amounts as high as \$500,000. Makar wrote dozens of petitions challenging protesters' detention. It was a busy time, and important work. But the uprising just shined a national spotlight on a problem much bigger than individual cases, she says. Firmly believing that the entire cash bail system in our country no longer works, Makar plans to continue fighting to bring about large-scale reform. In the fall, Makar will be launching and

co-teaching at the Pretrial Justice Clinic at the University of Baltimore School of Law, in conjunction with Colin Starger, a law professor. There she will be working with third-year law students, as well as advocating around issues of equal protection, better data—particularly as it pertains to the outcome of court cases—and restoring the presumption of innocence in legal proceedings. Although her fellowship has ended, Makar said she is looking forward to being a part of the Alumni Fellows Network and "being able to collaborate with other fellows on innovative and effective solutions to push bail reform."



RENITA SEABROOK

In a Georgia state prison, Renita Seabrook guided nearly 100 women through a research-based program that taught life skills, problem-solving and critical thinking. After watching those women find the strength and tools to improve their lives pre and post-release, Seabrook established Helping Others 2 Win to bring that same model to female ex-prisoners in Baltimore.

In the last 18 months, the project has expanded by “leaps and bounds,” says Seabrook. She has trained three new staff members, including an executive director and a case manager; added a 16-step behavioral treatment program, and introduced several new options for women seeking training and assistance. Helping Others 2 Win now connects

women to college prep courses, employment assistance, civic engagement opportunities, and financial education.

“When I started the project, I was focused more on inspiring women to do things like get their GED or advocate for themselves in the workplace,” says Seabrook. “But now we’re providing direct pathways to those things and the tools to be successful at them.”

While Seabrook has worked to create a welcoming and supportive environment for female ex-prisoners, she says the OSI-Baltimore Fellows Network has done the same for her.

“I feel so supported; [the Fellows’ network] is such a family,” she says. “OSI is extremely responsive and always available. Fellows are really allowed to hone in on our passions and grow into our creativity.

It’s incredible to see a group of people with different backgrounds and varied perspectives come together to work on similar issues and effect positive change.



SHAWN BURNETT

Over the past 18 months, Walks of ART has become the “go-to program for youth and young adult art-based activities,” says founder Shawn Burnett. Burnett founded Walks of ART in 2011 to improve the cognitive development, emotional health and social lives of undeserved youth in Baltimore City through arts education, recreation, and mentoring. Since its

founding, the organization has expanded significantly, collaborating with organizations such as Coppin State University, Youth Works and Liberty Elementary School.

“Walks of ART is currently part of the Youth KnowHow Initiative partnership at Liberty Recand Tech Center.

We are working to secure funding for a summer program,” Burnett says. “It’s exciting to be a part of the OSI-Baltimore Fellows’ network because of the diversity in the group,” says Burnett. “It’s incredible to see a group of people with different backgrounds and varied perspectives come together to work on similar issues and effect positive change.”



VAN BROOKS

Because of the Baltimore Uprising in the spring of 2015, Safe Alternative Foundation for Education (SAFE) founder Van Brooks saw fluctuating enrollment in Yards for Success (YFS). YFS is a free flag football league for middle school students who live in the Franklin Square and Poppleton neighborhoods. The students play games against neighborhood police officers and firefighters, allowing them to foster positive

relationships with authority figures. After the uprising, however, many of the YFS police officers and firefighters were unable to participate for several weeks. As a result, youth participation declined as well.

“The brief decline in student participation shows that

kids attended YFS not only because they wanted to play flag football, but also because they were having positive interactions with the police officers and firemen,” Brooks says. “When the law enforcement and fire personnel returned to the program, there was an immediate increase in youth participation.” Since Brooks received the fellowship, the program has expanded to open the SAFE Center. The

center offers middle school students after school, weekend, and summer learning opportunities, including one-on-one tutoring, mentoring, woodshop, robotics, 3D printing, and horseback riding. “In the future, we’re looking forward to providing additional programming to students,” says Brooks. “Being a part of the prestigious OSI-Baltimore Fellows’ Network is incredible,” Brooks adds. “The network has opened so many doors for SAFE that would probably have remained closed for much longer if I had not been a Fellow.”



CHARLOTTE KENISTON

Charlotte Keniston launched Pigtown Food for Thought in 2011. Since then, the community garden initiative has fostered access to fresh, healthy food for Pigtown residents as well as friendships in the community. Keniston hopes those are lasting connections. “The community gardens have tripled in size and have twice the number of gardeners; they’re definitely

not going anywhere,” says Keniston. “They’ve even transitioned into their own leadership since I’m no longer living in the neighborhood.” And Pigtown Food for Thought has expanded well beyond gardens. A farmer’s market is entering its second season with a bigger budget and

more participants. Kids in the Kitchen, a monthly class where Pigtown kids learn to prepare a meal alongside lessons on nutrition and healthy eating, is working to standardize its curriculum so others in Baltimore and around the country can use it. And Paul’s Place, the original program partner, will continue to raise funds and support the projects.

Keniston knows just how valuable the OSI-Baltimore Fellows’ network can be to her future work as she has already benefited from collaborating with 2003 Fellow Shawn James to create a healthy food mural in Pigtown.

“It’s been a really rich process getting to learn from other fellows about how to get an entrepreneurial project like this off the ground,” says Keniston. “I’m really looking forward to staying engaged in the Fellows’ Network in the future.”



PROFILE OF OSI-BALTIMORE INVESTOR

ANN BOYCE

Ann Boyce has been involved with OSI-Baltimore since its founding in 1998, as an individual donor, as a member of the Leadership Council, and, until 2015, as president of the T. Rowe Price Foundation, which has been a steadfast supporter of OSI over the years.

Q. What led to your involvement with OSI?

In the late '90s I was doing some consulting work with [former OSI board member] Clinton Bamberger and he mentioned that George Soros was thinking of coming to Baltimore to open the first U.S. office of Open Society Foundations outside of New York. That was during the tenure of Mayor Schmoke and Soros was impressed with Schmoke because he was advocating for decriminalizing marijuana. And so he did come and fully funded the office for a number of years. I thought that was terrific because it gave the staff here in Baltimore an opportunity to really hone in on its focus.

And by 2006, when Soros said he would continue to fund the operation but he wanted them to fundraise, they had zeroed in on the three areas, education, justice, and drugs, and also they had the fellows program. It gave them time to really decide on what to focus and to develop their approach to addressing community issues, which was more holistic. OSI was not just funding individual nonprofits doing certain programs but wanted to attack an issue from a lot of different angles and look at policy. By focusing on those three areas, it really helped them to focus the staff and ultimately helped in the fundraising.

Fundraising was really difficult in the beginning because of what they do, changing policy and changing thinking—it's not something that happens very quickly. You have to support them over time before you can begin to see measurable results. It took them a few years to figure out how to come up with measurable results. Once they got going, it made a huge difference and it made their fundraising easier.

Q. How did the T. Rowe Price Foundation get involved?

Education was of particular interest to me and to the foundation, which was seeking ways to improve the public school system in Baltimore City. OSI did some very innovative work and you could see that some of the things they were doing really improved graduation rates. And their work on suspension and expulsion, which was a huge undertaking, really did revise the rules and had a tremendous impact on student performance. And what they did in Baltimore was subsequently adopted by the state, so it had an impact beyond Baltimore. That was really a very exciting time.

OSI has a unique role in the city. It's really different from other organizations. They have a particularly qualified and excellent staff which is out there doing the research and gathering the kind of information that no one else is doing. Obviously, at T. Rowe there are also some senior people who are also involved and on the OSI board, like Ed Bernard and Chip Wendler. But the foundation supported OSI even before their involvement, because of its unique approach.

Q. You've been on OSI's Leadership Council since it was founded in 2007. Are there any council meetings that really stand out to you?

The Leadership Council is a wonderful vehicle for OSI and it's been a pleasure to be part of it because the programs are so interesting and informative. Every time a new person comes to work in the city with an important role in OSI's areas, they bring that person in to meet with the council. So we have an opportunity to know what their

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approach is, what their expectations are, what they hope to achieve in Baltimore, and that's really been a wonderful opportunity. So they brought in [schools CEO Andres] Alonso and [Gregory] Thornton, they brought in the newly-hired health commissioners—just to get a chance to meet with them, not on a social level, but on a more meaningful level through the council is one of the great virtues of the council. Those have been the most exciting for me because there really is no other vehicle for that. The council plays a wonderful role in OSI. We get a lot of information that we wouldn't get otherwise.

Q. Did the death of Freddie Gray and the uprising change the way you think about the work that needs to be done in Baltimore?

I find it fascinating that, when you talk to organizations like Teach for America or others which are trying to attract talent to come work in Baltimore, how much they say people want to come to the city because it is a city where they see opportunity. Exciting things seem to be happening and there are innovative leaders in a myriad of fields. For example, I'm active in the Baltimore Museum of Art and they just named a new director with a commitment to involve the whole community in the Museum. There are some really phenomenal people in the

arts [BSO Maestra Marin] Alsop and [new MICA President] Sammy Hoi, the head of the Walters [Julia Marciara-Alexander]. You've got interesting leaders working in Baltimore who hopefully can affect change.

Q. What did your years working in philanthropy teach you about inspiring people to join the work?

One of the difficulties that nonprofits have faced all along has been measurable outcomes. That can be so difficult in the kind of work that's being done. It's also extremely important that nonprofits are working together, especially nonprofits working together in the same field, and having a goal in mind which is bigger than what one nonprofit does. Looking at “Does this impact graduation rates,” not just “How many people are served.” I think that continues to be a difficulty, and it's more of an art than a science. One of the things that I think is terrific about OSI is that they're looking at the big picture. They can really help nonprofits find ways to help the city as a whole, beyond their organization.



PUNISHING THE POOR

OVERTURNING A CASH BAIL SYSTEM THAT PENALIZES PEOPLE FOR THEIR **ECONOMIC STATUS**

According to the Constitution, people charged with a crime are supposed to be innocent until proven guilty. But many of those who are accused spend long stretches in jail awaiting trial, treated as if they were guilty, because the cash bail system penalizes poor people for their economic status.

OSI-Baltimore Community Fellow Zina Makar—in partnership with the Office of the Public Defender (OPD)—has worked over the last 18 months to change that (see page 5). Makar specifically set out to represent poor

defendants by employing the power of habeas corpus—a legal procedure that keeps governments from holding people indefinitely without showing cause. But along the way, Makar came to realize what those in the OPD already knew: the problem is

bigger than any individual case. The real issue is with using cash for bail in the first place. “Money bail is an antiquated idea that doesn’t work,” says Makar. “And it hasn’t worked for a long time.” The idea behind money bail sounds simple: When a person

bail to task. “Today, the system still favors the rich, who can afford to buy their way out of jail pending trial. The majority of people accused of crimes in Baltimore are poor; we at the Office of the Public Defender represent the bulk of these individuals and regularly

is charged with a crime, a judge determines whether the defendant needs to be detained or assigned bail, to preserve public safety or for other reasons. If the defendant is assigned bail, he or she can either pay in cash—and that amount is returned at the conclusion of the case—or he or she can buy a bond for a percentage of the assigned amount from a bail bondsman. In the case of the latter, the money is non-refundable. In a recent commentary in the Baltimore Sun, David Walsh-Little, the chief attorney of the Felony Trial Division of the Office of the Public Defender in Baltimore, took the concept of cash

watch judges set money bail amounts that far exceed what our clients can afford to pay. Our clients stay incarcerated while their cases continue through the criminal justice system because the scales have been weighted against them.”

IN ADDITION TO BEING INHERENTLY UNFAIR TO POOR DEFENDANTS, THE SYSTEM ALSO:

- Adversely affects defendants’ families, causing them to slip deeper into poverty and isolation
- Makes it harder for defendants (who are behind bars) to assist their attorneys with their cases
- Encourages defendants to plead guilty or take unfavorable deals just to get out of jail sooner
- Ends up costing taxpayers money

“It’s very expensive to hold people in jail,” says Todd Oppenheim, an attorney in the Baltimore City’s OPD. “And we have a process in place—pretrial services—that is set up to help defendants overcome barriers to appearing in court for trial. We should and could be utilizing that process more. We know that it costs about \$2.50 per day



for pretrial release services for one person. But it costs well over \$100 per day to hold that same person in pretrial detention.” The cost to families, Oppenheim and others say, is even greater. The vast majority of individuals who go through the criminal justice system in Baltimore are indigent. Defendants can sometimes sit in jail for weeks or months for \$100, or as little as \$25. People lose jobs, become disconnected from the community and dig themselves deeper into holes. “When you take even \$100 from a poor family, you’re destabilizing them and pushing them further into poverty,” Natalie Finegar, deputy district public defender for Baltimore City, says. And in Baltimore, Oppenheim adds, “indigent” often also equals “black.” “So this is a huge injustice levied upon a certain group of people,” he says.

We know that it costs about **\$2.50 per day for pretrial release services** for one person.
But it costs well over **\$100 per day to hold that same person in pretrial detention.**

It's that injustice that has spurred many in the OPD to speak out against cash bail and advocate for changes at the judicial and legislative levels.

AMONG THE CHANGES
RECOMMENDED:

- Investing more in pretrial services to reduce the need to hold defendants in jail until trial
- Moving toward a no bail system, such as the one in place in Washington D.C., where most people are released on their own recognizance
- Right-sizing the number of cases that get prosecuted in the first place

"We would prefer that fewer people get arrested and fewer people stay in jail because the system is overwhelmed," Oppenheim says. "And it becomes really obvious in situations where there are petty offenses that you could argue shouldn't be prosecuted in the first place. There's plenty of circumstances where cases end up getting dismissed or getting reduced or worked out for probation, after people have sat in jail for weeks or months for no reason."

Additionally, detractors say, money bail has simply been proven ineffective. "There are studies that show it doesn't make a difference," says Finegar. "Judges are imposing what they think the social

science tells them; they think they're doing something that's logical. But studies don't bear that out."

As Makar finishes up her OSI Community Fellowship with the OPD, she plans to continue working on the issue of bail reform at the newly formed Pretrial Justice Clinic at the University of Baltimore School of Law. Among other things, she plans to lobby for a more data-driven practice in Maryland so that legislators and judges can better understand the scope of the cash bail problem, particularly in relation to its outcome on cases.

Photo Series Highlights the
Problems of Cash Bail System

Conversations with them confirmed what's already known: unnecessary pretrial detention causes more harm than good.

All the people we spoke with and photographed knew they must be held accountable for whatever actions led to their arrests. However, they all also understood that it was money—or the lack of it—that was keeping them behind bars, not risk of flight or threat to public safety.

Stay tuned as we bring the **#unconvicted** photos and stories to a wider audience and continue to raise awareness of the need to improve Maryland's pretrial practices.

four Maryland county detention centers, we identified jailed individuals who, but for a few hundred dollars, could be safely released, but instead had been jailed anywhere from a few days to a few months before facing trial.

With professional photographer David Y. Lee, PJI staff visited the jails, interviewed unconvicted individuals and took portraits. The pictures are stunning and reveal what gets lost in the data: the humanity of people behind bars.

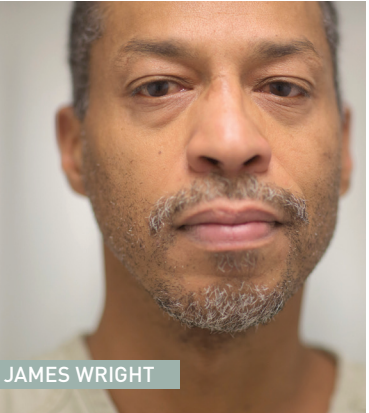
Beyond the frustration and fear of living in jail with an uncertain future, the people we interviewed described the devastation their incarceration was wreaking on their lives and on their families. They had lost jobs, housing and family support.

#ENDCASHBAIL

Photos by @davidylee



CALVIN WATSON JR.



JAMES WRIGHT



TOBY SYNDER



JULIE CLARKE



LANCE CROMWELL



MARCUS ROGERS

JAMES WRIGHT, 49
Bail set at \$3,000

"Now say that I want to change (jobs) and go work at Golden Corral or something like that, maybe I have to check some kind of box. But I hope it don't affect me. If it does, I'll just sit down with the boss and explain him the truth. I am not going to come in here and steal your restaurant or kill nobody or murder or nothing like that. I need the job. I got grandkids I need to take care of."

LANCE CROMWELL, 27
Bail set at \$3,500

"I think I already have been punished enough for what, for well over what I did. I mean I did not hurt anybody, I hurt myself. If anything, that is what you should be in the hospital for. Right? Not really in jail, because I was stupid enough to hurt myself with an inhalant. That is what my charge is, nothing else."

TOBY SYNDER, 41
Bail set at \$100,000

"I had a distribution of cocaine that I am not proud of. I've been clean off of drugs since 2007. The bond for my distribution of cocaine was \$70,000. I am in here now for blowing a 0.08 on a breathalyser at a quarter of four in the morning when there was nobody else even out. I did not have an accident, I did not hurt anybody, nobody got hurt, nothing like that. There was no other cars involved. I got a \$100,000 bail. So what are they saying? That having a half a pint of Captain Morgan's is worse than snorting cocaine."

MARCUS ROGERS, 31
Bail set at \$20,000

"I sure didn't budget for this. I was making like \$10.50 at the time."

#UNCONVICTED

As part of its efforts to end the cash bail system, OSI-Baltimore has partnered with the Pretrial Justice Institute (PJI) to produce **"#unconvicted,"** a series of beautifully captured images to be displayed in book form and around the city, to call attention to the injustice of charging cash bail.

Spike Bradford, editor-in-chief at the Pretrial Justice Institute, describes the project this way: "We know a lot about the statistics that show requiring arrested people to pay money for pretrial release is an ineffective and often harmful practice. We had been looking for a way to put a human face on those numbers and, with the generous support of OSI-Baltimore, we were able to connect the data with real people. With assistance from the OPD and cooperation from the administrators from



BRIAN NICKENS



KHALIF PRICE

BRIAN NICKENS, 36
Bail set at \$2,500

“After 2006 when I lost my job with the federal government, my life just went downhill. All my disorderly conduct charges are from intoxications. I have a substance abuse with alcohol. I need help with alcohol abuse.”

KHALIF PRICE, 21
Bail set at \$10,000

“So you don’t have \$100?” “Oh wait, \$100. Yeah. But if it was just \$1,000 point blank, no. But \$100. I would of bonded out but I would have had to pay somebody back for it.”



BRYANT RICHARDSON



ANTHONY KETTLE

BRYANT RICHARDSON, 25
Held without bond

“Do you know what the next step is? Do you know what is going to happen next? I am waiting because she set me without bond until December 2nd. So I am just waiting for my trial date on December 2nd.” (*Arrested October 8, 2014. Interview date: November 11, 2014.*)

ANTHONY KETTLE, 31
No bail set

“I love my kids. Every time I get pulled over I have my kids with me. It is not like I am ripping and rolling. I try to be a father before anything else. When I am gone, it does have a major effect on them. It does.”

#ENDCASHBAIL



BILL LEE



APRIL OXEDINE

BILL LEE, 49
Bail set at \$7,500

“If I don’t get my act together and I go to jail (again), my daughter is gone. My family is gone. And my family is important to me. They encourages me.”

APRIL OXEDINE, 41
Bail set at \$4,000

“I do not have anybody here (in Leonardtown, MD). I am by myself. This is the third time my case has been put off so I don’t know. I don’t know what is going on.”

SPREADING THE WORD ON BUPRENORPHINE

OTHER CITIES LOOK TO REPLICATE OSI'S SUCCESS IN INCREASING ACCESS TO DRUG TREATMENT

Not many people outside of the drug addiction treatment world know what buprenorphine is—or even how to pronounce it (**byu-pra-NOR-feen**). But the drug is quietly working in Baltimore and other cities to treat opioid addiction, and access to treatment is an important method to prevent overdoses.

Beginning in 2006, OSI-Baltimore, working with partners and experts on the ground, was at the forefront of the movement to bring buprenorphine (often referred to as “bupe”) to our city.

The story behind the introduction of buprenorphine as a top treatment option

is documented in “Using Buprenorphine to Treat Opioid Addiction” (available at **osibaltimore.org**), the first installment of OSI’s “Baltimore Briefs” series, created to highlight initiatives that can be replicated or adapted in other cities so that others may benefit from our successes and learn from setbacks.

The brief, which is being distributed to community partners, funders, practitioners, and others in the field of addiction treatment, describes Baltimore's landscape before buprenorphine, and details how OSI-Baltimore spearheaded the effort to better understand the value of the drug and remove barriers to its widespread use.



The report not only describes OSI's process of researching the problem, crafting the program, and tracking its results; it also identifies obstacles and offers specific lessons intended to help guide other cities and communities interested in using buprenorphine to treat opioid addiction. Central to OSI's effort was the 2006 creation of the Baltimore Buprenorphine Initiative (BBI)—designed to expand

“OSI helped make bupe one of the most widely available treatment medications in Baltimore,” [...] “We went from a time when no one was using bupe to this really robust program. It’s really indicative of how we work here at OSI-Baltimore. We are a laboratory.”

access to and effectiveness of treatment for people who are physically dependent on heroin or other opioids, and create a sustainable model of care that is supported through insurance.

“BBI is an innovative, nationally recognized approach for inducting patients onto buprenorphine, in combination with counseling and other support services—in outpatient settings—and then transferring stabilized patients into the mainstream health care system,” says Bonnie Campbell, special projects director at Behavioral Health Systems Baltimore, one of the crucial partners with which OSI-Baltimore worked. “OSI’s early piloting of buprenorphine at federally qualified community health centers and hospitals, and its subsequent support for buprenorphine at outpatient drug treatment programs, helped lead us to having the treatment as a better option for patients with opioid dependence.”

Before the establishment of BBI, most treatment clinics were treating addiction with methadone, says Scott Nolen, director of OSI-Baltimore's Drug Addiction Treatment program.

“Methadone is just one option and it doesn’t work for everybody,” Nolen says. “It has many limits. Bupe is a different type of medication that has some advantages. For instance, Suboxone, the most common retail version of bupe, contains naloxone, a medicine that makes it more difficult for an individual to overdose. And unlike

methadone, it can be prescribed by a primary care physician; people don't have to go to a methadone clinic every day, which can be disruptive.”

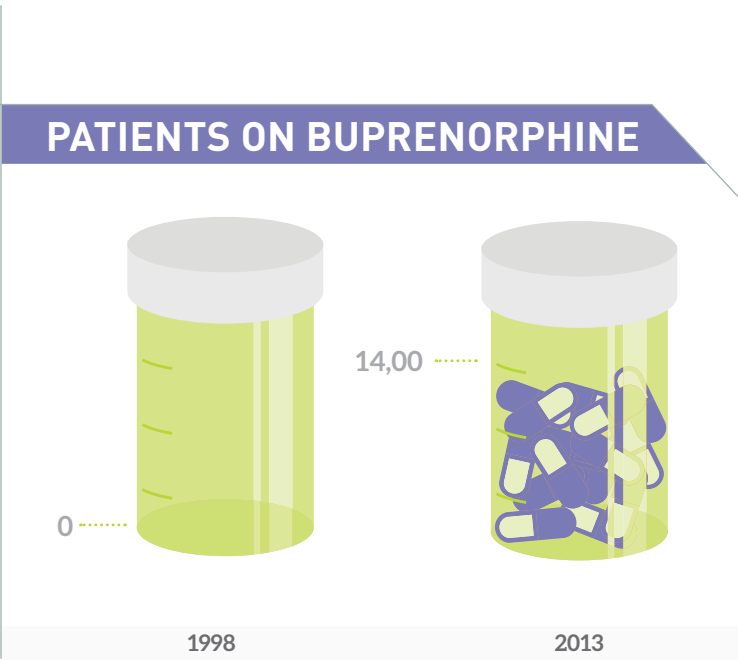
OSI-Baltimore heard the call from experts in the city: Baltimore desperately needed a more accessible, integrated and sustainable approach to treating individuals who were opioid dependent. With support from OSI and other partners, the city identified bupe as a promising solution.

Then, the hard work began in partnership with the medical community and the city health department to encourage doctors to receive the additional training required by federal law to prescribe the drug. By 2015, BBI had established 10 treatment locations throughout Maryland with 399 treatment slots; and almost 800 doctors across Maryland were licensed to prescribe, including 217 in Baltimore City. “OSI worked closely with city agencies and medical facilities to make bupe one of the most widely available addiction treatment medications in Baltimore,” says

Diana Morris, director of OSI-Baltimore. “The initiative is a good example of OSI-Baltimore’s approach. We identify promising interventions or practices, test them in a real world setting and then share what we learn. Work at the local level gives us the opportunity to see innovative changes through to the end.”

Since its inception, the BBI model has been replicated in Ottawa, Canada—and many groups from around the country have come to Baltimore to explore launching similar programs.

Next up, Nolen says, is to encourage even more doctors to see patients with addictions. “We still have work to do,” Nolen says.





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HOLISTIC LIFE FOUNDATION

OSI-Baltimore is proud to support the work of the Holistic Life Foundation's after school program, Holistic Me. The program, run by founders Ali and Atman Smith, who are brothers, and their long-term friend Andrés Gonzalez, works with Baltimore City students to introduce the concepts of yoga, mindfulness, meditation, centering, and breath work. Combined with extra-curricular and academic components—and dinner—the award-winning afterschool program empowers youth with the skills for peaceful conflict resolution, improved focus and concentration, greater control and awareness of thoughts and emotions, improved self-regulation, anger management, and stress reduction.

► See the rest of this photo essay at osibaltimore.org

OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE-BALTIMORE focuses on the root causes of three intertwined problems in our city and state: drug addiction, an over-reliance on incarceration, and obstacles that impede youth in succeeding inside and out of the classroom. We also support a growing corps of social entrepreneurs committed to under-served populations in Baltimore. Before we make a single grant, we analyze the root causes of a problem, cull research and examine current practices. Because we aim for lasting sustainable solutions, we engage public and private partners from the start. It is only then, with a clear picture of the problem, that we begin to focus our approach and diligently craft a roadmap for change.