



**United Nations**

Department of  
Economic and  
Social Affairs

**COMMISSION for  
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

United Nations Headquarters, New York

# FAMILY HOMELESSNESS: PREVENTION AND SOLUTIONS

**Thursday, 13 FEBRUARY 2020 || 11:30 am - 12:45 pm || CONFERENCE ROOM 12 || UNHQ NY**

## LIST OF SPEAKERS

Ms. Daniela Bas, of Italian nationality, is the Director of the Division for Inclusive Social Development at the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs since May 2011. Political scientist with a major in International Politics, she graduated Magna Cum Laude with a dissertation on "The elimination of architectural barriers and the employment of people with physical disabilities". She is also a certified journalist and multicultural/ life coach. Ms. Bas interest has always been people-centred in the various activities, associations, and professional roles she has held. In addition to her work at the United Nations from 1986 to 1995, she held managerial roles from 1996 until 2011 in the private sector in Italy and was, inter alia, adviser for the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and for the Presidency of the Council of Ministers on human rights and social affairs.



Dr. Bahira Trask is Professor and Chair of Human Development and Family Sciences at the University of Delaware. She holds a B.A. in Political Science with a concentration in International Relations from Yale University and a Ph.D. in Cultural Anthropology from the University of Pennsylvania. Her research focuses on globalization, family change in Western and non-Western countries, and policies and programs that best support and strengthen families. Dr. Trask has authored and edited a number of books including *Women, Work, and Globalization: Challenges and Opportunities* (Routledge, 2014), *Globalization and Families: Accelerated Systemic Social Change* (Springer, 2010) and *Cultural Diversity and Families* (Sage, 2007) and she has published extensively in key journals and books. Her scholarship has been informed through participation on various funded international, national and community based research projects. Dr. Trask is a fellow of NCFR, the National Council on Family Relations.



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Ms. Molly Gerke is the Executive Assistant and Assistant UN Representative UNANIMA International. Having been in this role since 2018 her recent endeavours have centered around UNANIMA International's currently focus of women and children/girls through the lens of Homelessness/displacement. Prior to UNANIMA International she interned for the International Presentation Association at their United Nations Office and completed a Bachelor of Economics and a Bachelor of Science (Geography) at the University of Tasmania. During which time she spent a number of years studying development at an academic level as well as interacting with such development activities at the grassroots level. Molly has spent a large portion of the last seven years working with grassroots NGOs and civil society groups in Vanuatu and Australia and a co-founder of the Open the Door Foundation.



Mr. Matthew Windrum is Director, Government & Community Affairs at The Doe Fund, a New York City-based 501 (c) (3) non-profit that has been working for 35 years to break cycles of homelessness, addiction and criminal recidivism. Its flagship transitional work program - Ready, Willing & Able - integrates paid work, occupational training and holistic support services to facilitate a successful return from homelessness and incarceration to mainstream society. He works with government officials, community groups and policy incubators to build support for tackling these enduring challenges. Previously, Matthew was Head of Political & Economic Affairs at The British Consulate General (New York), where he promoted the UK's economic, foreign policy and national security priorities across the states of New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Lafayette College, and a Master of Arts in International Relations from Johns Hopkins University.



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Ms. Shanequa Anne Holiday is a Senior Director of Domestic Violence Shelters for Safe Horizon, the largest victim's assistance organization in the United States. As a Native New Yorker working in the fields of Human Services and Public Administration for over 14 years, Shanequa has helped various populations including survivors of abuse deal with complex issues and trauma while navigating the ever challenging housing market. Shanequa holds B.A. in Sociology, a Master's degree in Public Administration, and is a member of the American Sociological Association.



Mr. Luiz Alvaro Salles Aguiar de Menezes is the International Relations Secretary of São Paulo, Brazil. With a degree in Business with focus in Marketing from the Superior School of Advertising and Marketing and a post graduation in Strategic and Economic Management from the Getulio Vargas Foundation, Luiz Alvaro Salles Aguiar de Menezes started working in the editorial market in 2003 in the State of São Paulo's Official Press, where he was responsible for the Marketing sector until 2011. In 2012, he became part of the Brazilian Chamber of Books team as Institutional Projects Manager, responsible for organizing the tributes to Brazil offered in the international book fairs of Frankfurt (2013), Bologna (2014) and Paris (2015). In 2014, he became Executive Manager of São Paulo's Biennial International Book Fair. Then, in 2015, he became International Relations Manager of the Brazilian Chamber of Books, responsible for Brazilian Publishers, a partnership between the Chamber and the Brazilian Trade and Investment Promotion Agency. In 2019, he took office as Secretary of International Affairs of São Paulo City Hall.