

## Stopping the Violence National Best Practices Convocation - Las Vegas Dec 14-15

Zagery Oliver  
December 13, 2024

**Stopping the Violence**  
**National Best Practices Convocation**  
**Live from IPEC Las Vegas Saturday & Sunday**  
**December 14-15, 2024 all day**

You may attend by Zoom. [Link and Schedule attached below](#)

### **Featuring:**

- Rev. Madelene Clark-Alexander**, American Clergy Leadership Conference, Indiana
- Ms. Pamela N. Johnson**, Founder and Executive Director, Anti-Violence Coalition of Hudson. *“The Power of Community Activism”*
- Mr. Arcario Acuna**, Violence Intervention Specialist, Young Visionaries Youth Leadership Academy. *“Youth Violence Prevention/Intervention”*
- Rev. Dr. Jim Bostic**, Founder and Director, City of Yonkers Violence and Gang Prevention Coalition. *“Gang Engagement and Violence Intervention”*
- Pastor Troy Martinez**, Founder, Dads in Schools. *“School Bullying and Peer Pressure”*
- Major Kari Thompson**, Kansas City Police Department. *“Partnership of the Community and Law Enforcement”*
- Brig. Gen. Arnold N. Gordon-Bray** (US Army ret). *“The Invisible Among Us: Underserved, Underrepresented, Undervalued, Disenfranchised”*
- Rev. Dr. Ken R. Unger** – Trauma Counselor, author and podcaster. *“Healing Traumatized People”*
- Rev. Darren Faulkner**, Founder and President, Ruby Visions – Faith Defenders Bible Fellowship. *“Poverty and Violence: Moving Forward Collectively”*
- Mr. Brad Carson**, President, United Hood Nation. *“Economic Development and Community Safety”*
- Dr. VJ Smith**, CEO, Hope Dealer International. *“Recidivism, Fathers and the Family”*
- Rev. Dr. Ken Alexander**, American Clergy Leadership Conference, Indiana. *“Training Ex-offenders”*
- Mr. Alan Saunders**, Executive Director, International Education Foundation. *“Character Education”*
- Ms. Karen Ryce**, Executive Director, Happy Kids Company. *“Creating Harmony in the Family/Healing”*

**AND OTHERS**

### **Hosted by:**

**Rev. Zagery Oliver**, Executive Vice President, Universal Peace Federation USA; Director, Stopping the Violence webinars

**Dr. Michael Jenkins**, President Universal Peace Federation and The Washington Times.

### **Register here to join:**

[us06web.zoom.us/join/register/tZEqcOvrpzgtH9UoQj7Itxk-Zkol9h7nMLpp#/registration](https://us06web.zoom.us/join/register/tZEqcOvrpzgtH9UoQj7Itxk-Zkol9h7nMLpp#/registration)

**Attend by Zoom. Schedule Attached**

# Agenda

**14 December SATURDAY**

## **Day 1: Understanding and Addressing the Root Causes of Violence**

**CONFERENCE MODERATOR: DR. MADELENE CLARK-ALEXANDER**, American Clergy Leadership Conference, Indiana

8:00 AM Registration and Breakfast (greet one another and remanence briefly please, so that we may begin promptly at 9)

9:00 AM OPENING SESSION – WHY WE GATHER

**Rev. Zagery Oliver**, Conference Chair, Executive Vice President, Universal Peace Federation USA

**Ms. Pamela N. Johnson**, Founder and Executive Director, Anti-Violence Coalition of Hudson. *“The Power of Community Activism”*

9:30 AM PLENARY SESSION 1 – OVERVIEW OF VIOLENCE PREVENTION STRATEGIES

**Mr. Arcario Acuna**, Violence Intervention Specialist, Young Visionaries Youth Leadership Academy. *“Youth Violence Prevention/Intervention”*

**Rev. Dr. Jim Bostic**, Founder and Director, City of Yonkers Violence and Gang Prevention Coalition. *“Gang Engagement and Violence Intervention”*

**Pastor Troy Martinez**, Founder, Dads in Schools. *“School Bullying and Peer Pressure”*

**Major Kari Thompson**, Kansas City Police Department. *“Partnership of the Community and Law Enforcement”*

10:30 AM Break (15 minutes)

10:45 AM PLENARY SESSION 2 – MENTAL HEALTH TRAUMA AND THE HEALING PROCESS

**Brig. Gen. Arnold N. Gordon-Bray** (US Army ret). *“The Invisible Among Us: Underserved, Underrepresented, Undervalued, Disenfranchised”*

**Rev. Dr. Ken R. Unger** – Trauma Counselor, author and podcaster. *“Healing Traumatized People”*

**Interactive Discussion**

11:45 AM Break (15 minutes)

12:00 PM PLENARY SESSION 3 (working lunch)

**Rev. Darren Faulkner** (Keynote Address), Founder and President, Ruby Visions – Faith Defenders Bible Fellowship. *“Poverty and Violence: Moving Forward Collectively”*

**Interactive Discussion**

1:30 PM PRESENTATIONS

**Mr. Brad Carson**, President, United Hood Nation. *“Economic Development and Community Safety”*

**Dr. VJ Smith**, CEO, Hope Dealer International. *“Recidivism, Fathers and the Family”*

**Rev. Dr. Ken Alexander**, American Clergy Leadership Conference, Indiana. *“Training Ex-offenders”*

**Interactive Discussion**

- 3:00 PM Break (15 minutes)
- 3:15 PM **Breakouts and Brainstorming** (participants' choice)
- Youth Prevention/Intervention
  - Youth Gang Violence - Engagement and Prevention
  - Trauma and the Healing Process
  - Law Enforcement and the Community
  - Recidivism
- 4:45 PM PLENARY SESSION 4 – CLOSING REMARKS FOR THE DAY  
**Rev. Zagery Oliver**, Conference Chair, Executive Vice President, Universal Peace Federation USA
- 5:00 PM Dinner and free time

## 15 December SUNDAY

### Day 2: Sustainable Solutions and Best Practices

- 7:30 AM Morning Praise and Worship Service and message by **Rev. Darren Faulkner**
- 8:30 AM Breakfast
- 9:00 AM PLENARY SESSION 5 – BEST PRACTICES IN CHARACTER EDUCATION AND VIOLENCE PREVENTION  
**Mr. Alan Saunders**, Executive Director, International Education Foundation. *“Character Education”*  
**Ms. Karen Ryce**, Executive Director, Happy Kids Company. *“Creating Harmony in the Family/Healing”*  
**Rev. Darren Faulkner**, Founder and President, Ruby Visions – Faith Defenders Bible Fellowship. *“360 Model”*
- 10:30 AM Break (15 minutes)
- 10:45 AM PANEL DISCUSSION ON COMMUNITY-BASED APPROACHES TO VIOLENCE PREVENTION  
**Dr. Madelene Clark-Alexander** (moderator), American Clergy Leadership Conference, Indiana  
Panelists will be community leaders and practitioners selected from among the participants.
- 12:00 PM PLENARY SESSION 6 AND WORKING LUNCH – OPEN FORUM  
**Interactive Discussion**
- 1:15 PM PLENARY SESSION 7 – CREATING A MANUAL OF BEST PRACTICES  
**Collaborative Discussion and Summary**
- 2:30 PM CLOSING REMARKS AND NEXT STEPS  
**Dr. Michael Jenkins**, President, Universal Peace Federation  
Call to Action: Creating a Best Practices National Task Force and a Best Practices National Guide  
**Rev. Zagery Oliver** – Executive Vice President, Universal Peace Federation USA