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CHARLES DREW UNIVERSITY OF MEDICINE AND SCIENCE
Division of Endocrinology, Department of Internal Medicine
and the Metabolic Cluster
Minority Institute of Drug Abuse Research Program (MIDARP)
8th Annual Substance Abuse Research Symposium

Harm Reduction and Drug Policy Reform



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Laura Thomas is the Deputy State Director, California, of the Drug Policy Alliance, the nation's leading organization working to end the war on drugs, where she leads work on cutting-edge harm reduction policies and state legislation. She has been advocating on HIV and public health issues for twenty-five years, since becoming involved in AIDS activism through ACT UP in San Francisco. She has worked for community-based organizations in San Francisco's Tenderloin neighborhood, the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, the San Francisco Department of Public Health, and as a health policy consultant. She is a member of the San Francisco HIV Health Services Planning Council and the HIV Prevention Planning Council. She graduated from the University of California, Berkeley with a Masters in Public Health and a Masters in Public Policy, and holds a B.A. in English from Wesleyan University.

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