Christopher Alvarado
Executive Director, Slavic Village Development

Christopher Alvarado is the Executive Director of Slavic Village Development, the community development corporation that serves 22,000 residents living in the neighborhoods of Broadway Slavic Village, a five square mile area southeast of Downtown Cleveland. Slavic Village Development is a forward-thinking, service-driven organization which works with and for its residents, businesses, and institutions to promote civic engagement, community empowerment, and neighborhood investment.

Previously, Christopher was a Strong Cities, Strong Communities Fellow with the German Marshall Fund of the U.S. embedded at the City of Cleveland’s Department of Community Development where he designed and implemented projects to turn vacant land held by the City Land bank from liabilities to assets owned and improved by Cleveland’s citizens, businesses, and organizations.

In Christopher’s past capacity with the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission, he focused on methodologies for sustainability, determining the economic, environmental, and social impacts of development, and coordinating environmental planning with economic development.

Eric Ameigh
czb LLC

Eric Ameigh has been a planner, local government professional, and special projects manager for over fifteen years. He and his colleagues at czb develop housing and neighborhood strategies in cities across the U.S. to make soft markets stronger and strong markets more inclusive. Before joining czb in 2017, Eric held senior positions with the cities of Geneva, New York and Boulder, Colorado. He was educated as a geographer and urban planner by the State University of New York in Geneseo and Buffalo. He is a native of western New York State and now resides in the Denver region.
Roland V. Anglin
Dean, Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs at Cleveland State University

Dean Anglin is recognized for his scholarly and applied work in the area of economic and community development. Dean Anglin is a passionate advocate for public policies and community-based strategies that create social and economic opportunities for marginalized communities and people.

Prior to his appointment as Dean, Dr. Anglin was Senior Advisor to the Chancellor of Rutgers University-Newark and Director of the Joseph C. Cornwall Center for Metropolitan Studies, an applied research institute at the university. Dr. Anglin began his career at Rutgers University in 1987. He was recruited to the Ford Foundation in 1991, where he spent eight years. Dr. Anglin served first as the program officer responsible for community development and was promoted to Deputy Director for Community and Resource Development. After leaving the Ford Foundation in 1999, Dr. Anglin went to the Structured Employment Economic Development Corporation (Seedco), a community development financial intermediary. He is the author and co-author of four books and several peer-reviewed articles.

Dr. Anglin sits on several public sector, nonprofit, and private sector boards. He received his doctorate from the University of Chicago, an MA from Northwestern University, and a BA from Brooklyn College (City University of New York).

Mike Antenucci
Zoning Manager, City of Akron

The Zoning Division administers the Zoning Code and Subdivision Regulations; answers questions from developers, contractors, businesses and citizens regarding the uses permitted in an area and the development conditions set forth for such uses; and reviews all site plans before permits are issued by the Plans and Permits Center. The Zoning Division also serves as the offices of the Akron Board of Zoning Appeals and the City Planning Commission.
Erica Anthony  
*Vice President, Government Relations & Strategy, Cleveland Neighborhood Progress*

Cleveland Neighborhood Progress is a local community development funding intermediary with thirty years of experience investing in community revitalization work in Greater Cleveland. Neighborhood Progress was founded in 1988 and serves a unique function as it is the only local intermediary in the region. We are proud to be nationally highlighted as a leader for engaging in best practices in various facets of nonprofit programming.

Layish Bailey  
*Community Development Analyst, Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland*

Layisha Bailey is a community development analyst in the Community Development Department at the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland. Ms. Bailey joined the Bank in November 2017. In her role, she supports the research and outreach of the Community Development Department. Her professional interests include affordable housing, neighborhood development, and economic inclusion, and she is passionate about raising awareness of issues impacting the unserved and underserved in the community.

Ms. Bailey holds a BA in urban studies from Cleveland State University and an MBA in business analytics from Baldwin Wallace University.

Roshun Austin  
*President, The Works, Inc.*

Ms. Austin is the President/CEO of the Works, Inc. The Works, Inc. is the sponsor of an elementary charter school; runs a farmers’ market and green grocer; provides nutrition education; operates a mortgage loan fund; and does work around the comprehensive needs of children and families. Ms. Austin is an outspoken and tireless advocate for the underserved in Memphis neighborhoods. She has spent her entire career developing hundreds of units of
affordable housing; helping thousands of homeowners avoid foreclosure; eliminating blighted conditions; advocating policy change for equitable practices. She earned her M.A. in Urban Anthropology at the University of Memphis and her undergraduate degree at Middlebury College. She is currently the Vice Chairman of the Blight Authority of Memphis. She is also a member of the Board of Directors of Explore Bike Share, Neighborhood Preservation, Inc; BLDG Memphis; Christian Community Foundation and Methodist Healthcare Foundation. She serves on the management committee of the Urban Land Institute Memphis Chapter. And she formerly served for 15 years on the Health, Educational Housing Facilities Board of Memphis; the Memphis Landmarks Commission and as an original board member of the Community Redevelopment Agency.

Tracey Barbour-Gillet
Program Officer, Abell Foundation

Tracey Barbour-Gillet serves as program officer, community development at The Abell Foundation where her issue area expertise includes economic development, household financial stabilization, homeownership preservation, neighborhood revitalization and stabilization, volunteerism, financial asset development, nonprofit sustainability, entrepreneurship, access to healthy foods, environment and the arts.

She has 25 years’ experience in program and project management and organizational development. She manages and monitors grantmaking and investment strategies with a goal to improve outcomes for communities and families.

Tracey currently serves as the Chair of the board of directors of the Association of Baltimore Area Grantmakers (ABAG) and is a member of the Baltimore Homeownership Preservation Coalition, the Tax Sale Work Group, and Betamore’s Advisory Committee. She was a 2015 MD Daily Record’s Top 100 Women honoree. Tracey is a native Baltimorean, and a graduate of American University and the University of Baltimore.
Sruti Basu  
*Director of Community-Building Programs, FutureHeights CDC*

sruti is the director of community-building programs at FutureHeights Community Development Corporation. In her role, she aims to merge civic engagement and community development with the end result of conscious community development and civic leadership to meet the needs and values of residents, while addressing blight and disinvestment.

Nelson Beckford  
*Program Director, Cleveland Foundation*

Nelson is the Program Director for Neighborhood Revitalization & Engagement. He re-joins the foundation after spending the last four years at Saint Luke’s Foundation, where he served as Senior Program Officer for a Strong Neighborhood. In that role, Nelson oversaw their Strong Neighborhood program, with the goal of making enhancements to the built environment and improving social conditions in the Buckeye-Shaker, Mt Pleasant and Woodland Hills neighborhoods. Before that, Nelson served as Program Officer for the Cleveland Foundation’s Responsive Grantmaking, focusing on community development, environmental sustainability and program management of the Summer Internship program.

Nelson has also worked for the Detroit Shoreway Community Development Organization, University Hospitals Health System, Cole Managed Vision, and the American Red Cross. Nelson also served with the US Army’s 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry). He has a Bachelor’s degree in Business Administration and a Master’s degree in Psychology from Cleveland State University. Nelson and his wife are empty nesters and live in the Old Brooklyn neighborhood of Cleveland.
Cindy Binnig
Assistant Vice President, Cleveland Development Advisors

Cindy joined CDA in 2011 as Manager of Accounting and Asset Management. Cindy assists in facilitating the transition and knowledge management of newly closed investments through post-closing and ongoing portfolio and compliance management; which includes accounting and financial reporting functions as well as investment and portfolio management.

Prior to joining CDA, Cindy was a Manager at Novogradac & Company LLP in Cleveland, Ohio where she provided audit, tax and compliance services to the real estate industry. Her public accounting experience includes new markets tax credits, historic tax credits and low-income housing tax credits, including those subject to the regulatory requirements of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) where she worked with developers, contractors and syndicators.

Cindy obtained a bachelor’s degree in accounting and finance from Kent State University and is currently working on obtaining her certified public accounting license.

Tanisha Briley
City Manager, City of Cleveland Heights

Tanisha Briley became City Manager for the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio in August 2013. Briley is responsible for nearly 500 employees and a budget of $79 million. She prioritized her efforts on ensuring the City’s financial sustainability by increasing transparency and accountability. Under Briley’s leadership the City’s long-term fiscal health dramatically improved in less than three years after several years of deficit spending prior to her arrival. Briley oversaw the City’s first comprehensive capital improvement planning process and the City’s first community-wide master planning effort to better position the City for economic growth.
Briley holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from The Ohio State University and a Masters in Public Administration from Cleveland State University where she was recognized as a Distinguished Alumni in 2010. Briley is also a graduate of the Senior Executives in State and Local Government Program at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government and the National Forum for Black Public Administrator's MENTOR Program.

Briley is a member of the International City/County Managers Association and holds board positions at the United Way of Greater Cleveland, the Northeast Ohio Area Coordinating Agency, and Cleveland State University Alumni Association. She is also an adjunct faculty member at Cleveland State University.

Paul Brophy
Principal Brophy & Reilly LLC/Senior Adviser, The American Assembly

Paul C. Brophy is a principal with Brophy & Reilly LLC, a consulting firm specializing in inclusive economic development and neighborhood improvement in legacy cities; the management of complex urban redevelopment projects; and the development of mixed-income housing communities.

Mr. Brophy has directed three projects for the American Assembly, where he is a senior advisor. In 1997 Mr. Brophy led a project that resulted in a widely-read report, Community Capitalism: Rediscovering the Markets of America’s Urban Neighborhoods. In 2007, he conducted a project that produced the report, Retooling for Growth: Building a 21st Century Economy in America's Older Industrial Areas. And, in 2011, he co-directed a meeting that led to the report, Reinventing America’s Legacy Cities: Strategies for Cities Losing Population. Brophy is also a senior advisor to Enterprise Community Partners and is an adjunct professor at Georgetown University's School of Urban and Regional Planning. He was previously a Non-Resident Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution, a Senior Advisor to the Center for Community Progress, and a Senior Scholar at the George Warren Brown School at Washington University in St. Louis. Prior to the formation of Brophy & Reilly LLC, Brophy was the co-CEO of Enterprise Community Partners, and prior to that held executive positions in Pittsburgh city government working on economic development, and downtown and neighborhood improvement. Mr. Brophy holds degrees from LaSalle University and the Univ of Pennsylvania. Brophy edited On the Edge: America’s Middle Neighborhoods (2016), and is co-author of three books: Neighborhood Revitalization: Theory and Practice (1975); Housing and Local Government (1982), and A Guide to Careers in Community Development (2001).
Charles Buki
President, czb llc

Charles Buki is President of czb, a Virginia-based planning practice. He lives in Alexandria, VA with his wife and two Blue Heelers.

Before establishing czb, Mr. Buki was a consultant to the Millennial Housing Commission, a Mesa Fellow at the Common Counsel Foundation, a senior staff member of the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation, the Director of Housing for The American Institute of Architects, and a project manager for several nonprofit community development corporations. He was a Loeb Fellow in Advanced Environmental Studies at Harvard University.

Mr. Buki is currently a board member of the International Sonoran Desert Alliance in Ajo, AZ, serves in an advisory capacity to the Marian Jackson Center at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and on Fridays tutors first graders in Alexandria, VA.

Ben Campbell
Director of Commercial & Industrial Development, Kamms Corners Development Corp.

After graduating from Cleveland State University's College of Urban Affairs, Ben has spent over 25 years working in Cleveland's neighborhoods. His focus has been economic development but also included real estate development, property management, planning, transportation and other special projects. He currently resides and works in Cleveland's West Park neighborhood.

Steve Chmielewski
Community Development Educator, UW-Extension, Waukesha County

Waukesha County UW-Extension is a major outreach effort of the University of Wisconsin, putting university knowledge and research to work in our county. Waukesha County is located in the southeast corner of Wisconsin, and is home to almost 400,000 people.

In partnerships with local residents and organizations, as well as the University of Wisconsin, Waukesha County UW-Extension develops innovative educational programs that strengthen communities by working
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The Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland
November 14, 2018

with residents, stakeholders and organizations to identify and address unique learning needs that address safety, neighborhood improvement, Small Business Retention and Expansion, and community public opinions, build local leadership by partnering with agencies, businesses, and local, state and federal government units, encourage sustainable and profitable agricultural and horticultural businesses, provide education on horticulture practices by consumers and the commercial industry (i.e. pesticides, herbicides) in order to protect and enhance our environment, teach limited-income families, youth and elderly in the areas of nutrition, food safety, physical activity, and resource management.

Extension educators work together, sharing resources in order to develop and deliver programs that respond to issues identified by our communities.

Jessica Coffey
Assistant Vice President, Project Development, Cleveland Development Advisors

Jessica’s focus is to identify and analyze real estate and business development projects for investment consideration.

Prior to joining CDA in 2013, Jessica was the Senior Finance Consultant for Project Management Consultants, where she identified, secured and managed public financing opportunities for real estate development and business expansion projects. Her public finance experience includes New Markets Tax Credits, Federal and State of Ohio Historic Tax Credits, Tax Increment Financing, and Federal, State of Ohio, Cuyahoga County, and City of Cleveland loan and grant programs. Jessica has also worked for Stmnisha Development Advisors as a Senior Associate and the City of Cleveland’s Department of Economic Development as a Project Manager.

Jessica has a master’s degree in urban planning and development from Cleveland State University, Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs and a bachelor’s degree from the University of Michigan, School of Natural Resource & Environment.
Freddy Collier, Jr  
*Director of City Planning, Cleveland Planning Commission*

Freddy L. Collier, Jr. was appointed by Mayor Frank G. Jackson to serve as the Director of Cleveland City Planning Commission in 2014. Freddy has over 20 years of experience in community lending and urban planning.

As Director, Collier works with a team of professional planners who enlist other City departments, community stakeholders, and agencies to promote and implement planning initiatives throughout the City of Cleveland, Cuyahoga County and Northeast Ohio. He secured $270,000 in grant resources in his first year to advance Mayor Jackson’s vision of creating a healthy city and has been a leader in promoting the connections between planning and health outcomes in the community.

Collier began his career with the City Planning Commission in 1999 and has led several citywide initiatives including:

Managed the Connecting Cleveland 2020 Citywide Plan, the City’s comprehensive masterplan designed to guide the development direction of the City of Cleveland; led in the development of the Re-imagining a More Sustainable Cleveland initiative, including efforts such as the sustainable reuse of vacant land to create healthy and sustainable neighborhoods. Developed a strategy to use sustainable land reuse to guide the dispensation of parcels through the City of Cleveland Land Bank Program; co-led efforts and wrote and designed the City of Cleveland’s strategy to engage residents in the Complete Count Committee for the 2010 Census. Led on the Cuyahoga County Place Matters Team, an arm of the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies Health Policy Institute in Washington D.C.

Collier has received various awards and honors including being named as a member of Kaleidoscope Magazine’s 40 under 40 Award, Class of 2003; and, a City of Cleveland Outstanding Public Service award in 2014. He has fostered local and national relationships to advance the development of Cleveland’s neighborhoods and serves with the following boards, committees and organizations including the Cleveland Neighborhood Progress, Benedictine High School, Saint Luke’s Foundation Strong Communities Advisory Committee, The Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies (Health Policy Institute), Northeast Ohio Sustainable Communities Consortium (NEOSCC).

He is a graduate of the Cleveland Management Academy and in 2011, was selected to be an Urban Fellow through the John McCloy Fellowship in Urban Affairs established by the American Council on Germany.
Michael Cosgrove  
*Executive Director, Neighborhood Housing Services of Greater Cleveland*

Michael F. Cosgrove is the Executive Director of Neighborhood Housing Services of Greater Cleveland, joining the organization in January 2018. From 2015 through 2018, he led the City of Cleveland Department of Community Development as both Director and Acting Director.

Taron Cunningham  
*Community Development/Planning Deputy Director, City of Youngstown*

The Community Development Division is primarily responsible for the administration of Federal funding allocated to the City of Youngstown. The City is an entitlement community under three U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) federal grant programs: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Home Investment Partnership (HOME), Emergency Solution Grant (ESG).

As an entitlement community, the City must work with community stakeholders and citizens with public input to develop a 5 year strategy and annual action plan to address the needs of primarily low-income residents and areas of the city. The Division monitors funded activities for compliance with HUD regulations, tracks the progress of action plan goals, and reports outcomes in the Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER) to HUD.

Marc Dohan  
*Executive Director, NewVue Communities*

Marc Dohan is the Executive Director of NewVue Communities a community development corporation serving North Central Massachusetts.

Ayonna Blue Donald  
*Director, Department of Building and Housing, City of Cleveland*

Ayonna Blue Donald became the Assistant Director of the Department of Building and Housing in September 2016 and was sworn in as Director of Building and Housing in July 2018. Ms. Donald received her Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from Case Western Reserve University and her Juris Doctor from the University
of San Francisco School of Law. She is an attorney licensed in Texas and a registered patent attorney before the USPTO.

After graduating from law school, she worked as a litigation attorney in Texas and later as an appeals hearing officer with the Texas Workforce Commission, Ms. Donald returned to Cleveland in 2012 to work as a legal secretary with Building & Housing for Mayor Jackson’s Emergency Vacant Property Inspection Initiative. In 2013 she transitioned to a paralegal position and then to Demolition Compliance Officer in 2014. In these positions, Ms. Donald has handled legal matters related to inspections, environmental compliance, demolition compliance, and collections.

Ms. Donald is committed to serving Cleveland both professionally and personally. She is the immediate past President of the Greater Cleveland Delta Foundation Life Development Center which is a nonprofit committed to empowering low-and-moderate income members of the Greater Cleveland community.

**Jamar Doyle**
*Executive Director, Collingham and Nottingham Villages Development Corporation*

Collingham and Nottingham Villages Development Corporation is a community based organization committed to development or redevelopment of commercial, industrial and residential facilities in S. Collingwood consistent with zoning and planning regulation of city of Cleveland.

**Charlie Duff**
*President, Jubilee Baltimore, Inc.*

Charlie is an experienced developer and planner and an authority on Baltimore’s architecture and development. In twenty-three years as Jubilee’s President, Charlie has led a team that has built or rebuilt houses and apartments for thousands of Baltimoreans. Author of the Midtown Community Plan, he has been central in facilitating the revival of Baltimore’s four central neighborhoods. Charlie is a frequent lecturer on architectural history at the Walters Art Museum and the Johns Hopkins University.
Dan Ellis has been the Executive Director of Neighborhood Housing Services of Baltimore since September 2011. NHS (founded in 1974) is a community based development corporation and a community development financial institution (CDFI). Since arriving at NHS, Dan has refocused the organization through an extensive strategic planning process. Dan focused on external relationships and fundraising resulting in over $18,000,000 of revenue. Under his leadership, NHS received over $12,000,000 of new revenue from funding sources not previously supporting NHS.

A rising industry leader, Dan has been a speaker and subject matter expert on urban housing issues across the country. Dan is recognized as one of the top executive directors among NeighborWorks America member organizations. Dan is a 2014 graduate of the Greater Baltimore Committee LEADERship Program. Dan is also a graduate of the NeighborWorks Achieving Excellence program, an 18-month executive leadership program facilitated at Harvard University.

The City of Shaker Heights established the SHDC in 1981. A majority of SHDC’s board is comprised of citizen members, plus city staff and elected officials. The board serves as an agent of the City; the City, in turn, serves as SHDC’s fiduciary agent. Our nonprofit status enables us to accept charitable donations to advance the creation and preservation of economic opportunities for Shaker Heights.
Nedra Sims Fears
*Executive Director, Greater Chatham Initiative*

Nedra Sims Fears is Executive Director of the Greater Chatham Initiative (GCI). GCI, a young nonprofit, executes a comprehensive action plan for economic growth and neighborhood vitality. It advances business, workforce and housing development locally and connects three business clusters to the region. GCI acts as a convener, collaborator, advocate and implementer for four predominately African-American Chicago south side communities—Chatham, Greater Grand Crossing, Avalon Park and Auburn Gresham, so they can re-emerge as communities of opportunity and choice.

Fears is an economic development expert who specializes in strategic planning, financial modeling, community development financing, and program management. At GCI, she created a new Chatham Center Chicago—a branded commercial retail area that has an accompanying online directory of 300 merchants and service providers. She also started a metal fabrication and transportation, distribution and logistics affinity groups for local manufacturers. She has tracked the recent unfreezing of the neighborhood housing markets. She led the completion of an economic development plan for the four neighborhoods. Recently she secured a MacArthur Foundation and Exelon Corporation grants for GCI.

Previously, Fears developed, and secured partial funding for two community development corporation plans a $37 million 38-block plan for a Detroit neighborhood; and a $17 million nine-block plan for an Atlanta neighborhood. Earlier in her career Fears financed $1 billion in low- and moderate-income single-family and multi-family housing for FannieMae, City of Chicago Department of Housing and Community Investment Corporation.

Kyle Fee
*Senior Policy Analyst, Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland*

Kyle is a senior policy analyst in the Community Development Department of the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland. In this role, he conducts applied research and outreach related to economic development, workforce development, neighborhood development, and economic geography in the Fourth District. Mr. Fee holds a bachelor of science degree in economics and business.
administration from John Carroll University. He received an MA in urban studies/economic development from Loyola University, Chicago, and he is pursuing his PhD at the Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs at Cleveland State University.

Frank Ford  
Senior Policy Advisor, Western Reserve Land Conservancy

Frank Ford is Senior Policy Advisor at Western Reserve Land Conservancy and Chair of the Cleveland Vacant and Abandoned Property Action Council (VAPAC). He is an attorney who has worked in the field of community development for 40 years. From 1999 to 2013 he was a Senior Vice President at Cleveland Neighborhood Progress (CNP) where he directed CNP’s Land Assembly and Neighborhood Stabilization Initiatives. In 2013 he led a study on the outcomes of property emerging from foreclosure that was published by Harvard University. While teaching at the University of Colorado at Denver he published one of the first studies in the U.S. to document racial disparities in lending to small businesses – this study was cited by Attorney General Janet Reno in her Martin Luther King Day speech in Birmingham, Alabama in 1997. A study he conducted on home mortgage lending in Denver was the subject of a news story aired by NBC Nightly News in 1993. In 1986 he litigated the first case under Ohio’s newly enacted Receivership Law. Mr. Ford graduated from Kenyon College with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in English, and received his Juris Doctor Degree from Case Western Reserve University School of Law.

Kendra Freeman  
Manager, Metropolitan Planning Council

Kendra joined the Metropolitan Planning Council (MPC) in 2016. With more than 20 years of experience in program development and operations, she has held leadership positions in the private and nonprofit sector with a focus on affordable housing and capacity building. In her current role at MPC, Kendra is responsible for leading the Equitable Transit-Oriented Development (eTOD) program which
includes research, policy advocacy, outreach and providing technical assistance to communities. Kendra enjoys scoping new opportunities, managing and engaging external partners and cultivating relationships to support new and ongoing projects, including the Cost of Segregation and Elevated Chicago.

Prior to MPC, Kendra worked in affordable housing development and management, where her work focused on investing in people to improve the quality of life in their communities. She held various roles, from direct service to senior management. As executive director of Holsten Human Capital Development, NFP from 2011 to 2015, Kendra was responsible for oversight of daily operations with an annual budget in excess of $1.5 million and 25 staff serving more than 1,200 households living in subsidized housing.

Kendra is a native Chicagoan and licensed real estate broker. She holds a bachelor’s in sociology and a master’s in public administration from DePaul University. She serves as an officer on the Board of Directors for Storycatchers Theatre and is a volunteer tax preparer for the Center for Economic Progress.

Chris Garland
Community Development Manager - Ohio and Michigan, National Community Stabilization Trust

Chris Garland is an urban planning professional focused in community and economic development with over 15 years of experience in both Detroit, Michigan and Cleveland, Ohio. Chris has a strong history in both cities of utilizing research-based methods, leveraging strong partnerships, and implementing creative solutions to deliver positive neighborhood and city-wide impact. Chris currently serves as the NCST Community Development Manager for Michigan and Ohio which brings him in close contact with the diverse group of CDCs, governments, and mission-based for profit housing developers throughout both states. Prior to joining NCST, Chris served as Assistant Director of the Cleveland City Planning Commission and Commissioner of Neighborhood Development for the City of Cleveland. Chris has also had direct CDC experience as he served as Executive Director of the Tremont West Development Corp. (Cleveland) and Jefferson East, Inc. (Detroit).

Chris received a Master of Urban Planning from Wayne State University in Detroit and resides in Cleveland with his wife, Ann and four children and is an active member of Cleveland’s Ohio City neighborhood.
Emily Garr Pacetti
Vice President & Community Affairs Officer, Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland

Emily Garr Pacetti joined the Federal Reserve Bank as Vice President and Community Affairs Officer in 2017. In that capacity, Pacetti oversees the Community Development Department which includes research, policy analysis and outreach that promotes the economic mobility of low and moderate income individuals in the Fourth Federal Reserve District, an area that comprises Ohio, western Pennsylvania, eastern Kentucky, and the northern panhandle of West Virginia.

Pacetti joins the Bank from The Rockefeller Foundation in New York, where she developed and managed initiatives designed to support more inclusive and resilient economies in US cities and regions. Prior to joining the Foundation, she was director of research and evaluation at the Fund for Our Economic Future, a philanthropic collaborative across Northeast Ohio, senior research assistant at the Brookings Metropolitan Policy Program and the Economic Policy Institute in Washington, D.C. and a Fulbright Fellow in Mexico City.

Pacetti has a masters in Public Administration at the Harvard Kennedy School, masters in urban studies from El Colegio de México and a bachelor of arts in political communications from Emerson College.

Dylan Garritano
City Planner E, City of Akron

Dylan Garritano is a planner for the City of Akron and joined the Comprehensive Planning division in 2017. Dylan earned his bachelor’s degree from the University of Mount Union and studied Urban and Regional Planning at the University of Minnesota.
Alex Gauding
*Intern, Cleveland Neighborhood Progress*

I am 23 years old and from Cleveland, Ohio. I attended Cleveland State University and graduated in 2017 as an Urban Studies student. I began my internship under Bianca Butts at Cleveland Neighborhood Progress in March 2018. One of my duties here is to track and maintain data related to the small grants administration process. Another responsibility is to meet with residents and stakeholders regarding the Cleveland Climate Action Plan planning process. Researching and summarizing best practices in climate resiliency from other agencies that can support the development of CNP programs and projects is also part of my daily routine. Lastly, I help create and uphold marketing material in print, electronic, and social media platforms.

Bryan Gillooly
*Executive Director, Bellaire Puritas Development Corporation*

My name is Bryan Gillooly and I am the Executive Director of BPDC (Bellaire Puritas Development Corp) a community development corporation serving neighborhoods in West Park. We provide traditional CDC services to bolster our resilient local housing and commercial economies, as well as youth development, employment readiness and other services to enhance the quality of life in the neighborhood. West Park is also a middle neighborhood.

Colleen Gilson
*Vice President of CDC Advancement, Cleveland Neighborhood Progress*

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Tom Goddeeris
Deputy Director, Detroit Future City

Tom Goddeeris is the Deputy Director of Detroit Future City (DFC), a non-profit planning and advocacy agency working city-wide to improve the quality of life for all Detroiters. As part of this role, Tom provides strategic direction and management for all DFC programs related to housing and economic development. Tom joined DFC in 2017 with nearly three decades of leadership in community development and engagement in the City of Detroit. Prior to joining DFC, Tom led the Grandmont Rosedale Development Corporation (GRDC) on the west side of Detroit for over 26 years, growing the organization from a start-up non-profit to an award-winning and well-respected community developed corporation. While at GRDC, Tom provided leadership for community-driven strategic planning and program implementation. Tom is a frequent presenter on community development issues at the state and local levels. Over his notable career, Tom has received a number of awards for his work and the work of GRDC, including the Terrence R. Duvernay award and Nonprofit Developer of the Year. Tom has a Master of Architecture from Lawrence Technological University and a Bachelor of Science from the University of Michigan Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning.

Keisha Gonzalez
Program Officer, Neighborhoods, The Cleveland Foundation

Keisha Gonzalez joined the Cleveland Foundation in June 2018 as the Program Officer for Community Revitalization and Engagement. Keisha brings 6 years of dynamic placemaking experience. Prior to joining the Foundation, Keisha served the Stockyard, Clark-Fulton, and Brooklyn Centre neighborhoods as the Managing Director for Metro West Community Development Organization. In this capacity she implemented the organization’s strategic plan, management of programs and operations, and cultivated productive relationships in the public, private and civic sector. During her career at Metro West, Keisha also held the positions of Community Organizer (2014) and Director of Economic Development (2016). In these capacities she focused on community-building initiatives designed to improve conditions in the neighborhood through the involvement of residents, businesses and community institutions.
Keisha earned a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology from Cleveland State University and went on to earn her Master of Arts in Historic Preservation from the University of Delaware. During her time at the University of Delaware she worked for the Mid-Atlantic Historic Buildings and Landscape Survey at the Centre for Historic Architecture and Design documenting at-risk historic dwellings, infrastructure and landscapes for local and state governments.

Committed to the equitable placemaking, Keisha has worked on many key projects in the cities where she has lived. Locally, Keisha was a part of the executive steering committee that launched La Placita and has elevated the La Villa Hispana as a priority placemaking initiative for the Clark-Fulton neighborhood. On the east coast, she worked on the Delaware City Oral History Project, a campaign designed to digitally document local recollections pertaining specifically to the history of the natural areas surrounding Delaware City, Delaware.

**Julie Gregg**
*Intern, Cleveland Neighborhood Progress*

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**James Greene**
*Commissioner, Department of Community Development, City of Cleveland*

James Greene is employed by the City of Cleveland, Department of Community Development as Commissioner of Neighborhood Development. As Commissioner, he is tasked with the oversight of offices that include Commercial Revitalization, the Housing Development Office, Tax Abatement (serving as the City’s Housing Officer), the Land Bank and other City-owned real estate, and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Data Analysis. Greene began his career with the City as manager of GIS and Data Analysis. His early work included production of the Cleveland Neighborhood Typology, which is a tool designed to measure neighborhood conditions, and assist with program development and neighborhood planning. He has worked as a Consultant with Neighborhood Progress, Inc. (now Cleveland Neighborhood Progress) and the Enterprise Foundation (now Enterprise Community Partners) on the Strategic Investment Initiative Areas, and other geographic strategy areas. James Greene is a graduate of the MSASS program at Case Western Reserve University, with a concentration in Community and Social Development, where he was a Louis Stokes Fellow. He received a B.A. in Urban Studies from Cleveland State University, with concentrations in Urban Planning and Historic Preservation, and certification in Geographic Information Systems.
Martina Guilfoil
President & CEO, Chattanooga Neighborhood Enterprise

Martina Guilfoil is the president and chief executive officer of Chattanooga Neighborhood Enterprise (CNE). Martina provides inspirational leadership for complex organizations resulting in heightened prosperity and overall community impact. Martina has focused on building and supporting thriving neighborhoods for over 30 years through community development initiatives that generate millions of dollars in private and public investments to spur new real estate development, create equal access to capital and engage the community. Martina sails a sailboat, loves salsa music and has never broken 100 in golf. She earned a BA from The Evergreen State College in Olympia, WA and completed the Achieving Excellence in Community Development program at Harvard University.

Jessie Grogan
Senior Policy Analyst, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy

Jessie joined the Planning and Urban Form department in July 2016, with a broad portfolio of urban development activities, including work on scenario planning and spatial inequality. Prior to that, she worked as a Policy Analyst at the Metropolitan Area Planning Council, the Regional Planning Agency for Greater Boston, from 2007-2016. At MAPC, she was the co-author of The State of Equity in Metro Boston Indicators Report and Policy Agenda; was involved in drafting the MetroFuture regional plan; and helped lead the creation and management of Metro Boston's Sustainable Communities Consortium, formed with a grant from HUD to implement the MetroFuture plan. Jessie has a BA in political science from Simon's Rock College and a MA in Public Policy from the Heller School at Brandeis University.
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Gillian E. Hall, Esq.
Vice President of Operations & General Counsel, Knez Homes

In her role as General Counsel with Knez Homes, Ms. Hall manages the efficient and profitable completion of complex real-estate transactions and development projects. Gillian is responsible for all legal matters of the organization, managing outside counsel relationships and navigating any claims that may occur in the litigation-intensive construction business. Ms. Hall advises her executive team on strategic planning and management of day-to-day operations, including deal structure, property acquisition and due diligence. With an established track record in the intricacies of zoning and environmental regulations, Gillian is regularly found on the frontlines of the company’s negotiation efforts - presenting complex development projects to planning, council, and other regulatory agencies.

Aja Hardy
FUSE Executive Fellow - Economic Development, City of Cleveland

Ája brings more than a decade of experience focused on enabling clients to transform their consumer services and financial footprint through bridging technologies, innovative business solutions, and effective strategy. Prior to being Head of Strategy and Partnerships for health tech startups, Ája was the first Director of the Strategic Advisory practice at Huron Consulting and provided subject matter expertise for new venture business development, commercial strategy, and operations optimization in the areas of mobile health, health analytics, cross-industry service offerings, and technology-enabled solutions for Deloitte Consulting LLP. In addition, Ája held various positions at Cerner Corporation, Office of Public Health-New Orleans, and Abbott Laboratories. Originally from Chicago, she has an MPH from Tulane, an MBA from UMKC and a BS in Pre-Med from Xavier University.
Austin Harrison
*Program Manager, Neighborhood Preservation, Inc.*

Program Manager at Neighborhood Preservation, Inc, a non-profit policy intermediary in Memphis, Tennessee working to remove the systemic barriers to revitalizing Memphis Neighborhoods. Austin has been in the community development field for 5 years having previously worked for neighborhood revitalization groups in Macon, Georgia, Youngstown, Ohio, and Athens, Georgia. He received his BA from Mercer University and his MPA from the University of Memphis.

Kris Harsh
*Housing Director, Metro West CDO*

Housing Director at Metro West CDO in Cleveland, Ohio. Serving the Stockyards, Clark-Fulton and Brooklyn Centre communities with over 15 years of experience in community organizing and housing development. Resident of Old Brooklyn along with wife and three children.

Gregory Heller
*Executive Director, Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority*

In April 2016 Gregory Heller was appointed Executive Director of the Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority (PRA), the City’s implementation arm for community development. Greg’s career has focused on the intersection of real estate and social impact—how physical projects positively impact people and communities. In June 2013, Greg was one of the speakers at TEDx Philadelphia, where he presented on “how to set up social impact real estate.” Previously Greg served as CEO of American Communities Trust, a national community development consulting group with projects in more than 25 cities. He also served as a Senior Advisor at Econsult Solutions and Director of the Enterprise Center Community
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Development Corporation in Philadelphia. In 2017 AIA Pennsylvania presented Greg with its Government Award,

presented annually to a public official. That same year he was named 40 Under 40 by the Philadelphia Business Journal, and in 2016 was selected as a member of the Urban Land 40 Under 40, representing “the best young land-use professionals from around the globe.” Greg is the author of “Ed Bacon: Planning, Politics, and the Building of Modern Philadelphia,” a biography of Philadelphia’s renowned former planning director, published by University of Pennsylvania Press in 2013.

Patrick Hewitt
Senior Planner, Cuyahoga County Planning Commission

Patrick is a Senior Planner with the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission, where he has led the development of master plans for multiple communities across the county, conducted countywide economic development studies, and developed best practices for local communities. Previously, he worked for the Franklin County Economic Development and Planning Department as well as Mullin & Lonergan Associates. He holds a bachelor's degree from Denison University and a master's degree from The Ohio State University.

Growing up in the heart of the Rust Belt, Warren, Ohio, Patrick is enthusiastic about fostering thriving communities in the Midwest. He is an advocate for more vibrant neighborhoods in Northeast Ohio and a proud resident of the City of Cleveland.

Jenny Hope
Director of Neighborhood Programs, Healthy Neighborhoods, Inc.

Jenny Hope is the Director of Neighborhood Programs at Healthy Neighborhoods, Inc in Baltimore. Hope was recently a Project Manager at Telesis Baltimore Corporation working on rental and homeownership redevelopments in the Barclay neighborhood. Prior to Telesis Hope was a Project Manager for the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development's Community Legacy and Neighborhood Business Works programs and the Executive Director of Chesapeake Habitat for Humanity. She earned a BA from
University of Maryland in Sociology and Masters in Social Work from UMB with a concentration in Community Organizing. She has volunteered for numerous nonprofit organizations in Baltimore.

Michael Hudecek  
*Financial Analyst, Cleveland Development Advisors*

A reformed entrepreneur, Michael has spent the last few years as a micro-enterprise and small business development specialist working in the St Clair Superior Neighborhood. As a Financial Analyst at Cleveland Development advisors he works with the asset management team on NMTC compliance.

Leah Hudnall  
*Program Officer, St. Luke’s Foundation*

Prior to joining the Foundation, Leah was a fellow at the George Gund Foundation. In her role, she contributed to proposals across program areas that addressed the legal system, community engagement, summer programming for city youth and safe and affordable reproductive health services. Leah began her career as an intern at the KeyBank Foundation and has also held roles at the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor’s Office and the Center for Arts-Inspired Learning. In the community, Leah is deeply committed to the mission of College Now of Greater Cleveland and serves as a mentor, the chair of the alumni association and a member of their Emerging Leaders Association. In addition, Leah also takes pride in advocating for historically black colleges and universities through the work of the Howard University Alumni Club of Cleveland.

Leah holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in communication and culture from Howard University and a Master of Arts in nonprofit administration from John Carroll University. Leah lives in Cleveland with her husband and their young son.
Susan Infeld
Manager, Special Initiatives, Cuyahoga County Planning Commission

After serving as Mayor of University Heights for eight years, Susan brings a wealth of local government experience to County Planning where she helps chart our future through innovative projects while also providing leadership on our two state-funded, locally implemented grant programs.

Brian Iorio
CDBG Coordinator / Planner City of Cleveland Heights

Brian is a City Planner for the City of Cleveland Heights where he manages the City’s Community Development Block Grant, an annual award of around $1.5M from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development. The CDBG is designed to assist people of low-to-moderate income and prevent and remove slum and blight.

Prior to working for Cleveland Heights, Brian spent 10 years at the City of Euclid where he focused on community development, building and housing, economic development, geographic information systems and urban planning. Brian serves on the board of the Ohio Conference of Community Development, the Greater Cleveland Reinvestment Coalition and is on the Conference Planning Committee for the Ohio Fair Lending Coalition and the Volunteer Committee of the Cleveland Asian Festival. He received a Bachelor’s from the Ohio State University’s Fisher College of Business and a Master’s of Public Administration from Cleveland State University’s Levin College of Urban Affairs.
Yvette Ittu
Executive Vice President, Greater Cleveland Partnership

Yvette M. Ittu is the executive vice president of finance and operations of the Greater Cleveland Partnership. In addition, she is president of Cleveland Development Advisors Inc. (CDA), an affiliate of GCP that is responsible for the management of real estate investment funds initiated, and in part capitalized, by certain GCP members.

CDA-managed capital serves as a source of private-sector funding for catalytic real estate development projects that have significant impact on Northeast Ohio’s growth and development. Under Yvette’s leadership, CDA has successfully raised three private equity funds and secured multiple tax credit equity allocations.

These funds support neighborhood development, job creation and retention, as well as business attraction and expansion, through strategic investments in projects throughout the City of Cleveland and targeted areas of Cuyahoga County.

Yvette is also chairperson of the Cleveland International Fund (CIF), a private equity firm that operates as an EB-5 regional center authorized by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. One of CIF’s goals is to be a driving force for economic development throughout Northeast Ohio.

Prior to joining CDA, Yvette was an associate with the law firm of Calfee, Halter and Griswold LLP practicing in the areas of public law and public finance. She served as bond counsel on multiple financings for the Ohio Housing Finance Agency, the City of Cleveland, and several other Ohio local governments.

In addition, Yvette served as finance director for the City of Lakewood and held several financial management positions for the City of Cleveland including the chief financial officer post for Cleveland Public Power, the city-owned power company. She also was asked to serve on the transition committees for the administration of both Mayor Frank Jackson and Mayor Jane Campbell.

Yvette obtained her Juris Doctorate degree from Cleveland-Marshall College of Law. In addition, she is a certified public accountant and has a bachelor’s degree in business administration from Cleveland State University.
Robert Jaquay became associate director of the Foundation in 1996 and oversees grantmaking in community revitalization and economic development as well as the Foundation’s program-related investing. He also manages the Foundation’s financial functions and serves as in-house counsel. Before joining the Foundation, Jaquay worked in Northeast Ohio as an urban planner, municipal attorney and executive assistant to Cleveland Mayor George Voinovich. Early in his career, he served on the legislative staff of the U.S. House Ways and Means Oversight Subcommittee.

Bob is past chair of Mission Investors Exchange, Neighborhood Funders Group and the Foundation Center – Cleveland. He currently serves as an officer of the Fund for Our Economic Future and a board member of Philanthropy Ohio. He has a B.S. in business administration from John Carroll University, an M.P.A. from Harvard University and a J.D. from Cleveland State University.

Treye Johnson is a regional outreach manager at the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland. From the Bank’s Cleveland office, he works with the community development team on current and emerging economic and community development issues. Before joining the Federal Reserve, Treye was a program officer at Burton D. Morgan Foundation, a philanthropic organization that provides grants to support entrepreneurship and entrepreneurship education throughout Northeast Ohio. His other professional experiences include working at the George Gund Foundation, Saint Martin de Porres High School and Saint Ignatius High School. Johnson holds a BA in communications and a minor in creative writing from John Carroll University and an MS in sport administration from the University of Louisville.
KEVIN JORDAN

Senior Vice President, LISC

Kevin Jordan is LISC’s Senior Vice-President for Program Development. In his role he creates new national programmatic initiatives that helps LISC implement their comprehensive community redevelopment strategy.

KURT KARAKUL

President and CEO, Third Federal Foundation

Kurt Karakul is the first President and Executive Director of the Third Federal Foundation, a $55 million foundation created at the time of Third Federal’s minority public offering in April of 2007. Among his many activities as Foundation Executive Director he has lead the Slavic Village P-16 Project with the Cleveland Metropolitan School District in an effort to work with five neighborhood CMSD K-8 schools and Cleveland Central Catholic and Washington Park High Schools and non-profits and community institutions to create an educational program to impact children from pre-birth to college graduation. The Foundation has invested over $1.5 million per year over the last seven years in Community Partners as the P-16 has begun to move the needle in promoting literacy, health, housing and safety in the neighborhood. Over the last two years we have seen these schools begin to earn passing grades on the Ohio State Report Cards.

During its short existence, the Foundation has earned numerous awards, including a 2018
Hometown Hero Award from the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s Citizen Academy and a 2015 Corporate Partner Award at the Vibrant City Awards Luncheon for its Broadway P-16 work and the Foundation was awarded “Foundation of the Year" Awards issued by the following organizations: The Boys and Girls Club of Cleveland, Cleveland Alcohol and Treatment Services, Inc., and University Settlement House and in 2010 was awarded the Corporate Leadership Award. by the Greater Cleveland Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals at their National Philanthropy Day Luncheon. In 2010 the Foundation earned a Community Impact Award by the Dominion Foundation in 2009 for the Service Scholarship Program created with Cleveland Central Catholic High School in which students and their parents can earn $10 an hour toward their tuition for approved community service projects. As a result of the program more than 400,000 hours of community service has been performed in the Broadway/Slavic Village community. Additionally. 

Before joining the Foundation, Karakul practiced law for 28 years and was a partner and member of the management team of Weston Hurd, LLP. He is a graduate of Kenyon College and Case Western Reserve School of Law. He received an Honorary Degree from Kenyon in 2015. Since 2000, he has been an adjunct professor at CWRU Law School, and from 1985 to 2006, he co-authored a real estate column in the Plain Dealer Saturday Real Estate Section.

Lynnea Katz-Petted
CEO, Revitalize Milwaukee

RM is currently operated under the direction of Lynnea Katz-Petted, CEO. Ms. Katz-Petted holds a BA in Business and Management and has extensive successes in building collaborative relationships for the good of the community. Ms. Katz-Petted is a well-known and respected non-profit professional who has magnified the impact of Revitalize Milwaukee. Lynnea has over 30 years of experience in corporate & nonprofit management, financial services, marketing and sales. She holds a BA from Alverno College and served as an appointed commissioner on the Board of the Department on Aging in Milwaukee County for seven years. Currently, Ms. Katz-Petted is the President of the Medical College Cardiovascular Center Board. Ms. Katz-Petted oversees all components of housing program, fundraising, operations and collaborative activities of Revitalize Milwaukee. Under the direction of Ms. Katz-Petted, Revitalize Milwaukee grew from an organization providing housing rehabilitation projects in a one-day event for 10 homes, to a
year-round agency that responds to the complex needs of over 650 vulnerable homeowners in 350 unique properties. In the past 10 years alone, RM grew from an annual operating budget of $42,000, serving only 14 properties, to the current budget of slightly over $1,500,000 and serving over 350 properties in 2017. Since the founding in 2000, Revitalize Milwaukee has invested over $14.5 million dollars in housing rehabilitation projects on nearly 3,800 properties.

Dennis Keating
Emeritus Professor, Levin College of Urban Affairs, Cleveland State University

I am Emeritus Professor at the Levin College of Urban Affairs, Cleveland State University. I have taught about, researched and published widely on urban neighborhoods, e.g., co-author, Revitalizing Urban Neighborhoods (1996). My most recent publications on Cleveland neighborhoods are: A Brief History of Tremont: Cleveland’s Neighborhood on a Hill (2016) and Stabilizing a Cleveland Neighborhood Hard Hit by the Foreclosure Crisis [Slavic Village] (2018). Forthcoming in Legacy Cities is my chapter entitled “The Arts as a Catalyst for Neighborhood Revitalization [4 Cleveland neighborhoods]. I have also researched and written about housing in U.S. cities and neighborhoods. I am a past President of the Housing Research group (RC43) of the International Sociological Association. I have served on the boards of several community organizations in Cleveland and Cleveland Heights and the Urban Affairs Association.

Kevin Kelley
Council President/Councilman Ward 13, City of Cleveland

Council President Kevin Kelley was first elected in 2005 and continues to represent Ward 13 which includes Old Brooklyn and part of the Stockyard neighborhoods. He was unanimously chosen to continue on as council president. He is chairman of council’s Finance Committee and its Rules Committee. He also serves on two other committees – Operations and Mayor’s Appointments.

Prior to holding public office, Council President Kelley was a member of the Jesuit Volunteer Corps, helping people afflicted with poverty and mental illness. He later worked at Recovery Resources, Inc. assisting mentally ill adults.
Jeff Kipp
Director of Neighborhood Marketing, Cleveland Neighborhood Progress

Jeff Kipp is the Director of Neighborhood Marketing for Cleveland Neighborhood Progress. He joined the community development intermediary in July 2013 after serving as a key figure in the merger of three local community development entities. Jeff leads the marketing and communications efforts for the organization and directs numerous citywide neighborhood marketing activities. He previously served as the Executive Director of LiveCLEVELAND!, a nonprofit civic marketing agency, for 14 years. In his last two roles, he has led each organization in its efforts to promote the livability of Cleveland’s neighborhoods and worked to attract new residents and visitors to the City of Cleveland. He has been an influential city advocate for many efforts, including Cleveland Chain Reaction, the International Gay Games, and the Republican National Convention.

Karen Knittel
City Planner II, City of Cleveland Heights

Karen Knittel has been a Planner with the City of Cleveland Heights for over 20 years. As their program manager for federal programs she administered various community development programs including the Community Development Block Grant Program, HOME Investment Partnership Program, and the Neighborhood Stabilization Program. As a City Planner she continues to be involved with community development, works with community planning and development activities and manages land use regulations. Karen has a degree in Planning and is certified as an Economic Development Professional and as an Ohio Community Development Professional.

Anya Kulcsar
Director of Real Estate, Detroit Shoreway Community Development Organization

DSCDO is a non-profit 501(c)3 community development corporation, founded in 1973 to catalyze development in Cleveland’s Detroit Shoreway neighborhood. Today, the organization provides comprehensive community development services to over 50,000 residents in six Cleveland neighborhoods: the Detroit Shoreway, Cudell and Edgewater...
neighborhoods through the Detroit Shoreway Neighborhood office, and the Stockyard, Clark-Fulton and Brooklyn Centre neighborhoods through the Metro West office.

In addition, DSCDO’s Real Estate Development department develops affordable housing and mixed-use projects. Our Property Management Department provides stewardship and maintenance for the 16 buildings owned by DSCDO. Our Administrative Services staff provide accounting, HR and other core services, with a specialization in tax credit and affordable housing finance.

Jennifer Kuzma  
Executive Director, Northeast Ohio First Suburbs Consortium

The mission of the Northeast Ohio First Suburbs Consortium is to initiate and support policies and practices that protect, maintain, and redevelop mature communities and foster regional cooperation.

Alexa LeBoeuf  
Policy Advocate, Chattanooga Neighborhood Enterprise

Alexa originally hails from Austin, Texas and attended Rhodes College in Memphis, TN. After graduating, she decided to pursue a career in public policy and moved to New England where she received a Masters in Public Policy from Brown University. She began her policy career at the Annenberg Institute for School Reform (AISR) where she worked with youth, community, and family organizations across the country seeking to improve and support their local schools.

After surviving six winters in Providence, she decided it was time to return to the south, and, after a brief trip to Hamilton County, decided that Chattanooga would be her forever home. After working to build a community led policy platform for public schools in Hamilton County, she recently transitioned into a new role as the Policy Advocate at the Chattanooga Neighborhood Enterprise. She is excited to join the team and looks forward to working with neighborhood leaders and local partners to build a shared city vision for neighborhood development and affordable housing."
Kevin Leeson
Planner, Cuyahoga County Planning Commission

Kevin Leeson is a planner with the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission in Cleveland. He specializes in using data and technology to support planning initiatives and research services. This includes work with Census Bureau data, community surveys, and data visualizations. He also manages the agency’s website and social media accounts. In 2003, he created the agency’s blog, the world’s first public-sector urban planning blog. Outside of work, he is a member of Open Cleveland, the area’s Code for America brigade, and the Cleveland Colectivo, a local giving circle.

Kamla Lewis
Director, Neighborhood Revitalization, City of Shaker Heights, OH

Ms. Lewis is the Director of Neighborhood Revitalization for the City of Shaker Heights, Ohio, with responsibility for housing preservation. She has over 25 years of experience in community development, working at municipal, county, regional and international governmental agencies. She has worked in Ohio, in California and in Jamaica on issues related to housing, transportation, food banking, economic development and strengthening neighborhoods. She currently serves on the boards of Policy Matters Ohio, Neighborhood Housing Services of Greater Cleveland and the Shaker Heights Development Corporation. Ms. Lewis is a graduate of Princeton University in New Jersey, and Cambridge University in England, with an academic background in both political science and development economics.

Steve Lorenz
Executive Director, Kamm’s Corners Development Corp.

Steve Lorenz has been Executive Director of Kamm’s Corners Development Corporation since 2001. Kamm’s Corners Development has a small staff of six, and was formed in 1977. Steve has lived in the neighborhood since 1989.
Steve Luca  
*Managing Vice President, Cleveland Development Advisors*

Steve is the Managing Vice President of Cleveland Development Advisors (“CDA”), an affiliate of the Greater Cleveland Partnership. CDA’s mission is “to invest in real estate and business projects intended to attract additional development with the overall goal of improving the character and vitality of Greater Cleveland.” Steve focuses his efforts on establishing and maintaining strategic relationships, generating new business, and overseeing investment and project underwriting. He has been with CDA since 2005, when he joined the company as its Portfolio Manager.

Allison Lukacsky-Love  
*Architect / Community Projects Manager, City of Euclid*

Allison Lukacsy-Love, AIA is the City of Euclid’s Community Projects Manager managing the $30M Waterfront Improvements Plan, a project that has garnered federal awards and national praise for its innovation and collaboration between public and private sectors. Her role includes designing, grant writing, and construction management of streetscape design, park space, and public art as well as event planning and serving as the staff partner to the city’s Architectural Review Board. Allison is a licensed Architect with a professional degree in architecture from Carnegie Mellon University. Allison previously worked as a Project Manager with Geis Companies and StudioTECHNE Architects in Cleveland in addition to architecture firms in Pittsburgh, Philadelphia and Shanghai. Allison’s civic passions including community organizing and creating equitable public spaces. She is a board member at CHN Housing Partners, the City of Cleveland’s Northeast Design Review, the Cleveland Leadership Center’s Leadership Council, the Greater Cleveland Food Bank’s Young Professionals Council and Alliance for the Great Lakes Young Professionals Council. She is a Cleveland Neighborhood Progress ‘Civic Champion’ Finalist, a Cleveland Professional 20/30 Club’s Mover and Shaker and the recipient of a 2016 CPAC Creative Workforce Fellowship. In 2017, Allison was named a “Most Interesting Person” by Cleveland Magazine.
Amber Lynch
Senior Planner, City of Des Moines

Amber Lynch, AICP is a Senior City Planner for the City of Des Moines, Iowa. She has worked in the City’s Neighborhood Development Division since 2008. Amber’s primary role is to work with neighborhoods to develop short range revitalization plans. She has also worked on streetscape projects, numerous regional planning initiatives, and served as the overall project manager for Viva East Bank!, overseeing the implementation of three neighborhood plans and managing a coalition of nearly 30 partner organizations. She is currently leading efforts to redesign Des Moines’ Neighborhood Revitalization Program to improve its effectiveness. Amber serves as a board member for the Iowa Chapter of the American Planning Association, is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP), and holds a Master’s Degree in Community and Regional Planning from Iowa State University.

Alan Mallach
Senior Fellow, Center for community Progress

Writer, scholar, practitioner and advocate Alan Mallach has been engaged with the challenges of rebuilding America’s cities and their neighborhoods for over fifty years. His new book, The Divided City: Poverty and Prosperity in Urban America, sums up his experience, and grapples with the challenge of the simultaneous urban revival, decline and polarization in the nation’s older industrial cities, laying out a path for future cities of inclusion and opportunity. A senior fellow with the Center for Community Progress in Washington DC, he has been affiliated with the Brookings Institution and the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, and served as director of housing & economic development for the city of Trenton, New Jersey. He was a visiting professor at the University of Nevada Las Vegas in 2010-2011, and currently teaches in the Graduate Center on Planning and the Environment at Pratt Institute in New York. He has authored many other books, legal and scholarly articles, book chapters, op-eds, and research and policy reports. He is also a pianist and author of two acclaimed books on 19th century Italian opera. He holds a B.A. degree from Yale College, and lives in Roosevelt, New Jersey.
Sally Martin
*Housing Director, City of South Euclid*

Since 2009, Sally Martin has served as the Housing Director for the City of South Euclid. Her main duties include managing residential code enforcement and overseeing the daily operation of the Housing Department. In addition, Martin helped establish the city’s affiliate community development corporation, One South Euclid, creating the Build-Grow-Thrive Residential Resale program, which has provided the main income stream for the non-profit. Since 2009, she has served on the region’s Vacant and Abandoned Property Action Council where she chairs the delinquent tax committee and has coauthored papers and studies on housing policy issues. She is a regular speaker at local, state, and national conferences, and serves on the boards of the Cuyahoga Housing Consortium, and Solutions at Work, Inc (SAW). She currently serves as the chair of the executive committee for the Greater Cleveland Reinvestment Coalition. Martin has a Bachelor’s of Science from the University of Florida College of Journalism and Communications.

Michael McBride
*Manager, Housing Development, City of Cleveland*

Currently Manager of Housing Development Office City of Cleveland. Neighborhood based real estate developer.

Mark McDermott
*Vice President & Ohio Director, Enterprise Community Partners*

Mark McDermott is vice president and Ohio market leader for Enterprise Community Partners, Inc. He directs Enterprise’s Ohio team which brings leadership, investment, policy change and impactful solutions to communities in Cleveland, Cuyahoga County and throughout Ohio. Enterprise delivers its work in partnership with local community non-profits, government and the philanthropic sector.

Mark joined Enterprise in 1998 as director of Enterprise’s Cleveland office and was promoted to vice president in 2003. Prior to joining Enterprise, he spent eight years as executive director of the Cleveland Housing Network. In addition, he served as research associate for the Center for Neighborhood Development at Cleveland State University and as executive director of the Citizens to Bring Broadway Back.
Mark has a master’s degree in urban planning, design and development from the Levin College at Cleveland State University and a bachelor’s degree in English from Borromeo College of Ohio. Mark and his wife Bobbi Reichtell have lived in and loved Cleveland long before it was cool to do so.

**Joseph McNeely**  
*Board Member, NACEDA*

Joe McNeely is a nationally known expert and consultant on community development and a veteran community organizer. He is currently president of Metroscape Development, a real estate development firm focused on Baltimore city. From 2006 to 2015, he served as the organizer and first Executive Director of the Central Baltimore Partnership. He was the founding executive of Baltimore’s South East Community Organization (SECO) and Southeast Community Development Corporation before serving at the national level in the Carter Administration. He then was for 20 years the President of the nationwide Development Training Institute (DTI), which national columnist Neal Peirce called “the country’s premier trainer of CDC (Community Development Corporation) leaders.” He Co-facilitator of the Weinberg Fellows program for nonprofit executives at the University of Baltimore’s Schaefer Center. He has written extensively on community development including, Community Economic Development for Social Workers, a textbook in the field published by Columbia University Press. Joe serves on many boards including the National Alliance of Community Economic Development Associations (NACEDA). His work in middle neighborhoods goes back to the founding of the fourth NHS in Baltimore in 1974 includes. more recently he is one of the authors in *On the Edge: America's Middle Neighborhoods.*
Rachel Meadows
*Chief of Staff, Philadelphia City Councilwoman Cherelle L. Parker*

Rachel Meadows is the Chief of Staff to Philadelphia City Councilwoman Cherelle L. Parker. She is responsible for advising the Councilwoman while developing and implementing her policy initiatives, performing policy research and drafting legislation, and analyzing the annual budget proposal for the City of Philadelphia. Prior to working for the Councilwoman, Rachel did strategic communications, policy outreach, and strategy for PolicyLab, a research center at The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia. Prior to that, she held other jobs in both City government and the non-profit sector. Rachel received her B.A. from the University of Pennsylvania. She returned to Penn’s Fels Institute of Government to earn her Masters degree in Public Administration, with a concentration in Public Finance. After graduating from Fels, she helped teach a Fels Budgeting course for several years. While not born in Philadelphia, it has been her adopted home since 2001.

Tania Menesse
*Director Community Development, City of Cleveland*

Tania Menesse is the Director of Community Development for the City of Cleveland. The Department of Community Development is responsible for the city's housing and neighborhood commercial redevelopment programs and the city's efforts to develop neighborhood strategies. The Director also manages the Office of Fair Housing and Consumer Affairs which enforces Cleveland's Consumer Protection Code and fosters relationships with the lending community.
Stephanie Mercado

*Neighborhood Revitalization Coordinator, Sixteenth Street Community Health Centers*

Since 1969, Sixteenth Street Community Health Centers has provided high quality health care, health education and social services for residents of the multi-cultural neighborhoods on Milwaukee’s South Side. An independent non-profit agency, Sixteenth Street now operates at five locations. Sixteenth Street is the only source of medical care for more than 7,500 individuals without any health insurance and nearly 19,000 patients who rely on the Medicaid program. Our comprehensive health services include adult and pediatric medicine, behavioral health services, social services, women's health, HIV prevention and treatment and an array of other supplemental programs for our patients. What sets Sixteenth Street apart is its innovative programming and dedication to the complete health of the individual as well as the overall health of the broader community.

Hunter Morrison

*Director, Northeast Ohio Sustainable Communities Consortium Initiative*

Before acting as Director of the NEOSCC, Hunter worked as the Director of the Center for Urban and Regional Studies at Youngstown State University. The Center was established for the purpose of understanding applied research addressing issues of urban and regional development and providing technical assistance to local government, social service organizations, and businesses.

Prior to this he was Director of the Cleveland City Planning Commission and was responsible for Civic Vision 2000, a $3 million initiative that resulted in the comprehensive updating of the City’s Downtown Plan, Citywide Plan, and Zoning Code. Civic Vision received the 1992 American Planning Association National Planning Award for Comprehensive Planning. Under his direction, the department was responsible for the development of master plans for North Coast Harbor District, site of Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and the Cleveland Browns Stadium; the Playhouse Square Theatre District, site of the country’s second largest performing arts center; and the Gateway Sports District, home of Jacobs Field and Gund Area. The Gateway project was awarded an Urban Design Citation from Progressive Architecture in 1990, an Honor Award for urban design from the American Society of Landscape
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Architects in 1991, and the AIA Urban Design Award in 1996. Prior to joining the City of Cleveland in 1980, he worked for the Hough Area Development Corporation, a neighborhood development organization in Cleveland; for private consulting firms in Boston, and for the cities of Nairobi and New York.

Hunter has taught at the Harvard Graduate School of Design and at Cleveland State University’s Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs. Hunter holds degrees in city planning and political science from Yale College, city planning from the Harvard Graduate School of Design, and business administration from Cleveland State University.

David H. Mortimer
President, The American Assembly

Before joining The Assembly, David H. Mortimer worked at Kuhn-Loeb & Co., an investment bank. At The Assembly, Mr. Mortimer has overseen more than eighty national projects on domestic and international topics. He was also responsible for several books publishing arrangements. He has been involved in every aspect of the planning, implementation, and follow-up of 100 regional programs led by The Assembly with various institutions across the United States, Asia, Canada, and Europe.

Kurt Mulhauser
City Planner, Department of Planning, City of Akron City

The Department of Planning and Urban Development is dedicated to the continuous renewal and maintenance of the Akron community. We promote high standards for residential, commercial, recreational and community development so that the quality of the built environment enriches all of our lives. The Department looks forward to involving and serving our citizens to make the neighborhoods where we live, work and play true places of the heart.
Elizabeth Murphy
Senior Community Planner, City of Rochester

Elizabeth Murphy is a Senior Community Planner with Rochester's Department of Neighborhood and Business Development. She manages plans, studies, and data analysis to inform city policy and investment, particularly efforts related to housing, transportation, community development, sustainability, and health. She recently completed a citywide housing market study with CZB. Prior to working at City Hall, Elizabeth worked at NeighborWorks Rochester, where she helped to implement their middle neighborhoods initiative called "Healthy Blocks." She also held positions with the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Rochester-based regional health planning agency Common Ground Health. Elizabeth holds an M.R.P from Cornell University and a B.A. from Bard College.

Marcia Nedland
Principal, Fall Creek Consultants

Marcia Nedland is a consultant focusing on market rebuilding strategies and evaluation for neighborhoods and small cities. Through Fall Creek Consultants LLC, Nedland works with neighborhood associations, nonprofits, foundations, financial institutions and local governments throughout the U.S. on neighbors’ goals for equitable and market-sensitive revitalization. She also teaches, writes and speaks on these topics. Nedland is known for market analysis, planning models and strategies related specifically to attracting homebuyers to, and cultivating the image of transitional neighborhoods. Nedland is the co-chair of the Community of Practice for the national Middle Neighborhoods initiative, and contributed a chapter on place branding to the book On the Edge: America's Middle Neighborhoods.
Lisa Nelson
Community Development Research Manager, Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland

Lisa Nelson is a community development research manager in the Community Development Department of the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland. In this role, she coordinates the strategic development and execution of the department’s research initiatives and conducts data analysis and applied research on a range of issues impacting low- and moderate-income communities with an emphasis on policy implications. Prior to her promotion in January 2016, she was a senior policy analyst. Her most recent work focuses primarily on workforce development and neighborhood stabilization efforts.

Prior to joining the Bank in 2006, Ms. Nelson served as associate director for community information at the Center on Urban Poverty and Social Change at Case Western Reserve University.

Ms. Nelson holds a bachelor’s degree in political science from the University of Tennessee and an MA degree in public administration from the Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs at Cleveland State University.

Michael Norton
Chief Policy Analyst, Reinvestment Fund

As Chief Policy Analyst at Reinvestment Fund, Dr. Michael Norton supports all research related to Reinvestment Fund’s organizational goals and mission. In this role Dr. Norton works closely with a range partners, including small non-profit organizations, local and national philanthropies, private companies, colleges and universities, school districts, federal, state, and city governments and agencies. His work leverages nearly a decade of experience as researcher and project director to develop data driven solutions – solutions that meet the unique needs of Reinvestment Fund and our key stakeholders in the public and private sectors.

Dr. Norton completed his doctoral studies in the Sociology Department at Temple University,
where his research examined the relationship between secondary mortgage market activity and neighborhood change in the Philadelphia region at the turn of the 21st century. Prior to joining Reinvestment Fund in 2015 Dr. Norton served as a Senior Research Associate at Research for Action in Philadelphia. In this role he led and co-led a range of mixed-methods evaluations of educational reform initiatives and policies at the local and state levels.

Kevin Nowak  
*Director of Strategic Initiatives & General Counsel, CHN Housing Partners*

Kevin Nowak is the incoming Executive Director of CHN Housing Partners. In his current role as CHN’s General Counsel and Director of Strategic Initiatives, Kevin builds and leads new partner collaboration efforts to meet community housing needs, develops the strategies for and oversees implementation of CHN’s new mission and social impact enterprises, and leads CHN’s legal risk management efforts. Kevin brings a solutions oriented approach to community issues with a unique expertise in law, finance, real estate development and public policy. Prior to CHN, Kevin was at KeyBank as the National Equity Investment Manager of Key Community Development Corporation. Prior to KeyBank, Kevin practiced at Thompson Hine LLP, where he focused on real estate law, corporate asset management and corporate law. Kevin is a frequent speaker about community development issues and serves on a number of non-profit and advisory boards focused on community and economic development. Kevin joined CHN in 2016 after serving on CHN’s board for 7 years and is a proud grad of the University of Michigan, B.A. ’02 (Phi Beta Kappa) and J.D. ’05.

Matthew Orehek  
*Marketing Manager, LDA architects, Inc.*

Matthew Orehek is an urbanist and advocate for Cleveland. He has a background in urban planning and politics. He is a resident of the Kamm’s Corners neighborhood and is interesting in sharing lessons learned and information with his local CDC.
Drew Pack
Community Outreach Manager, Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland -- Pittsburgh Branch

Drew Pack is a regional outreach manager for the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland. From the Bank’s Pittsburgh Branch, he works with the community development team on current and emerging economic and community development issues across the Fourth Federal Reserve District. Mr. Pack joined the Federal Reserve System in 2009 at the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, for which he worked as a regional public policy specialist in the Public Affairs Department before moving to the community development team. In that role, he provided advisory services and research on workforce development at the St. Louis Fed’s Memphis Branch.

Prior to joining the Federal Reserve, Mr. Pack worked in an economic development role with the Pensacola Bay Area Chamber of Commerce in Florida. He also assisted in the establishment of iTen Wired, a regional entrepreneurship network, and the Gulf Coast Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, a business incubator. Mr. Pack holds a BA in political science from the University of Mississippi and an MPA from Auburn University.

Cherelle Parker
Councilwoman - 9th District, City of Philadelphia

Councilwoman Cherelle L. Parker proudly serves the 9th Council District in Philadelphia, which stretches through northwest and northeast communities.

Prior to her election to Council in November 2015, Cherelle served for 10 years as the State Representative for the 200th Legislative District in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, where she became the youngest African-American woman ever elected in September 2005.

During her tenure in the House, Cherelle served on the powerful Appropriations Committee, as well as the Labor and Industry, Professional Licensure, Rules, and Transportation committees. Additionally, she was twice
elected by her Philadelphia colleagues to serve as chair of the Philadelphia Delegation in the House.

While in Harrisburg, Cherelle championed several key pieces of legislation, including The Philadelphia Tax Fairness Package; a local $2 per-pack cigarette tax to generate additional revenue for the School District of Philadelphia; and Act 75 of 2012, which strengthened victims’ rights by permitting expert testimony in sexual assault cases.

According to research by The Reinvestment Fund, the 9th Council District is 95% middle neighborhoods. Cherelle is exploring ways to resolve some of the problems associated with reverse mortgages, deteriorating infrastructure, and a lack of investment in middle neighborhoods. As Chair of Council’s Labor and Civil Service Committee, Cherelle has brought much-needed attention to Philadelphia’s retirement security crisis, particularly for workers who do not have access to a retirement savings plan through their employer.

Cherelle is a graduate of Lincoln University and the University of Pennsylvania.

Dean Parker
Vice President Finance and Investor Relations, Cleveland Development Advisors

Dean is the Vice President of Finance and Investor Relations for Cleveland Development Advisors, providing overall financial and administrative oversight for the organization, including its accounting functions, computer systems and financial reporting to its Board of Directors, its investors and the Community Development Financial Institution Fund. Prior to joining CDA in 2004, Dean held multiple positions in both the public and private sector. With the City of Cleveland Finance Department, Dean was charged with oversight of the Capital Budget process and the financing of Cleveland Browns Stadium Project. Dean also worked for the Richard Jacobs Group and the Cuyahoga County Treasurer. In addition Dean spent several years managing the operations of a local music industry company which operated 16 companies with locations in Cleveland, New York and New Orleans.”
Mary Helen Petrus
Assistant Vice President, Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland

Mary Helen Petrus is an assistant vice president in the Community Development Department at the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland. She is responsible for managing the department’s outreach efforts and research initiatives. In this role, Ms. Petrus works with economists and analysts on a broad range of issues that affect access to credit and capital in low- and moderate-income communities, with an emphasis on policy implications.

Ms. Petrus began her career at the Cleveland Reserve Bank in 2008 as a senior policy analyst in the Community Affairs Department. In 2009, she was promoted to manager in Community Development, and she assumed her current position in April, 2014. Prior to joining the Bank, Ms. Petrus was director of policy development for the former trade association Cleveland Neighborhood Development Coalition. She was a founding co-director of ReBuild Ohio, a statewide consortium of civic, academic, and community organizations created to study and develop policy recommendations on the debilitating effects of vacant and abandoned property in Ohio. She also served as a budget analyst at the Congressional Budget Office in Washington, DC.

Ms. Petrus holds a bachelor’s degree in communications and political science from Northwestern University and an MA in public policy from the University of Chicago’s Harris School of Public Policy Studies.

Jeff Pfitzer
Program Officer, Benwood Foundation

Jeff Pfitzer is a program officer for the Benwood Foundation of Chattanooga, TN where he funds and supports strategic partners in developing and implementing downtown and urban neighborhood revitalization strategies.
Valerie Piper
Vice President of Special Projects, The Democracy Collaborative

Valerie Piper is the Vice President of Special Projects at The Democracy Collaborative, where she helps to develop new community wealth building projects and partnerships. From 2011 to 2017, she served as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Economic Development at the Department of Housing and Urban Development, where she led the development and launch of President Obama’s Promise Zones Initiative, a cross-agency and cross-sector effort to accelerate place-based inclusive economic and community development, as well as the creation of new interagency initiatives like the Small Contractor Initiative, the Rural Community Capital Initiatives, and the Community Development Marketplace. Piper has also served as a Senior Fellow at the Annie E. Casey Foundation’s Center for Family Economic Success, Executive Director of the Center for Urban Redevelopment Excellence post-graduate fellowship at the University of Pennsylvania, and the Director of Planning & Policy for the Chicago Housing Authority’s Plan for Transformation. In earlier federal service, she was a member of the Department of the Treasury team that launched the Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) Fund, and the HUD team that implemented mixed finance development for public housing.

Norma Polanco-Boyd
District Community Affairs Officer, The Office of the Comptroller of the Currency

Ms. Polanco-Boyd is the District Community Affairs Officer (DCAO) for the OCC in the Central District. Norma is based in Cleveland, Ohio, but her service area includes the states of Ohio and Michigan and Kentucky. As a DCAO, Norma provides examination support to examiners conducting CRA exams, as well as guidance and technical support to banks on CRA activities and assistance in identifying community development opportunities. She also organizes trainings, workshops and conferences on community development topics or CRA for bankers, examiners and community-based organizations. Norma joined the OCC in 2004 after serving for six years as the executive director of a small economic development corporation on Chicago’s near west side. Norma, who served in the Peace Corps in Central Asia, holds a Master’s Degree in Urban Planning and Policy and a BA in English Literature from the University of
Illinois at Chicago. Norma is the exhausted mom of two tweens girls, and is very active in her historic Cleveland neighborhood, serving on various boards and committees.

**Sharon Posner**  
*Fair Lending Manager, Third Federal Savings & Loan Association*

Responsible for the management and oversight of Third Federal’s Fair Lending Program and Community lending efforts. Works with a team of associates to ensure Third Federal is meeting the credit needs of all segments of its market areas, while helping to build community lending outreach efforts and provide strategic direction for the development of lending products. Also interacts with regulators to provide updates regarding the status and accomplishments of Third Federal’s Fair Lending program.

**Pamela Puchalski**  
*Executive Director, The American Assembly*

Prior to joining The Assembly, Pamela Puchalski led a civic consultancy advancing forward-looking models for inclusive growth, city-to-city learning, and collaboration. Working in the US and internationally, she has designed and implemented initiatives for urban resilience, neighborhood revitalization, economic development, and competitiveness. Her work helps cities and communities persevere and prosper in the face of a growing list of threats linked to climate change, economic instability, and inequality.

Ms. Puchalski was part of the founding team for Rockefeller Foundation’s 100 Resilient Cities where she led the effort to develop resilience strategies through community-based approaches and public-private-civic partnerships. She launched the Global Cities Initiative at Brookings Institution to help American metro regions pivot their economies towards increased engagement in world markets. She also played an instrumental role establishing LSE Cities and managing the Urban Age program at the London School of Economics. Ms. Puchalski also created and managed the American Institute of Architects’ Center for Architecture in New York City.

Other projects include the Africa Center in New York and the Resilient Communities program at New America, where she was a Senior Fellow. Ms. Puchalski was also a Non Resident Senior Fellow with the Metropolitan Policy Program at Brookings Institution.
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Joel Ratner
President & CEO, Cleveland Neighborhood Progress

Joel Ratner is President and CEO of Cleveland Neighborhood Progress, a nonprofit organization dedicated to revitalizing Cleveland's neighborhoods. Founded in 1988, CNP’s mission is to foster communities of choice and opportunity throughout Cleveland. CNP provides operating support, technical assistance and training for Cleveland’s community development corporations and through its subsidiaries, Village Capital and New Village Corporation which finances and develops real estate projects. CNP has an annual operating budget of $7 million and a staff of twenty-five. In 25 years, CNP and its subsidiaries have invested over $150 million in community organizations and their development agendas, creating over 7,400 housing units and over 2.5 million sq. ft. of retail/industrial space.

Kelly Regan
Editorial Director, Next City

Kelly Regan is editorial director of Next City. Before joining the urbanist website, Kelly worked for two decades in magazines, books, and digital publishing. As an editorial manager at Google, she assembled and directed content teams that prototyped and launched the Destinations at Google travel channel, as well as the Explore recommendation engine on Google Maps. As editorial director of the Frommer’s Travel Guides, she launched a color publishing program and managed a list of 125 books per year. She is a longtime freelance editor and writer, specializing in science, travel, educational publishing, and dream interpretation. She holds a B.A. in Government from Georgetown University and an M.S. in Journalism from Columbia University.

Johnnette Richardson
Executive Director, Belair-Edison Neighborhoods, Inc.

A native of Camden, New Jersey, is a graduate of Morgan State University. In 2003, Johnnette became the Main Street Manager for Belair-Edison Neighborhoods, Inc. and in June 2007 she was promoted to Executive Director. An advocate of volunteerism, she serves as the Board President for Afya Baltimore, Inc., a Baltimore City public charter school organization. She serves on the steering committee of the Baltimore Homeownership Preservation
Coalition. She is a 2008 Greater Baltimore Committee Leadership graduate. In October 2009 she completed Bank of America’s Neighborhood Excellence Initiative Leadership program. She is a 2010 Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Fellow. In 2012 she was named one of the Daily Record’s Leading Women: Maryland’s Future. And, in 2017, she was named one of Associated Black Charities’ Women on the Move – Organizations Making a Difference for Women. Johnette routinely speaks locally and nationally for different training institutes and foundations around various neighborhood revitalization and community economic development topics.

**Willette Riley**  
*Community Resource Specialist, City of Akron Department of Planning & Urban Development*

The Department of Planning and Urban Development is dedicated to the continuous renewal and maintenance of the Akron community. We promote high standards for residential, commercial, recreational and community development so that the quality of the built environment enriches all of our lives. The Department looks forward to involving and serving our citizens to make the neighborhoods where we live, work and play true places of the heart.

**Roshawn Sample**  
*Executive Director, Union Miles Development Corporation*

In 2012, Ms. Sample joined the team at Union Miles Development Corporation a CDC on the Southeast side of Cleveland. UMDC was founded in 1981, as a spin-off organization of the Union Miles Community Coalition. Now the Executive Director of UMDC since 2017, Ms. Sample has moved the agency forward by bringing in a rejuvenated team, refined mission and implementing a series of cohesive place making plans designed to evoke both civic engagement and pride. Ms. Sample has a Bachelors Degree from the University of Akron, a Masters of Social Work and Public Administration form Cleveland State University.
Robyn Sandys  
*Executive Director, North West Housing Partnership*

I have been in the community development field for over 20 years. I worked as the policy and marketing director for Neighborhood Progress, as Executive Director at Old Brooklyn CDC for 7 years, and currently for the past 5 years I am the executive director at North West Housing Partnership. NWHP is a nonprofit that addresses affordable housing in suburban areas with a high number of lower income workers who can't afford either rental or for sale housing without subsidies.

Brianna Sas-Pérez  
*Executive Director, Layton Boulevard West Neighbors, Inc.*

Brianna Sas-Pérez is committed to community development and the flourishing of just, equitable neighborhoods where people thrive. She does this in part through her work at Layton Boulevard West Neighbors (LBWN), a non-profit community development corporation strengthening diverse, vibrant and healthy neighborhoods in Milwaukee, WI. LBWN believes inclusiveness and opportunity are vital for sustainable neighborhoods and fosters this by uniting, equipping and inspiring people to invest in their community through a focus on housing, economic development and grassroots leadership development initiatives. Brianna graduated from Calvin College with an interdisciplinary degree in art and engineering, and without intentions of being an artist or engineer. In her work today, Brianna collaborates with her coworkers to ensure that all of LBWN’s work aligns with the neighborhood Quality of Life Plan which outlines the community vision and goals for the Silver City, Burnham Park and Layton Park neighborhoods.
Michael Schubert
Principal, Community Development Strategies

Michael Schubert founded Community Development Strategies in 1991. Since that time he has helped a variety of organizations improve their understanding of neighborhood revitalization and their performance in making neighborhood change. He has provided planning, implementation, and evaluation services in 39 states, 80 cities, and 135 neighborhoods. He has built long term relationships with clients and has provided on-going coaching on implementation. Clients include nonprofits, community development intermediaries, foundations, local and state governments, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and financial institutions. As an award winning trainer for NeighborWorks America as well as through other engagements, he has provided training to over a thousand community development practitioners and resident leaders. Prior to beginning his own firm, Michael served as Commissioner of the Department of Housing for the City of Chicago, a cabinet - level position in the first term of Mayor Richard M. Daley. Michael came to city government after fourteen years working at Neighborhood Housing Services of Chicago.

He has substantial experience in strategy development, evaluation, and training. He is the author of “Designing and Directing Neighborhood Change Efforts: How to Be More Intentional and Effective.” a HUD Resource Guide for the Choice Neighborhoods Program.

Lori Schwarz
Director of Neighborhood Services, City of Plano

Lori Schwarz, AICP is the Director of Neighborhood Services for the City of Plano, which includes the BEST Neighborhoods, Community Services and Property Standards Divisions. Ms. Schwarz previously held the position of Plano’s Comprehensive Planning Manager. Prior to moving to the Dallas-Fort Worth area in 2013, she served the City of Galveston for twelve years in multiple roles, including Interim Director of Planning and Community Development. Ms. Schwarz’s professional experience includes: strategic/comprehensive planning, historic preservation and neighborhood planning, coastal/environmental planning, disaster recovery planning, land development
regulations, grant management and code enforcement. Ms. Schwarz holds a master's degree from the University of Georgia. She is also a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) and a Texas Registered Code Enforcement Officer.

Carey Shea  
*Adviser, Neighborhood Homes Investment Coalition*

Carey Shea is the founder of the Neighborhood Homes Investment Coalition, a national policy effort to revitalize 1-4 family homes in distressed neighborhoods. She has directed several community development corporations including Home by Hand and Project Home Again, rebuilding in post-Katrina New Orleans. From September 2012 until December 2013, Carey was a loaned-executive to the City of New Orleans where she worked with the Director of Housing Policy and Community Development to design and implement a $52 million soft-second mortgage program that enabled over 900 residents to become first-time homeowners in Orleans Parish. She arrived in New Orleans shortly after Hurricane Katrina to project manage the disaster recovery planning process – the Unified New Orleans Plan (UNOP) – for the Rockefeller Foundation. Upon completion of the planning process, she launched and implemented the $25 million Community Revitalization Fund for the Greater New Orleans Foundation. Carey has also worked for the Surdna Foundation, the Local Initiatives Support Corporation, Habitat for Humanity, and the East New York Urban Youth Corps which she founded. Carey was the founder and president of an urban homesteading (sweat-equity) rehab project in New York City in the 1980s.

Paul Singh  
*Acting Vice President, NeighborWorks America*

As Vice President of Community Initiatives, Paul Singh leads NeighborWorks America's support for comprehensive community development efforts that build vibrant local communities that provide equitable opportunities for people to thrive. Singh oversees the Stable Communities, Community Building and Engagement, Rural and Healthy Homes and Communities Initiatives and the work of these teams to elevate and strengthen local practice through grant making, technical assistance, capacity building, peer-to-peer learning, demonstration projects, stakeholder convenings, and research.

Prior to joining NeighborWorks in 2012, Singh was a Program Officer at LISC where he managed multiple programs delivering technical assistance and training to nonprofits. Singh got his start in community development at Historic Saint Paul, a nonprofit
dedicated to preserving the historic character of his hometown of St. Paul, Minnesota. He has a Masters in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Minnesota and an undergraduate degree from Macalester College.

Mark Sissman  
*President, Healthy Neighborhoods, Inc.*

Mark Sissman has led HNI as President since 2005. From October 2001 to April 2004, Sissman was President and Chief Executive Officer of the Hippodrome Foundation, the local development partner for the redevelopment of the abandoned Hippodrome Theater, a $70 million 2,250 seat world-class performing arts center. Mr. Sissman served the Enterprise Foundation for fourteen years as President of the Enterprise Social Investment Corporation and Vice Chair for Strategic Initiatives. Under his leadership, ESIC was the nation's foremost syndicator of the Low-Income Housing Tax Credits. Sissman served as Baltimore City Deputy Commissioner of Housing.

JD Smith  
*Neighborhood Engagement Coordinator, Kamm's Corners Development Corporation*

JD Smith is the Neighborhood Engagement Coordinator for Kamm's Corners Development Corp. where he is responsible for community organizing, engagement, and managing rehabilitation efforts for homeowners.
Adam Solomon
*Database Assistant, The American Assembly*

Adam Solomon joined The Assembly in August, 2018. He is responsible for data aggregation and processing as well as constituent research. He also provides support to The Assembly’s new database architecture. Prior to joining The Assembly, Mr. Solomon conducted ethnographic fieldwork on criminality in Bali, Indonesia. Mr. Solomon also worked at the Center for Human Development & Family Services as a waiver support provider. In this role, he focused on the social and educational needs of children diagnosed with conduct disorder. Mr. Solomon received a BA in Forensic Psychology from John Jay College of Criminal Justice.

Jenny Spencer
*Managing Director, Detroit Shoreway Community Development Organization*

Jenny Spencer is Managing Director of Detroit Shoreway Community Development Organization (DSCDO), a nonprofit founded in 1973 to catalyze the physical and social development of the Detroit Shoreway neighborhood on Cleveland’s Near West Side. Beginning in July 2018, DSCDO expanded to two adjacent neighborhoods. Jenny and her team now serve three Cleveland neighborhoods with a combined population of 26,000 residents – Cudell, Edgewater and Detroit Shoreway. Prior to her current leadership role at DSCDO, Jenny led economic development initiatives at Team NEO to drive business attraction in the Northeast Ohio region. She served as the DSCDO project manager for the nationally recognized Gordon Square Arts District, which leveraged arts and culture for neighborhood revitalization, and oversaw the re-opening of the historic Capitol Theatre. Jenny was a U.S. Peace Corps Volunteer in Paraguay and fluent in Spanish. She has Master’s degree in Public Policy and Urban Planning from the Harvard Kennedy School, and a B.A. in political science from The Ohio State University.
Scot Spencer leads the Foundation’s work in advancing community-focused policies, practices and strategies that increase opportunities for children, families and the places where they live and foster their success. Spencer also coordinates Casey’s local advocacy efforts in Baltimore.

Before taking on these roles, Spencer managed Casey’s investments in East Baltimore, where the Foundation seeks to strengthen community and economic development in a historic, low-income neighborhood next door to the Johns Hopkins University medical campus. He previously was a transportation specialist at the Environmental Defense Fund, where he focused on state-level smart-growth policy and Commuter Choice, a local tax incentive for people who use transit. He also served as deputy director for Historic East Baltimore Community Action Coalition. There, he led the federal Bridges to Work demonstration, which provided job training and placement services for residents in East and West Baltimore, as well as transportation from their neighborhoods to employment centers in the suburbs. In addition, he worked for several years in private architectural practice, community development and university relations in upstate New York.

Spencer serves on a number of local and national boards, including The Funders’ Network for Smart Growth and Livable Communities and the Orton Family Foundation. He was the founding chair of the Maryland Commission on Environmental Justice and Sustainable Communities and served as co-chair of the Opportunity Collaborative, Baltimore’s regional plan development through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s Sustainable Communities Initiative.
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**Stephanie Sung**  
*Deputy Director of Projects, The American Assembly*

Stephanie Sung is responsible for the development and launch of new initiatives across various program areas. Her primary role is to influence public policies that expand economic and social mobility in underserved regions. She currently leads capacity-building efforts for community-based organizations in middle neighborhoods. Chief among her past projects is a legacy cities initiative which aimed to establish coalitions of grassroots organizations to promote inclusive urban revitalization in older industrial cities.

**Emily Thome**  
*Vice President, Third Federal Foundation*

A non-profit professional for nearly 20 years. Experience with program implementation and fundraising in a variety of non-profits from small social justice organizations to large arts institutions. Passionate about the potential of philanthropy to help empower communities to create meaningful change. Specialties: Individual giving, major gifts, annual fund management, capital campaign management.

**Dale Thomson**  
*Dept. Chair & Associate Professor, University of Michigan-Dearborn*

Dr. Thomson teaches courses in public policy and administration and urban revitalization and politics, and serves as the Chair of the University of Michigan – Dearborn’s Department of Social Sciences.

His research foci include the role of foundations and community-based organizations in city policymaking, strategic geographic targeting of community development resources, and capacity of CDCs. He has published in venues, such as the Journal of Urban Affairs, Urban Affairs Review, and Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly, as well as books from Penn Press, University of Michigan Press, and Michigan State Press.
Dr. Thomson previously directed UM-Dearborn’s MPA and MPP programs and its Institute for Local Government, as well as community development research at Wayne State University’s Center for Urban Studies. He served as a Social Science Analyst with the Office of Policy Development and Research at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development where he advised the Secretary on community and economic development policy and served as HUD’s policy representative on the President’s Council for Sustainable Development, White House Task Force for Livable Communities, and U.S.-Mexico Bi-National Committee.

Helen Tomic  
*Capital Planning Manager, City of Akron*

The Comprehensive Planning Division performs a variety of functions related to preserving and improving the quality of life for Akron residents. Areas of responsibility include formulation of long-range strategies for land use in the city, development of the Consolidated Plan and related reports, preparation of renewal plans for neighborhoods, and development of the Continuum of Care for the homeless.

Kyasha Tyson  
*Director of Community and Economic Development, Office of Councilwoman Cherelle L. Parker*

Kyasha Tyson serves as the Director of Community and Economic Development to Philadelphia Councilwoman Cherelle L. Parker. In addition to managing special projects, she is responsible for managing community building/organizing, and economic development initiatives. Prior to joining City Council, Kyasha served as the Public & Community Relations Liaison for Parker during her tenure as State Representative to the 200th Legislative District in Pennsylvania.

Kyasha has more than eight years of experience directing government relations campaigns from authoring the Voter Identification Education Guide (VIEG) for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to overseeing constituent enrollment in the Health Insurance Marketplace created by the Affordable Care Act and countless public education campaigns on legislative and community matters. Throughout her career, Kyasha has built strategic partnerships with community development corporations, local civic groups, and business associations. Before joining Parker’s State staff, Kyasha served as the Producer and Outreach Coordinator for 900 AM WURD, where she was responsible for managing and producing radio programming and live news reports during mid-term and general local/national political elections.

Kyasha holds a Master of Public Administration degree from Villanova University, and two Bachelor degrees in Communications and African American Studies from Temple University.
Jeffrey Verespej  
*Executive Director, Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation*

Jeffrey T. Verespej is the Executive Director of Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation, serving the largest neighborhood in Cleveland with over 30,000 residents and assets such as the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo and MetroHealth.

Under his leadership, the corporation was named the 2017 CDC of the Year by the Ohio CDC Association. In 2016 the organization established an innovative community health strategy that blends public health and community development. It has facilitated the redevelopment of multiple historic buildings in the neighborhood, launched a successful weekly summer festival, and initiated a cross-sector education program. He supervises and manages all functions of the corporation that includes real estate and economic development, marketing and communications, housing redevelopment, community organizing, and service delivery.

Prior to his hiring as the Executive Director, Mr. Verespej spent four years at Ohio City Incorporated as the Director of Operations and Advocacy. Mr. Verespej is the Past-President of the Case Western Reserve University Alumni Association (CWRU BA ’07, MBA ’11) and a former Chair of the Leadership Council for the Cleveland Leadership Center. He resides in the Edgewater neighborhood of Cleveland with his wife Sara and son Theodore.

Linda Warren  
*Senior Vice President of Placemaking, Cleveland Neighborhood Progress*

Linda Warren is currently the Senior Vice President of Placemaking for Cleveland Neighborhood Progress (CNP), a non-profit intermediary supporting the redevelopment of Cleveland’s neighborhoods. Ms. Warren is also the President of New Village Corporation (NVC), CNP’s real estate development subsidiary. As CNP’s Sr. VP, Ms. Warren oversees a staff of ten, whose Placemaking work includes real estate development and lending, vacant land reclamation, climate resiliency and sustainability, public art, neighborhood marketing and community planning.
Prior to joining CNP, Ms. Warren was the Director of Community Development for the City of Cleveland, responsible for administering the City's annual $40 million of federal consolidated grant funding and for advancing the City's neighborhood development agenda and related initiatives. Ms. Warren began her career as the founding director of the Citizens to Bring Broadway Back, the precursor to Slavic Village Development, a neighborhood organization involved in community organizing, housing and retail development. Her real estate development experience began in 1988 when she served as the Housing Director for the Stockyard Area Development Association, a Cleveland Housing Network member group where she administered the Lease/Purchase and Homeward Programs in the two neighborhoods. Subsequently, she served as the Real Estate Development Director for Southwest Development Partnership.

Brianna Watkins
Public Service Fellow, Cleveland Foundation/Enterprise Community Partners

Watkins is a 2018 Vanderbilt University graduate in political science and human & organizational development. At Enterprise Community Partners, Brianna will take a multidimensional approach to help discover durable solutions to increasing economic opportunities for low-income people. Brianna will also work with Enterprise Cleveland’s director to assess possible partnerships, define success, and create the implementation framework for a new economic mobility effort. Watkins’ hometown is Decatur, Alabama.

Akilah Watkins-Butler
President & CEO, Center for Community Progress

Akilah Watkins-Butler comes to the Center for Community Progress with an accomplished background in community development. She has more than two decades of experience working on economic development, community capacity building, and built environment issues that disproportionally impact low-income communities.

Prior to joining Community Progress, Akilah was Associate Director of Community Change and led the national anti-poverty and place based portfolio at the Center for the Study of Social Policy in collaboration with the Obama administration vis-à-vis their signature initiatives of Building Neighborhood Capacity, Promise and Choice Neighborhoods. Previously, Akilah served as Director of National Partnerships at NeighborWorks America.
where she implemented a national public health and housing initiative for over 4,000 low-to-moderate income families and communities. She also served as Deputy Director of Leadership for Healthy Communities, a national program office of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, where she assisted national and local policymakers reduce childhood obesity rates through public policies that promote active living, healthy eating and access to healthy food. Akilah has also worked as a community organizer and in the field of philanthropy supporting low-income, communities of color build capacity to control their economic and social futures.

Akilah received the prestigious Ford Foundation Fellowship in 2009 to complete her Ph.D. in sociology from the University of Illinois. She also holds an undergraduate degree at Empire State College in New York State in community and human services and is an alumnus of Southern New Hampshire University where she earned two Master degrees: community economic development and business education. She currently serves as the Vice President for Grounded Solutions' Board of Directors.

**Faith Weekly**  
*Community Development Advisor, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis*

Faith Weekly is a Community Development Advisor at the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, based in the Louisville Branch. In her role as a Community Development Advisor, her areas of focus are Neighborhoods and Housing. The St. Louis Fed’s Policy and Analysis group is responsible for identifying challenges and opportunities for lower-income communities in five areas of policy expertise: neighborhoods and housing, community development finance, financial security, workforce development and small business and entrepreneurship. As a CD Advisor, she is responsible for covering the entire 8th District which includes seven states. Her role is to conduct analyses, develop resources and share ideas that lead to stronger economic outcomes in lower-income communities and increase the efficacy of practitioners and policymakers. Prior to working at the Fed, Ms. Weekly was a CRA Mortgage Loan Officer at Fifth Third Bank. Ms. Weekly holds a Bachelor of Science in Journalism from Northwestern University.
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Abraham Wescott
Development Manager, City of Akron

Supervises and directs the professional Development staff in the coordination and implementation of all development activities. Formulates and establishes the goals and objectives for the division’s annual work program. Plans and directs the implementation of complex economic development and redevelopment projects. Supervises the recruitment of new businesses on international, national, regional, and local levels. Assists in arranging financing for new and expanding business, and directs the preparation of government grant applications to fund economic development projects. Plans, directs, and administers programs for the development of new industry and commerce. Coordinate, promote, develop and assist activities with the community groups and organizations. Conducts meetings, serves as a principal source of information on community development urban renewal matters within the community, state and federal levels.

Ann Wied
Horticulture Educator/Community Development Educator, University of Wisconsin-Extension

Ann Wied serves as a Horticulture Educator/Community Development Educator with the University of Wisconsin-Extension in Waukesha County. Her educational outreach efforts have included developing and implementing neighborhood projects/programs in several low-to-moderate income middle neighborhoods within the city of Waukesha. Working with residents, her primary focus within these neighborhoods has been with beautification, neighborhood pride projects, community gardens, leadership development, neighborhood organizing, and home improvement. Waukesha is the largest city in Waukesha County. Waukesha County is located in southeast Wisconsin and is immediately west of Milwaukee County.
Curt Williams
Policy Research Fellow, Cleveland Foundation/Cuyahoga County Council

Heather Williams
Program Manager, Building Better Neighborhoods, Ball State University

Heather Williams moved to Muncie, IN to attend Ball State University, where she earned a B.A. in History and Masters Degrees in Business Administration and Urban and Regional Planning. Heather worked as a Planner within the City of Muncie's office of Community Development with both the Unsafe Building Hearing Authority and the Department of Housing and Urban Development's Neighborhood Stabilization Program 3. In utilizing NSP3 funding to revitalize a section of West Main Street within the Old West End neighborhood, she gained a greater understanding and passion for neighborhood based revitalization efforts. Heather also worked as a code enforcement officer within the City of Muncie’s Building Commissioner's office before joining Ball State's Office of Community Engagement as the program manager of Building Better Neighborhoods. She is actively involved in local housing issues as President of the Board of Directors for ecoREHAB of Muncie, Inc. and member of Pathstone Housing Corporation’s Advisory Board. Heather also serves as Task Force Chair for the Muncie Action Plan, Treasurer of the Muncie Land Bank, and is President of her neighborhood association.

Frank Woodruff
Executive Director, NACEDA

Frank joined the National Alliance of Community Economic Development Associations (NACEDA) in September 2010, becoming executive director in January 2012. During a time of significant political and economic challenges for community development, Frank saw this as an opportunity to take NACEDA to a new level of success and sustainability. As our country emerges from the great recession, he believes community and economic development will be a critical tool for those communities and neighborhoods that are organized, demanding, and capable of instituting change.
Frank considers himself an NFL owner, as he owns a share in his beloved Green Bay Packers, major professional sports’ only community-owned team. In his free time he enjoys physical activity, particularly SCUBA diving, and never turns down an opportunity to read a good zombie novel.

He holds a Master’s Degree in Public Policy from The George Washington University. He also has a BA from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. His publications include: The Mortgage Interest Deduction: an Example of Upside Down Federal Government Housing Subsidy, and is co-author of two essays entitled “Redlining,” one in The American Middle Class: An Economic Encyclopedia of Progress and Poverty and the other in The Wiley-Blackwell Encyclopedia of Urban and Regional Studies.

Jonatan Zuñiga

*Community Outreach Manager, Layton Boulevard West Neighbors*

Jonatan joined Layton Boulevard West Neighbors in the summer of 2015 as the Community Outreach Manager. Jonatan developed a profound interest in community and economic development through his education, his experiences as a volunteer in community organizations and his experiences as a lifelong resident of the South Side of Milwaukee.

Jonatan graduated from one of our neighborhood schools, Carmen High School of Science and Technology and from UW-Milwaukee with a Major in Urban Studies and a minor in General Business. At LBWN, Jonatan works with neighborhood residents on a variety of initiatives including: grassroots leadership, neighborhood appearance, community identify, safety and social engagement.