

Climate Resilient & Equitable Water Systems: Connecting Heads, Hearts and Hands
October 23-25, 2018 | Atlanta, GA
The Renaissance Atlanta Midtown Hotel

**Amanda Aguirre**

COO & Executive Vice President, GreenLatinos

Amanda has built a career that spans high-level national community organizing, coalition building, policy advocacy, political campaigns, and grassroots organizing. Amanda has experience in policy and public engagement at the White House and EPA, most recently serving the Director of Public Engagement at the Climate Action Campaign, and prior to that served as EPA's Acting Director of Public Engagement and Environmental Education in the Obama Administration.

Through her work with local and national Latino groups, federal agencies, state and local government, and advocacy organizations she comes with a wealth of expertise and strong personal commitment to serve the GreenLatinos membership. Born in Los Angeles and raised in Houston, Amanda currently lives in Austin, TX with her husband. She earned a BA from the University of Texas at Austin and is currently pursuing an Executive Masters in Public Leadership at the LBJ School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas.

**Lida Aljabar**

Program Manager / Interim Director, Climate-Smart Cities Program, The Trust for Public Land

Lida Aljabar is an urban and environmental planner based in New York City. She is currently a program manager at The Trust for Public Land, where she advances equitable climate action planning and green infrastructure implementation in cities across the United States. Lida has led or supported a range urban greening and neighborhood development initiatives; she worked as an urban planner in the Washington, DC area and as a community and built environment researcher in California and the Dominican Republic. Her research interests involve socio-ecological systems, specifically regarding human responses to environmental change. She holds a Master of Urban and Regional Planning and a bachelor's degree in Public and Urban Affairs, both from Virginia Tech.

**Mark Antoniewicz**

Director of Communications, Hip Hop Caucus

Mark Antoniewicz is the Director of Communications at Hip Hop Caucus, a national non-profit that links culture and policy to make movements more powerful and empower communities impacted first and worst by injustice. Mark previously served on President Obama's environmental and public engagement teams as a political appointee in the White House Council on Environmental Quality. There he helped lead the external outreach portfolio on climate, environment, natural resource conservation, and energy, while also serving as a public affairs advisor to senior White House officials. Prior to the White House, Mark served in the Office of Small Business at the United States Department of Transportation, where his team worked to ensure that the nation's small, minority, women, and veteran-owned businesses had the opportunities and resources they needed to succeed within the transportation industry. Mark also has several years of experience providing consultation to senior leaders within the federal government and as an aide to a former United States Senator. He has a strong passion for connecting people to positive change, protecting the planet for future generations, and ensuring that our most vulnerable are at the forefront of policy solutions.

**Tyler Antrup**

Urban Water Manager, City of New Orleans

Tyler Antrup serves as the Urban Water Program Manager in the Office of Resilience and Sustainability for the City of New Orleans. He leads coordination of the city's drainage, green infrastructure, and water quality programs across all departments and agencies. He holds a Master's degree in Sustainable Real Estate Development from Tulane University, and a Bachelor's degree in Urban Planning and Design from the University of Missouri- Kansas City.

**Cheryl Austin**

Executive Director, Greater Tremé Consortium Inc

Is the Executive Director of Greater Tremé Consortium, Inc., a 23+ years old non-profit. A lifelong resident of Historic Tremé, before being hired as director of Greater Tremé Consortium, Inc., Cheryl was a business owner, and co-founded Women Entrepreneurs for Economic Development, a local nonprofit created to support start-up, Women owned businesses. In the corporate world, she served as Supervisor in the data processing department at a major furniture store. As director of Greater Tremé Consortium, she has advocated for and, received funding to alleviate the social, economic, cultural, and environmental woes of the Tremé community. Because of her efforts new construction of affordable housing increased which lead to a reduction in the number of blighted properties throughout the community. Housing services became available, and the development of a community maintenance program was implemented with emphasis on beautification. Other responsibilities include advocating for the return of community based economic development now being development along N. Claiborne Avenue and the preservation of Tremé indigenous traditions and culture. Because of Greater Tremé Consortium's involvement, in 2015, Cheryl was appointed the State Liaison for the Tremé/7th Ward Cultural District. With this appointment, Cheryl along with members of a newly formed non-profit, has created an annual cultural festival paying homage to Tremé's musical heritage. Greater Tremé Consortium is currently collaborating with, Water Wise NOLA, Global Green, and Healthy Community Services to reduce flooding in the community. Our goal is to reduce flooding in Tremé by working with residents, businesses, non-profits, national and local water advocates to educate and install, storm water management, "do it yourself" projects.

**Gary Belan**

Senior Director, American Rivers

Gary Belan is the Senior Director of the Clean Water Supply program at American Rivers. He oversees a variety of work aimed at improving municipal water management policy in the U.S. accomplishing this through a combination of policy advocacy, stakeholder education, and partner engagement on Integrated Water Management, green infrastructure, water supply, and other water management solutions. Gary works with municipalities, grassroots organizations, as well as local, state and federal government agencies. Gary joined American Rivers in May 2003 and has a B.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of Virginia and an M.A. in Environmental Policy from American University.

**Shamar Bibbins**

Senior Program Officer, The Kresge Foundation

Shamar Bibbins serves as senior program officer for Environment at The Kresge Foundation.

Shamar manages the Environment Program's Climate Resilience and Urban Opportunity Initiative. That initiative supports community-based nonprofit organizations seeking to influence local and regional climate resilience planning, policy development and implementation while reflecting the priorities and needs of low-income people. Shamar's grantmaking also supports climate adaptation field building efforts in the U.S. and initiatives that advance diversity, equity, and inclusion in the environmental field.

Shamar joined Kresge in 2014, bringing a history of engagement in environmental efforts in the non-profit sector and a strong commitment to action on climate change.

Shamar earned a bachelor's degree in science, technology and society from Vassar College and received a Fulbright Fellowship to Japan where she conducted field research on the social and environmental implications of Japan's Minamata disaster.

**Jessica Boehland**

Senior Program Officer, The Kresge Foundation

Jessica Boehland works as a Senior Program Officer at The Kresge Foundation, which is committed to expanding opportunities in America's cities. Kresge's Environment Program seeks to help cities build their resilience in the face of climate change, with work focused on climate change mitigation, preparedness for the effects of climate change, and social equity. Jessica leads the team's grantmaking and other activities related to energy. Prior to joining Kresge in 2008, Jessica served as Managing Editor of Environmental Building News and Editor of GreenSource magazine. Her writing has appeared in these and many other publications. In 2017, Jessica was named among Midwest Energy News' 40 Under 40, recognizing young leaders helping to drive America's transition to clean energy. She serves on the boards of the Environmental Grantmakers Association and the Funders' Network for Smart Growth and Livable Communities. Jessica holds a bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies from Oberlin College and a master's degree in Environmental Management from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies.



Fred Boltz

Arabella Advisors



Suzanne Burnes

Consultant, Southeast Sustainable Directors Network

Suzanne Burnes supports the Southeast Sustainability Directors Network, providing strategic counsel and technical assistance to local government sustainability and resilience teams across the region. Suzanne's 26-year career includes founding a community development corporation, leading Georgia state government in creating public-private sustainability partnerships, advising EPA on environmental stewardship engagement, and leading NGO Sustainable Atlanta. Equitable development of water and greenspace infrastructure in environmental justice communities is a particular interest of hers, and is at the core of the Just Growth Circle that she leads for the Partnership for Southern Equity. Through her firm Collective Wisdom Group, Suzanne serves NGO, local government, higher education and philanthropic clients in building relationships among diverse voices for community and ecosystem benefit. Current projects focus on addressing energy burden in low wealth communities, integrating immigrant communities in local government sustainability efforts, and leveraging higher education resources to solve community challenges.

**Stephen Burrington**

Executive Director, Groundwork USA

Stephen Burrington is the Executive Director of Groundwork USA -- a national enterprise with local roots, working at the intersection of equity, the environment and civic engagement. Before joining Groundwork USA, he was a consultant to governors' offices, mayors and diverse private sector organizations pursuing sustainable land use, transportation and energy strategies. He previously served as Commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation and as Undersecretary in the Massachusetts Office for Commonwealth Development, a "smart growth" cabinet secretariat that oversaw state environmental, transportation and housing agencies. Before entering state government, Steve was vice president and general counsel of the Conservation Law Foundation, New England's leading environmental advocacy organization.

**Astrid Caldas**

Senior Climate Scientist, Union of Concerned Scientists

Astrid Caldas is a senior climate scientist at the Union of Concerned Scientists, working on climate change adaptation and science communication, including equitable and just adaptation and resilience measures. Hailing from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil and an academic career in ecology, she moved to the Washington, DC area in 1996, and (unsurprisingly!) developed a deep interest in policy. Realizing that strong, science-informed policies were needed for better, equitable climate adaptation and resilience, she staged a career change that has her bringing science to a variety of audiences. She loves to connect with communities and has brought word of the science behind climate change impacts – especially on floods – to town halls, community centers, radio shows, student panels, retirement homes, grassroots groups, rallies, and anything in between. She recently co-authored the report *Underwater*, which has been cited in the media more than 1,000 times. She tweets under the handle @climategeek.

**Omar Carrillo**

Assistant Director of Programs--Connect Capital, Center for Community Investment at Lincoln Institute

Omar Carrillo Tinajero is the Assistant Director of Programs—Connect Capital at the Center for Community Investment. He manages Connect Capital, an initiative of six cross-sector teams from communities across the country working to attract and deploy capital at a scale necessary to improve the lives of their residents and increase access to opportunity. He previously worked in housing, health, and community development policy in Oregon. As the Housing Policy Manager at Neighborhood Partnerships, he collaborated with leaders in the private and public sectors to change state housing policies and elevate affordable housing as a state budget priority. During this time, he also helped develop approaches to engage diverse community members in various planning initiatives across several cities in Oregon as an Associate at Cogan Owens Greene, LLC. Omar has a Master in Urban Planning from the Harvard Graduate School of Design and an AB from the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University.

**Angela M Chalk**

Founder & Executive Director, Healthy Community Services

Currently, she is the Founder and Executive Director of Healthy Community Services, a non-profit organization, located in the 7th Ward of New Orleans, LA. The organization focuses on the social determinants health, empower residents to live healthier lifestyles in a sustainable manner, and serves as health resource repository. These goals are achieved by extensive community engagement, outreach and participation.

She is Immediate Past President for the Louisiana Public Health Association; former Secretary of the 5th District Police Community Advisory Board, (PCAB); a Foundation for Louisiana LEAD to the COAST Cohort Fellow and is a Global Green Water Wise Champion Designee. Ms. Chalk received a Bachelor of Arts in Mass Communications; Minor: Public Health from Dillard University and holds a Masters of Science Health Care Management from the University of New Orleans.

**Ronda Chapman**

Consultant, Catalyst Collaboratives

As a young girl, Woodsy Owl, Smokey the Bear, and Iron Eyes Cody shaped Ronda's life view about the Earth. Over the 30 years, Ronda has lived and recreated in the Wasatch Mountains of Utah, obtained an environmental history degree from Portland State University, managed sustainability programs for municipal governments, trained green organizations on diversifying the environmental movement, and advised a range of agencies on racial equity and community engagement.

In January 2017, Ronda became the Executive Director for Groundwork DC. Here, she strives to incorporate additional elements of community well-being including issues such as restorative justice, nutrition, and mindfulness. In 2018, Ronda founded RLC Consulting; Engaging, Transforming, Sustaining. This work focuses on facilitating organizational change efforts that enhance meaningful equity and inclusion best practices, diversification of staff, and community engagement.

**Nicole Chavas**

CEO & Co-Founder, Greenprint Partners

Nicole is the CEO and co-founder of Greenprint Partners, a green infrastructure delivery partner that helps cities achieve high-impact, community-driven stormwater solutions at scale. As the leader of a woman-owned social enterprise, Nicole is passionate about demonstrating that commitment to diversity, mission, and values drives business performance and growth. After a decade working in financial services, she co-founded Greenprint Partners in 2014 to shift private capital toward projects that solve social and environmental problems in underserved communities. Nicole earned her BBA and Masters of Accountancy from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and her MBA from Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management. She is also on the Advisory Council for Environmentalists of Color.

**Brenda Coley**

Co-Executive Director, Milwaukee Water Commons

Brenda Coley is the Co-Executive Director of Milwaukee Water Commons. Over the years she has served in various positions in the non-profit and academic sectors. She has been a non-profit director, research coordinator, and project manager. Before joining Milwaukee Water Commons, Coley was the sole proprietor of Brenda Coley & Associates. Coley has served on many Community engagement boards and public health initiatives including the Wisconsin Minority Health Leadership Council, State of Wisconsin 2020 Plan, the Wisconsin HIV Prevention Council, and the Milwaukee Reproductive Justice Collective Board of Directors. Coley brings to MWC her philosophy on being a servant leader. She is committed to exploring the influences of one's own culture or cultures, and understanding ways in which groups of people have been and are treated in society, and using that knowledge to develop strategies to effectively engage diverse groups of people in important community issues.

**Paula Conolly**

Director, Green Infrastructure Leadership Exchange

Paula Conolly, AICP, is committed to making green stormwater infrastructure work in communities across North America. She is the Director of the Green Infrastructure Leadership Exchange (Exchange), a peer learning network of municipalities, water utilities, and counties seeking to advance their green stormwater infrastructure programs. Prior to the Exchange, she led policy initiatives for Philadelphia's renowned Green City, Clean Waters program, helping to change "business as usual" to implement over 30 acres of green stormwater infrastructure on vacant lands, parks, streets and private property. Additionally, Ms. Conolly helped to spearhead a state-of-the art drinking water protection program for the City of Philadelphia, helping to raise over \$3M to improve and protect the Schuylkill River Watershed. Prior to that, Paula consulted on public health and environmental initiatives at Booz Allen Hamilton. Paula is a graduate of the University of Notre Dame.

**Lois DeBacker**

Managing Director, The Kresge Foundation

Lois DeBacker is a Managing Director at The Kresge Foundation where she leads the Foundation's Environment Program, which is focused on helping communities build their resilience in the face of climate change. Lois joined Kresge in February 2008.

Lois' prior experience includes more than 16 years at the C. S. Mott Foundation in a series of Program Department positions of progressive responsibility. Before joining Mott, Lois worked for ten years in Michigan state government in policy development and program management capacities. Lois received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from the University of Michigan and a Master of Public Affairs degree from Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs. Her graduate work focused on urban and domestic policy. Lois is the recipient of the 2015 Nicholas P. Bollman Award from the Funders' Network for Smart Growth and Livable Communities. She has served on a variety of nonprofit boards.

**Kim Dempsey**

Deputy Director, Social Investments, The Kresge Foundation

Kim Dempsey is deputy director of the Social Investment Practice at The Kresge Foundation. Kim works with Kresge program teams and external borrowers, financial intermediaries, banks and policy makers to identify areas where lack of capital is a barrier to helping vulnerable people improve their life circumstances. She structures social investments using debt, equity and guarantees and helps monitor those commitments. Prior to joining Kresge in 2014, Kim worked at Capital Impact Partners, a national non-profit community development financial institution; most recently as senior director of lending. Kim received a master's degree in public policy from Harvard Kennedy School.

**Martha Claire Drysdale**

Community Development Director, Foundation for the Mid South

Martha Claire Drysdale serves as Director of Community Development for the Foundation for Mid South. Formerly, Martha Claire served as Director of Career, Technical, and Adult Education at Mississippi Delta Community College, where she worked with students pursuing high school equivalency or skills training pathways. Martha Claire received her B.S. in business education from Delta State University and M.Ed. in educational leadership from Mississippi College.

As director, Martha Claire works with the key focuses of community development; community enrichment, economic development, and leadership development. A native of Silver City, MS, a small delta town with a population of approximately 300, she is passionate about the mission of revitalizing communities of all sizes throughout the southern states. She recently began adjusting to life as an “empty-nester” with both children, Chloe and Eli, beginning college at Mississippi community colleges in the fall of 2016.

**Rosemary Enobakhare**

Director, Clean Water for All Coalition

Rosemary Enobakhare currently serves as the Clean Water for All Coalition Director. In this role, she is responsible for working with a broad range of partners to create and execute a Coalition that advocates and defends clean water protections at the Federal level. She was previously appointed by the Obama Administration to serve as the Deputy Associate Administrator for Public Engagement and Environmental Education in the Office of the Administrator at the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). In this role, she led the agency's community outreach program and developed strategic engagement plans to positively impact the EPA's public policy to ensure nontraditional communities were both apart of the conversations and the solution. Ms. Enobakhare also served as the Deputy Director of Public Engagement and Faith-based Initiatives, in this capacity she was over the coordination of outreach to the African American, faith, women and business communities on behalf of the EPA Administrator. Prior to joining the Administration, Rosemary served as the Director of African American Outreach for the Democratic National Committee, leading the party's efforts around engaging the African American Community in the 2012 election. Rosemary is a native of Jackson, Mississippi and received her Bachelor's Degree in Economics from Spelman College.

**Kirsten Evans**

North America Urban Water Strategy Director, The Nature Conservancy

Kirsten Evans leads the Nature Conservancy's North America Urban Water Strategy. In this role, she works with Conservancy staff and partners across North America to help municipalities meet their water supply, stormwater and wastewater management needs in ways that work better for people and nature. Previously, Kirsten served as a strategic advisor to the CEO of Seattle Public Utilities, an industry-leading integrated water, wastewater and stormwater utility, on integrating community concerns into water resource management investments and as a policy and budget advisor for the Seattle City Council on urban water and other infrastructure issues at a time when Seattle implemented some of the nation's first green stormwater infrastructure projects and formally integrated triple bottom line principles in water resource decision-making. Her previous roles at the Nature Conservancy have included serving as the acting global ocean policy director and as a strategy and evaluation expert to the Conservancy's priority initiatives around the world. She has also managed integrated conservation and development projects in Panama, Mexico, Northern Canada and rural Washington State. She holds a BA in biology from University of California at Santa Cruz and a master's in marine and environmental affairs from the University of Washington.

**Rashida Ferdinand**

Executive Director, Sankofa Community Development Corporation

Rashida Ferdinand is a New Orleans-born visual artist, community leader and social change catalyst. After Hurricane Katrina and the levee failure decimated her city, Rashida organized community stakeholders to create Sankofa, a Community Development Corporation to support the health, food access and environmental sustainability of the Lower Ninth Ward. Sankofa employs community and economic development tools to ensure community resilience, community empowerment, and equity in the Lower Ninth Ward.

**Harriet Festing**

Executive Director, Anthropocene Alliance

Fields of Interest Climate resilience and sustainable development in the US and UK, including water systems and green infrastructure, energy, agriculture, transportation, placemaking, community engagement and environmental justice. Anthropocene Alliance (AnthropoceneAlliance.org) educates and organizes individuals and communities harmed by environmental abuse and climate change. And we aim to help everyone envision a safe, prosperous and sustainable future. As Co-Founder and Executive Director, I am responsible for overseeing the nonprofit and its initiatives, Flood Forum USA (floodforum.org) and Vegan Power @VGNPWR.org).

**Chione Flegal**

Managing Director, PolicyLink

Chione Flegal is a Managing Director at PolicyLink leading the organization's work to promote social, economic, and environmental equity in California. With deep expertise on infrastructure, land use, housing, and environmental policy, Chione has nearly 20 years of experience building coalitions and leading state level policy campaigns to improve outcomes for low-income communities and communities of color. Before joining PolicyLink in 2008, Chione directed Latino Issues Forum's environmental health and justice work. She has worked as a consultant for organizations in the United States and abroad including, CARE International and the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations. Chione has served on a number of advisory bodies for California's Environmental Protection Agency and Natural Resources Agency and currently serves on the board of Housing California. She holds a master's degree in city planning and a BS in environmental science, policy, and management from the University of California, Berkeley.



Gareth Fowler

Arabella Advisors



Radhika Fox

CEO, US Water Alliance

Radhika Fox is the CEO of the US Water Alliance, a national nonprofit organization advancing policies and programs that build a sustainable water future for all. The Alliance educates the nation on the value of water, accelerates the adoption of One Water policies and programs, and celebrates innovation in water management. Through the industry-leading Value of Water Campaign, Radhika has been a leading spokesperson for the importance of investing in our nation's water infrastructure.

With more than 20 years of experience in developing policies, programs, and issue-based advocacy campaigns, Radhika is a sought-after public speaker and has been interviewed by local and national media outlets on a wide range of water issues. Previously, Radhika directed the policy and government affairs agenda for the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission and served as the Federal Policy Director at PolicyLink.

She holds a B.A. from Columbia University and a Masters in City and Regional Planning from the University of California at Berkeley where she was a HUD Community Development Fellow.



Gauri Gadgil

Environmental Impact Bonds Project Coordinator, Chesapeake Bay Foundation

Gauri Gadgil is the Environmental Impact Bonds project coordinator at the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. Her background is in sustainable urban development, and she previously worked at the World Bank where she supported the development of climate resilient infrastructure in flood-prone cities across Vietnam and Indonesia. Prior to this role, Gauri worked at International Rescue Committee in San Diego, working with resettled refugees before moving to the east coast for graduate school. Gauri holds an M.A. from Johns Hopkins University and a B.A. from Wellesley College.



Tiffany Ganthier

Institute Associate, Georgetown Climate Center

Tiffany Ganthier is a recently hired Institute Associate at the Georgetown Climate Center, where Tiffany provides legal and policy analysis on adaptation projects at the federal, state, and local levels.

Tiffany has worked with the District of Columbia Public Service Commission, Broccoli City, the United States Department of Labor, The Environmental Defense Fund and The District of Columbia Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs.

Tiffany is Maryland native and graduate of the Howard University School of Law and George Mason University.



Adam Gordon

Associate Director, Fair Share Housing Center

Adam Gordon is Associate Director at Fair Share Housing Center in New Jersey. He joined the organization as an Equal Justice Works Fellow in 2006. In his work with FSHC, Gordon has litigated at the New Jersey Supreme Court and Appellate Division and worked on state and federal policy issues on sustainable and inclusive communities, fair and sustainable disaster recovery including a landmark half-billion dollar federal fair housing settlement on reallocating funds for recovery from Superstorm Sandy to communities of color and low-income communities impacted by the storm, Low Income Housing Tax Credit allocation, and statewide fair share allocation. Gordon also co-founded Next City and is a non-resident fellow at the NYU Furman Center for Real Estate and Urban Policy. A New Jersey native, Gordon holds a B.A. and J.D. from Yale University.

**Jessica Grannis**

Adaptation Program Manager, Georgetown Climate Center

Jessica Grannis is the Adaptation Program Manager for the Georgetown Climate Center and is a staff attorney and adjunct professor at the Harrison Institute for Public Law, at Georgetown University Law Center. Ms. Grannis oversees staff and student research and analysis of federal, state and local adaptation efforts. Her recent publications include *Rebuilding with Resilience: Lessons from the Rebuild by Design Competition After Hurricane Sandy* (2016); an *Adaptation Tool Kit for Sea Level Rise* (2012) and a book chapter on *Coastal Retreat in the Law of Climate Change: U.S. and International Aspects* (2012, with Peter Byrne). Prior to coming to Georgetown, she was staff counsel for the California State Coastal Conservancy and the Ocean Protection Council. She holds a B.A. in history from the University of Chicago; a J.D., Cum Laude, from University of California Hastings College of the Law; and a LL.M, with honors, from Georgetown Law.

**Alana Greer**

Co-Director, Community Justice Project, Inc.

Alana Greer co-founded the Community Justice Project, Inc. in 2015. She was previously a staff attorney at Florida Legal Services and Advancement Project in Washington, DC, where she worked with youth and parent leaders across the nation to fighting to end the School-to-Prison Pipeline. Originally from Miami, Alana left Florida to attend Boston College and Harvard Law School, where she was a student attorney at the Harvard Legal Aid Bureau, and returned home to support youth organizing that arose after the killing of Trayvon Martin. Prior to law school, she was a member of the Jesuit Volunteer Corps and worked with the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights of the San Francisco Bay Area against the criminalization of homelessness. Alana is passionate about lifting up the voices of the community members she works with and using her legal and analytic skills to support grassroots movements seeking to dismantle structural racism and inequality. She is a 2015 Echoing Green BMA Fellow and an advisory board member for the Dream Defenders, NewFL Majority and Law for Black Lives.

**Rebecca Guerriero**

Climate Change Fellow, Kresge

Rebecca Guerriero is the Climate Change and Urban Sustainability Fellow for the Environment Program at the Kresge Foundation. Rebecca's work focuses on urban climate adaptation and climate finance. Previously, she worked in urban disaster risk reduction and sustainable supply chain management. She completed her Master's at the University of Oxford in Environmental Change and Management and holds a BA in Environmental Science from the University of Michigan.

**Darryl Haddock**

Proctor Creek Ambassador, West Atlanta Watershed Alliance

Darryl Haddock is currently the Environmental Education Director for West Atlanta Watershed Alliance. He completed Jacksonville University with a BA in Geography and recently graduated from Georgia State University with a Master's degree in Geoscience and Applied GIS. Darryl has over 20 years of professional experience as an environmental scientist working for the consulting firm, Dames and Moore, as a principal investigator with USGS on a subsurface mapping project and as Environmental Specialist for the State of Georgia, Environmental Protection Division. Both Environmental Leadership Program and Toyota Together Green/National Audubon Society recognized him as a fellow and emerging leader in the environment and conservation movements. Urban Waters Federal Partnership Launches Ambassadors Program to Support Revitalizing Urban Waterways in U.S. Communities. The Environmental Protection Agency is one of the lead federal agencies who've selected Darryl as the Proctor Creek Ambassador. As Ambassador he seeks to build capacity within watershed communities to have a direct voice in decisions pertaining to the revitalization of their neighborhoods. Darryl's rolls is to work with 9 federal agencies, numerous corporate, philanthropic, and nonprofit establishments to help contribute vision, guidance, and resources, both financial and technical, needed to improve Proctor Creeks water quality and quality of life in nearly 40 neighborhoods in this watershed. He is also certified as a Project WET Trainer, an Interpretive Guide by the National Association for Interpretation and is completing an Environmental Education certification program with Advanced Training for Environmental Education in Georgia (ATEEG); a nationally accredited, professional certification program for formal and non-formal educators. Darryl also coordinates educational programs, community outreach and community science research activities and participates in WAWA's day to day operations.

**Camille Hadley**

Program Director, Little Growers, Inc

The Little Growers, Inc. project was conceived by Rondy and Camille Hadley, community organizers who have multiple years of experience fighting food insecurity in underserved communities, such as Compton, California and their current home in Brevard County Florida. The project was influenced by Rondy and Camille's desire to provide a healthier lifestyle for their four sons. Upon returning to the Powell-Driskoll subdivision of Palm Bay, Florida Rondy and Camille quickly recognized how costly and difficult it was to access fresh organic food. Together they decided the best and most affordable solution was to begin growing food to feed their family. After discovering that they were living in a USDA designated food desert, as well as, getting many inquiries from neighborhood youth about what the Hadley's were growing in their front yard, they decided to share their agricultural knowledge and experience with community youth leading to the founding of Little Growers, Inc.

**Monique Harden**Asst. Dir. of Law & Policy/Community Engagement Prog. Dir.,
Deep South Center for Environmental Justice

Monique Harden is the Assistant Director of Law and Policy and Community Engagement Program Manager at the Deep South Center for Environmental Justice. Ms. Harden has more than 20 years of achievements in the practice of law that have helped predominantly African American communities win significant environmental justice victories. She has spearheaded local, regional, and international coalitions in support of organized communities advocating for the human right to a healthy environment. She assists community-based organizations to engage in policymaking to reduce pollution that harms our health and warms our planet. She has authored papers and lectured on the right of people to live in a healthy environment and the duties of government to protect this right vis-à-vis the U.S. Constitution, international human rights laws, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, the Americans with Disability Act, and environmental laws.



Todd Hill

Deputy Commissioner, City of Atlanta Department of Watershed Management

Responsible for managing the Office of Watershed Protection which provides environmental compliance, Industrial pre-treatment inspections and permitting, Fats Oils and Grease (FOG) inspections and permits, flow monitoring, erosion and sediment control inspections and enforcement, site development plan review and permitting, natural resources services, greenway planning, green infrastructure planning, design and implementation, water and sanitary laboratory testing and all necessary reporting to in accordance to regulatory requirement and permits.. Todd has over 30 years of experience and attended Mississippi State University and has a B.S. in Civil Engineering.



Jenny Hoffner

Vice President for Conservation Strategies, American Rivers

Jenny Hoffner serves as Vice President for Conservation Strategies leading American Rivers' conservation practice work to protect wild rivers, restore damaged rivers and conserve clean water for people and nature. She oversees national practice areas including dam removal, floodplain restoration, urban water management, river protection, and science & economics. As part of American Rivers' efforts to advance diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI), Jenny chairs the recently chartered DEI Committee, leads American Rivers' urban water justice work and works with historically marginalized communities in Atlanta, GA to address climate and water management challenges by advancing resilient, equitable, integrated infrastructure.

Prior to joining American Rivers, Jenny organized an award-winning, multi-stakeholder effort to transform the Bronx River from dumping ground to thriving urban river and served as Director of Partnerships for Parks, a network of people and park stewardship groups working with 28,000 acres of New York City parks. Jenny has a B.A. from Emory University and a M.L.A. in Landscape Architecture from UGA. Until recently, she served on the Board of Charis Circle, the non-profit arm of Charis Books, the south's oldest feminist bookstore. Jenny lives in East Lake Commons co-housing community in Atlanta, Georgia with her husband and two daughters.

**Michael Hopkins**

Geologist/GIS Specialist, Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation

Dr. Michael Hopkins is a geologist and GIS specialist with the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation (LPBF). He began working for LPBF in 2016. Dr. Hopkins holds an undergraduate degree in geology and a Ph.D. in earth and environmental sciences from Tulane University. At LPBF, Dr. Hopkins has contributed to a variety of projects. The projects span a range of topics which include, fault driven subsidence, fluvial geomorphology and coastal monitoring. Dr. Hopkins' primary responsibilities include: assisting LPBF staff and contractors with data collection and analysis, providing GIS and GPS support when needed and drafting/reviewing technical reports on completed work.

**Sharise Horne**

Community Benefits Director, Louisville MSD

Sharise Horne is a well-seasoned veteran in the public utility arena. She currently serves as the Director of Community Benefits for Louisville MSD, responsible for overseeing inclusive and comprehensive programs that foster partnerships with communities within MSD's service area. Ms. Horne previously managed the Procurement Department where she worked for over 10 years overseeing the procurement process, ensuring agency compliance with procurement regulations and state policies, as well as directing, managing, and supervising staff. She has worked in various departments and roles within the agency during her 20 plus-year tenure.

As an advocate for social justice and economic stimulation amongst communities, she outfits programs to create job creation through workforce tools. Ms. Horne is currently one of approximately 10,000 nationally Certified Professional Public Buyers.

Ms. Horne holds two undergraduate degrees from Indiana Wesleyan University, both magna cum laude. She has been recognized by Who's Who Louisville, Louisville Black Achievers, and Indiana Wesleyan University for her success and leadership. She is a 2018 graduate of MSD's Aspire Leadership Program.

**Meg Jamison**

Director, Southeast Sustainability Directors Network

Meg loves bringing change makers together to make our world a better place. Meg currently focuses her work on social impact networks and building capacity to advance sustainability initiatives among local governments across the Southeastern United States. She is the Director of the Southeast Sustainability Directors Network, where she has worked since 2015. At SSDN, Meg has seen network growth by over 50% in the past three years and has designed and developed a sub-granting program focused on equitable water and energy initiatives across the region, regranteeing over \$1.5 million since 2017.

Meg's background is in city planning, and she uses that training to provide expertise in community engagement, sustainable development, smart growth planning practices. She has consulted with internationally recognized urban economics firm, and started her career in rural economic development and local food system economy work. Her food systems work includes coordinating the City of Austin's first Urban Agriculture Program, consulting with SCALE, Inc. to complete food hub feasibility studies. Meg's experience in local economic development spans from coordinating small town revitalization programs with HandMade in America to heading up the northern Arizona office of Local First Arizona, the largest local business coalition in the country.

**Jill Johnson**

Program Team Assistant, The Kresge Foundation

Jill Johnson is a program team assistant at Kresge where she works with the Environment Program.

In that role, she coordinates meetings and travel, and communication with the team's many partners. It's all about getting people where they need to be with the resources they need, she says. Jill also fields queries from Kresge-funded organizations and handles logistics with other units within the foundation.

Jill joined Kresge in 2009 after 19 years at an auto industry company where she worked with human resources, communications and engineering.

A native of Michigan, she is an outdoor enthusiast who snowshoes, waterskis and enjoys paddleboarding.

**Vanessa King**

Network Coordinator, Southeast Sustainability Directors Network

Vanessa King serves as Network Coordinator for the Southeast Sustainability Directors Network and the principal consultant at V.G.K Consulting Company. Spending the majority of her early years living across the world in Indonesia, Ecuador, Venezuela and Trinidad and Tobago, Vanessa brings a global perspective to sustainability. In her previous role as the Sustainability Manager for the Biltmore Company in Asheville, NC, she helped the company develop, coordinate and implement all activities related to environmental sustainability. She holds a bachelor's degree in Travel and Tourism Development at Western Carolina University and a Masters of Science Degree in Sustainability Studies from Lenoir-Rhyne University. She has extensive experience in the hospitality industry, bringing a unique understanding of sustainability as it relates to travel, tourism, and business management. Today, she likes to spend her free time hiking with her dog Otis, traveling, and visiting with family on their North Georgia farm.

**Dave LaClergue**

Focus Area Planning Lead, Seattle Public Utilities

Dave LaClergue is the Focus Area Planning Lead for Seattle Public Utilities' Drainage and Wastewater line of business. He is developing and leading the new Green Stormwater Infrastructure in Urban Villages Program, which focuses on delivering multi-benefit GSI in Seattle's dense, mixed-use neighborhoods. Before joining SPU, Dave was an urban designer and manager at the City's planning office for 11 years. In this role, he helped launch and implement Seattle Green Factor, a landscape requirement that substantially improved the quantity and quality of landscaping in new development. Dave has a master's degree in landscape architecture and conservation biology from the University of Michigan.

**Nsombi Lambright**

Executive Director, One Voice, Inc.

Nsombi Lambright is the Executive Director of Director of One Voice, a statewide leadership development and policy advocacy organization, headquartered in Jackson, MS. The mission of One Voice is magnify voices of traditionally silenced communities in the South. Our work is to build leadership in an effort to address structural oppressions that show up in the institutions that are significant in our lives, including the public education system, voting, the environment, and the criminal justice system.

Nsombi sits on the boards of the Center for Constitutional Rights, and the Mississippi Low Income Child Care Initiative. She is also a Life Member of the NAACP.

Nsombi also serves on the City of Jackson's Civil Service Commission and served on the transition team of Jackson Mayor Chokwe Antar Lumumba.

**Latia Leonard**

Urban Program Associate, Freshwater Future

Latia is a lifelong resident of Michigan, born and raised in Detroit. After graduating from Southeastern High School (DPS), she went on to attend Michigan State University, where she completed her Bachelors of Art in Communication. She briefly left Michigan to serve a year of service in AmeriCorps in Cincinnati Ohio. After returning to Michigan, she joined Freshwater Future as their Urban Program Associate. Latia works on urban water issues in the Detroit and Flint metro areas. She has a passion for helping others, and her work on affordability and infrastructure is an extension of ten years of community service and anti-poverty work.

**John Lopez**

Director - Coastal & Community Program, Delta Science

John Lopez Ph.D. is the Coast and Community Program Director for the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation which conducts coastal restoration and research. Born in New Orleans, he holds a Masters in Geology from the University of Southern California and a Ph.D. in Applied Science and Engineering from the University of New Orleans. From 2010 to 2014, he was Executive Director and oversaw the reconstruction of the New Canal Lighthouse. Previously, he worked for the Corps of Engineers in the Coastal Restoration Branch. He developed the Multiple Lines of Defense strategy for coastal Louisiana which has gained broad acceptance in coastal Louisiana. From 2009 to the present, he has served on the State's Framework Development team to advise the State on the State Master Plan for 2012 and 2017. He is currently member of the Coastal Advisory Committee for the South Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East, and Coastal Erosion Advisory Committee for the City of Mandeville. He also chairs the Pontchartrain-Maurepas Surge Consortium and the Breton-Borgne Surge Consortium.

**Harry Lowenburg**

Campaign Organizer, Gulf Restoration Network

Harry Lowenburg is a Campaign Organizer for Gulf Restoration Network in New Orleans. He works with low lying communities in New Orleans to develop strategies for increasing resilience to localized flooding. Harry also serves on the Steering Committee of the Greater New Orleans Water Collaborative and advocates for City implementation of the Greater New Orleans Water Plan, a plan focused on incorporating green infrastructure into New Orleans' approach to localized flooding. Harry is also involved in GRN's Gulf Fish Forever Campaign outreach, focusing on protecting the Sustainable Fisheries Act. Harry began his career as a community organizer in 1977 working for the Seattle Light Brigade and the South End Seattle Community Organization (SESCO) where he was a VISTA volunteer. He subsequently served as a chapter organizer for Oregon Fair Share; Executive Director of the Council Bluffs Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement and a founding organizer of a congregation-based organization in Louisiana which later became All Congregations Together. Harry also serves on the Board of Directors of Avodah, the Jewish Service Corps and the Jewish Endowment Foundation of Louisiana.

**Jessica Loya**

National Policy Director, GreenLatinos

Jessica Loya serves as the National Policy Director for GreenLatinos, national non-profit that convenes a board coalition of Latino leaders committed to addressing national, regional, and local environmental, natural resources and conservation issues that significantly affect the health and welfare of the Latino community in the U.S. As the National Policy Director, Ms. Loya promotes GreenLatinos' policy goals in the areas of clean water, clean air, environmental justice, and public lands access & protections in Washington, D.C. Her previous experience at White House Council on Environmental Quality Office of Public Engagement has provided her a unique understanding of the impact of community voices in the policy and decision-making process and works to ensure community voices have opportunities to share their thoughts and concerns.

In addition, Ms. Loya is dedicated leader in the movement to increase access and representation of diverse communities in the environmental and conservation movement, serving on the Steering Committee of the Next 100 Coalition, the board of California Wilderness Coalition, a CA based nonprofit dedicated towards protecting wilderness areas and the National Park Conservation Association's Next Generation Advisory Council. She received degrees in environmental studies and economics from University of California Santa Cruz.

**George Luber**

Chief, Climate and Health Program, CDC

Dr. George Luber is the Chief of the Climate and Health Program in the Division of Environmental Hazards and Health Effects at the National Center for Environmental Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

In addition to managing the Climate Change Program at CDC, Dr. Luber is a Co-Chair of the Climate Change and Human Health Interagency Workgroup at the US Global Change Research Program, a Convening Lead Author for the US National Climate Assessment, a member of the American Anthropological Association's Presidential Task Force on Climate Change, and a lead author for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), Fifth Assessment Report. He is also Adjunct Professor in the Departments of Environmental Health, Anthropology, and Environmental Science at Emory University.

**Mark Magaña**

President & CEO, GreenLatinos

Mark Magaña is the Founding President & CEO of GreenLatinos, a national network of Latino environmental, natural resource, and conservation advocates. Mark has nearly 3 decades of experience in Washington DC, and was the first Latino to serve as senior staff at both the White House and in Congressional leadership — as Special Assistant to President Clinton for Legislative Affairs and Senior Policy Advisor to the House Democratic Caucus Vice-Chair Rep. Robert Menendez (D-NJ). Born in Chicago and raised in Los Angeles, Mark resides in Washington, DC with his wife and two children, where he serves on the board of the League of Conservation Voters, the National Hispanic Leadership Agenda, Green 2.0, Green Leadership Trust, Rock Creek Conservancy, and the Children's Environmental Health Network.

**Jessie Martin**

Program Director, Earth Economics

Jessie was born in the woods of Northern Maine and came to Seattle via New York City. She's equally at home trekking deep into the backcountry or riding her bike in rush hour traffic. With over a decade of experience in stakeholder engagement and systems design, she directs Earth Economics' community engagement work, helping to translate community priorities into efficient, equitable solutions to urban and rural challenges. She has worked on issues that range from food justice to solar energy siting, and her research has spanned topics from the economic impacts of soil contamination to the determinants of public investment in green infrastructure. She uses both quantitative and qualitative methods in her projects to inform her analyses with real world experiences, resulting in practical tools that maximize impact and are easy to use.

**Laurie Mazur**

Urban Resilience Editor, Island Press

As Island Press' Urban Resilience Editor, Laurie focuses on the intersection of climate adaptation, sustainability and social justice. She works with Kresge grantees and others to co-create articles, blog posts and op-eds—and to place that content in appropriate news outlets. (A compilation of that published work is available [here](#).) Laurie is the author/editor of three books; her writing has appeared in The New York Times, The Nation, The Los Angeles Times, The Guardian and many other publications. Laurie lives just outside Washington, DC with her husband and teenage sons.

**Hugh McDiarmid**

Communications Officer/Environment, The Kresge Foundation

Hugh C. McDiarmid Jr. is a communications officer at The Kresge Foundation where he supports internal and external communications efforts for the Environment Program among other key Kresge initiatives. He worked as a Michigan journalist for 22 years including a decade at the Detroit Free Press, reporting extensively on environmental issues. He directed communications efforts for the nonprofit Michigan Environmental Council for eight years, and most recently oversaw outreach for the Great Lakes (Windsor) Office of the International Joint Commission, which provides guidance to the U.S. and Canadian governments on boundary-waters issues.

Hugh has earned numerous journalism awards, including the John B. Oakes Award for Distinguished Environmental Journalism in 2004 for a collaborative series on childhood lead poisoning in Michigan.

**Cate Mingoya**

Director of Capacity Building, Groundwork USA

Cate Mingoya is Director of Capacity Building for Groundwork USA, working both to strengthen the Groundwork network and to provide technical assistance and support to nationwide brownfield remediation projects. Originally from Queens, New York, Cate began her career teaching middle school science to students in the Bronx and Brownsville, Brooklyn. She transitioned to the policy side of working with low-income communities as the Director of Policy and Program Development for the Massachusetts Division of Public Housing. Cate holds a Bachelors of Arts in Biology from Reed College, a Master of Science Education from the City University of New York, and a Master of City Planning from MIT. She lives with her husband, daughter, and cat in Somerville, MA, and loves coffee, bike riding, canoe trips, and travel.

**Chuck Morse**

Executive Director, LaunchNOLA

**Amol Naik**

Chief Resilience Officer, City of Atlanta Mayor's Office of Resilience

Amol S. Naik is the City of Atlanta's Chief Resilience Officer. In this capacity, he leads the Mayor's Office of Resilience and partners with the Rockefeller Foundation's 100 Resilient Cities network to address the physical, social, and economic challenges that Atlanta faces as a city. As a key cabinet member in the Bottoms Administration, Amol oversees policy and programming that supports a more equitable and resilient Atlanta. Previously, Amol held several senior roles in the technology sector, including on the Public Policy and Legal teams at Google and Google Fiber. Most recently, Amol was a Director at Atlanta based MailChimp. A seasoned attorney, Amol practiced law at the Atlanta office of an international law firm, focusing on election law, government affairs and complex commercial litigation.

Amol has deep civic and political roots in Georgia. He has served on the Board of Directors of the Atlanta Regional Commission, as Corporate Secretary of the Fulton/Atlanta Land Bank Authority and on the Emory University Board of Visitors. In 2015, Amol taught at the Emory University School of Law as an Adjunct Professor. Amol is a member of the 2018 class of Leadership Georgia, serves on the WonderRoot Board of Directors and is a graduate of LEAD Atlanta. Amol has extensive international experience, in Europe, as a recipient of the Marshall Memorial Fellowship, and in Asia and South America as an American Council of Young Political Leaders honoree. Additionally, he was an active participant in the global Google Leadership Development Program in Accra, Ghana.

Amol was named one of the Atlanta Business Chronicle's "40 Under 40" and a Georgia Super Lawyers "Rising Star," a listing of Georgia's top 10 lawyers under the age of 40. Amol holds a B.A. in History from the University of North Carolina and J.D. from the Emory University School of Law.

**Yomi Noibi**

Executive Director, Environmental Community Action Inc. (ECO-action)

Yomi Noibi (Ph.D.) is the executive director of Environmental Community Action, Inc., (ECO-Action). He is a lifelong environmental educator raising awareness for environmental justice and equity to address environmental and public health problems arising from air, land and water pollution. He is currently leading efforts to educate community members about green infrastructure as a tool to address stormwater flooding issues in Atlanta through the Atlanta Watershed Learning Network.

**Kate O'Brien**

Principal, Catalyst Collaboratives LLC

Kate is founder and principal of Catalyst Collaboratives LLC, a consultancy focused on coaching, capacity building, and facilitation for teams navigating and driving change. She also serves as Senior Advisor for technical assistance and capacity building at Groundwork USA, a national nonprofit that supports a network of equitable development and environmental justice organizations driving inclusive community development work on the ground. Kate holds a BA in Human Development and Social Relations from Kalamazoo College, and an MA in Urban and Environmental Policy and Planning from Tufts University. She is the mother to two active boys, an avid mountain biker, an aspiring organic gardener, and is based with her family in Portland, Maine.

**Na'Taki Osborne Jelks**

Co-Founder, West Atlanta Watershed Alliance

Dr. Na'Taki Osborne Jelks is Co-Founder and current Board Chairperson of the West Atlanta Watershed Alliance (WAWA). WAWA is a community-based organization of residents in Northwest and Southwest Atlanta's Proctor, Utoy, and Sandy Creek Watersheds who are overburdened with environmental stressors and pollution but are often underrepresented at environmental decision-making tables. WAWA was established as result of community efforts to halt discriminatory wastewater treatment practices in West Atlanta, and it has grown to become an impactful force in community-centered sustainable development. Under Dr. Jelks' leadership, WAWA has led community efforts for 13+ years to clean up, protect, and restore Proctor Creek, one of Metro Atlanta's most impaired waterways. When not trying to transform toxic landscapes into healthy communities, Dr. Jelks works to teach and train the next generation of environmental health professionals and environmental justice advocates as an Assistant Professor in the Environmental & Health Sciences Program at Spelman College.

**Chrishelle Palay**

Director, HOME Coalition/Texas Housers

Chrishelle Palay is formerly the Houston co-director of Texas Housers and most recently became the director of HOME Coalition. She leads efforts providing housing and neighborhood development policy analysis and review to local community organizing groups. Her work grew out of disaster recovery efforts after 2008's Hurricane Ike, making her and the organizers well positioned to demand equitable treatment for low income communities in the Harvey recovery process. Before coming into this work Chrishelle practiced architecture, specifically focused on multifamily high rise development. Chrishelle is a Next City Vanguard alumni, and was a Ford Public Voices Fellow of the OpEd Project. She also participates in several national cohorts including Community of Practice on Local Housing Strategies, Ford Just Cities Narrative Shifting Project and National Fair Housing Peer Network Group. Chrishelle has a Bachelors of Architecture from Prairie View A&M University and proudly serves on the boards of directors of National Low Income Housing Coalition and Rhodes School For The Performing Arts.

**Dwayne Patterson**

Vice President of Strategy and Engagement, The Partnership for Southern Equity

Dwayne brings over Twenty-Two years of experience working directly with community leaders across the nation with a focus in the American South. He has maintained a stellar track record in developing strategy, leading community engagement activities, organizational change initiatives and serving as management within the corporate, non-profit and philanthropic sectors. As the Vice President of Strategy and Engagement for The Partnership for Southern Equity, he focuses on growing the equity movement with a focus on developing community-based outcomes to achieve equity and inclusion in the American South.

In this role, Dwayne's primary responsibilities included organizational and programmatic strategy, planning and implementation. He provides leadership through the management and coordination of all program & management staff, strategy development, alliance building, and relationship management. Dwayne also leads PSE's Organizing Unit who ensure the delivery and impact of PSE's programs and community organizing and power building initiatives in the American South. As a member of the Executive team, he provides strategic advisement to PSE's Founder and Chief Equity Officer. He advises on the most pressing strategic and operational issues. His work includes partnering with established organizations to ensure growth and organizational performance improvement and assessing new

opportunities for impact as the field evolves. Dwayne recently served as PSE's first Director of Civic engagement and Regional Organizing.

Dwayne's decades of community service include serving on the boards of ProGeorgia, The Fund for Southern Communities and the Latin American and Caribbean Community Center. He has also played a central design team role that produced the development and execution of new systems change entities including the Social Justice Institute of the Southern Partners Fund, THINK/South East as well as Check-Pro. He is also committed to providing support to young men and boys of color seeking to increase sustainability and effectiveness across the country.

Dwayne has designed and facilitated dozens of trainings and workshops, and keynote presentations in service to national corporate, community and government organizations focused on community engagement and leadership development. He is a gifted speaker with deep family roots in the American South.

Dwayne Holds a Bachelor of Science from North Carolina A&T State University. Armed with decades of reliable, authentic community impact and leadership, Dwayne is considered by his multi-generational peers to be the "living legacy" of the struggle for justice and equity past down to him by the many of the transformational leaders of the 60's and 70's. He resides in Atlanta, Georgia with his wife of twenty-two years and twin daughters.

**Kyle Peczynski**

Manager, Sustainable Stormwater Finance, The Nature Conservancy

Kyle is a Manager of Sustainable Stormwater Finance in The Nature Conservancy's Detroit office. He is responsible for overseeing the Conservancy's work on creating a special purpose district to finance community-scale green stormwater infrastructure in the Eastern Market district of Detroit. Prior to joining the Conservancy, Kyle was involved in the development of Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE), a financing mechanism that aids commercial property owners in completing comprehensive energy retrofits to their properties in a financially sensible way. Most recently Kyle oversaw Midwest business development for a national PACE lender, where he helped grow the firm's Midwest clean energy project portfolio from zero to over \$10 million in less than three years. Kyle is a Michigan native with a law degree from Wayne State University and a BA in political science from the University of Michigan.

**Colette Pichon Battle**

Executive Director, Gulf Coast Center for Law & Policy

Colette Pichon Battle, Esq. is the founder and Executive Director of the Gulf Coast Center for Law & Policy and develops programming focused on Equitable Disaster Recovery, Global Migration, Community Economic Development, Climate Justice and Energy Democracy. Colette works with local communities, national funders and elected officials in the post-Katrina/post-BP disaster recovery and was a lead coordinator for Gulf South Rising 2015 a regional initiative around climate justice and just transition in the South. In addition to developing advocacy initiatives that intersect with race, systems of power and ecology, Colette manages GCCLP's legal services in immigration law and disaster law. In 2018 Colette was awarded with an Honorary Doctorate from Kenyon College. In 2016 Colette was named a White House Champion of Change for Climate Equity and in 2015, was selected as an Echoing Green Climate Fellow.

**Bennetta Robinson**

Program Manager, One Voice

Bennetta's span of work has covered an array of topics ranging from studying the impacts of abandoned oil and gas wells along "Cancer Alley" to the impacts of natural disasters on vulnerable populations to understanding the challenges of collective bargaining in the American south. All topics, however, have intersected at a social justice component.

Previously, Bennetta has worked in the labor movement with the United Auto Workers (UAW) to ensure the right to collective bargain for workers at the Nissan automotive plant in Canton, MS. In this capacity, she served as both a researcher who uses existing data and literature to produce quantifiable output and as an organizer who stands on the frontline with workers, members of the community, and student organizations.

Presently, Bennetta is an Environmental Justice program manager with One Voice, an affiliate of the NAACP located in Jackson, MS. She completed undergraduate studies at Mississippi State University, graduate studies at Iowa State University, and a doctoral degree in Urban and Regional Planning at Jackson State University. A native of Port Gibson, MS, the town Ulysses S. Grant revered "too beautiful to burn", it was only inherent that she developed a passion to preserve the beauty of nature. She believes environmental resiliency is the defining factor that makes good cities great cities.

**Zoe Roller**

Program Manager, Ms

Zoë Roller is a Program Manager at the US Water Alliance. She is primarily focused on An Equitable Water Future, an initiative exploring the intersection of water management and disadvantaged communities.

Zoë's background is in international development and city planning. She spent three years managing community development projects in Rio de Janeiro's favelas, addressing issues that included food security, environmental justice, violence reduction, public health, and education. Zoë worked with the Centre for Urban and Regional Excellence as a USAID Global Development Fellow, creating a sustainable water management plan for a slum in Delhi. She holds a Master's degree in City Planning from the University of California, Berkeley. When she is not thinking about water infrastructure, Zoë enjoys boxing and reading science fiction.

**Kalima Rose**

Vice President for Strategic Initiatives, PolicyLink

Kalima Rose, Vice President for Strategic Initiatives at PolicyLink, brings three-decades of experience in advancing equitable development, infrastructure equity and climate justice policy. She currently leads the PolicyLink Water Equity and Climate Resilience work. She has helped win new resources and jobs for disinvested communities, underemployed workers, and firms and artists of color. Kalima played leadership roles in advancing the federal Sustainable Communities initiative, moving the Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing rule, advocating for equitable development initiatives in New Orleans' Katrina recovery, and supporting broadbased coalitions in local anti-displacement policy work. Some recent publications include, Healthy Communities of Opportunity: A Blueprint for Addressing America's Housing Challenges, and A Roadmap Toward Equity: Housing Solutions for Oakland, California, and Creative Change: Arts, Culture, and Equitable Development — A Policy Primer, laying groundwork for addressing some of our communities' most challenging problems.

**Lisa Sasso**

Project Manager, MMSD

Lisa is a Project Manager at the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District in the Planning, Research and Sustainability Division. She has a BBA in Integrated Science and Business with a Water Resource Emphasis from UW-Whitewater and a MS in Freshwater Sciences and Technology from UW-Milwaukee's School of Freshwater Sciences. Lisa's work entails implementing aspects of MMSD's 2035 Vision to attain zero overflows, zero basement backups, and improved stormwater management. Lisa manages green infrastructure implementation projects, research on operations and maintenance, green schoolyard initiatives, workforce development and working with stakeholder groups to increase green infrastructure acceptance.

**Rowan Schmidt**

Program Director, Earth Economics

Rowan has always been drawn to water – as a recreation space, a resource, and a necessity. When not floating a Northwest lake or river, he's working to improve how water and other natural resources are managed and valued. He believes that successful economies require the right balance between grey and green infrastructure. Whether working with municipal utilities, federal agencies, or businesses, Rowan has experience identifying policy levers and investments that have the most significant economic and social impacts. With Earth Economics, Rowan has led projects to inform local infrastructure decisions as well as to advance systemic policy change at a national level.

**Diane Schrauth**

Program Consultant, Funders' Network for Smart Growth and Livable Communities

Diane Schrauth is Principal of Schrauth Consulting LLC. She is a philanthropic professional with experience in water and sustainability issues and works with foundations, nonprofit organizations and public agencies. Diane currently facilitates philanthropic collaboration on water issues for the Urban Water Funders, an issue-based working group of the Funders' Network for Smart Growth and Livable Communities, the Great Lakes Funder Collaboration, and the Chesapeake Bay Funders Network's Stormwater Work Group. She has also provided project management and strategy development for clients such as Philadelphia Water Department, American Rivers, and the Pisces Foundation. Diane worked for more than 15 years at the William Penn Foundation where she led the Foundation's efforts to protect and restore water resources in the Philadelphia region, focusing on stormwater and green infrastructure issues and the impacts of natural gas development.

Diane is a founding member and former chair of her community's Green Team, Sustainable Haddonfield, which was awarded silver-level certification from Sustainable Jersey. She has bachelor degrees from Vanderbilt University in Anthropology and Geology and a Masters of Regional Planning with a focus on environmental and land use planning from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

**Kirsten Shead**

Co-Executive Director, Milwaukee Water Commons

Kirsten Shead is the Co-Executive Director of Milwaukee Water Commons. She has an unwavering commitment to social justice, environmental stewardship and the Milwaukee community at large. Kirsten has worked with MWC in varying capacities since 2014 – as a community partner, serving on the Advisory Team, as a Community Organizer focused on lead in drinking water and access to blue-green jobs, and as Water City Program Manager.

Kirsten has a B.S. in chemistry and broad experience working in education, industry and environmental labs. She left the corporate world in 2009 for the nonprofit sector. From 2013-2017 she served as program director for the Interfaith Earth Network, utilizing her passion for interfaith understanding, collaboration, and dialogue. She joined the MWC team full-time in 2018.

Kirsten strives for a simple life, emphasizing relationships, community, justice, nonviolence, and peacemaking. She loves exploring the natural world – scuba diving, kayaking, camping, and other wilderness adventures.

**Nicole Silk**

President / CEO, River Network

Understanding how people relate to water and what water needs to remain healthy has been a central tenet of Nicole's professional career for more than 25 years. Her work has always been about people first, including her insistence that everyone needs equal access to safe, clean affordable drinking water, protection from floods and other water-related disasters, and the benefits of healthy rivers.

As President/CEO of River Network, she is responsible for guiding River Network toward its mission in collaboration with staff and board members, engaging supporters and partners, expanding River Network's reputation and public image, and other duties. River Network's mission is to empower and unite people and communities to protect and restore rivers and other waters that sustain all life.

Prior to joining the staff at River Network, Nicole worked at The Nature Conservancy (TNC) for 19 years, including launching and directing TNC's first global initiative that helped TNC realize its role as a leader in freshwater conservation. Before TNC, Nicole worked on law and policy aspects of conservation in the US and Costa Rica and as a professional river guide. During her career, Nicole has organized hundreds of conferences, workshops, meetings, and collaborative efforts and published broadly on conservation, law, equity, and adventure. She holds a J.D. from the UC Davis and a B.A. in economics and ecology from the UC Santa Cruz. When she is not working, Nicole spends as much time as possible outdoors, including longer adventures on rivers with her family and friends.

**Ariel Simon**

Vice President, The Kresge Foundation

As Vice President, Chief Program and Strategy Officer, Ari oversees The Kresge Foundation's programs, learning and evaluation departments, and leads the Foundation's Opportunity Fund. He also directs Kresge's efforts to explore new forms of cross-disciplinary and place-based work and to pursue imaginative uses of philanthropic tools, strategies and learning agendas.

Ari joined Kresge in January 2013 after five years with McKinsey & Company in Washington, where he focused on social innovation and economic development. While at McKinsey, Ari was a co-author of "And the Winner is...", a study of prizes and their role in fostering innovation, and he worked with foundations, nonprofits and governments across the Americas, Europe and Africa on issues of strategy, policy and advocacy, organizational effectiveness and governance.

Ari earned a bachelor's degree in history and science from Harvard College, a masters of science in biology from Oxford University, and a juris doctorate from Stanford University.

**Emily Simonson**

Program Manager, US Water Alliance

Emily Simonson is a Program Manager at the US Water Alliance. She is responsible for coordinating several Alliance initiatives including the Value of Water Campaign, an initiative focused on building the public and political will to realize the many benefits and opportunities of investing in our nation's infrastructure. Emily became passionate about the role water plays in sustainability and health working in Ghana for a the community development nonprofit. She was responsible for mobilizing hundreds of students to build rainwater harvesters and deliver hygiene education workshops in rural communities lacking access to piped water and sanitation services. She graduated from the Maxwell School at Syracuse University with Masters degrees in Public Administration and International Relations after a brief stint as an intern with the United Nations in Switzerland. Before coming to the US Water Alliance, Emily spent two years at EPA as an ORISE Fellow with the Urban Waters Program where she took on conference planning, strategic communications, and initiatives to increase government's ability to provide an integrated approach when working side by side with communities to restore their waterways and promote economic and social prosperity. Off the clock, Emily will use any excuse to get outside and especially likes frisbee, biking, paddling, and hiking with friends and her dog.



Julie Slay

Arabella Advisors



Patricia Smith

President and CEO, Funders' Network for Smart Growth & Livable Communities

Pat joined the Funders' Network for Smart Growth and Livable Communities as President and CEO in July 2018, bringing with her a wealth of expertise in the public, private and nonprofit sectors. She is formerly the senior policy advisor for the Reinvestment Fund, where she led efforts to improve access to healthier foods in underserved urban and rural communities and was instrumental in expanding fresh food finance across the industry of community development finance institutions. During her career, Pat has designed and managed several nationally-recognized community development initiatives. She is a contributor to the anthology "Growing Greener Cities: Urban Sustainability in the Twenty-first Century". She is featured in the PBS documentary: Philadelphia: The Holy Experiment, Edens Lost and Found: How Ordinary Citizens Are Restoring Our Great American Cities. She holds a bachelor's degree from Mount Holyoke College and juris doctorate from George Washington University Law Center.

**Kristopher Smith**

Senior Fellow, Foundation for the Mid South

Since July 2016 Kris has served as a Senior Fellow at the Foundation for the Mid South working with local and regional partners to identify, design and implement strategic grantmaking to improve life outcomes for vulnerable populations with an emphasis on workforce development and education programs, services and policies that create systems change.

Prior to FMS he worked for 9 years as the director of leadership development for the Funders' Network for Smart Growth and Livable Communities. During that time, he worked closely with the Restoring Prosperity in Older Industrial Cities funder working group to allocate resources and oversee project execution.

Kris enjoys white water rafting, reading and trail walking in his hometown - Jacksonville, Florida and he's the proud father of two young adult daughters.

**Alicia Smith**

Associate Director of Policy, Mrs

Alicia Smith is a new addition to the Freshwater Future staff as Associate Director of Policy. Alicia is a graduate student at the University of Toledo in the Social Foundations of Education. She has a passion for community development and education of disenfranchised and underserved communities. Alicia has an extensive experience in urban engagement for environmental and social justice. She also enjoys challenging undergraduate students to learn to serve and become agents of change for a better quality of life for vulnerable populations. Her work in green infrastructure engagement for urban water projects helps to provide green technology and education to communities in Ohio and surrounding areas.

**Kayla Smith**

Coalition Operations Manager, Clean Water for All Coalition

Kayla Smith is the Coalitions Operations Manager for the Clean Water for All Coalition and is DC-based. Prior to joining the Clean Water for All team she worked on the Clean Cars Campaign organizing groups from the labor, faith, health, environmental, and consumer spaces to fight the Trump administration's fuel economy and greenhouse gas emissions standards rollback. Before her cars work, she worked on a campaign to coalesce state and national environmental groups to protect clean air and elevate non-traditional voices in the environmental space. Although she resides in Virginia, Kayla is a proud New Englander and is originally from Maine.

**Jen Sokolove**

Director of Programs & Strategy, Water Foundation

Jen Sokolove is Director of Programs and Strategy at the Water Foundation. She has been working on sustainability issues for more than two decades, with a focus on community-based conservation. Prior to joining the Water Foundation, she led strategy and grantmaking at the Compton Foundation around movement-building and narrative in climate change, reproductive justice, and peace and security. She joined Compton initially to advance its environmental programs on fresh water, climate, and rural conservation in the western United States, as well as sustainable food systems and art for social change. Before Compton, Jen worked on a variety of community-led conservation projects in California, Montana, and the Pacific Northwest. She serves on the boards of the Story of Stuff, EcoAdapt, and the Biodiversity Funders Group, and advisory boards for the Healthy Headwaters project of Carpe Diem West and the Doris Duke Conservation Scholars Program at UC Santa Cruz. Jen received a PhD in Environmental Science, Policy, and Management from UC Berkeley.

**Jim Sparber**

Program Director, Greenprint Partners

Jim Sparber is a registered professional engineer in the states of Illinois and Michigan and holds a B.S. in Civil Engineering from Valparaiso University and a M.S. in Environmental Management from the Illinois Institute of Technology. Jim brings 25 years of experience in the planning, design and construction of municipal infrastructure. He has worked as a consulting engineer on projects with construction costs ranging from a few hundred dollars to multi-million dollar projects. Infrastructure projects include design of stormwater collection and management systems, roadway improvements and reconstruction, water supply and distribution and sanitary sewer collection systems. Jim has also assisted municipalities with grant applications, grant management and water and sewer rate studies. In addition to engineering design, Jim has been responsible for business development activities and maintaining client relationships.

**Jeffrey Supak**

Community Resiliency Program Associate, Global Green

Jeff moved to New Orleans in 2011 to work for Global Green USA as an Americorps VISTA. He was drawn to Global Green because of its mission to combat climate change, especially in communities that are typically left out of the conversation. Jeff has continued to work at Global Green on the development of the Water Wise Program. Along with other collaborators, Dana Brown and Associates and Hilairie Schackai, Water Wise was launched to advance green infrastructure in neighborhoods in New Orleans that are plagued by chronic flooding and have experienced waves of disinvestment. Through the Water Wise program, Jeff and the collaborators hold educational workshops and lead community-driven green infrastructure planning and implementation. In 2016, Jeff received the Mayor's award for Advancing Resiliency at the Neighborhood Summit. In 2017, he was selected as the Millennial of the Year under the "Service" category.

**Carmera Thomas**

Baltimore Program Manager, Chesapeake Bay Foundation

Since 2018, Carmera Thomas has been the Baltimore Program Manager for the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. She manages oyster gardening in Baltimore's Inner Harbor, growing over baby oysters in the Baltimore harbor, volunteer engagement and advocacy action through connecting to issues through hands on learning experiences. Carmera previously joined the Chesapeake Bay Foundation and Waterfront Partnership as a shared employee in April 2016. In her shared role as program manager of the Healthy Harbor Initiative she connected Baltimore residents and Baltimore City school students to the waterfront. She led educational workshops about pollution issues in the harbor and Chesapeake Bay, while offering solutions and awareness to make the harbor "swimmable and fishable."

Carmera began her career as a Chesapeake Conservation Corps member in 2010, previously working at the Chesapeake Bay Foundation working in agricultural and oyster restoration. Carmera has a passion for raising awareness and inspiring others to be stewards of the land and water around the Chesapeake Bay. In her free time, she likes to spend time with her family, read good books and explore historical landmarks around the Bay watershed.

She received a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from North Carolina Wesleyan College.

**Diana Toledo**

Leadership Development Director, 529

Diana Toledo is the Leadership Development Director of River Network, a national nonprofit organization that connects, empowers and expands local river conservation and water equity efforts across the U.S. For the past 20 years, Diana has worked at the intersection of citizen engagement and water resource management, leading, supporting and expanding communities' efforts to help shape decisions that impact their water resources and quality of life. Diana develops and implements networking, training, and funding initiatives to help build strong, effective and results-oriented leaders, organizations and coalitions. As coordinator for the national Urban Waters Learning Network, her work supports local efforts to improve urban waterways and revitalize the neighborhoods around them. Previously, Diana helped build one of the strongest networks of local watershed groups in the country at the River Alliance of Wisconsin and worked on Great Lakes policy issues and funding programs for the State of Wisconsin.

Diana has an M.S. from the Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies (UW-Madison) and a B.S. from Indiana University – Bloomington.

**John Trybus**

Professor & Managing Director, Georgetown University's Center for Social Impact Communication

Professor John D. Trybus is a strategist and storyteller on a mission to help organizations and the people who work within them to create more impact in the world. He leads and manages Georgetown University's Center for Social Impact Communication, a renowned research and action center working to ignite the power of responsible marketers, communicators, fundraisers, and journalists to combine their strengths within an organization in order to drive societal change. A life-changing encounter with world-famous chimpanzee expert and United Nations Messenger of Peace Dr. Jane Goodall, led him to become her personal advisor at the Jane Goodall Institute where he traveled nonstop with the environmental rockstar on her perpetual 300-day-per-year advocacy tour to inspire people to conserve the natural world we all share. John has also served at the British Embassy in Washington, D.C. and within Waggener Edstrom Worldwide's (now WE Communications) social innovation practice, advising clients like Tiffany & Co., L'Oreal Paris, Coca-Cola, Microsoft, Safeway, Women for Women International and CARE on social responsibility. A professor of social impact at Georgetown University, John is also a highly sought after keynote speaker and master trainer who has worked with groups at the World Bank, ConEdison, Smithsonian, United Way, Chesapeake Bay Foundation and others.



Ann Wallace

Director of Programs, Funders' Network for Smart Growth and Livable Communities

Based in Boston, Ann heads up the Network's responsive service work in the Northeast, and staffs the GREEN! Working Group and Partners for Places grant program in partnership with GREEN! team members Jennifer Cummings and Ashley Quintana. She also works with Diane Schrauth on the Urban Water Funders' Group and manages the Network's team of field consultants.

Before coming to the Network, Ann facilitated the planning and design of smart growth collaboratives in Vermont and Massachusetts. She has worked as a program consultant to the John Merck Fund, principally on JMF's environmental health grants program, and consulted with other foundations and funder networks focusing on environmental, sustainable agriculture, and smart growth issues. She is a former partner at GMA Foundations, a philanthropic consulting firm serving charitable foundations and individual donors, where for fifteen years she headed up GMA's environmental grantmaking and consulting practice.

Among her past environmental clients, Ann worked for the Jessie B. Cox Charitable Trust, the Conservation, Food & Health Foundation, the Dolphin Trust, and The Elizabeth Ordway Dunn Foundation. She is currently a trustee of the Environmental League of Massachusetts. Ann has a B.A. cum laude from Duke University and an M.A. with concentration in environmental policy from Tufts University.

**Jalonne White-Newsome**

Senior Program Officer, The Kresge Foundation

Dr. Jalonne L. White-Newsome is Senior Program Officer at The Kresge Foundation, responsible for the Environment Program's grant portfolio on Climate Resilient & Equitable Water Systems (CREWS), grantmaking addressing the intersection of climate change and public health, and is a member of the Kresge Operationalizing Racial Equity Team working to address institutional racism in the foundation and beyond. Before joining Kresge in early 2016, Jalonne served as director of federal policy at West Harlem Environmental Action Inc. (WE ACT), where she was involved with leading national campaigns and a 42-member national coalition of environmental justice organizations. Jalonne's career has spanned state government, academia, environmental and science-based advocacy organizations, non-profit and private industry, where she spent over 10 years working as a production engineer in facilities across the US. She is an adjunct professor in the Milken Institute School of Public Health at The George Washington University in Washington, D.C., and continues to engage in research on climate, health and equity. She is a member of the National Academy of Sciences Board on Environmental Change and Society, and is serving as a lead author for the human health chapter for the 4th National Climate Assessment. A native of Detroit, Jalonne earned a Ph.D. in environmental health sciences from the University of Michigan School of Public Health; a master's degree in environmental engineering from Southern Methodist University; and a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from Northwestern University.

**Breana Whittaker**

Principal Engineer, City of Newark Department of Water & Sewer Utilities

Breana Whittaker is a Principal Engineer for the City of Newark's Department of Water & Sewer Utilities. Her job duties include but are not limited to, managing capital improvement projects and environmental compliance, overseeing the City's Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program, and leading public engagement and outreach efforts associated with the Combined Sewer Overflow Long Term Control Plan.

**Beverly Wright**

Executive Director, Deep South Center for Environmental Justice

Dr. Beverly L. Wright environmental justice scholar and advocate, author, civic leader and professor of Sociology, is the founder and executive director of the Deep South Center for Environmental Justice. The Center addresses environmental and health inequities along the Louisiana Mississippi River Chemical Corridor and the Gulf Coast Region. The Center is a community-university partnership organization providing education, health and safety training and job placement for residents in environmental justice and climate-impacted communities within the United States.

Dr. Wright has conducted groundbreaking and significant research in the area of environmental justice and developed a curriculum for use at the elementary school level that has been used by the New Orleans Public Schools. She manages Hazardous Waste Worker Training Programs that embrace a work-based curriculum and a holistic approach to learning for young men and women living near Superfund and Brownfield sites resulting in their employment. Dr. Wright received the 2003 Distinguished Alumni Award from the State University of New York, Buffalo, the Robert Wood Johnson Community Health Leadership Award in 2006, the 2008 EPA Environmental Justice Achievement Award, the Rainbow PUSH Coalition 2008 Community Award, the Ford Motor Company's Freedom's Sisters Award in July of 2009, the prestigious 2009 Heinz Award as well as the 2010 Beta Kappa Chi Humanitarian Assistance Award bestowed by the National Institute of Science and the Conrad Arensberg Award given by the Society for the Anthropology of Work in 2010. She received a BA from Grambling College and an MA and Ph.D. from State University of New York at Buffalo.

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