

# SPEAKER BIOS

## KEYNOTE

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**Vanita Gupta**, President & CEO, The Leadership Conference on Civil & Human Rights



Vanita Gupta is president and CEO of The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, the nation's oldest and largest civil rights coalition charged by its diverse membership of more than 200 national organizations to promote and protect the civil and human rights of all persons in the United States. Before joining The Leadership Conference in June 2017, Gupta served as Acting Assistant Attorney General and head of the U.S. Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division. Appointed in October 2014 by President Barack Obama as the chief civil rights prosecutor for the United States, Gupta oversaw a wide range of criminal and civil enforcement efforts to ensure equal justice and protect equal opportunity for all during one of the most consequential periods for the division. Under Gupta's leadership, the division did critical work in a number of areas, including advancing constitutional policing and criminal justice reform; prosecuting hate crimes and human trafficking; promoting disability rights; protecting the rights of LGBTQ individuals; ensuring voting rights for all; and combating discrimination in education, housing, employment, lending, and religious exercise. Prior to joining the Justice Department, Gupta served as Deputy Legal Director and the Director of the Center for Justice at the American Civil Liberties Union, where she launched the Smart Justice Campaign to end mass incarceration. She joined the ACLU in 2006 as a staff attorney. Gupta began her legal career at the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund, where she litigated a series of landmark wrongful drug conviction cases in Tulia, Texas. Gupta graduated *magna cum laude* from Yale University and received her law degree from New York University School of Law, where later she taught a civil rights litigation clinic for several years.

## WELCOME

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**Emcee: Dr. Terri Wright**, Vice President for Program & Community, Eugene & Agnes E. Meyer Foundation



Terri D. Wright, PhD, MPH, has employed her extensive leadership skills and expertise advancing equity and public health through policy, practice, and management throughout her career. Most recently, executive director of The Steve Fund, charged with advancing the mental health and emotional well-being of college and university students of color. Prior to this role, Terri served as the director of both the Center for Public Health Policy and the Center for School, Health and Education at the American Public Health Association (APHA). She provided leadership to the public health policy agenda as it pertained to health equity, environmental health, and the built environment and strategic advancement. Before she joined APHA in 2010, Terri served as a program director for health policy for the W. K. Kellogg Foundation in Battle Creek, Michigan for 12 years. In that capacity, she assisted in public policy funding and related policy program development, as well as provided leadership to the Foundation's policy programming for systemic change. Previously, Terri was maternal and child health director and bureau chief for Child and Family Services at the Michigan Department of Community Health in Lansing, Michigan. Terri holds a master's and a doctorate degree from the University of Michigan, and a bachelor's degree in community and school health from the City University of New York. She is an active member of APHA and a former member of the Institute of Medicine's Roundtable on the Promotion of Health Equity and the Elimination of Health Disparities.

**Dr. Lynn Goldman, Dean of the George Washington University, Milken Institute School of Public Health**



As the Michael and Lori Milken Dean at Milken Institute School of Public Health at the George Washington University, Dr. Goldman's responsibilities are informed by her broad and deep public policy and academic experience. Prior to joining GW in August 2010, she was professor of environmental health sciences at The Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Dr. Goldman was Assistant Administrator for Toxic Substances in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from 1993 through 1998 under President Bill Clinton. Under her watch, the EPA overhauled the nation's pesticide laws, expanded right-to-know requirements for toxin release, reached consensus on an approach to testing chemicals with endocrine-disrupting potential, developed standards to implement lead screening legislation and promoted children's health and global chemical safety. Prior to joining the EPA, Dr. Goldman worked in environmental health for the California Department of Public Health. A member of the National Academy of Medicine, she has chaired or served on numerous committees and forums. She currently serves on the National Academy of Medicine Council and the Governing Board of the National Academy of Sciences. She serves as a member of the Advisory Committee to the Director of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and a member of the Food and Drug Administration Science Board. Among many accolades, Dean Goldman received a 2009 Heinz Award, given to innovators addressing global change caused by the impact of human activities. She was awarded alumna of the year by the UC Berkeley School of Public Health, received the Woodrow Wilson Award for Excellence in Government from Johns Hopkins University and was named one of 150 outstanding alumni by the University of California San Francisco.

**Dr. Steven Dillingham, U.S. Census Bureau Director**



Dr. Steven Dillingham was sworn in as the 25th Census Bureau Director on January 7, 2019. Dillingham has more than 25 years of statistical, research, senior management, and legal experience in the federal government. Dillingham previously served as Director of the Bureau of Justice Statistics and the Bureau of Transportation Statistics. Both of these agencies support national surveys in partnership with the Census Bureau. Before joining the Census Bureau, Dillingham served as Director of the Peace Corps Office of Strategic Information, Research, and Planning. Other federal service includes directing research and planning for the Department of Justice Trustee Program, and directing surveys for the Office of Personnel Management. He was a career member of the Federal Senior Executive Service. In addition, Dillingham was the Deputy Director for the National District Attorneys Association and Administrator of the American Prosecutors Research Institute. Dillingham has served on the faculties of the University of South Carolina and George Mason University. He is a Senior Certified Professional with the Society for Human Resource Management. Dillingham earned his B.A. at Winthrop University, received his J.D., M.P.A., and Ph.D. from the University of South Carolina, and completed his M.B.A. at George Washington University and LL.M. at Georgetown University.

## MORNING BREAKOUT SESSIONS

### ENGAGING IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES

**Moderator: Dr. Mark Edberg**, Associate Professor, Milken Institute School of Public Health



Mark Edberg, PhD, MA, is Associate Professor in the Milken Institute School of Public Health at George Washington University, with secondary appointments in the Department of Anthropology and Elliott School of International Affairs. Dr. Edberg is an anthropologist with more than 25 years' experience in social/community research and intervention addressing health disparities and vulnerable populations. He directs the Avance Center for the Advancement of Immigrant/Refugee Health and the Center for Social Well-Being and Development (global). His work has included prevention research and interventions with the Latino immigrant community, global projects (UNICEF, Gates Foundation), and multiple efforts

for Federal agencies focusing on at-risk youth, HIV-risk populations, substance abuse, violence prevention, and other issues – with a diverse range of populations, including tribal nations and multiple immigrants/refugee groups. Dr. Edberg was co-chair of the 2014 National Minority Health Disparities Conference, a 2015 Salzburg Seminar Fellow, winner of the 2013 national Praxis award (applied anthropology), a Fulbright Senior Specialist awardee, and is a Fellow of the Society for Applied Anthropology. He has authored/edited numerous books and journal articles.

**Sookyung Oh**, D.C. Area Director, NAKASEC



Sookyung Oh leads organizing and campaign work with Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities in Virginia for NAKASEC Virginia. Previously she coordinated national immigrant rights campaigns for NAKASEC national. She also worked at the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) as a Public Policy Analyst (focus on early childhood care and education and human services policies) and The Commonwealth Institute for Fiscal Analysis in Richmond, VA as a State Policy Fellow (focus on state tax policy and human services budget analysis). She started working in Korean and Asian American communities at the Jaisohn Center (focus on provision of community health

programs, starting a HIV testing site for Asian Americans, and serving limited English proficient Korean American elders) and Asian Americans United in Philadelphia (focus on office administration and political education programming). Currently, she is on the board of the Virginia Civic Engagement Table and the Virginia Coalition for Immigrant Rights. She is a 2nd generation Korean American and enjoys comic books and the D.C. blues scene

**George Escobar**, Chief of Programs and Services, CASA



CASA is the Mid Atlantic Region's largest immigrant serving and advocacy organization with over 90,000 members in 3 states. George Escobar oversees CASA's service programming which includes legal assistance, naturalization support, workforce development, employment, education, case management, and health education initiatives. Programs within George's portfolio are charged with providing services that address disparities and create pathways to success for members while introducing them to CASA's power building and leadership

development initiatives. George has over 15 years of experience working for both the public and non-profit sectors designing and leading a variety of programs targeting the Latino and immigrant community.

**Rev. Kennedy Kwasi Odzafi**, Visiting Pastor, Help Africa Inc.



Reverend Kennedy Kwasi Odzafi, MA, is the Pastor of the Ewe Church of America in Silver Spring, Maryland and visiting pastor for the Mawuli Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Manhattan, New York. Reverend Odzafi is a community activist and the founder and Executive Director of Help Africa Inc., a non-profit organization that provides education and outreach services to immigrants in Montgomery County, Maryland. Help Africa, Inc. works in partnership with the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services and community-based organizations to outreach to African immigrants. Reverend Odzafi serves on the African Affairs Advisory Group to the Montgomery County Executive, the Montgomery County Grant Review Advisory Group, the Welcome Back Center of Maryland and the Council of Ghanaian Religious Interfaith Alliance. He is also a County Board member for the 2020 Census Committee. Previously, Reverend Odzafi served as a senior psychiatric rehabilitation and family preservation counselor. Reverend Odzafi attended the University of Ghana Legon and La Salle University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania where he obtained Master of Arts in Theology, Pastoral Counseling and Youth Ministry. He holds certificates in Mental Health and Family Preservation Counseling from Rutgers University.

## THE DIGITAL DIVIDE – INCREASING ACCESS TO THE CENSUS

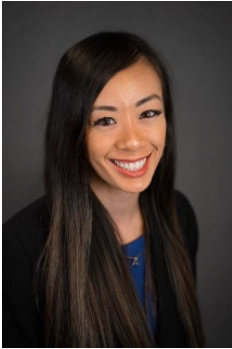
**Moderator: Dr. Bryna Helfer**, Assistant County Manager, Arlington County



Dr. Bryna Helfer is Assistant County Manager and Director of Communications and Public Engagement. Prior to joining Arlington County, she was Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public Engagement for the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT). She also served as the Senior Advisor to the USDOT Secretary on Accessibility and Workforce Development. She has 30+ years of experience initiating, leading, and facilitating interagency coordination, program development, strategic planning, program evaluation, and systems change initiatives. She has a long history of coalition building at the federal, state, and local levels, and is known for her ability to forge partnerships between governmental programs and community based organizations. Helfer previously served as Senior Director of Civic Engagement for the National Academy of Public Administration, the Manager of Strategic Planning for the U.S. Government Accountability Office, the Senior Advisor for the Federal Interagency Coordinating Council on Access and Mobility, the Director of Easter Seals Project ACTION, and the Director of the National Traumatic Brain Injury Technical Assistance Center. She began her career working in therapeutic recreation, enhancing opportunities for people with disabilities. She holds a bachelor's degree from Ohio University, a master's degree from George Mason University, and a doctorate from The George Washington University. She is the recipient of numerous awards, including the U.S. Department of Transportation Inspiring Leaders Award and the Secretary of Transportation's Gold Medal Award. She was most recently honored by the Conference of Minority Transportation Officials for "Women Moving the Nation." Helfer has lived in Arlington since 1989 and is active in the Highland Park-Overlee Knolls Neighborhood Association. She has served on the Arlington Aquatics Committee and the Board of Directors of the ENDependence Center of Northern Virginia. She also plays violin with Malarky and the Symphony of Northern Virginia.



**Dr. Daisy Le**, Visiting Assistant Research Professor, George Washington University



Daisy Le, PhD, MPH/MA, is a visiting assistant research professor and a social scientist in behavioral and community health specializing in community-engaged cancer prevention and health disparities research. Dr. Le received her doctorate from the University of Maryland and recently completed her postdoctoral fellowship with the department of epidemiology at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Dr. Le teaches and conducts research in the general areas of multicultural studies and health promotion and communication. Her specific focuses are on sociocultural determinants of health and community-based/-engaged approaches across the cancer continuum that target minority, low-income, and underserved populations using mobile health technology. She has authored several peer-reviewed publications and her health disparities and cancer research have previously been supported by the American Cancer Society, the National Institutes of Health, and the National Cancer Institute. Dr. Le joins the Policy, Populations and Systems Community.

**Stephen L. Buckner**, Assistant Director of Communications, U.S. Census Bureau



Stephen L. Buckner is an assistant director for communications at the U.S. Census Bureau. He is responsible for managing the statistical agency's marketing, digital and strategic communications activities. A strong advocate for agile and data-driven strategic communications, he is overseeing several new initiatives to improve the Census Bureau's overall customer experience and expand its digital, content marketing and data dissemination capabilities for the 2020 Census. As technology continues to change the communications landscape, federal agencies must become more adaptable to customers' liquid expectations and present new ways of reaching audiences with personalized content and intuitive experiences. With the 2020 Census less than year away, his team is actively planning new digital communications and campaign optimization strategies to maximize response and motivate on-line response for the nation's once-a-decade count. Additionally, he is focused on combating the spread of misinformation and disinformation about the census across social media and tech platforms. His background in communications includes working in several public relations agencies prior to joining the Census Bureau in 1998. Buckner holds a master's degree in public administration from Florida State University, and a bachelor's degree in public relations from the University of Florida.

**Demaris Webster**, Project Manager, 270 Strategies



Demaris Webster is a Project Manager at 270 Strategies. Since joining the team at 270, Demaris has worked on a broad spectrum of clients and issue areas including voter education, education reform, and preservation of money markets for public infrastructure. A lot of his work has been engrained in developing strategies and curricula in digital organizing. Before coming to 270, Demaris spent two years as a digital strategy and content manager at a software company. In this role, he worked with city agencies and cultural institutions like Chicago's Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events, Downtown Brooklyn Partnership and The Art Institute of Chicago to make history, art, and culture more accessible through digital and mobile experiences.

## ENGAGING HOME RENTING & THE TRANSIENT POPULATION

**Moderator: Melissa Bird**, Executive Director, DC Census



Melissa Bird, Executive Director, District Census 2020 joined the DC Office of Planning in 2005 and currently serves as a Lead Planner in the Neighborhood Planning division and as a project manager for the Comprehensive Plan. Prior to the Comprehensive Plan she served as project manager on a variety of projects and initiatives including the Streetcar Master Land Use Study (Congress for New Urbanism, Charter Award 2011) and the Southwest Neighborhood Plan (NCAC-APA Outstanding Plan Award 2016). Prior to joining the DC Office of Planning, she worked in environmental consulting for five years at the Louis Berger Group. Her experience includes land use planning, environmental planning and community engagement. Melissa has a Master's in Community Planning from the University of Maryland College Park. She is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) and also graduated from the ULI Regional Land Use Leadership Institute in 2016.

**Mary-Parker Lamm**, Deputy Director, Carpenter's Shelter



Mary-Parker Lamm is the Deputy Director of Carpenter's Shelter, a 60-bed homeless shelter with five coordinating programs in the City of Alexandria. She has been with Carpenter's Shelter for almost 12 years. Mary provides complete programmatic and operational oversight of the residential facility, their day shelter, winter shelter contract with the City of Alexandria, case management program, Rapid Re-housing program, and their volunteer medical clinic. Carpenter's Shelter serves over 600 families and individuals each year. They are temporarily located at the former Macy's in the Landmark Mall while they re-develop their property in Old Town. They, along with their partner, Alexandria Housing Development Corporation, are building a new shelter along with 97 units of affordable housing (to include 10 Permanent Supportive Housing units). Mary previously served as a member of the City of Alexandria's North End Quality of Life Workgroup and currently serves on the City of Alexandria 2020 Census Complete Count Initiative Committee. She has a Bachelor's Degree from Roger Williams University in Bristol, Rhode Island. Twitter: @CarpentrShelter

**Denice Ross**, Fellow-in-Residence, Georgetown Beeck Center for Social Impact & Innovation



Denice Ross is a Fellow-in-Residence at Georgetown's Beeck Center, where she supports the Schmidt Futures data collaboratives portfolio, around issues such as disasters, opioids/addiction, Census 2020, climate change, policing, and workforce. She comes to the Beeck Center from New America, where she studied climate security and the power of networks to advance progress on big challenges. As a Presidential Innovation Fellow in the Obama administration, she co-founded the White House Police Data Initiative to increase transparency and accountability in the wake of Ferguson, and worked with the Department of Energy on crowdsourcing private-sector data to improve community resilience in disaster-impacted areas. Before moving to the DC area, she served as Director of Enterprise Information for the City of New Orleans, where she established their open data initiative, now recognized as one of the most successful in the country. Prior to government, Denice co-directed the Data Center, a non-profit data intermediary. Denice holds a Bachelor of Science from the University of Arizona, where she was a Goldwater Scholar. Twitter: @denicewross

## ENGAGING FAITH BASED COMMUNITIES

**Moderator: Alisa Glassman**, Lead Organizer, Virginians Organized for Interfaith Community Engagement (VOICE)



Alisa Glassman has worked with the Industrial Areas Foundation (IAF) since 1996. She began her organizing career with the IAF affiliate BUILD in Baltimore where she worked on the nation's first Living Wage Campaign. She also led the first organizing campaign where individuals on welfare won the right to have higher education count as a valid welfare work activity. In 2001, Ms. Glassman moved to Montgomery County and worked for two Metro DC IAF affiliates: Action In Montgomery (AIM) and Washington Interfaith Network (WIN). In 2005, Ms. Glassman was hired to be AIM's Lead Organizer. Ms. Glassman has led campaigns on a variety of economic and social justice issues including affordable housing, immigration, youth issues and pedestrian safety. Some of the victories that she has recently led

include: Maryland IAF's critical role in the passage of the Maryland Dream Act, over \$400 million in dedicated funding for affordable housing and \$29.7 million to build recreation centers in historic African American communities. In addition, Ms. Glassman has worked on a variety of non-partisan political precinct work in cities and suburbs in Maryland and Ohio. In 2015, Ms. Glassman was hired by the IAF affiliate in Northern VA, VOICE, to be the Lead Organizer

**Saifaldin D. Rahman**, Director of Public & Government Affairs, Dar Al-Hijrah Islamic Center



Saifaldin Rahman graduated from the University of Maryland, College Park with a degree in International Relations. Before returning to Iraq in 2003, he worked as a paralegal briefing criminal, immigration, business, and tax law. Saif traveled to Cairo to study Arabic and Islamic Jurisprudence completing masters level work in the principles governing Islamic lawmaking. In October of 2003, Saif returned to Iraq to work with Hajim Al-Hasani as an advisor on the Iraqi Governing Council, working specifically on Iraq's election law as well as civil society issues. In June 2004, Rahman was asked by then Minister Hasani to serve as the Chief of Staff to the Minister of Industry & Minerals, where he helped spearhead an effort to reorganize the

Ministry structure and companies. He also was a senior manager in the Fallujah reconstruction team serving as the Minister's liaison to that effort and overseeing the accounting and disbursement of more than \$250 million. In April of 2005, Saif Rahman moved with Dr. Hasani to the Iraqi Parliament where he continued to serve as Chief of Staff to the Speaker, responsible for the daily administrative functions of parliament. There he also reorganized the internal staff structure, coordinated aid to the parliament with international organizations and donors, and directed the Office of the Speaker. Subsequently, Rahman was selected by the Speaker to serve as the director of the nascent parliamentary Research Directorate which was established to provide objective information and resources to members of parliament. In May of 2007, Rahman was asked by the Vice President of Iraq, Tariq Al-Hashimi to serve as an advisor on international relations and a senior aide coordinating public policy and public relations for the Office of the Vice President a role which he continued in until October of 2009. In 2009 Saifaldin Rahman left Iraq to help run IWG, Inc. as its Vice President. IWG a multimillion dollar US / Iraqi firm managed the governmental relations for ExxonMobil Iraq from 2010 to 2016.

**Pastor Anthony Minter, First Rock Baptist Church DC**



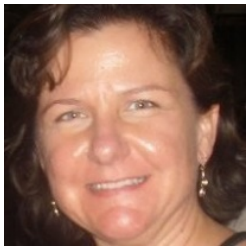
Pastor Minter is a native Washingtonian and has been Senior Pastor of First Rock Baptist, a predominantly African American congregation, for fifteen. Pastor Minter attended Howard University and retired from Giant Foods before pursuing ministry. Under his leadership, First Rock Baptist has built senior housing, executed voter registration, and turnout drives, and taken on many other community initiatives. He currently serves as co-chair of the Washington Interfaith Network (WIN), an affiliate of the Industrial Areas Foundation (IAF), as well as the Moderator of the Prince George's Baptist Association (PGBA).

**Pastor Frankey Grayton, Edgewood Baptist Church DC**



Pastor Grayton is a native Washingtonian. He is a Master Plumber/Gasfitter who started and ran a Black-owned business in DC for over twenty years before following a call to ministry. Under Pastor Grayton's leadership, Edgewood Baptist started multiple ministries to the homeless and low-income populations in their neighborhood. They also joined the Washington Interfaith Network (WIN) and have participated in actions to hold DC elected officials accountable to ensuring good jobs for African American, native Washingtonians, and returning citizens, and the construction of affordable housing to stop gentrification.

**Leah Tenorio, Director of Hispanic Ministry, Good Shepherd Catholic Church, Alexandria**



Leah Tenorio has worked as Director of Hispanic Ministry at Good Shepherd Catholic Church in Alexandria, Virginia for the past 20 years. She graduated Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa, from Trinity College (now Trinity University) in Washington DC, with a focus in Latin America. In 2001 she helped to found the non-profit 'Progreso Literacy and Citizenship Center.' She has served on the Board of Directors of Progreso as well as United Community Ministry. Her 37 year marriage to a Costa Rican immigrant has given her an even deeper understanding of Hispanic culture and language. She and her husband have four children and four grandchildren. She is committed to building a strong community where all people are welcome and empowered to improve the quality of their lives for themselves and their families.

**Pastor Zangai A. Peabody, Assistant Pastor, Bethel World Outreach Ministries, Olney Maryland**



Pastor Peabody is an advocate for young people and the family. As a public speaker, teacher, mentor and he has been a direct and indirect agent of change and life coach to many families in the USA and abroad. He is the author of the book, *The Father Revealed*. He is married to Jarsa Charlene Peabody and they are blessed with one girl and three boys: Ruhamah, Destiny, Tobe and Chesed.



## AFTERNOON BREAKOUT SESSIONS

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### ENGAGING COMMUNITIES OF COLOR

**Moderator: Walkiria E. Pool**, President & Founder, Centro de Apoyo Familiar/Center for Assistance to Families



Walkiria Pool is the president and founder for Centro de Apoyo Familiar or Center for Assistance to Families (CAF), a non-profit organization with offices in Riverdale Maryland, Fall Church Virginia and Lawrence Massachusetts, whose mission is to transform communities and families through economic, social, and educational empowerment in collaboration with faith-based organizations. Ms. Pool's professional career includes more than 20 years of experience in community development and the housing industry with a focus on affordable housing, wealth and asset development. She earned her Master's degree in Community Economic Development from Southern New Hampshire University and a graduate certificate in Women and Politics and Public Policy from the University of Massachusetts in Boston. As an undergraduate, Ms. Pool earned her bachelor's Degree from the University of Massachusetts in Boston, majoring in Psychology and Sociology. For over five years, Ms. Pool was responsible for developing and implementing the Project "Más a ti" for the National Council of La Raza, or UNIDOS US, the first community-based financial institution for low-income families. Prior to joining UNIDOS US, Ms. Pool served as the Director of Youth Programs in Lawrence Community Works. Ms. Pool served as an AmeriCorps Vista volunteer at the Allston Brighton Community Development Corporation. Currently serves on a number of boards and advisory committees including the chair for the Maryland's Governors of Hispanic Affairs Commission, Co-chair of Maryland Census Complete Count Committee, and board member for Cash Campaign as well as many other local non-profit agencies and schools. Ms. Pool has received a number of local and national awards and recognitions including from the White House, HUD, EPA, and Maryland's Governor.

**Kimberly Corbin**, Chief Financial & Administrative Officer, Greater Washington Urban League (GWUL)



Before her current role, she served as a Senior Advisor to the President and Chief Executive Officer of GWUL. Kimberly was also the Director of Finance for the Montrose Ministries where she was responsible for managing the business related aspects of the Church and School. Prior to Montrose, Kimberly was the President and CEO of the National Black MBA Association, the country's leading organization for black business professionals. Kimberly holds an MBA from the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration and a BS in Business Administration from Florida A&M University.

**Paola Sandoval-Moshenberg**, Director of Programs, Edu-Futuro



Paola joined the Edu-Futuro team after a career in mental health and human services. She worked for Fairfax and Arlington Counties and Northern Virginia Family Services, where she specialized in providing culturally relevant human services to historically underserved populations such as immigrants, youth, and domestic violence survivors. Paola has a B.A. in psychology from the University of the Andes (Bogota, Colombia) and an M.Ed. in Community Agency Counseling from George Mason University, where she was awarded a merit scholarship for excellence in leadership, advocacy, multiculturalism, and social justice. She is the proud parent of two Escuela Bolivia students.

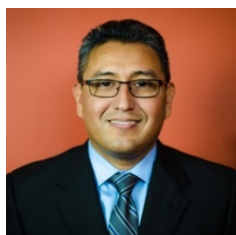
**Neel Saxena**, Executive Director, Asian American Youth Leadership Empowerment & Development (LEAD)



Neel Saxena is the Executive Director at Asian American LEAD, his work supports at-risk youth, creating positive, safe, and supportive spaces where young people are supported in their academic development and social and emotional well-being. He has a 17 year track record of direct service, advocacy, management, and commitment to working with overlooked populations. Prior to AALEAD he developed a Language Access and Grant Program distributing over \$1.25 million in direct service and capacity building grants with the District of Columbia's Mayor's Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs (OAPIA). His language access work was recognized by the Migration Policy Institute for his efforts on translation quality control. In 2014, Neel received the Outstanding Service Award from the U.S. Census Bureau and in 2012 a Partnership Recognition Award for his work in the District on the 2010 Census. He was appointed in 2006 to the U.S. Census Advisory Committee on Race and Ethnic Communities and reappointed in 2009. In 2012, Neel was appointed to the United States Census Bureau National Advisory Committee under the Obama administration. Neel served as the co-chair for the Asian American Community 2020 Census Working Group and chaired the DC Public Schools Joint Advisory Council. Neel is on the steering committee of Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders in Philanthropy and serves on the Asian Pacific American Advisory Group to the Montgomery County Executive. Neel's given talks, testimony, and featured in blogs on changing the narrative of Asian Americans breaking stereotypes. He has been connected to AALEAD since serving as a mentor in 2000. Neel has a Masters in Public Policy from American University School of Public Affairs and a B.A. in Economics from the University of Maryland, College Park.

## RESPONDING TO FEAR – COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGIES

**Moderator: Abel Núñez**, Executive Director, CARECEN



Abel Núñez joined CARECEN as its Executive Director in March 2013. Prior to CARECEN, he was Associate Director of Centro Romero in Chicago, IL, and was primarily responsible for the day to day operations, fiscal management, program administration, and communications. Mr. Núñez migrated from El Salvador to the United States with his family in 1979 and grew up in the District of Columbia. Mr. Núñez has a Bachelor's of Business Administration from Hofstra University. Before he moved to Chicago, he worked in D.C. for the Latino Civil Rights Center.

From 1998 to 2000, he was also on the staff of CARECEN serving first as its Citizenship and Civic Participation Project Coordinator and later as its Deputy Director. Mr. Núñez' volunteerism reflects his lifelong pursuit of justice and empowerment for immigrants in the U.S. He served as Co-President of Organization of the Northeast (ONE), a nonprofit agency that aims to build a successful multi-ethnic, mixed-economic community on Chicago's northeast side. He worked tirelessly with city and state coalitions to pass the Illinois Dream Act. Nationally, Mr. Núñez has been one of the founding members of the *Residency Now* campaign which was launched in January 2012. He also co-founded the DC-MD-VA Coalition in Support of Children Fleeing Violence which responded to the incoming wave of unaccompanied children in the summer of 2013. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of La Clinica del Pueblo, Alianza Americas, Community Advisory Board of Georgetown-Howard Universities Center for Clinical and Translational Science (GHUCCTS) and also was elected to the UnidosUS Southeast Affiliate Council Representative. In 2017 Mr. Núñez was the recipient of Georgetown University's John Thompson, Jr. Legacy of a Dream Award and the Hispanic Bar Association of DC Hugh A. Johnson Jr. Memorial Award. In 2018 he received the Community Service Enrichment Award from the Salvadoran-American Chamber of Commerce.

**Keith Fernandez**, Director of Communications for Policy & Social Impact, Univision



Keith Fernandez is Director of Communications for Policy and Social Impact for Univision Communications Inc., the leading Hispanic media company in the U.S. Fernandez focuses on communications strategy and works to amplify the company's efforts related to corporate social responsibility and civic engagement with a focus on Univision's Cuenta Conmigo (Count with me) and Vota Conmigo (Vote with me) campaigns. Additionally, he contributes to company initiatives focused on bringing attention to the impact and importance of Hispanic voters in recent elections. Mr. Fernandez was formerly General Counsel and Communications Director for U.S. Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen where he headed the Congresswoman's communications strategy and was responsible for segments of her community outreach strategy. He also interned for Judge Bertila Soto of the 11th Judicial

Circuit of Florida. Mr. Fernandez has been published in the Miami Herald, Journal of the James Madison Institute, Cuban American Bar Association Briefs, and Elite Daily in addition to appearing on Spanish-language media to comment on political matters and campaigns. Mr. Fernandez served on the James Madison Institute's Miami Board of Advisors and was a member of The Underline's Young Professionals Committee. He was previously named a 30 under 30 Rising Star in Florida Politics by SaintPetersblog and is a recipient of the Maverick PAC Future 40 award, recognizing rising leaders under 40 nationally. Mr. Fernandez is an alumnus of the Congressional Hispanic Leadership Institute and Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute internship programs where he interned for Sen. Mel Martinez (FL) and Ros-Lehtinen, respectively. Mr. Fernandez is a graduate of Florida International University and the University of Florida, Levin College of Law. He is a member of the Florida Bar.

**Nestor Alvarenga**, Community Affairs, NBC-Telemundo



Nestor is a Wheaton HS Knight and a Maryland Terp born in El Salvador! He is the Community Affairs for NBC-Telemundo overseeing strategic community initiatives and strategic partnerships at Washington metropolitan area. Nestor has more than ten years of local, state, national, and LAC region experience working with and for marginalized communities on issues of immigrant integration, labor rights, community preservation, human rights, social justice, financial literacy, and customer service for

multicultural communities. He started at Chevy-Chase Bank several years ago serving the multicultural neighborhoods in Montgomery and Prince George's County. After, he joined CASA de Maryland as a community organizer working with students, day laborers, domestic workers, tenants, and small businesses on coalition building and managing strategic grassroots campaigns focused on human rights and social justice issues. He played a crucial role in supporting the Maryland Dream Act in 2011. After that, Nestor joined the Solidarity Center organization to work on labor rights and human rights as the program field specialist for Central America. Nestor worked side-by-side with domestic, construction, and street-vendor workers and civil society organizations on campaigns advocating for stronger implementation of labor codes, regulations, and laws in Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Honduras, and Costa Rica. Nestor returned to the United States at a time when Immigration Reform was front and center in Congress. He joined the Communications Workers of America (CWA) as the National Immigration Campaign Coordinator working to support comprehensive immigration reform. After, Nestor was the Latin American Community Liaison at the Office of Community Partnerships in Montgomery County Government under County Executive Leggett's administration. Nestor has a Bachelor's Degree in Government and Politics, Spanish Minor with a Latin American Studies Certificate, and a Master's Degree in Public Management both from the University of Maryland School of Public Policy.

**Candy Cintron**, Program Director, WLZL El Zol 107.9



Candy Cintron, is originally from Jersey City, NJ with a radio career that spans from Puerto Rico to New York City and Washington DC. Her current role at WLZL El Zol 107.9 as Program Director is one of coaching and effectiveness, while her ability to produce punching liners and elaborate vertical and horizontal promotions have made a huge difference in the overall sound and color of the radio station. Candy started at WXYX Bayamon Puerto Rico, where an internship turned into a part time job and the foot in the door of radio. At WKDM, New York, Candy became their first female production director and assistant program director. A decade later, Candy single handedly created and programmed all 4 Latin music channels at Netradio.com. This task came as second nature as Candy had vast experience in marketing and promotions as she worked in the music industry alongside veterans like Alejandro Sanz, Shakira, Mana and Olga Tañon among many others internationally known Latin artists. In 2009 Candy joined WLZL as Morning Show producer, and bringing to light many of the issues affecting the Latino community in DC. Her role in LGBT issues for the last 9 years have merited her the GLBT Latino History Projects Latina Leadership Award in 2013 for her commitment to increase positive dialogues and messages about LGBT, Transgender identity and HIV issues in media. In 2015 Candy was named Assistant Program Director, taking on the role of teacher and coach while balancing music, and her greatest role: becoming mom to Maxxie. In 2018 Candy was named Program Director and nominated for a Medalla de Cortez Award. She is also a 2018 mentee for the MIW Group's Mildred Carter Mentorship Program for women in the radio industry.

## PREVENTING THE UNDERCOUNT OF YOUNG CHILDREN

**Moderator: Beverly Tate**, Director of Planning Services, Loudoun County Public Schools



Beverly Iden Tate is Director of Planning Services for Loudoun County Public Schools. For five census cycles, as (once) outlined by Code of Virginia, Bev coordinated and even enumerated Loudoun's Triennial School Census, which involved the counting of all Loudoun residents under the age of 21. Bev received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Historic Preservation from Mary Washington College (now, University of Mary Washington) and a Master of Urban and Regional

Planning degree from Virginia Commonwealth University.

**Dr. William P. O'Hare**, President, O'Hare Data & Demographic Services, LLC



Dr. O'Hare is the leading national expert on the undercount of young children. He served as a research fellow at the U.S. Census Bureau from 2011 to 2013, where he focused on the undercount of young children in the U.S. Census. His book, "The Undercount of Young Children in the U.S. Decennial Census" was published by Springer Publishers in 2015. Since 2016, he has served as a consultant to the U.S. Census Bureau on issues related to the undercount of young children in the Census. He is also a consultant to the Leadership Conference Education Fund. Dr. O'Hare's new book "Who is Missing? Undercounts and Omissions in the U.S. Census" will be published by Springer Publishers in February of 2019. He will serve on the Virginia Complete

Count Commission and is working closely with the national Complete Count Committee for young children, where he will have access to the most up-to-date outreach efforts on a national level, including information about messaging to households with young children.



**Lauren Snellings**, Research Director, Voices for Virginia's Children



Lauren Snellings is the Research Director for Voices for Virginia's Children. Lauren is responsible for providing data and research expertise that informs their policy work. She also supports the Annie E. Casey Foundation KIDS COUNT efforts. Lauren is an epidemiologist with a strong research background having most recently worked at the Center on Society and Health studying social determinants of health. Lauren earned her Masters in Public Health from Virginia Commonwealth University and graduated from James Madison University with a Bachelor of Science in Public Health Education. Twitter: @vakids

## ENGAGING OLDER ADULTS

**Moderator: Fiona Drury**, Nurse Practitioner, Iona Senior Services



Fiona Drury, RN, NP, MPH is a Certified Gerontological Nurse Practitioner with the Consultation, Care Management and Counseling Services unit at IONA Senior Services for the last six years. She was formerly with Family Matters of Greater Washington (formerly Family and Child Services of Washington D.C. ) for 26 years. This program is grant funded from the DC Office on Aging and provides comprehensive case management services to frail, vulnerable DC residents, 60 and older. She also works as a court- appointed Examiner and Visitor with the DC Superior Court, Probate Division since 1991. She has been appointed in over 550 intervention proceedings. She serves on the DCOA Elder Abuse Prevention Committee. Ms. Drury completed her nursing education at St. Thomas Hospital Nightingale Training School in London, England and completed training as a Nurse Practitioner at George Washington University in 1986. She earned a Master's in Public Health from George Washington University in 1991.

**Glenda Blake**, Director, Loudoun County Department of Family Services



Glenda Blake has been the Director of Loudoun County Department of Family Services since May of 2017. Ms. Blake oversees a department that administers a wide variety of programs and services that assist Loudoun's children, families, persons with disabilities and older adults with basic needs. The department also administers programs that protect children and vulnerable adults from abuse, neglect and exploitation; seek to improve family stability; and help families achieve safe and affordable housing and increase self-sufficiency. Ms. Blake came to Loudoun from Arlington County, Virginia where she most recently was the Aging & Disability Services Division Chief in the Department of Human Services. Blake oversaw the administration of programs and services designed to help older Arlingtonians live independently with dignity in the community while remaining engaged in community life. Ms. Blake earned a bachelor's degree in social work from Norfolk State University, a master's of science in social work from Columbia University in New York and a master's in public administration from Virginia Tech.

**Aurora L. Delespin-Jones**, Deputy Director, DC Department of Aging & Community Living



Aurora Leah Delespin-Jones is a native Washingtonian. She completed Public School and began higher education at Dickinson College in Carlyle, Pennsylvania where she received a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology. In 1982, she received Certification in Early Childhood Development from Howard University, and in 1988, an earned master's degree in education from the George Washington University in Washington, DC. In May 2005, Aurora earned a Masters of Divinity with a concentration in Christian Counseling from the Maple Springs Baptist Bible College and Seminary (MCBBCS), in Capitol Heights, Maryland. Always a student, she continued her studies while working full time; and in May 2010, MSBBCS conferred upon her the degree of Doctorate of Ministry. Additionally, in 2010, Dr. Jones was ordained and consecrated to the

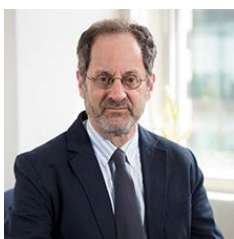
Office of Elder by the Zion Hill Baptist Church, accepted into the Lott Carey Foreign Missions Pastoral Excellence Program and traveled to Guyana, South America to perform mission work and preach the Gospel of Christ. In 2011, Dr. Jones traveled to Kenya, Africa on a second missionary journey. Dr. Jones is a Certified Public Administrator and Grants Specialist with 41 years working experience in the District of Columbia Government serving children, youth, and seniors. She currently serves as a Deputy Director with the Department of Aging and Community Living and loves the power of connecting people to tangible social service resources that meet their needs. Dr. Jones was a finalist in the *13<sup>th</sup> Annual Morris & Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation Awards for Distinguished DC Government Employees* and a winner of the 2016 *15<sup>th</sup> Annual Award Competition*. Understanding the importance of educating and empowering other caregivers, she devotes herself to raising awareness to the need for strong support systems and achieving balance to reduce stress. Dr. Jones facilitates caregiver workshops and speaks at conferences for local churches and organizations. She is a recipient of the Reverend Dr. Willamae A. Kilkenny Award for dedicated service in helping older adults live better in Washington, DC from Morgan State University School of Gerontology.

## AFTERNOON PLENARY

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**Emcee: Terri Wright**, Vice President for Program & Community, Eugene & Agnes E. Meyer Foundation

**Keynote: Dr. Andrew Reamer**, Research Professor, George Washington Institute of Public Policy



Andrew Reamer's research efforts aim to encourage U.S. national economic development and competitiveness. Areas of focus include strategic economic analysis and policy, innovation and entrepreneurship, workforce development, and the federal economic statistics system.

Intended to inform public decision-makers, Reamer's work resides on the boundary between research and practice. His current sponsors include the American Economic Association, the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, the Lumina Foundation, and the Center for Regional

Economic Competitiveness. Reamer is a member of several federal advisory committees--the National Advisory Council on Innovation and Entrepreneurship, the Workforce Information Advisory Council, the Bureau of Economic Advisory Committee, and the Bureau of Labor Statistics Data Users Advisory Committee. Reamer joined GWIPP in 2010, after six years at the Brookings Institution's Metropolitan Policy Program and 20 years as a consultant in U.S. regional economic development and public policy. He received a Ph.D. in Economic Development and Public Policy and a Master of City Planning from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a Bachelor of Science in Economics at the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania.