

Advocates' Guide Authors

MICHAEL ANDERSON

Michael Anderson is the Director of the Community Change's Housing Trust Fund Project. For more than 35 years, the Housing Trust Fund Project has operated as a strategic hub for state and local housing trust fund campaigns and a clearinghouse for information on housing trust funds. The Project provides strategic and technical assistance to organizations, agencies, and elected officials working to create or implement these funds. The Project also builds power to advance housing policy at the state level through organizing networks of residents of affordable housing and others with lived experience of housing injustice. The Project is working with partners to grow networks in California, Louisiana, Oregon, and Washington State.

ANDREW AURAND

Andrew Aurand joined the National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC) in July 2015 as Vice President for Research. Andrew leads NLIHC's research team, conducting research that informs housing policy and documenting the housing needs of low-income renters in annual publications like *The Gap* and *Out of Reach*. Andrew has extensive experience in research and affordable housing. He previously served as a faculty member in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning at Florida State University, where he taught graduate courses in research methods and housing policy and where he completed research on the impact of comprehensive planning and land use principles on the supply of affordable housing for low-income households. Andrew received his PhD and MSW from the University of Pittsburgh.

OLIVIA BARROW

Olivia Barrow is the Policy Manager for the Low-Income Investment Fund (LIIF), where she leads the organization's affordable housing and community development federal policy

and advocacy work. Prior to joining LIIF, Olivia served as a Senior Policy Analyst at Enterprise Community Partners, where she advocated for programs like the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit, New Markets Tax Credit, and Community Reinvestment Act. At both LIIF and Enterprise, Olivia has provided rigorous analysis of complex policy issues and built coalitions of diverse stakeholders. Olivia earned a bachelor's degree in public policy and a master's degree in public administration from the George Washington University in Washington, DC.

TRISTIA BAUMAN

Tristia Bauman combines litigation, legal education, and legislative advocacy strategies to prevent and end homelessness. As a senior attorney with the National Homelessness Law Center, she focuses on combating the criminalization of homelessness and advocating for laws that protect the civil and human rights of homeless people. Tristia also conducts legal trainings around the country, writes reports and other publications related to housing, and serves as a legal resource for homeless advocates. Tristia began her legal career at Legal Services of Greater Miami, Inc. as a housing attorney working with low-income tenants in federally subsidized housing. She later served for several years as an assistant public defender in Miami-Dade County.

SPENCER BELL

Spencer Bell is Policy Analyst at the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans. He is responsible for developing and implementing NCHV's strategic policies, representing NCHV's interests before Congress and the Biden administration through collaborative policy analysis, and carrying out shoe-leather advocacy on Capitol Hill. Spencer has spent over a decade in government affairs, working to elevate issue-driven dialogues and promote pragmatic, bipartisan solutions across a myriad of stakeholders. Prior to joining NCHV, he

worked in issue advocacy for the U.S. House of Representatives and education firms, as well as on campaigns and in political management. Spencer is an Eagle Scout and has a long history of serving veterans in a legislative capacity for a Member of the Veterans' Affairs Committee. He earned his bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Florida.

RUSTY BENNETT

Dr. Russell Bennett, LGSW, PhD, serves as the Chief Executive Officer of Collaborative Solutions, Inc. (CS), a national non-profit organization with an administrative office in Birmingham, Alabama, that provides organizational management and program implementation services. He has also served as the Executive Director of the National AIDS Housing Coalition and Executive Director of the Professional Association of Social Workers in HIV & AIDS since Collaborative Solutions became management agent for the two organizations. As CEO and founding director of CS, Rusty oversees the organization's work as a designated technical assistance (TA) provider for HUD, providing national assistance in the areas of HIV/AIDS, housing, homelessness, and behavioral health. In addition to his national TA work, he runs CS's Rural Supportive Housing Initiative, as well as other national initiatives integrating housing and health. He is also an adjunct faculty member at the University of Alabama School of Social Work, where he teaches in the areas of social work research, program evaluation, and nonprofit management. Rusty received his doctorate from the University of Alabama's School of Social Work in 2009.

STEVE BERG

Steve Berg serves as Vice President for Programs and Policy with the National Alliance to End Homelessness. He specializes in employment, economic development, and human services, focusing on the intersections between those issues and housing. Prior to joining the Alliance, Steve worked with the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities on state-level welfare reform and employment. Before arriving in Washington, DC, Steve spent 14 years as a legal services

attorney in California and Connecticut, working on housing, government benefits, employment, and family integrity. Steve's experience includes nonprofit management and staff training and development.

SIDNEY BETANCOURT

Sidney Betancourt is a housing advocacy organizer on the National Low Income Housing Coalition's (NLIHC) field team. Sidney works with the field team to expand NLIHC membership and engage advocates on federal policy priorities to advance the Coalition's mission. Prior to joining NLIHC, Sidney was the 2020-2021 Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute (CHCI) housing graduate fellow. During her time as a fellow, Sidney worked with the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) on legislative research aimed at preparing the agency for a governance restructure. She spent the last half of her fellowship with the U.S. House Committee on Financial Services' Subcommittee on Housing, Community Development and Insurance. As a committee fellow, Sidney supported staff in drafting important legislation related to public housing, infrastructure, and homelessness. Sidney is a graduate of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, where she earned a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in social work. During her field placement as a social work student, she worked at a homeless outreach agency in downtown Las Vegas, collaborating with a legal aid agency to quash unjust warrants for individuals experiencing homelessness.

VICTORIA BOURRET

Victoria Bourret serves as the National Low Income Housing Coalition's (NLIHC) ERASE Project Coordinator. Prior to joining NLIHC, Tori served as a communications and project manager at the Housing Alliance of Pennsylvania, a state partner of NLIHC, where she provided management and outreach assistance for policy campaigns and specialized projects. Victoria was also in charge of communications activities at the Housing Alliance, including running social media, publishing the organization's newsletter, and managing the website. Prior to her role at

the Housing Alliance, Victoria served two terms in AmeriCorps, one with AmeriCorps NCCC in Denver, Colorado, and the other with Public Allies in Delaware. Tori earned her BA in women's studies and psychology from the University of Delaware and her MSW from the University of Pennsylvania.

JEN BUTLER

Jen Butler is the National Low Income Housing Coalition's (NLIHC) Senior Director of Media Relations and Communications. In this role, Jen is responsible for conducting effective and efficient media and communications efforts in support of the Coalition's mission, vision, goals, and objectives. Jen's work in marketing and communications has included management of a diverse portfolio of campaigns for both local and national brands. Jen's experience includes work in entertainment, media, and non-profits. In previous roles, she has worked extensively in branding, programming, and marketing strategy. Jen is a graduate of Georgia State University, where she earned her BA in journalism with a concentration in public and political communications.

ALAYNA CALABRO

Alayna Calabro serves on the National Low Income Housing Coalition's (NLIHC) policy team, where she identifies, analyzes, and advocates for federal COVID-19 relief policies that address the urgent needs of low-income renters and people experiencing homelessness. Previously, Alayna worked for NLIHC as a field intern while completing her graduate studies. She also worked as a case manager intern with Catholic Charities, where she witnessed the detrimental effects of housing instability on her clients and became interested in the broader systems that impact access to safe and affordable housing. She is a graduate of the University of Maryland, where she earned her MSW with a concentration in community action and social policy. Alayna has a BA in English and psychology from the University of Notre Dame.

MICHAEL CALHOUN

Mike Calhoun is President of the Center for Responsible Lending (CRL), the policy affiliate of Self-Help, the nation's largest community development lender. For more than 30 years, Mike has been on the front lines of the fight for economic justice. At CRL, he provides management and policy leadership. Based in DC, he often testifies in Congress and appears frequently in national media as an expert on financial issues. Prior to joining CRL in 2002, Mike led several lending divisions at Self-Help, providing responsible consumer loans, mortgages, and small business loans, as well as heading an innovative program to provide national capital for affordable home loans. He has represented families in efforts to secure civil rights and consumer protections, including working for ten years as a legal aid attorney. He is also a former member and chair of the Federal Reserve Consumer Advisory Committee. Mike received his BA in economics from Duke University and his JD from the University of North Carolina.

COURTNEY COOPERMAN

Courtney Cooperman is a housing advocacy organizer on the National Low Income Housing Coalition's (NLIHC) field team. Prior to joining NLIHC, Courtney was an Eisendrath Legislative Assistant at the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism (RAC), the social justice arm of the Reform Jewish Movement. With a policy portfolio that included housing, nutrition, labor, and other economic justice issues, Courtney spearheaded the RAC's advocacy on behalf of COVID-19 relief and recovery legislation. She also wrote blog posts and social media content, created resources for advocates, supported grassroots lobbying, and launched virtual programming to teach high school students about social justice. Courtney graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Stanford University, where she earned a BA in political science, minored in Spanish, and received interdisciplinary honors in Ethics in Society. Her honors thesis, "Loss of Place, Loss of Voice: How Homelessness Impedes Political Equality,"

explored homelessness as a source of political disenfranchisement. Courtney also served on the board of Heart and Home Collaborative, a seasonal shelter for women experiencing homelessness in the greater Palo Alto area.

LINDA COUCH

Linda Couch is the Vice President of Housing Policy for LeadingAge, an organization of more than 6,000 nonprofits representing the field of aging services. In her work, Linda focuses on expanding and preserving affordable housing options for very low-income seniors. After 12 years with the National Low Income Housing Coalition, Linda rejoined LeadingAge in 2016 to identify and advocate for solutions for problems facing America's aging population, which is rapidly growing and becoming poorer. Linda has testified before House and Senate committees and has abiding interests in the federal budget and appropriations processes. She received her BA in philosophy from the George Washington University and a master's degree in public administration from the University of Connecticut.

BRUCE DORPALEN

Bruce Dorpalen is the Executive Director of the National Housing Resource Center (NHRC), which brings together the nonprofit housing counseling community on policy, program, and funding issues. NHRC has been active in increasing funding for housing counseling, bringing housing counseling agencies to the policy table, integrating housing counseling into the mortgage origination and servicing process, and improving communication with HUD and other federal agencies. Bruce has directed housing counseling programs since 1985, negotiated community reinvestment partnerships with over 40 banks, developed models for low-income mortgage underwriting that were used extensively by the industry, and created community-based outreach and education programs for minority, lower-income, single parent, immigrant, and other underserved populations. These programs have provided affordable mortgages to over 110,000

families in 30 cities across the country. During the foreclosure crisis, he designed counseling programs that assisted over 75,000 delinquent homeowners and increased communication between housing counselors and mortgage servicers. He has also developed programs for homeowners impacted by the devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina, as well as anti-predatory-lending programs, refinance programs, and homeowners-insurance programs. Earlier in his career, Bruce worked as a community organizer in Philadelphia; Atlanta; Greensboro, Raleigh, and Durham, NC; and Providence, RI; and as a tenant organizer in Brockton, MA. He also spent a year as a public interest lobbyist and advocate on housing and utility reform issues for Connecticut Citizen Action Group. Bruce graduated with honors from Brown University with a BA in urban studies in 1974.

DAN EMMANUEL

Dan Emmanuel is a senior research analyst with the National Low Income Housing Coalition. He has worked in a range of housing and community development contexts since 2008 with a particular focus on program evaluation and community needs assessment. Dan earned his BA in philosophy and psychology from the College of William & Mary and his MSW with a concentration in community and organization practice from Saint Louis University.

WILL FISCHER

Will Fischer is Senior Director for Housing Policy and Research and Interim Program Area Lead at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. In his research, Will focuses on federal low-income housing programs, including Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers and public housing, and on tax policy related to affordable housing. Since joining the Center in 2002, he has designed and advanced several policy changes to improve and expand federal rental assistance and help low-income people afford housing. Earlier in his career, he served as an analyst at Berkeley Policy Associates, where he evaluated state TANF programs and U.S. Department of

Labor workforce development initiatives. He also worked on economic development and other issues at the International City/County Management Association. Will holds a master's degree in public policy from the University of California, Berkeley's Goldman School of Public Policy.

EMMA FOLEY

Emma Foley is a research analyst with the National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC). She received her master's degree in public policy from Duke University's Sanford School of Public Policy, where she concentrated in social policy. While completing her graduate studies, Emma worked as a research intern at NLIHC, tracking and monitoring the rollout of COVID-19 emergency rental assistance programs. Emma became passionate about equitable housing policy following several years of work with organizations that advocate for affordable, accessible, and fair housing in Charlotte, Poughkeepsie, and New Orleans. Prior to graduate school, Emma served as an AmeriCorps member at a disaster recovery organization and worked at a social science research firm evaluating the efficacy of social programs. Emma received her BA in urban studies from Vassar College.

DEBBIE FOX

Debbie Fox is Deputy Director of Policy and Practice at the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV), where she oversees national domestic violence-related housing policy and provides technical assistance and training to NNEDV's coalition membership and as a part of the Domestic Violence Housing and Technical Assistance Consortium. Debbie has more than 20 years of experience in the field with a focus on fundraising, organizational development, nonprofit administration, and population-specific domestic violence, housing, and economic justice programming. Prior to joining NNEDV, she provided community leadership in the systems planning and implementation process for the domestic violence system in Portland, Oregon,

where she worked with the city's 13 domestic violence victim service providers to create a coordinated entry process enabling survivors to access housing, shelter, and eviction prevention and shelter diversion programs.

SARAH GALLAGHER

Sarah Gallagher is Senior Project Director for the National Low Income Housing Coalition's (NLIHC) ERASE (End Rental Arrears to Stop Evictions) project. In this role, Sarah works with NLIHC staff and with state and local partners to support efforts to ensure that emergency rental assistance reaches the lowest-income and most marginalized renters. Sarah has more than 25 years of experience advancing innovative, equitable housing and social service policies and programs at the local, state, and national levels, with expertise in health and housing collaborations, cross-systems data matching, interagency collaboration, homeless programs, and reentry. Prior to joining NLIHC, Sarah was Eastern Region Managing Director at the Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH), where she oversaw CSH's training, lending, technical assistance, and systems change work in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, the District of Columbia, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. She also served as CSH's Director of Strategic Initiatives and the director of CSH's Connecticut program. Sarah served as the first executive director of Journey Home, the local planning body for the Capitol Region Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness; as the executive director for discharge planning at the New York City Department of Correction, where she oversaw discharge planning programs on Rikers Island and worked with city agencies to overcome barriers faced by people leaving jail; and as a housing case manager in Boston. Sarah holds a master's degree in urban policy and management from the New School and a BA in sociology from the University of Connecticut.

KODY GLAZER

Kody Glazer is the Legal Director of the Florida Housing Coalition. Kody is an expert on inclusionary housing policies, community land trusts, fair housing, land use, environment law, and the law as it relates to housing. He plays a lead role in the Coalition's advocacy efforts at all levels of government and has expertise in drafting state legislation and local housing ordinances and policies. Kody provides technical assistance to local governments and community-based organizations on a variety of issues relating to affordable housing development. He is also a co-author of the Coalition's *Accessory Dwelling Unit Guidebook*. Prior to joining the Florida Housing Coalition, Kody clerked for the National Fair Housing Alliance on issues related to fair housing and equitable opportunity.

SARAH GOODWIN

Sarah Goodwin is a policy analyst at the National Center for Healthy Housing, where she supports the organization's policy and programmatic work and coordinates the National Safe and Healthy Housing Coalition. Previously, she served as a policy intern at NCHH, helping establish and run Find It, Fix It, Fund It: A Lead Elimination Action Drive and its workgroups. She holds a BA in interdisciplinary studies: communications, legal institutions, economics, and government from American University.

ED GRAMLICH

Ed Gramlich has been with the National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC) since 2005. During his first two years, Ed staffed the RegWatch Project, an endeavor to expand the Coalition's capacity to monitor federal regulatory and administrative actions, with a focus on preserving the affordable housing stock, both public and assisted. From 2007 to 2010, he was Director of Outreach. Since 2010, he has served as Senior Advisor, leading NLIHC's efforts related to affordable housing regulations and providing expertise on regulations related to the national Housing Trust Fund and Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing. Prior to

joining NLIHC, he worked for 26 years at the Center for Community Change (CCC), where his primary role was to provide technical assistance concerning the CDBG program to low-income, community-based groups. While at CCC, Ed also devoted considerable time to providing technical assistance to groups worried about the negative impacts of UDAGs in their communities. Ed holds a BS and an MBA from Washington University.

BIANCA HANNON

Bianca Hannon is a program associate at Collaborative Solutions, Inc, and works primarily with the Professional Association of Social Workers in HIV/AIDS and the Low-Income Housing Coalition of Alabama. Bianca holds a master's degree in social work from Kennesaw State University and has worked extensively with homeless populations.

MELISSA HARRIS

Melissa Harris serves as Director of Government Affairs for the American Association of Service Coordinators (AASC), where she tracks public policies that impact members, advocates for positive policy outcomes, provides news updates, and educates members on service coordination standards and practices. She also has a decade of experience working in journalism and communications. In her previous role as an Ohio Statehouse reporter, she closely monitored policies and politics with a focus on education and health. She has served as a board member of the Ohio Legislative Correspondents Association, and her work has been recognized by the Society of Professional Journalists and the Cleveland Press Club. Melissa holds a bachelor's degree in journalism from Kent State University.

DAVID JACOBS

Dr. David Jacobs is Chief Scientist at the National Center for Healthy Housing. He also serves as Director of the U.S. Collaborating Center for Research and Training on Housing Related Disease and Injury for the World Health Organization/Pan American Health Organization and is an adjunct associate professor at the

University of Illinois at Chicago School of Public Health and a faculty associate at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. He is one of the nation's foremost authorities on childhood lead poisoning prevention and was principal author of the President's Task Force Report on the subject in 2000 and the Healthy Homes Report to Congress in 1999. He has testified before Congress and other legislative bodies and has published many peer-reviewed articles. David is also a former director of HUD's Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes, where he was responsible for program evaluations, grants, contracts, public education, enforcement, regulation, and policy related to lead and healthy homes. His current research focuses on asthma, international healthy housing guidelines, lead poisoning prevention, and green sustainable building design. He is a Certified Industrial Hygienist and holds degrees in political science, environmental health, and technology and science policy, as well as a doctorate in environmental engineering.

PRIYA JAYACHANDRAN

Priya Jayachandran is Chief Operating Officer at the National Housing Trust (NHT), where she oversees public policy engagement, lending, and energy sustainability efforts. Priya previously led Housing Development at Volunteers of America (VOA), managing the strategic direction and acquisition and development of rental housing for the organization. From 2014 to 2017, Priya served at the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), first as Senior Policy Advisor, then as Director of the Front Office of Multifamily Housing, and finally as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Multifamily Housing Programs. Prior to joining HUD, she spent more than 15 years in community development real estate banking in New York and Washington, DC. During that time, she led client teams delivering debt and tax credit equity for affordable housing programs and charter schools. A recognized industry expert on affordable finance deal structuring, Priya has worked as a consultant to microcredit organizations for women in La Paz, Bolivia; as an investment banking analyst

for Credit Suisse; and as a Capital Fellow for California State Treasurer Kathleen Brown. Priya earned her BA from the University of California and her master's degree in public affairs from the Princeton School of Public and International Affairs.

KIMBERLY JOHNSON

Kimberly Johnson is a policy analyst at the National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC), where she is responsible for identifying, analyzing, and advocating for federal policy and regulatory activities related to NLIHC's policy priorities. Her work at the Coalition focuses on housing protections in the Violence Against Women Act, criminal justice reform, and evictions. Before joining NLIHC in 2019, Kimberly earned her master's degree in public policy from George Washington University. During her graduate program, she interned with Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future and with the Senate Minority Health Committee. She also held a fellowship with the National Network to End Domestic Violence. Before graduate school, Kimberly resided in Harrisonburg, VA, working as an advocate for survivors of sexual and domestic violence. In 2014, she served on an advisory committee to the Obama Administration's White House Task Force to Protect Students from Sexual Assault. She received a BS in psychology and an MA in psychological sciences from James Madison University in Harrisonburg, VA.

MIKE KOPROWSKI

Mike Koprowski is the National Campaign Director of the *Opportunity Starts at Home* campaign with the National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC). Before joining NLIHC, Mike was the executive director of Opportunity Dallas, an organization focused on building local coalitions to promote greater economic mobility by tackling concentrated poverty and segregation through housing policy. Prior to his time at Opportunity Dallas, Mike was the chief of transformation and innovation in the Dallas school system, where he led the development and execution of the district's Public School Choice initiative focused on socioeconomic school

integration. Earlier in his career, Mike served in the U.S. Air Force as the chief of intelligence for an F-15E fighter squadron while it was deployed to Afghanistan. He holds degrees from the University of Notre Dame, Duke University, and Harvard University.

MARK KUDLOWITZ

Mark Kudlowitz is Senior Policy Director at the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) and advocates for federal policies that support LISC's national priorities, including affordable housing, rural development, community development financial institutions, and equitable transit-oriented development. Before joining LISC, Mark was Policy Director at the Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of Multifamily Housing Programs and worked for over seven years at the Department of the Treasury's Community Development Financial Institutions Fund. Mark has also managed affordable housing and community development programs at the District of Columbia's Department of Housing and Community Development and held different positions at the Housing Assistance Council, a national rural affordable housing organization. Mark holds a BA from the University of Florida and a master's degree from the University of Michigan.

SHERRY LERCH

Sherry Lerch is Director of the Technical Assistance Collaborative (TAC). She has over 30 years of experience in the mental health and substance abuse service systems, ranging from direct service provision to system administration. Her public sector experience includes developing and implementing approaches that meet the needs of individuals with mental illness and co-occurring disorders, justice system involvement, and homelessness; providing holistic care for individuals with high risks/high needs, with a focus on addressing social determinants of health; assessing compliance with Olmstead; and identifying inter-agency and cross-systems approaches and solutions to resolve complex issues. Sherry's areas of expertise include

systems assessment, strategic planning, group facilitation, program development, and financing strategies. Prior to joining TAC, Sherry served as Acting Deputy Secretary at the Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services for Pennsylvania's Department of Human Services. Her other roles have included Director of Policy, Planning, and Program Development; Director of Operations; Special Assistant for Substance Abuse Services; and Chief of Care Management.

JOSEPH LINDSTROM

Joseph Lindstrom is the Director for Field Organizing at the National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC). Joseph joined NLIHC in 2000 while organizing Wisconsin advocates in support of the National Housing Trust Fund Campaign. He led campaigns in Madison, WI, focused on issues such as the local minimum wage, funding for homeless services, and eliminating housing discrimination against Housing Choice Voucher recipients. In addition to his advocacy and campaign work, Joseph has also worked in various direct service capacities, including as a homeless outreach coordinator, tenants' rights counselor, and workforce development professional. Joseph received his bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin with majors in political science and religious studies.

MONICA MCLAUGHLIN

Monica McLaughlin is the Director of Public Policy at the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV), where she works to improve federal legislation and increase resources to address and prevent domestic violence. She leads and co-chairs various national coalitions, educates Congress, implements grassroots strategies, and engages various government agencies to ensure that addressing domestic violence is a national priority. Monica has led national appropriations efforts to secure record federal investments in programs that address domestic violence and sexual assault. Monica also directs housing policy at NNEDV, where her achievements have included leading successful efforts to secure life-saving housing protections in the Violence Against Women Act of 2013;

advocating for domestic violence survivors' access to housing and homelessness resources in the McKinney-Vento Reauthorization Act of 2009; and drafting housing protections for immigrant survivors in the Senate-passed bill, S. 744. Building on her housing policy work, Monica leads NNEDV's Collaborative Approaches to Housing for Survivors, a multi-agency technical assistance consortium designed to improve survivors' access to safe, affordable housing.

SHEILA OWENS

Sheila Owens is Vice President of External Communications for the Council of Federal Home Loan Banks. In this role, Owens oversees national strategy for media outreach and public affairs through the development, integration, and implementation of communications activities that support the strategic direction and position of the Council. Prior to joining the Council, Owens served as Vice President of Communications and Marketing at the National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors (NAIFA), in Falls Church, VA, where she managed media relations, communications, and marketing on behalf of the association's 30,000 members, who serve Main Street consumers by providing sound financial plans. Before joining NAIFA, she held positions at organizations including the Newspaper Association of America, the Freedom Forum/Newseum, Airports Council International, and Gannett Company/*USA Today*.

NOAH PATTON

Noah Patton is a housing policy analyst at the National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC). Prior to joining NLIHC, Noah worked at the Homeless Persons Representation Project, Inc. (HPRP), helping to advocate for policies to expand public benefit programs and protecting Housing Choice Voucher holders. After working as a campaign and state house staffer in Maryland, Noah received a JD from the University of Baltimore School of Law. While in law school, Noah was involved in coordinating Legal Observers of the National Lawyers Guild to protect the legal rights of Baltimore-area political

protestors and served as a Kellogg's Law Fellow at the NAACP Office of the General Counsel, where he worked on transit equity and educational policy. Noah received his BA in political science from McDaniel College in Westminster, MD. He has been a member of the Maryland State Bar Association since 2018.

STEPHANIE REYES

Stephanie Reyes was formerly the State & Local Policy Manager for Grounded Solutions Network, where she supported municipalities and community organizations across the country in implementing effective affordable housing policies. Stephanie has over 10 years of experience in policy research, program design, and advocacy in the housing and environmental fields. Prior to joining Grounded Solutions, Stephanie held different roles at Greenbelt Alliance, where she led the organization's efforts to ensure that San Francisco Bay Area jurisdictions provide sufficient homes at all income levels in sustainable locations. Before that, she held positions in communications and advocacy at HomeFirst, an affordable housing and homeless services provider in Santa Clara County, California. Stephanie received her BS from Brown University.

JAIMIE ROSS

Jaimie Ross is President and CEO of the Florida Housing Coalition. Her work includes all forms of legislative and administrative advocacy and education related to the planning and financing of affordable housing. From 1991 to 2015, Jaimie served as the Affordable Housing Director at 1000 Friends of Florida, a statewide nonprofit smart growth organization. Prior to her tenure at 1000 Friends of Florida, Jaimie was a land use and real property lawyer representing for-profit and nonprofit developers and financial institutions. She founded the Florida Community Land Trust Institute in 2000 and the Center for Racial Equity in 2021. Nationally, Jaimie has served as an executive officer on the Founding Board of Grounded Solutions Network and on the boards of the Innovative Housing Institute

and the National Low Income Housing Coalition. She is also a nationally recognized expert in avoiding and overcoming the NIMBY syndrome. Jaimie is former Chair of the Affordable Housing Committee of the Real Property Probate & Trust Law Section of the Florida Bar and a former Fannie Mae Foundation James A. Johnson Community Fellow.

DOUG RYAN

Doug Ryan is the Interim Vice President of Policy & Applied Research at Prosperity Now. Prior to joining Prosperity Now, Doug served as Assistant Director of Federal Programs at the Housing Opportunities Commission of Montgomery County, Maryland, a multifaceted housing provider. Earlier, he worked as a legislative assistant in the U.S. Senate, as a program analyst with the Federal Housing Finance Board, and as a project manager for the Housing Development Institute, the housing development arm of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York. He is an adjunct instructor at American University's School of Public Affairs and a graduate advisor and instructor at the Georgetown School of Continuing Studies. He also served for five years on the Montgomery County Commission on Human Rights and is currently a board member for Up for Growth Action, a national effort to improve equity through better local housing policy. Doug is a graduate of Achieving Excellence, a joint program of the Harvard Kennedy School and NeighborWorks America.

SARAH SAADIAN

Sarah Saadian is Senior Vice President of Public Policy with the National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC), where she oversees NLIHC's broad congressional portfolio. Sarah previously worked with Enterprise Community Partners as a senior analyst, focusing on appropriations for federal housing and community development programs. Prior to Enterprise, Sarah served as Policy Counsel at Rapoza Associates, where she worked largely on rural development issues, and as a legislative and policy analyst at the National

Community Reinvestment Coalition, where her portfolio included expanding access to mortgage and small business credit. Sarah holds a JD from the University of Connecticut School of Law and a bachelor's degree from the University of Virginia. She has been a member of the Virginia State Bar Association since 2009.

BARBARA SARD

Barbara Sard led the housing team at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (CBPP) for more than 20 years until retiring in 2019. During this time, she also served as Senior Advisor for Rental Assistance to former HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan for 18 months. Before joining CBPP, she was a legal services attorney in Boston. For much of her career, Barbara focused on improving the federal Housing Choice Voucher program, with the goal of expanding families' access to neighborhoods where their children could thrive.

GINA SCHAAK

Gina Schaak is a senior consultant with the Technical Assistance Collaborative (TAC). Gina has over 20 years of experience helping local governments, communities, and nonprofit housing and service agencies navigate federal, state, and local programs in order to access and create permanent supportive housing and improve, expand, and evaluate local homeless crisis response systems. Gina has overseen project management on several statewide contracts at TAC and has worked directly with local communities on capacity-building activities, including strategic planning, coordinated entry evaluation, systems mapping, and program design. In addition to being a skilled technical assistance and training provider with extensive experience providing consultation to units of local government and Continuums of Care, Gina serves as TAC's national policy researcher and public liaison. In this role, she tracks federal congressional activity related to relevant homeless and housing legislation and disseminates information to the public. Prior to joining TAC, Gina worked for Boston's Department of Neighborhood Development,

where she managed many different federal homeless and permanent supportive housing programs.

BROOKE SCHIPPOREIT

Brooke Schipporeit serves as a housing advocacy organizer with the National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC). Prior to joining NLIHC, Brooke spent years supporting state and local coalitions in their efforts to achieve solutions to housing poverty. She has worked as an MSW intern with the Housing Alliance of Pennsylvania, informing and mobilizing coalition members to advance equitable housing policy. She also worked as Philadelphia's regional housing coordinator for the Self-Determination Housing Project of Pennsylvania, focusing on expanding affordable and accessible housing options for people with disabilities and older adults. Prior to her career in affordable housing, Brooke worked in direct services for the Head Start program and for a domestic violence shelter in Nebraska. She holds a master's degree in social work from the University of Pennsylvania and a BS in social work from Nebraska Wesleyan University.

KRISTI SCHULENBERG

Kristi Schulenberg is the Director of the Center for Capacity Building at the National Alliance to End Homelessness, where she oversees the Capacity Building team's efforts to help communities implement solutions to end homelessness by providing training, technical assistance, and tools to providers and public agencies nationwide. Prior to this role, Kristi served as a senior technical assistance specialist at the Alliance, where she developed and delivered training and technical assistance on best practices for ending homelessness, including re-designing emergency shelter, diversion, rapid rehousing, system performance measures, and redesigning and building capacity for coordinated crisis response systems. Before joining the Alliance, Kristi served as the Staff Attorney/Project Manager for the Veterans Legal Assistance Project at the Neighborhood Legal Services Program in Washington, DC, where she provided legal services to veterans experiencing

homelessness or at-risk of homelessness. From 2014 to 2016, she was Deputy Director of Federal Programs and a staff attorney at HomeBase/The Center for Common Concerns, a national nonprofit public interest law firm dedicated to combating and ending homelessness. She holds a BA in religious studies from the University of Dayton and a JD from Golden Gate University School of Law.

JOSH SILVER

Josh Silver has more than 25 years of experience in the housing and community development fields. He is a senior advisor at the National Community Reinvestment Coalition (NCRC), where he produces white papers on the Community Reinvestment Act, as well as fair lending policy and associated issues, and provides expertise, advice, and resources internally and externally. He also served as Vice President of Research and Policy at NCRC for 19 years. Before joining NCRC, he was a development manager engaged in fundraising and research at Manna, Inc., a housing nonprofit developer and counseling agency serving the District of Columbia, and he worked for five years at the Urban Institute. Josh holds a master's degree in public affairs from the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas in Austin and a bachelor's degree in economics from Columbia University in New York City.

LISA SLOANE

Lisa Sloane (she, her, hers) is Director of the Housing Group at the Technical Assistance Collaborative (TAC). Lisa has over 35 years of experience working with federal, state, and local governments, as well as nonprofit agencies, to address the supportive housing needs of people with disabilities and of individuals and families experiencing homelessness. At TAC, she manages complex consulting projects for state and federal government agencies. She has also worked with the states of Virginia, Massachusetts, Oregon, Louisiana, and Maryland to develop and implement permanent supportive housing programs for people with disabilities and people

who are homeless. In Massachusetts, she played a key role in the development of innovative cross-disability housing programs, including a housing locator system, a state housing bond fund, and a state home modification loan program. Prior to joining TAC, Lisa was principal of Sloane Associates, a woman-owned business that provided affordable housing and human services consultation and specialized in the development of housing programs and policies for persons with disabilities, including those experiencing homelessness.

JORGE ANDRES SOTO

Jorge Andres Soto is Associate Vice President of Advocacy and Government Affairs with the National Fair Housing Alliance (NFHA), where he is responsible for advancing NFHA's public policy priorities and directing the organization's federal and congressional advocacy. Through local and national coalition-building, Jorge designs strategies to advocate for policies that help protect individuals from housing discrimination, strengthen access to justice for victims of housing discrimination, and remove obstacles to housing opportunity. He leads NFHA's efforts on issues concerning the federal budget and appropriations, housing and housing-related legislation, and executive nominations. He also staffs the Fair Housing Task Force of the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, which NFHA co-chairs with NAACP LDF. Prior to joining NFHA, Jorge was a civil rights paralegal at Relman, Dane & Colfax PLLC, where he worked on the development and litigation of several housing, lending, and public accommodations cases involving discrimination, as well as on public policy matters concerning employment and contracting diversity in federal financial regulatory agencies. Jorge also previously worked as a labor organizer at Service Employees International Union and a community organizer with CRECEN/American Para Todos in Houston, Texas. Jorge earned his BA in history and American studies from Wesleyan University.

LESLIE STRAUSS

Leslie Strauss is a senior policy analyst at the Housing Assistance Council (HAC). She began working at HAC in 1991 as Research and Information Director and has also served as HAC's Communications Director. Currently, she is responsible for a variety of policy and information activities, including much of HAC's work on rental housing preservation. She holds a JD and practiced real estate law for several years before joining HAC. She serves on the board of the National Rural Housing Coalition.

ERIC TARS

Eric Tars is Legal Director at the National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty. Before joining the Law Center, he was a fellow with Global Rights' U.S. Racial Discrimination Program and consulted for Columbia University Law School's Human Rights Institute and the U.S. Human Rights Network. Eric currently serves on the Board of the U.S. Human Rights Network, as an adjunct professor at Drexel University's Kline School of Law, and as a field supervisor for the Howard University School of Social Work. He was a Global Law Scholar at the Georgetown University Law Center, where he received his JD, and he holds a BA in political science from Haverford College. He has also studied international human rights at the Institute for European Studies, Vienna, and at the University of Vienna.

JOHN THRELKELD

John Threlkeld is the Senior Congressional Affairs Manager at the National Alliance to End Homelessness. For almost 25 years, John was the assistant legislative director of a labor union representing federal employees. He worked on a wide spectrum of issues of interest to the working- and middle-class Americans comprising the federal civil service – from childcare and health care to depot maintenance of planes, tanks, and ships – but specialized in outsourcing/insourcing. Despite significant opposition, John was ultimately successful in securing the enactment of a series of landmark

reforms and safeguards to protect the interests of taxpayers, workers, and all Americans who depend on the federal government for efficient and effective performance of services. Because his union represented federal employees in 70 different agencies, John can credibly claim to have worked on programmatic, personnel, procurement, and funding issues arising in all 12 appropriations bills. John holds a BA in political science from Columbia University and a JD from the UCLA School of Law.

ANTHONY WALTERS

Anthony Walters is the Executive Director of the National American Indian Housing Council (NAIHC). Since 1974, NAIHC has provided training and technical assistance to hundreds of Native American Housing Authorities throughout the country. The organization also advocates on behalf of tribal housing issues and initiatives, working with Congress, federal agencies, nonprofits, and industry partners. Before joining NAIHC in 2017, Anthony served as Staff Director and General Counsel of the U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. He was also a policy advisor to the Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs at the U.S. Department of the Interior.

OLIVIA WEIN

Olivia Wein has served as an attorney at the National Consumer Law Center (NCLC) for over 20 years. NCLC is a non-profit focused on using consumer law to promote economic security for low-income and other disadvantaged people. Olivia focuses on policies and programs that protect low-income consumers' access to essential utility services, including energy, water, and telecommunications. With NCLC's Energy and Utilities team, she has been advocating for emergency COVID-19 utility consumer programs and protections for energy, water, and broadband service. Olivia works on the federal Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), as well as Weatherization and Lifeline programs, and intervenes in federal and state utility commission proceedings in matters affecting low-income utility consumer programs and

protections. She is co-author of the fifth edition of NCLC's manual, *Access to Utility Service*, and co-author of *The Rights of Utility Consumers*. Olivia serves on the boards of the Universal Service Administrative Company and the National Energy and Utility Affordability Coalition and serves on the Federal Communication Commission's Consumer Advisory Committee as well.

RUTH ANNE WHITE

Ruth White is one of the nation's leading experts on the intersection of housing policy and child welfare. She is co-founder and Executive Director of the National Center for Housing and Child Welfare and former director of Housing and Homelessness for the Child Welfare League of America (CWLA). At the Child Welfare League, she co-edited the landmark issue of the League's journal, *Child Welfare*, documenting the extent to which children are needlessly held in foster care because their parents lack decent housing. Her advocacy has helped ensure more than \$100 million in new funding for the Family Unification Program for families and youth in child welfare since 2009. Prior to working at CWLA, she managed the front-door family shelter and redesigned the homeless coordinated entry system in Columbus, OH, reducing shelter entries by over 60 percent. She is also certified as an assisted housing manager. She holds an MS in social administration from Case Western Reserve University and a BS in social work from Ohio State University. She is currently a Furfey Scholar, doctoral candidate, and professor of social work at the Catholic University of America.

CHANTELLE WILKINSON

Chantelle Wilkinson is National Campaign Manager of the *Opportunity Starts at Home* campaign with the National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC). Prior to joining NLIHC, Chantelle worked as a budget analyst for the New York State Legislature, where she assisted efforts to enact housing and transportation policies. In 2016, she worked on the *Breathing Lights* Campaign with the Center for Women in Government and Civil Society. The campaign

highlighted the problem of vacant and dilapidated housing in the capital region of New York State and spurred collaboration between many stakeholders, including artists, community organizers, neighborhood ambassadors, project administrators, and government officials. Chantelle received both her BA in political science (with minors in Latin American and Caribbean studies and Spanish) and her MA in public administration from the Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy at the University at Albany.

RENEE M. WILLIS

Renee M. Willis is the National Low Income Housing Coalition's (NLIHC) senior vice president for racial equity, diversity, and inclusion. In this role, Renee works to ensure that NLIHC's commitment to racial equity, diversity, and inclusion is woven through its culture, policies, programs, and practices. She also leads NLIHC's intensified engagement of renters with low-incomes and people with lived-experience with homelessness and housing instability. From 2015 to 2021, Renee served as NLIHC's Vice President for Field and Communications. In 2020, she served as a fellow with the Shriver Center's Racial Justice Institute and joined a network of advocates working on race equity issues across the country. Renee has more than 20 years of experience in affordable housing, including establishing and leading successful community and region-wide initiatives. She also has extensive experience in strategic planning, financial management, marketing, organizational development, staff management, and program operations. Before joining NLIHC, Renee served as housing services chief with Arlington County, VA; as an administrator in the Office of Landlord-Tenant Affairs for Montgomery County, MD; and as advocate and manager for the Public Justice Center's Tenant Advocacy Project. Renee earned a dual BA in English and Spanish from the University of Maryland. She also holds a certificate in public management from George Washington University.

DIANE YENTEL

Diane is the President and CEO of the National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC). She is a veteran affordable housing policy expert and an advocate with nearly two decades of experience working on affordable housing and community development issues. Before rejoining NLIHC – where she had previously worked as a policy analyst – Diane was Vice President of Public Policy and Government Affairs at Enterprise Community Partners, where she led federal, state, and local policy, research, and advocacy programs. Prior to her time at Enterprise, Diane was the director of the Public Housing Management and Occupancy Division of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, where she managed a team overseeing the development and implementation of nationwide public housing policies, procedures, and guidelines. She also worked to advance affordable housing policies with Oxfam America and the Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless and served for three years as a community development Peace Corps volunteer in Zambia. Diane is frequently cited in media outlets, including the *Washington Post*, *The New York Times*, *Politico*, *Mother Jones*, NPR and *The Guardian*. She serves on the Board of Directors at the National Housing Conference, Homes for America, and the Coalition on Human Needs. Diane holds a master's degree in social work from the University of Texas at Austin.

GREG ZAGORSKI

Greg Zagorski is Senior Homeownership Policy Specialist with the National Council of State Housing Agencies (NCSHA), where he focuses on issues related to affordable homeownership and housing finance. Prior to joining NCSHA in 2012, Greg worked as a legislative assistant for Senator Joe Lieberman (I-CT), advising the Senator on housing and other economic issues. He holds a BA in political science and history from the University of Connecticut and a master's degree from George Washington University.

