

Advocates' Guide Authors

MICHAEL ANDERSON

Michael Anderson is Director of the Housing Justice Team at Community Change. For more than 35 years, Community Change has operated the Housing Trust Fund Project 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 Housing Justice Team also builds power to advance housing policy at the state level by organizing networks of residents of affordable housing and others with lived experience of housing injustice. Currently, the Housing Justice Team is working with partners to grow networks in California, Louisiana, Oregon, and Washington State.

ANDREW AURAND

Andrew Aurand is Senior Vice President for Research at NLIHC, where he leads the research team in documenting the housing needs of low-income renters in annual publications like *The Gap* and *Out of Reach*, conducts additional research that informs housing policy related to extremely low-income renters, and co-manages the National Housing Preservation Database. Prior to joining NLIHC, Andrew was a faculty member in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning at Florida State University, where he taught housing policy and research methods and completed research on the impact of comprehensive planning on the supply of affordable housing. He holds a master's degree in social work and a PhD in public policy from the University of Pittsburgh.

PEGGY BAILEY

Peggy Bailey is Vice President for Housing and Income Security at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. She oversees the Center's work to protect and expand access to affordable

housing, improve state-based Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and child support programs, and expand employment opportunities to housing and cash assistance recipients. Throughout her career, she has helped build connections between the housing policy community and those working to improve health, nutrition, child welfare, and other systems of care amid a growing recognition that access to stable, affordable housing is a necessary foundation enabling people with low incomes to meet other basic needs and make progress towards achieving their hopes and dreams. Peggy's work centers on identifying the ways racism and discrimination in housing policy have resulted in disinvestment in communities of color and created disparate outcomes for people from marginalized groups. Prior to re-joining the Center in 2022, Peggy served in the Biden-Harris Administration as Senior Advisor on rental assistance to U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Secretary Marcia L. Fudge. She holds a BA in government from the University of Notre Dame and a master's degree in public administration from the University of Texas at Dallas.

TRISTIA BAUMAN

As a senior attorney with the National Homelessness Law Center, Tristia Bauman combines litigation, legal education, and legislative advocacy strategies to prevent and end homelessness. Her work focuses 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 holds a JD from the University of Washington School of Law and began her law 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 Florida's Miami-Dade County.

SPENCER BELL

Hailing from Sarasota, Florida, Spencer Bell is a policy analyst with the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans (NCHV). Before joining NCHV, Spencer managed a district office for a member of the U.S. House of Representatives and later served as a legislative aide on Capitol Hill, managing work related to many different federal departments and committees, including the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, as well as analyzing legislation and developing appropriations forecasts for several issue advocacy firms and political campaigns. He holds a BA in political science from the University of Florida and is currently pursuing a graduate degree in political science at Virginia Tech.

RUSTY BENNETT

Russell "Rusty" Bennett is founding director of Collaborative Solutions. He has more than 20 years of experience in nonprofit organizations and government and an extensive background working with U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) programs, including the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) program and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). In addition to serving as a liaison with HUD's Office of HIV/AIDS Housing (OHH), Rusty is currently executive director of the Low Income Housing Coalition of Alabama and executive director of the Professional Association of Social Workers in HIV & AIDS, following the appointment of Collaborative Solutions as management agent for the two organizations. He is also principal investigator on Collaborative Solution's research/evaluation projects, including the Professional Association of Social Workers in HIV & AIDS's initiative "Age Positively," for which he leads the HIV and Aging Task Force, serves as faculty for the HIV & Aging curriculum, and chairs the national conference. Along with PhD and LGSW degrees, he holds a certification in diversity, equity, and inclusion in the workplace from the University of South Florida.

STEVEN R. BERG

Steve Berg is Chief Policy Officer at the National Alliance to End Homelessness. In his role overseeing the policy-related work of the Alliance, he works to end homelessness by promoting effective public policies and local practices regarding housing, employment, and human services. He came to the Alliance from the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (CBPP), where he worked on state-level welfare reform and employment. Before joining CBPP, he spent 14 years as a legal services attorney in California and Connecticut, working on housing, government benefits, employment, and family integrity issues. His background includes nonprofit management and staff training and development.

SIDNEY BETANCOURT

Sidney Betancourt is a housing advocacy organizer on the NLIHC field team, where she works to expand NLIHC membership and engage advocates on federal policy priorities to advance the Coalition's mission. Before 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 on legislative research aimed at preparing the agency for a governance restructure. She spent the last half of her fellowship with the House Committee on Financial Services' Subcommittee for 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 an MSW. 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

Tori Bourret is NLIHC's Senior Project Coordinator for the End Rental Arrears to Stop Evictions (ERASE) Project. Before joining NLIHC, Tori served as communications and project manager at the Housing Alliance of Pennsylvania, a state partner of NLIHC, providing management and outreach assistance for policy campaigns and specialized projects and managing all communications, including social media, the organization's newsletter, and the website. She also served two terms in the AmeriCorps, one with AmeriCorps NCCC in Denver, Colorado and the other with Public Allies in Delaware. Tori holds a BA in women's studies and psychology from the University of Delaware and an MSW from the University of Pennsylvania.

JEN BUTLER

Jen Butler is Vice President of Media Relations and Communications at NLIHC. In this role, she is responsible for ensuring effective media and communications efforts in support of the Coalition's mission, vision, goals, and objectives. Jen's past work in marketing and communications has included management of a diverse portfolio of campaigns for both local and national brands in the entertainment, media, and non-profit sectors. Jen is a graduate of Georgia State University, where she earned a BA in journalism with a concentration in public and political communications.

ALAYNA CALABRO

Alayna Calabro is Senior Policy Analyst at NLIHC, where she works to identify, analyze, and advocate for federal policies that addresses the urgent needs facing low-income renters and people experiencing homelessness. Alayna previously worked at NLIHC as a field intern while completing her graduate studies. As a case manager intern with Catholic Charities, Alayna witnessed the detrimental effects of housing instability on her clients' well-being and became interested in the broader systems that impact access to safe and affordable housing. She holds an MSW degree with a concentration

in community action and social policy from the University of Maryland and a BA in English and psychology from the University of Notre Dame.

MICHAEL CALHOUN

Mike Calhoun has over 30 years of experience working to expand sustainable and affordable housing. He has worked collaboratively with the nation's lenders and others in the mortgage finance system to broaden the range of responsible mortgage products for working families. For the past 15 years, he has served as president of the Center for Responsible Lending (CRL), helping secure safe mortgage requirements to prevent a recurrence of the patterns and behaviors that led to the 2008 housing crash and recession. Before joining CRL, he led home lending programs and compliance at Self-Help, one of the nation's largest community development lenders. He has served as an advisor to housing developers providing low-cost rental housing for seniors and families and has worked to protect homeowners facing foreclosure due to predatory loans. He also worked for several years as a legal aid attorney, including as lead counsel in one of the first environmental justice cases, successfully preventing the destruction of a 100-year-old Black community to make way for the construction of a planned freeway. He serves on numerous boards and financial advisory groups, including as a member of the Board of the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights and as a member and chair of the Federal Reserve Board Consumer Advisory Committee. Mike holds a BA in economics with honors from Duke University and a JD from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

COURTNEY COOPERMAN

Courtney Cooperman is a housing advocacy organizer on the NLIHC field team. Before 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 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 received a BA in political science, with a minor in Spanish and interdisciplinary honors in Ethics in Society. 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 Vice President of Housing Policy for LeadingAge, an organization of more than 5,300 mission-driven organizations representing the full continuum of aging services. Linda oversees LeadingAge's affordable housing policy work, which is focused on expanding and preserving affordable housing options for very low-income seniors, connecting senior housing to health services, and ensuring affordable senior housing communities have the resources and tools necessary to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. After spending 12 years with NLIHC, Linda rejoined LeadingAge in 2016 to identify and advocate for solutions to the unprecedented affordable housing challenges faced by older adults. Linda has a special interest in the federal budget and appropriations processes and has testified before House and Senate committees. She received her undergraduate degree in philosophy from the George Washington University and a Master of Public Affairs degree from the University of Connecticut.

LINDSAY DUVALL

Lindsay Duvall is a senior housing advocacy organizer at NLIHC. In this position, Lindsay helps the field team engage advocates on federal policy priorities to advance the Coalition's mission and expand NLIHC membership. She has an extensive background in emergency and affordable housing programs, having worked for eight years with NLIHC member Hudson River

Housing in Poughkeepsie, New York. As manager of advocacy and community engagement, she crafted outreach strategies, developed partnerships, managed resident leadership initiatives, supported communications projects, and expanded the agency's advocacy work. Prior to this role, Lindsay worked on outreach and volunteer mobilization with the Oregon Food Bank. She holds a bachelor's degree in architecture from the University of Cincinnati and a master's degree in educational leadership and policy from Portland State University.

DAN EMMANUEL

Dan Emmanuel is a senior research analyst with NLIHC. 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 a BA in philosophy and psychology from the College of William & Mary and an MSW with a concentration in community and organization practice from Saint Louis University.

EMMA FOLEY

Emma Foley is a research analyst with NLIHC, where she has tracked and monitored the rollout of COVID-19 emergency rental assistance programs. Emma first became passionate about equitable housing policy following several years working with organizations that advocate for affordable, accessible, and fair housing in Charlotte, Poughkeepsie, and New Orleans. She also 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 a BA in urban studies from Vassar College and a Master of Public Policy degree from Duke University's Sanford School of Public Policy, where she concentrated in social policy.

DEBBIE FOX

Debbie Fox is Deputy Director of Policy and Practice at the National Network Against Domestic Violence (NNEDV), where she leads national domestic violence-related housing policy and

provides technical assistance and training to NNEDV's coalition membership and as part of the Domestic Violence Housing and Technical Assistance Consortium. Debbie has more than 20 years of experience in the field, especially in the areas of fundraising, organizational development, nonprofit administration, and domestic violence population-specific housing and economic justice programming. Before joining NNEDV, she shared community leadership in the systems planning and implementation process for the domestic violence system in Portland, Oregon, working with all 13 domestic violence victim service providers to create a coordinated entry process for survivors to access housing, shelter, and eviction prevention and shelter diversion programs.

SARAH GALLAGHER

Sarah Gallagher is Senior Project Director of NLIHC's End Rental Arrears to Stop Evictions (ERASE) project. In this role, Sarah works with NLIHC staff and 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 special expertise in health and housing collaborations, cross-systems data matching, interagency collaboration, homeless programs, and reentry processes. Before joining NLIHC, Sarah was the eastern region managing director of CSH, overseeing training, lending, technical assistance, and systems change work throughout 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. Sarah also served as director of strategic initiatives at CSH and director of the organization's Connecticut program. Additionally, 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 the discharge planning programs on Rikers Island and worked with city agencies to overcome barriers people face when 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 Legal Director of the Florida Housing Coalition. He is an expert on inclusionary housing policies, community land trusts, fair housing, land use, environmental 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.

AYANA DILDAY GONZALEZ

Ayana Dilday Gonzalez is Senior Consultant at the Technical Assistance Collaborative, Inc (TAC). She has over 15 years of experience developing policies and practices related to affordable housing development and permanent supportive housing (PSH). She has worked in private and public sector affordable housing development and in public sector health and human services. Ayana is an expert in the design, financing, implementation, and evaluation of publicly funded PSH programs, and she provides training and facilitation for housing providers, service agencies, and state and local governments on the financing, development, and operation of PSH. She works with Continuums of Care (CoCs) and CoC-funded programs to maximize opportunities to prevent and end homelessness, and she is a technical assistance provider for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Youth Homelessness Demonstration

Program. She is the co-chair of TAC's Racial Equity Committee, helping to lead the agency's efforts to recognize and identify the impacts of racial and social inequity and offer effective solutions that eliminate disparities. Before TAC, Ayana worked for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts on its statewide Supportive Housing Working Group, the HUD 811 Project Rental Assistance program, the National Housing Trust Fund program, and the Balance of State Continuum of Care.

SARAH GOODWIN

Sarah Goodwin is a policy analyst at the National Center for Healthy Housing (NCHH), where she supports the organization's policy- and capacity-building work and manages the National Safe and Healthy Housing Coalition. She previously served NCHH as a policy intern, helping establish and run the "Find It, Fix It, Fund It" lead elimination action drive and its associated workgroups. She holds a BA in interdisciplinary studies: communications, legal institutions, economics, and government from American University.

ED GRAMLICH

Ed Gramlich is Senior Adviser at NLIHC. After joining the Coalition in 2005, Ed spent his first two years staffing NLIHC's 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. Between 2007 and 2010, he was NLIHC's director of outreach. Since 2010, he has served as senior advisor, overseeing the Coalition's efforts related to affordable housing regulations and providing expertise on regulations related to the national Housing Trust Fund and Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing. Before joining NLIHC, he worked for 26 years at the Center for Community Change (CCC), where his primary responsibility was providing technical assistance about CDBG to low-income, community-based groups. While at CCC, Ed also devoted considerable time to providing technical assistance to groups concerned about the negative impacts of UDAGs

in their communities. Ed holds a BS and an MBA from Washington University.

JIM GRAY

Jim Gray has been a senior fellow at the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy since 2020, leading the Underserved Mortgage Markets Coalition and the Innovations in Manufactured Homes (I'm HOME) program. From 2015 through 2020, Jim helped create and lead the Duty to Serve (DTS) program at the Federal Housing Finance Agency, which is the regulator of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. DTS requires Fannie and Freddie to strategically enhance their support for manufactured housing, rural housing, and affordable housing preservation to better serve very low-, low-, and moderate-income people. Before working at FHFA, Jim managed the Center for Excellence in Affordable Housing for NCB Capital Impact (now Capital Impact Partners), a national community development financial institution (CDFI). Among other things, Jim contributed to building a nationwide robust Shared Equity Homeownership sector to help address the racial wealth gap. Jim also worked in the Clinton Administration as special assistant to Federal Housing Administration Commissioners Nicolas Retsinas and Bill Apgar. Jim attended Little Rock Central High School, Hendrix College, and Vanderbilt Law School.

GROUNDLED SOLUTIONS NETWORK

Grounded Solutions Network supports strong communities from the ground up by furthering housing solutions with lasting affordability and inclusionary housing policies to advance racial and economic equity. Grounded Solutions is a national nonprofit membership organization of over 260 community land trusts, nonprofits, inclusionary housing government programs, and allies located in 46 states, Washington D.C., and Puerto Rico, all supporting the creation and preservation of housing with lasting affordability. The Network provides its members and the broader field with training, technical assistance, policy and program design, resources, research, and advocacy. Grounded Solutions champions

evidence-based policies and strategies that work and promotes housing solutions that will stay affordable for generations so communities can stabilize and strengthen their foundations for good.

MEGAN HABERLE

Megan Haberle is Senior Director of Policy at the National Community Reinvestment Coalition (NCRC). Before joining NCRC, Megan worked at the NAACP Legal Defense Fund (LDF), where she was a senior policy counsel leading LDF's economic justice policy work. Her portfolio at LDF included fair housing, environmental justice, community development, equitable infrastructure, and other aspects of a fair economy. Previously, Megan worked at the Poverty & Race Research Action Council (PRRAC) for nine years, serving as PRRAC's deputy director from 2018-2021 and as director of housing policy from 2017-2018. At PRRAC, she led work on policy design and advocacy, public education, and community-based technical assistance, striving to reform and harness government programs in the interest of civil rights, with a focus on advancing fair housing and environmental justice. She has spoken and published widely on those issues. She also served as the editor of PRRAC's quarterly journal, *Poverty & Race*. Before coming to PRRAC, Megan worked at The Opportunity Agenda, a social justice policy and communications lab, as economic opportunity fellow and associate counsel. Her work there focused primarily on equitable economic recovery policies, including fair housing, housing finance reform, and the application of civil rights law to infrastructure investments. She has also worked in private litigation practice in New York. Megan is a graduate of Columbia Law School, where she was an executive editor of the *Columbia Journal of Environmental Law*, and Swarthmore College, where she received her BA in sociology/anthropology.

BIANCA HANNON

Bianca Hannon joined Collaborative Solutions in 2021 and has been instrumental in advancing

the administrative and programmatic work of the Professional Association of Social Workers in HIV/AIDS. She assists in the planning and execution of the National Conference on Social Work and HIV/AIDS, focusing primarily on fund development and programming. Her prior experience includes two years of street outreach and case management, during which she helped people who are homeless and living with HIV find emergency housing and gainful employment. Bianca also has experience conducting research and collecting qualitative data to inform practice and creating programs for and working with minority populations. Bianca holds a master's degree in social work from Kennesaw State University and a certification for diversity, equity, and inclusion in the workplace from the University of South Florida.

MELISSA HARRIS

Melissa Harris serves as government affairs director for the American Association of Service Coordinators, where she leads the organization's legislative and regulatory advocacy efforts at the state and federal levels. She also promotes recommended standards of practice for service coordinators and provides technical assistance and training on service coordination fundamentals and policies.

CRISTY HAUSER

Cristy Hauser is Housing Policy Director at the National Housing Research Center. Before joining the Center, she worked at the North Carolina General Assembly for three legislative sessions, receiving an award of appreciation for public service. She began her advocacy work as a CSW fellow for WomenNC in Raleigh, North Carolina, where she advocated for the health rights of women who are incarcerated at the local and state levels. Later, she directed and coordinated operations to help elect more than 20 public officials in Virginia over three election cycles. While working in local elections, she also helped advocate for affordable housing in Virginia's Fairfax County. She is motivated to strengthen the housing counseling industry to help underserved

communities, communities of color, the elderly, and low- and moderate-income individuals. She holds a BA in political science from Meredith College and a master's degree in public management from Johns Hopkins University.

DAVID JACOBS

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 Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization (PAHO WHO) and is an adjunct associate professor at the University of Illinois at Chicago School of Public Health and 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 authored or coauthored many peer-reviewed publications. Dr. Jacobs is the former director of the Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, where he was responsible for program evaluations, grants, contracts, public education, enforcement, regulation, and policy related to lead and healthy homes. His current work includes research on asthma, international healthy housing guidelines, lead poisoning prevention, and green sustainable building design. Dr. Jacobs is a Certified Industrial Hygienist® and holds degrees in political science, environmental health, technology, and science policy, as well as a doctorate in environmental engineering.

KIM JOHNSON

Kim Johnson is Public Policy Manager at 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 the housing protections included in the "Violence

Against Women Act," criminal justice reform, and evictions. Before joining NLIHC in 2019, Kim 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 U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. She also held a fellowship with the National Network to End Domestic Violence. Before graduate school, Kim resided in Harrisonburg, Virginia, 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 her BS in psychology and an MA in psychological sciences from James Madison University.

MIKE KOPROWSKI

Mike Koprowski is the national campaign director of NLIHC's *Opportunity Starts at Home* campaign. Before joining NLIHC, Mike served as 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 with Opportunity Dallas, Mike was 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, which focused on socioeconomic school integration. Earlier in his career, he served in the U.S. Air Force as 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 Local Initiatives Support Coalition (LISC), where he advocates for federal policies that support the organization's national priorities, including affordable housing, rural development, community development financial institutions, and sustainable development. Before joining LISC, Mark was policy director

of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of Multifamily Housing Programs and worked for more than seven years at the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund at the U.S. Department of the Treasury. Mark also managed affordable housing and community development programs at the District of Columbia's Department of Housing and Community Development and held multiple positions at the Housing Assistance Council, a national rural affordable housing organization. Mark earned his BA from the University of Florida and a master's degree from the University of Michigan.

SHERRY LERCH

Sherry Lerch is a human services consultant with the Technical Assistance Collaborative, Inc (TAC). She has more than 40 years of experience working in the behavioral health system at both the county and state levels. In her role at TAC, she provides technical assistance to community organizations and state/local governments on services and supports that meet the needs of individuals with mental health, substance use, and co-occurring disorders; justice system involvement; or who are without homes. She also provides technical assistance relating to holistic care for individuals with high risks/high needs; *Olmstead* compliance; inter-agency and cross-systems approaches; and effective strategies for garnering local adoption of best and promising practices. Her areas of expertise include systems assessment, strategic planning, stakeholder engagement, group facilitation, program development, and financing strategies. Examples of her work include conducting systems' assessments and developing recommendations to address gaps in services to incorporate into *Olmstead* Plans for Massachusetts, Mississippi, Nebraska, and North Carolina that contributed to the preventable institutionalization and incarceration of individuals with behavioral health disorders in Washington State; coordination work with state agencies and counties on the development and implementation of an array of crisis intervention services and funding strategies; and facilitating

an analysis of housing support services that involved identifying and engaging partner agencies needed to address gaps and barriers in Arizona, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Oregon, Virginia, and Washington State.

MARCELLA MAQUIRE

Marcella Maguire is Director of Health Systems Integration at the Corporation of Supportive Housing (CSH). Her work focuses on the intersection of the housing and healthcare sectors in the financing, policy, and implementation of systems and programs. She has been engaged with efforts in multiple states regarding the use of Medicaid and health policy levers to build equity in communities and address community needs. Prior to joining CSH, Marcella worked for 17 years for the City of Philadelphia leading efforts to integrate behavioral health, managed care, and affordable and supportive housing systems. She holds a PhD in clinical psychology.

MONICA MCLAUGHLIN

Monica McLaughlin is 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 members of 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 NNEDV's housing policy work, which has resulted in achievements such as 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.

LILY MILWIT

Lily Milwit is the Housing Not Handcuffs attorney at the National Homelessness Law Center, where she focuses on ending the criminalization of homelessness through policy advocacy, impact litigation, messaging, and coalition-building. While in law school, she was a student attorney with the Georgetown Juvenile Justice Clinic, president of If/When/How: Lawyering for Reproductive Justice, and a board member for Law Students for Justice in Palestine, Georgetown Youth Advocates, and the Georgetown chapter of the National Lawyers Guild. Lily has previously worked with Lawyers for Children, the Poverty & Race Research Action Council, the National Partnership for Women & Families, Equal Justice Under Law, and Bread for the City. She received her JD from Georgetown University Law Center in 2021 and is a graduate of Tulane University.

STEVE MOORE SANCHEZ

Steve Moore Sanchez is Development Coordinator at NLIHC, where he draws on his extensive background in fundraising and public policy to ensure the Coalition secures the necessary resources to support its mission. Prior to joining NLIHC, he served as a writer for development at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, where he crafted proposals, reports, donor communications, and other materials on the organization's work to strengthen housing, health, nutrition, and other essential programs. Steve also gained experience planning and coordinating fundraising efforts for Prosperity Now, Farmworker Justice, and the Washington Office on Latin America.

NATIONAL PRESERVATION WORKING GROUP

The National Preservation Working Group (PWG) is a diverse coalition of national advocacy organizations, housing owners, developers,

tenant associations, and state and local housing agencies dedicated to the preservation of multifamily housing for low-income families. The PWG serves as a trusted and unified voice of housing organizations and is known for advancing practical, actionable solutions. Members of PWG come together to advance solutions that tackle big challenges through advocacy around resources and legislation that can support the preservation of affordable housing.

SAMIRA NAZEM

Samira Nazem is a principal court management consultant at the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) overseeing the Eviction Diversion Initiative, which supports state and local courts in designing, implementing, and evaluating eviction diversion programs and related court reform efforts. Before joining NCSC, Samira served as the associate director of Programs and Advocacy at the Chicago Bar Foundation (CBF), where she led the CBF's advocacy efforts with the courts to adopt policies that promote access to justice and to expand the range of available self-help, legal aid, and *pro bono* resources. In that role, she helped design and implement an eviction diversion program and court-based rental assistance program in the Circuit Court of Cook County. Samira began her legal career working in legal aid as an eviction defense attorney and is passionate about improving the administration of justice in eviction court. A proud native of Omaha, Nebraska, Samira now lives in Chicago with her husband and two daughters.

SHEILA OWENS

As Vice President of External Communications for the Council of Federal Home Loan Banks, Sheila 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. Before joining the Council, she served as Vice President of Communications and Marketing at the National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors

(NAIFA) in Falls Church, Virginia. Sheila has also 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 senior policy analyst with NLIHC. Before he joined the Coalition, 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, working on transit equity and educational policy. Noah received his BA in political science from McDaniel College in Westminster, Maryland. He has been a member of the Maryland Bar since 2018.

JOHN POLLOCK

John Pollock is a staff attorney for the Public Justice Center who has served since 2009 as coordinator of the National Coalition for the Civil Right to Counsel (NCCRC). The NCCRC works in 41 states at the state and local levels to establish the right to counsel for low-income individuals in civil cases involving basic human needs such as child custody, housing, safety, mental health, and civil incarceration. He is the recipient of the 2018 Innovations Award from the National Legal Aid and Defender Association (NLADA). Previously, John worked as the enforcement director for the Central Alabama Fair Housing Center and as a law fellow/consultant at the Southern Poverty Law Center. He graduated from Northeastern University School of Law, where he was a recipient of a Public Interest Law Scholarship (PILS). He is the author of many law review articles, including "Appointment of Counsel for

Civil Litigants: A Judicial Path to Ensuring the Fair and Ethical Administration of Justice" (*Court Review*, 56.1 2020).

GABRIELLE ROSS

Gabby Ross is a housing advocacy organizer with NLIHC. Gabby previously served as a housing stability specialist for a property management company in Washington, D.C., where she helped residents apply for emergency rental assistance. Gabby also worked as a housing specialist at N Street Village for the Patricia Handy Place for Women shelter in Washington, D.C., where she worked alongside case managers and community partners to find safe and affordable housing for women to help them exit homelessness successfully. Gabby graduated from Howard University in 2019 with a BA in political science and a minor in community development.

JAIMIE ROSS

Jaimie Ross is former 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. Jaimie also served as Affordable Housing Director at 1000 Friends of Florida, a statewide nonprofit smart growth organization, from 1991 to 2015. Before 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 January 2000 and the Center for Racial Equity in 2021. Nationally, Jaimie 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 a nationally recognized expert in avoiding and overcoming the NIMBY syndrome. Jaimie is a past 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.

SARAH SAADIAN

Sarah is Senior Vice President for Public Policy and Field Organizing at NLIHC, where she oversees NLIHC's broad congressional portfolio and field mobilization efforts. Sarah previously worked with Enterprise Community Partners as a senior analyst, focusing on appropriations for federal housing and community development programs. Before joining Enterprise, Sarah served as policy counsel at Rapoza Associates, working largely on rural development issues. While a legislative and policy analyst at the National Community Reinvestment Coalition, Sarah's portfolio included expanding access to mortgage and small business credit. Sarah graduated from the University of Connecticut School of Law after receiving her bachelor's degree from the University of Virginia. She has been a member of the Virginia State Bar since 2009.

BROOKE SCHIPPOREIT

Brooke Schipporeit is Manager of Field Organizing at NLIHC. Previously, Brooke spent years supporting state and local coalitions in their efforts to achieve solutions to housing poverty. She 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. Before her career in affordable housing, Brooke worked in direct services in Nebraska for both the Head Start program and a domestic violence shelter. She earned a Master of Social Work degree from the University of Pennsylvania and a Bachelor of Science degree in social work from Nebraska Wesleyan University.

SOPHIE SIEBACH-GLOVER

Sophie Siebach-Glover is a research analyst with NLIHC. She first joined NLIHC as a field intern during her graduate studies. She has previous

experience serving as a research assistant at the University of Maryland, a permanent supportive housing team member at Miriam's Kitchen in Washington, D.C., and a community school director at United Way of Salt Lake. Sophie holds a BA in history and education, inquiry, and justice from Georgetown University. She received a master's degree in public policy and a Master of Social Work degree from the University of Maryland, where she concentrated on social policy and community action.

JOSH SILVER

Josh Silver is a senior advisor at the National Community Reinvestment Coalition (NCRC) and has more than 25 years of experience in the housing and community development field. In his present role at NCRC, he produces white papers on the "Community Reinvestment Act" and fair lending policy and serves as an expert, providing advice and resources internally and externally. Formerly, he served as vice president of research and policy at NCRC for 19 years. Before joining NCRC, he worked as a development manager engaged in fundraising and research at Manna, Inc., a housing nonprofit developer and counseling agency serving the District of Columbia, and at the Urban Institute. Josh holds a master's degree in public affairs from the Lyndon Johnson School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas in Austin and a bachelor's degree in economics from Columbia University.

LISA SLOANE

Lisa Sloane manages complex consulting projects for state and federal government agencies at the Technical Assistance Collaborative, Inc (TAC). She has nearly 40 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 individuals and families experiencing homelessness. Lisa has 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 experienc-

ing homelessness. 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. She is an expert in the area of fair housing. Before joining TAC, Lisa was principal of Sloane Associates, a woman-owned business that provided affordable housing and human services consultation, specializing 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 at 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 the NAACP Legal Defense Fund.

MITRIA SPOTSER

Mitria Spotser is a consultant at the Center for Responsible Lending. She previously served as Director of Housing Policy at the Consumer Federation of America and as a member of the consumer advisory councils for JP Morgan Chase, Rocket Mortgage, Wells Fargo, Bank of America, and Freddie Mac. Mitria also previously served as Senior Director of Advocacy and Counsel at the Credit Union National Association; senior counsel on the House Financial Services Committee for Chairwoman Maxine Waters; Vice President of Federal Policy

and Senior Counsel at the Center for Responsible Lending; Director of Legislative and Policy Advocacy at the National Community Reinvestment Coalition; Director of Government Affairs for the DC Housing Finance Agency; and Legislative Director and Acting Committee Director for the Committee on Economic Development for the Council of the District of Columbia.

As a noted expert in issues involving affordable housing, economic development, consumer protection, access to credit and capital, housing finance, and oversight of financial institutions, Mitria and her work have appeared on *CNBC*, *MSNBC*, *Bloomberg News*, *NPR* and *C-SPAN*. She has also published in law journals, law reviews, and editorial publications and has testified before both the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate. In 2014, Mitria appeared on the cover of *Housing Wire Magazine* as a "Woman of Influence" in recognition of her development of the affordable housing compromise in the bipartisan Corker-Warner housing finance reform legislation.

LIZ STEWART

Liz Stewart has 19 years of experience helping develop policies and practices related to affordable housing development and permanent supportive housing (PSH). She has helped supportive housing and services agencies navigate local and federal regulations and restrictions in order to access resources to support PSH. She has extensive knowledge of federal and state programs used to finance housing and services for low-income and vulnerable populations, including the HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) Program, the Housing Choice Voucher Program, the 811 PRA Program, and the Continuum of Care (CoC) Program. Liz is an expert on underwriting and evaluating financial feasibility for mixed-finance housing developments, including the use of Section 202, Community Development Block Grants, HOME, and the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC).

OLIVIA BARROW STRAUSS

Olivia Barrow Strauss is the policy manager at the Low Income Investment Fund (LIIF), where she helps lead the organization's strategic influence agenda. Olivia develops and advocates for public policies that increase access to capital and expand resources for affordable housing and community development projects. Prior to joining LIIF in 2019, she worked as a senior policy analyst at Enterprise Community Partners and helped lead the organization's affordable housing and community development tax credit advocacy efforts. She received a bachelor's degree in public policy and a master's degree in public administration from The George Washington University.

LESLIE STRAUSS

Leslie Strauss is a senior policy analyst with the Housing Assistance Council (HAC), where she has worked since 1991. She is responsible for a variety of policy and information activities, including editing the HAC News. Leslie holds a law degree 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 serves as legal director with the National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty. Before joining the Law Center, Eric was a fellow with Global Rights' U.S. Racial Discrimination Program and consulted with Columbia University Law School's Human Rights Institute and the U.S. Human Rights Network. He 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. Eric received his JD as a global law scholar from the Georgetown University Law Center and his BA in political science from Haverford College. He also studied international human rights at the Institute for European Studies, Vienna, and at the University of Vienna.

KIMBERLY VERMEER

Kimberly Vermeer is an interdisciplinary sustainability practitioner, author, and podcaster, with a special focus on multifamily affordable housing. Through her company, Urban Habitat Initiatives Inc., she consults with affordable housing developers to advance sustainability and climate resilience in their development projects and organizations. Committed to equity in sustainability and to delivering the benefits of green building to vulnerable populations, she works with teams to incorporate a full range of sustainability and climate resilience strategies into their projects and guides the LEED and Enterprise Green Communities certification process. In her podcast, *Green in Action*, Kim shares stories of the people and organizations that are leading the transformation of the affordable housing sector through sustainable design and development strategies, and through the podcast she helps expand a community of practitioners and advocates. Kim is co-author, with Walker Wells, of the recently published book *Blueprint for Greening Affordable Housing, Revised Edition*. She is also an experienced educator and has developed and facilitated many professional education and peer-learning events. Her background includes housing finance, policy, and development. She was a Peace Corps volunteer in the Kingdom of Tonga.

ANTHONY WALTERS

Tony Walters is from Tahlequah, Oklahoma, and is a member of the Cherokee Nation. He spent 12 years in Washington, D.C. and the last six years as Executive Director of the National American Indian Housing Council. Before joining NAIHC, Tony worked in both the legislative and executive branches of government. He served as staff director and chief counsel to Montana Senator Jon Tester for the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. Prior to that, he worked as a policy advisor in the U.S. Department of the Interior's (Interior) Office of the Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs. Tony has worked on a wide range of tribal issues, including energy and economic development, law enforcement, tribal lands issues,

and Interior's Land Buy-Back Program. He has a strong background in advocacy and Indian law and policy, including the development of legislative strategies. His education includes a Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a JD from the Oklahoma University College of Law.

OLIVIA WEIN

Olivia Wein has been an attorney at the National Consumer Law Center (NCLC) for more than 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 telecom. She works on the federal Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), Weatherization, Lifeline, the Affordable Connectivity Program, and the Low-Income Household Water Affordability Program, and she 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 board of the Universal Service Administrative Company and the advisory board for the National Energy and Utility Affordability Coalition. She also serves on the Federal Communication Commission's Consumer Advisory Committee.

RUTH ANNE WHITE

Ruth White is one of the nation's leading experts on the nexus between 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 a 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. Through her advocacy, more than \$100 million in

new funding for the Family Unification Program has been made available for families and youth in child welfare since 2009. Prior to working at CWLA, Ruth managed the front-door family shelter and redesigned the homeless coordinated entry system in Columbus, Ohio, reducing shelter entries by over 60%. She is also certified as an assisted housing manager. Ruth has a Master of Science degree in social administration from Case Western Reserve University and a Bachelor of Science degree 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 the national campaign manager of the *Opportunity Starts at Home* campaign at NLIHC. Before joining the Coalition, she worked as a budget analyst for the New York State legislature, assisting with the enactment of 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 issues of dilapidated vacant housing in the capital region of New York State and spurred collaboration between people and organizations from many sectors, including artists, community organizations, neighborhood ambassadors, project administrators, and government officials. Chantelle received her BA in political science with minors in Latin American/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 NLIHC's 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 has extensive experience in strategic planning, financial management, marketing, organizational development, staff management, and program operations. Renee previously served as housing services chief with Arlington County, Virginia; administrator of the Office of Landlord-Tenant Affairs for Montgomery County, Maryland; and as advocate and manager for the Public Justice Center's Tenant Advocacy Project. Renee earned dual Bachelor of Arts degrees in English and Spanish from the University of Maryland. She also holds a certificate in public management from George Washington University.

ALICIA WOODSBY

Alicia Woodsby is a senior associate at the Technical Assistance Collaborative, Inc (TAC). She has 17 years of experience leading statewide public policy initiatives; building statewide coalitions and cross-system and cross-sector partnerships; developing housing and services solutions for vulnerable and complex populations; and working to scale best practices. She provides technical assistance (TA) to states, nonprofits, local community mental health agencies, and Continuums of Care on health, behavioral health, and housing integration strategies; data sharing; estimating needs for housing resources; supportive housing capacity-building; strategies to reduce homelessness; serving high-cost/high-need populations; homelessness prevention; racial equity strategies; and partnering with people with lived experience. She served on the team for a national Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) learning collaborative focused on leveraging Medicaid and other federal resources to serve individuals with substance use disorders (SUDs) experiencing homelessness, and she has contributed to national policy briefs and planning

guides. She has conducted multiple presentations on mental health policy, housing, and homelessness at the state level and nationally. Prior to joining TAC, Alicia was the executive director of the Partnership for Strong Communities, the statewide policy, advocacy, and backbone organization for the collective impact effort to end homelessness in Connecticut. At the Partnership, she led the statewide Reaching Home campaign, which played a major role in Connecticut's being named the first state to end chronic homelessness among veterans and the second to meet the federal definition of ending veteran homelessness, while reducing chronic homelessness among all populations by more than 60%. These efforts resulted in a substantial increase in the state's stock of supportive and affordable housing and a streamlined system for addressing the long-term homelessness of people with disabilities. During her time as Public Policy Director for the National Alliance on Mental Illness in Connecticut, she led a statewide mental health advocacy coalition, taking the lead on issues related to Medicaid, medication access, mental health parity, housing, and the decriminalization of serious mental illness.

GREG ZAGORSKI

Greg Zagorski is a senior homeownership policy specialist with the National Council of State Housing Agencies, 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 bachelor's degree in political science and history from the University of Connecticut and a master's degree from George Washington University.

