### NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ADVISORY COUNCIL

NEJAC Member Biographical Summaries March 2021

#### **CHAIR**

#### Orduño, Sylvia

Michigan Welfare Rights Organization

Sylvia Orduño has been a community organizer with MWRO for over 23 years and is a strong advocate for the rights of poor and low-income residents. She has served on several governmental, academic and philanthropic advisory boards and committees promoting policies and legislation for low-income, water, energy and housing affordability and environmental justice protections.

She has co-convened several state and national forums including the U.S. Social Forum in 2010 that brought over 18,000 activists from more than 40 states and several nations to Detroit for a week-long series of panels, presentations, and strategy sessions; followed by two international social movement gatherings on water and housing. Additionally, Ms. Orduño is a coordinator with the People's Water Board (PWB), a coalition of three dozen Michigan social justice groups actively working on water affordability and the commons; is a co-coordinator of the National Coalition on the Human Rights to Water and Sanitation; works actively with the National Coalition on Legislation for Affordable Water; and is a member of the Michigan Environmental Justice Coalition and the Water Is Life Coalition joining Michigan and Ontario, Canada grassroots communities on Great Lakes issues. She also splits her time working at a non-profit agency for blind and visually impaired people connecting disability rights with economic and EJ issues.

#### VICE CHAIR

#### Osborne Jelks, Na'Taki

West Atlanta Watershed Alliance and Proctor Creek Stewardship Council

Mrs. Na'Taki Osborne Jelks is an environmental scientist, social change engineer, and educator working for a healthy, just, and sustainable future. She has been advancing equity and social justice at the local level for nearly 20 years---using her expertise and passion to address environmental challenges facing underserved communities in the Atlanta Region. She has made contributions through government, non-profit, and community-based organizations, as both a professional and community leader, to advance environmental justice in low-income and communities of color and to elevate marginalized community voices so that those most affected by changes in the region gain access to the decision-making tables where strategies are being planned and developed.

Eighteen years ago, she co-founded the West Atlanta Watershed Alliance (WAWA), a community-based organization comprised of residents living in the Proctor, Utoy, and Sandy Creek Watersheds, in Northwest and Southwest Atlanta, who are overburdened with environmental stressors and pollution but are often least represented at environmental decision-making tables. WAWA was established from community efforts to halt perceived discriminatory wastewater treatment practices in West Atlanta and has grown to become an impactful force in community-centered sustainable development. Mrs. Jelks is the organization's board chairperson. Under Mrs. Jelks' leadership, WAWA has led community-based efforts, for over a decade, to

clean up, protect, and restore Northwest Atlanta's Proctor Creek Watershed. Once a source of pride for Northwest Atlanta communities, Proctor Creek is one of the most impaired waterways in Metro Atlanta. Historically, the creek was a place where kids played, people fished, and people were baptized. Today, the creek and the neighborhoods through which it flows are affected by 29+ documented pollution sources, and the watershed is plagued by social, economic, and health disparities. In part because of Mrs. Jelks' and WAWA's persistent advocacy and community engagement efforts, Proctor Creek is now the focus of federal attention and investments through the EPA's Urban Waters Federal Partnership. Mrs. Jelks was also heavily involved in WAWA's establishment of the Proctor Creek Stewardship Council (PCSC), a grassroots organization that engages Proctor Creek residents in community-driven, collaborative problem solving processes, along with government, academia, and other stakeholders, to identify innovative, community-engaged approaches for environmental restoration of the watershed. Since its formation, the PCSC has dramatically changed the dialogue on meaningful citizen engagement in the revitalization of the Proctor Creek Watershed. It now leans more toward respect for community leadership, local knowledge, and community needs than was previously experienced. Jelks is Co-Chair of the PCSC.

# VICE CHAIR Tilchin, Michael

Jacobs Engineering

Mike Tilchin is a Vice President at Jacobs Engineering, which recently acquired CH2M, where Mike has worked since 1983. Mike serves as Jacobs' Client Executive for the company's EPA Portfolio. Mike has 36 years' experience in environmental science and engineering, project and program management. His work for EPA includes support for Superfund, water security, water infrastructure finance, and for the Office of Sustainable Communities. Under Mike's leadership, his company has had a major role in the clean up several hundred Superfund sites in multiple EPA Regions. Mike was appointed by EPA to serve on the National Advisory Council for Environmental Policy and Technology (NACEPT) Superfund Subcommittee in 2002- 2004, developing policy recommendations for the Superfund program. He has been active in EPA's national and regional environmental justice and equitable development forums for several years. Mike also serves on the Board of Directors of the CH2M HILL Plateau Remediation Company at the Department of Energy site in Hanford, Washington.

Mike is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) and serves on ASCE's Committee on America's Infrastructure. For ASCE's 2017 Report Card on America's Infrastructure, Mike was a lead author on the assessment of the nation's Hazardous Waste Infrastructure. He is also an active member of the American Council of Engineering Companies' Superfund Work Group.

Mike served on the Board of Directors of the Anacostia Watershed Society (AWS) from 2005 through 2017 and was Board Chair from 2010 - 2013. The AWS is an environmental group dedicated to cleaning up the Anacostia River and improving the quality of life for communities in the watershed through stewardship, advocacy, recreation, and education programs. Mike received a B.S. in geology from the University of Michigan, and an M.S. in Biological and Agricultural Engineering from North Carolina State University. He is a professional engineer licensed in the State of Virginia, certified as a LEED Green Associate, and is an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Natural Resources Science at the University of Rhode Island.

#### **OTHER MEMBERS**

### Moore, Richard

Los Jardines Institute

Mr. Moore served as the Executive Director of Southwest Network for Environmental and Economic Justice (SNEEJ), in Albuquerque, New Mexico, from 1993 to 2010. He came to Southwest Network after 12 years with the Southwest Organizing Project (SWOP) where he was the lead organizer and primary trainer of SWOP's organizing model. As a widely respected national leader in the area of environmental justice, Mr. Moore has served on numerous government and nongovernmental committees and panels, including chair of the National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC), member of the National Council of Churches EcoJustice Task Force, and member of the Congressional Black Caucus National Environmental Policy Commission. In 2010, Mr. Moore transitioned from Director of SNEEJ to Senior Advisor. He currently is the Program Director for Los Jardines Institute in Albuquerque New Mexico. Los Jardines is a member of the Environmental Justice & Health Alliance for Chemical Policy Reform. Through this alliance, Los Jardines advocates for stronger, safer, and just chemical policies. Mr. Moore is a recipient of the 2005 Ford Foundation Leadership for a Changing World.

### Baptiste, April

Colgate University

April Karen Baptiste is currently an associate professor of Environmental Studies and Africana and Latin American Studies at Colgate University. Her research interests lies at the nexus of environmental psychology and environmental justice. Her projects have explored the worldviews to environmental problems in the Caribbean with a focus on marginalized populations like fishers'. Her current research project examines the characteristics of environmental movements across the Caribbean region, seeking to understand whether environmentalism can be view through the lens of decolonization. Ms. Baptiste received her PhD from State University of New York, College of Environmental Forestry in Environmental policy, a Master of Science in Science for the Management of Tropical Environments from the University of the West Indies St. Augustine, Trinidad and Bachelor of Science in Chemistry and Management from the University of the West Indies, St Augustine, Trinidad.

#### **Britt, Joy**

Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium

Joy Britt was born and raised in Guam. Being raised on an island located on the ring of fire, she is no stranger to the effects of nature's most destructive forces, including earthquakes and typhoons and the effects of environmental impacts to human health. Three years of her adolescence was spent without running water or power due to severe storms and latent repairs to the island's infrastructure. She lived in third world country conditions but witnessed others much worse off. Such early experiences observing the need for access to healthcare led to her obtaining her MPH and her current line of work.

Joy is the Senior Program Manager of the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium's Contamination Support Program. She is accountable for all aspects of project planning, grant writing, funding, and implementation of

various projects, including, the Brownfields Tribal Response Program (TRP), the national contract with Kansas State University for Tribal Technical Assistance to Brownfields, and the Rural Alaska Monitoring Program.

Joy also participants in research and data dissemination of food security projects within the Bering Straits and consults on scientific and technical issues that arise through community concerns and as a contributor to the Local Environmental Observer Network and the Tribal Brownfields Forum. She provides collaborative technical assistance to 29 Tribal Response Programs throughout Alaska, all Alaska Tribes, and requesting statewide entities.

### de Aztlan, Cemelli

El Paso Equal Voice Network

Cemelli de Aztlan, born and raised in El Paso has been engaged in community organizing, advocacy and non-profit work throughout her career. Currently serving as the Network Weaver for the El Paso Equal Voice Network (EVN), a coalition of grassroots organizations rooted in justice and movement building. The El Paso EVN is structured by committees working on movement building priorities with an intersectionality framework, to include immigrant rights, labor rights, public education, civic engagement and environmental racism.

In addressing environmental issues on the border, one must address NAFTA. To some, NAFTA just signifies a trade deal, but rarely do people think about the direct effects of the trade industry on communities and families living on the southern border. The trans-national corporations have exploited the lax labor laws and barely-enforceable environmental standards on the free-trade zones of the border of Ciudad Juarez, MX and El Paso, TX, U.S. The all-too-often unchecked maquiladora industries' actions continue to encroach upon the lives of some of those living on the border. EVN has served as the lead coalition in El Paso addressing the labor rights and environmental concerns during the renegotiation of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), now re-named the USMCA.

EVN, works alongside activated residents, parents and youth while addressing local, state and federal policies, to defend our most vulnerable populations, to include low-income, Spanish-speaking, immigrant, women and children. The accomplishments of the EVN are due to the leadership of the committees who build trust, listen to, and organize within the community.

As an adjunct lecturer at the University of Texas at El Paso in the Gender and Religious Studies Department since 2014, Cemelli has created courses such as: 'Colonization & Femicide', 'Gender & Religion' and 'Indigenous Spirituality' utilizing a decolonizing pedagogy and bridging community issues into the classroom.

Cemelli received her Bachelor of Arts in English & Religion from Concordia University at Austin, and her master's in divinity with a focus on Women in Religious Studies & Indigenous Religious Studies from Harvard University.

#### Doyle, John

Little Bighorn College

John Doyle was born, raised and continues to live in Crow Agency, in the heart of the Crow Reservation. He is an enrolled Tribal member and has dedicated his life to addressing environmental and social justice concerns for his people, beginning with serving as a County Commissioner for 24 years, the Director of the

Tribal Water and Wastewater Authority for 15 years and continuing after his retirement to serve through cofounding and co-leading multiple community organizations dedicated to improving Tribal environmental health, youth environmental literacy and community development.

John Doyle is currently employed with Little Big Horn College and Montana State University conducting collaborative environmental health research with the Crow Tribal community, under the guidance of the Crow Environmental Health Steering Committee. John Doyle has devoted his life to helping his people, the Crow Tribe, and in the past ten years has become active in Tribal environmental health on a national level.

# Edwards, Jabari O.

J5 GBL, LLC

Jabari O. Edwards, Sr. is a native of Columbus, Ms. He is the owner of J5 GBL, LLC, a project management firm, majority owner of The Bridge Group, LLC, an insurance brokerage firm, BH Properties, and North Atlantic Security Company. Having established personal and professional relationships throughout the United States, Jabari's focus is growing his organizational brand on a national and global level.

Jabari began his entrepreneurial career in January 2000, with the opening of an insurance agency. He was co-owner of H&E Construction, a minority owned company that focused on residential and small commercial projects. He has a proven track record of managing people and the timely delivery of projects. Upon the formation of The Bridge Group (larger clients include MGM Mirage, United States Secretary of State Global Embassy Arts, Southern Company) in 2007 (purchased from Wells Fargo), Jabari worked to build a relationship with Aon (the largest insurance brokerage and consulting firm in the world), and from there worked with management a team in Chicago to build Cornerstone Innovative Solutions (a division that partners and mentors minority firms). In 2010, Jabari worked with the CEO's of Wells Fargo global brokerage Dave Zuercher and Neal Aton, along with Anne Doss (head of banking relationships) to create a business model for Wells Fargo diversity initiative. In 2012, Jabari worked with Willis executives Kim Waller and Phil Styles to create Willis' business model, Willis Open. Jabari has testified in State of Mississippi hearings about ways to improve minority participation on state funded contracts.

In 2010, Jabari saw the need for a minority firm with scalability in the construction sector, and therefore he started J5 GBL. J5 has served as construction/project managers on many complex projects for many global companies around the country. J5 serves as the ground and building maintenance contract for Southern Company on their Kemper county MS Project, served civil contractor for Kior (bio fuel plant located in Columbus, MS). J5, in a contract assignment, serving as the project management firm, has been the first minority contractor in the history of Columbus MS. Ironically Jabari's father, Joe Edwards was the first African American elected official in the history of the city. Jabari's mission is to build a project management firm which combines unparalleled expertise with a commitment to real diversity. Working for the Greenfield Environmental Trust, J5 is now known around the country as one of the premier environmental management and environmental Justice firms in the South-East Region of the United States.

Jabari also served as a director on various boards, including Mississippi Health Trust Fund (appointed by Governor Haley Barbour this board managed and set the budget of the billions in funds received from the tobacco lawsuit), Vice-Chairman of Columbus Housing Authority and Chairman of the Board of

Commissioners for the Columbus Utility Board. article was written about this program, in a national utility magazine, and duplicated by other energy providers. Currently Jabari serves on the Board of the Boys and Girls Club, Small Business Capitol Loan Fund Board (formerly the Minority Loan Fund Board), The North Mississippi Board for Regions bank, The Mississippi Business Finance Corporation/ Mississippi Development Bank (appointed by Governor Phil Bryant), and The United States EPA's The National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC) (Appointed by EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt in December 2017).

He is married to the former Jewel Sherrod, and they have three children: Tori, Jabari Jr., and Joe. They are active members of Vibrant Church in Columbus, MS. He is active in his community, a Diamond Lifetime Member of the NAACP. He and Jewel started their non-profit Bubba's Hope to further their commitment to honor Jabari's father, Joe, by serving and help the less fortunate around the country.

#### Fritz, Jan

University of Cincinnati, University of Johannesburg and University of South Florida

Jan Marie Fritz, Ph.D., C.C.S., is a Professor in the School of Planning at the University of Cincinnati (USA); a Distinguished Visiting Professor at the University of Johannesburg (South Africa) and a Distinguished Visiting Professor with the Honors College at the University of South Florida (USA). She is member of the Executive Committee of the International Sociological Association (ISA), an ISA representative to the United Nations and president of the ISA's division on Clinical Sociology. She is a member of the Mayor's Gender Equality Task Force in Cincinnati, Ohio, editor of Springer's Clinical Sociology book series, a docent at the Harriet Beecher Stowe House in Cincinnati, Ohio and a special education mediator for the state of Kentucky. She has been a Fulbright Senior Research Scholar at the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, a Woodrow Wilson Fellow in Washington, D.C., and a Fulbright Distinguished Scholar in Human Rights and International Studies at the Danish Institute for Human Rights. She has been given Fulbright travel awards to Sweden, the United Kingdom and Poland. Her work has won a number of awards including the Ohio Mediation Association's Better World Award and the American Sociological Association's Distinguished Career Award for the Practice of Sociology. Her publications include: Moving Toward a Just Peace: The Mediation Continuum; Community Intervention; "Cities for CEDAW: Notes on Effective Intervention," "Social Justice for Women and Girls: Global Pacts, Unmet Goals, Environmental Issues," and "Searching for Environmental Justice: National Stories, Global Possibilities."

### Ghanta, Venu

Duke Energy

Venu Ghanta is the Vice President of Federal Regulatory Affairs and Environmental Policy at Duke Energy Corporation. Venu leads the company's environmental policy development and engagement strategy with EPA, other key federal agencies, and national environmental organizations. He also provides strategic analysis to senior leadership on the opportunities and risks related to the federal regulation of the utility industry. Venu currently serves as co-chair of Edison Electric Institute's Air Quality Subcommittee.

Prior to coming to Duke, Venu worked in EPA's Office of Air And Radiation (OAR), where he spent nine years designing and implementing regulations. Venu served as technical lead in developing the Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program, earning an EPA Gold Medal for Exceptional Service. He also was a key member of the Renewable Fuel Standard team, earning the agency's Science Achievement Award. From 2010-2012, Venu served as a Special Assistant to EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson, where he was responsible for obtaining the Administrator's concurrence on all regulations issued by EPA's air office.

Venu served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Namibia and Nepal. He received a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from the University of Michigan, an M.S. in Chemical Engineering from the University of California at Berkeley, and an M.S. in Environmental Sciences and Policy from Johns Hopkins University.

#### Harris, Rita

Sierra Club

Ms. Harris is a long-time social justice activist/advocate. She has worked over the years with a wide variety of organizations including the Mid-South Peace & Justice Center, Mississippi River Basin Alliance, Tennessee Clean Water Network, Tennesseans for Fair Taxation, the NAACP, and the League of Women Voters. She has worked professionally with community groups and church groups on issues related to air toxics, solid waste, and environmental justice for over 27 years. Appointed by Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Carol Browner to serve on the National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC) from 1997-2001, she served on the Enforcement Sub-Committee, and the Federal Facilities Workgroup. Ms. Harris was appointed to participate on EPA's National Environmental Justice Advisory Council's (NEJAC) School Air Toxics Monitoring Workgroup in 2009-10. She has also participated on the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the Agency for Toxic Substances & Disease Registry's (ATSDR) Serving Communities Workgroup (2010).

Ms. Harris retired in 2017 after 18 years of work as an Environmental Justice Organizer with the Sierra Club working out of Memphis, TN. She has worked with community groups and interested citizens concerned about the health impacts of toxic air & water pollution, effective emergency planning for neighborhoods near large chemical plants, and the cleanup of contaminated properties. Ms. Harris has challenged industry officials and polluting industries, challenged environmental permits and enforcement decisions. To assist in raising awareness, she offers Toxic Tours and designs easy-to-read community education fliers and brochures, such as publishing annual editions of the Shelby County Terrible Ten Report. In addition, "Communities at Risk", an air pollution video she conceived and produced with the help of a Memphis filmmaker, is added to the toolbox of items she uses to do outreach to community groups and individuals who desire to become activists. She believes that average citizens, regardless of their race or class, must be empowered to speak for themselves and to be included in decision-making that impacts their lives and their communities. Annually, she coordinates and co-hosts community environmental conferences where people from low-income neighborhoods, as well as the city at-large, come to network and gain knowledge on a variety of subjects. Ms. Harris promotes effective citizen participation in all areas of decision-making, and uses creative organizing techniques, networking, and collaborations to ensure

successful campaigns. She promotes diversity, anti-racism, and cultural competency among environmental and social justice organizations by facilitating workshops for groups throughout the activist community.

### Johnson, Cheryl

People for Community Recovery

As an environmental activist Ms. Johnson has been an effective community organizer across issues of the environment, health, housing, and safety. In her community, she has conducted workshops on these issues and has increased resident participation in civic education around policies and procedures of governmental entities. She has also provided training for environmental assessment and risk prevention. Ms. Johnson has been involved in EJ issues for over 30 years, working under the leadership of her mother, the late Hazel Johnson, who was one of the first members of NEJAC and known as "the mother of the environmental justice movement".

## King, Virginia

Marathon Petroleum Company

Virginia M. King is the Director of Sustainability and Stakeholder Engagement for Marathon Petroleum Company (MPC). MPC is a leading, integrated, downstream energy company headquartered in Findlay, Ohio. Previously, Ms. King was the Environmental, Safety, and Security Assistant General Counsel, specializing in environmental justice and the Clean Air Act. She has a Chemical Engineering degree and Law degree from the University of Toledo. She is a patent attorney and has worked in the petroleum industry for over 30 years.

#### McClain, Mildred

Harambee House

Dr. Mildred McClain co-founded and currently serves as the Executive Director of the Harambee House/Citizens for Environmental Justice, a community-based organization whose mission is to build the capacity of communities to solve their problems and to engage in positive growth and development. The organization was created in 1990, is located in Savannah, GA, and serves communities at the local, state, regional, national, and international levels.

Dr. McClain has been a human rights activists and teacher for over 40 years. She has served on numerous committees, commissions, working groups and boards. She created major partnerships with the Department of Energy, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, the Centers for Disease Control, and many community-based organizations, with the goals of addressing public health and environmental justice issues and concerns. Under Dr. McClain's leadership for the past 27 years, the Black Youth Leadership Development Institute has trained over 3000 young people to serve as leaders in their communities. The goal of the work is to develop the capacity of communities to create lifestyles that promote health, wellness, and environmental sustainability through community gardens, health fairs, testing children for lead poison, and soil testing in contaminated communities.

### McGee-Collier, Melissa

Mississippi Department of Environmental Equality

Melissa commenced a career in state government in 1995, joining Mississippi's Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) as a project engineer with a focus on Title V permitting. In 2010, Melissa accepted the position of Director for MDEQ's Office of Community Engagement. In this position Melissa counsels regularly with MDEQ Executive Director and Chief of Staff in promulgation and implementation of agency EJ policies and procedures. She is responsible for overseeing the agency's overall Environmental Justice integration into agency processes. In 2014, Melissa was also appointed to the role of MDEQ Title V Small Business Ombudsman. Now she acts as a liaison and represents the agency with small businesses, industries, communities, civic groups and state, local, and federal agencies.

Melissa serves on the National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC) as state government representative, Gulf of Mexico Alliance Education and Engagement Priority Issue Team as Co-Lead in 2015 and as Chair 2016, and as a member of the Small Business Environmental Assistance Program National Steering Committee. Melissa has been awarded the EPA Bronze Award for Superior Service, Regional Administrators Office 2015 and the EPA Bronze Award, Resource Conservation and Restoration Division 2015. Melissa is a Certified Public Manager and an active member of the American Academy of Certified Public Managers and the Mississippi Society of Certified Public Managers (MSCPM), having served terms as Training Officer, Vice President and President. Melissa is also certified in Public Participation through the International Association for Public Participation. Melissa earned a bachelor's degree in Chemical Engineering and a Master of Public Policy and Administration both from Mississippi State University.

#### Nagano, Ayako

Common Vision

Ms. Nagano serves as Managing Attorney for Midori Law Group, P.C. and specializes in serving Japanese American seniors. Ayako serves as Secretary of the Board for four 501(c)(3) non-profits: Common Vision, which installs school gardens all across California; Transition Berkeley, a local Transition Town initiative to bring neighbors together to build a more equitable, sustainable, resilient future for Berkeley; the Resilience Network, an organization that plans for community resilience in the age of climate change; and Nippon Kobo, which produces cross-cultural programs by luminaries in the Japanese American community.

Ayako also serves on the Steering Committees of two organizations: the Green Leadership Trust, a coalition of non-profit board members of color, promoting diversity, equity and inclusion within Environmental movement and the Mycelium Youth Network, empowering youth to grow as visionary leaders and budding environmentalists, connecting them with ancestral teachings, and teaching youth to trust in the wisdom of the natural world. Ayako is also co-chair of ITRC (International Transformational Resilience Coalition) in California, working to build widespread levels of psychological and psychosocial-spiritual resilience for the adversities generated by climate change; serves on the Social Justice

Working Group for Transition US; and organizes the Plastic Reduction Working Group at the Ecology Center.

# Orr, Jeremy F.

Natural Resources Defense Council

Mr. Orr is an attorney for the Natural Resources Defense Council. As a member of NRDC's Safe Water Initiative, Mr. Orr focuses on drinking water and source water protection issues, working to ensure that everyone has access to safe, sufficient, and affordable drinking water.

Immediately prior to joining NRDC, Mr. Orr served as the National State Program Director for Peoples Climate Movement where he organized communities throughout the country around climate justice issues. Formerly, Mr. Orr also worked as the Environmental Justice Coordinator for the Transnational Environmental Law Clinic at Wayne State University Law School. In that role, Mr. Orr also served as the Coordinator for the historic Michigan Environmental Justice Coalition. Before joining Wayne Law, Mr. Orr was the Executive Director of the Mid-Michigan Environmental Action Council where he led regional efforts to improve environmental and public health through river protection and restoration, stream monitoring, storm water management, food justice, and environmental justice programming. Additionally, Mr. Orr spent three years as a Community Organizer with the Gamaliel Foundation where he organized around numerous social justice issues including the cleanup of a PCB-contaminated landfill.

Mr. Orr currently serves a Vice-Chair of the Environmental Justice Committee for the American Bar Association's Civil Rights and Social Justice Section and State Chair of Environmental and Climate Justice for the Michigan State Conference NAACP. Mr. Orr also sits on boards of directors for multiple nonprofit. Mr. Orr earned his Bachelor's, Master's, and Juris Doctor from Michigan State University.

### Pauli, Benjamin

Kettering University

Dr. Ben Pauli holds a Ph.D. in Political Science from Rutgers University and is an Assistant Professor of Social Science at Kettering University in Flint, Michigan. His research interests include political ideologies, social movements, environmental justice, and water. A resident of Flint since 2015, he has been involved in a variety of initiatives within the community, including the review and revision of the city's charter, the founding of a Montessori program within the public school system, the development of a park abandoned by the city for lack of resources, and the deployment of the Water Box filtration system at sites across the city. Dr. Pauli is President of the Board of Directors of the Environmental Transformation Movement of Flint, Flint's only explicitly environmental justice-focused grassroots group. He has been deeply involved in the response to the Flint water crisis as an activist, researcher, and member of a multi-university scientific team. His academic book on the crisis, Flint Fights Back: Environmental Justice and Democracy in the Flint Water Crisis, was published by MIT Press in May 2019. In 2020, Dr. Pauli will be teaching a course on the crisis at the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor as part of the 30th anniversary commemoration of the Michigan Conference on Race and the Incidence of Environmental Hazards organized by professors Bunyan Bryant and Paul Mohai.

### Piazza, Millie

Washington State Department of Ecology

Millie Piazza, PhD, MES, is the Environmental Justice Coordinator at the Department of Ecology. In this role, she works to integrate environmental justice (EJ) priorities into agency programs, elevate awareness and best practices on Civil Rights compliance, and provide guidance on addressing EJ challenges in Washington. She began her work at Ecology in 1994, designing and conducting the first statewide EJ study. Millie currently serves on the Governor's Interagency Council on Health Disparities and is a member of the University of Washington Superfund Research Program External Advisory Board.

### Randolph, Dennis

City of Grandview, Missouri

Mr. Randolph has B.S. and M.S. degrees in Civil Engineering as well as a Master of Public Administration. As an engineer he has held responsible positions in city and county government in Michigan, Missouri, and Virginia, responsible for transportation, water and wastewater, environmental, community planning, parks, and public works activities. Mr. Randolph has many years of instructional experience at the adult level including instructor positions in the U.S. Army, Wayne State University, Western Michigan University, and currently at the University of Missouri – Kansas City where he teaches courses in civil and construction engineering. Mr. Randolph has nearly 100 published papers, many peer reviewed. He serves as a project panel member for the National Academy of Sciences National Cooperative Highway Research Program. He also is a Peer Reviewer for the American Society of Civil Engineers, a member of the Board of Directors for the Transportation Professionals Certification Board, and a Public Works Leadership Fellow for the American Public Works Association. In 2015 he was recognized as a Top 10 Public Works Official.

#### Shabazz, Jerome

JASTECH Development Services and Overbrook Environmental Education Center

Jerome Shabazz is the founder and Executive Director of JASTECH (Juveniles Active in Science and Technology) Development Services, Inc. A not-for-profit organization developed in 1998, to promote environmental justice; encourage sustainable community development and to promote public health in urban communities. In 2002, JASTECH applied for and received a US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) grant under the Clean Water Act to establish the Overbrook Environmental Education Center (OEEC), a community-based center dedicated to preserving our built and natural environments.

Under Mr. Shabazz's direction, the OEEC completed a Targeted Brownfields Assessments (TBA) and remediated environmental hazards from a Brownfield site in Western Philadelphia. The OEEC has trained thousands of students on the Clean Water Act and Toxic Substances Control Act, and other topics that reduces human exposure to toxic substances at home and school. The OEEC is nationally known for its Environmental Justice and project-based learning programs.

Prior to working in the non-profit sector, Mr. Shabazz worked for 25years in Water and Gas utilities. He served as Safety & Training Manager at the Philadelphia Gas Works - LNG Processing Division and was responsible for 49 CFR §193.2713 training in operations and maintenance; trained personnel and contractors on safety issues, codes, regulations, departmental standards, corporate policies and procedures. He also worked in the training, engineering and operations divisions at the Philadelphia Water Department. Mr. Shabazz is an adjunct professor and educator at both Community College of Philadelphia and Penn State University. In 2017, he was appointed to the PA Department of Environmental Protection's - Citizen Advisory Council and Environmental Justice Advisory Board. He is also a board member on Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful.

Shabazz earned his Master of Science in Environmental Protection & Safety Management from St. Joseph's University and Bachelor of Arts in Organization Management from Eastern University. He has received numerous citations and award, most recently from the PA House of Representatives and City Council of Philadelphia for his commitment to Environmental Justice and Community Development.

### Shirley, Jacqueline

Rural Community Assistance Corporation

Jacqueline Shirley born and raised in Alaska, is a Tribal member of the Native Village of Hooper Bay on the Bering Sea coast, is currently employed at Rural Community Assistance Corporation. She provides training and technical assistance to Tribes, nonprofit and local agencies, to improve or develop water, wastewater and solid waste sustainable systems and programs in rural communities across the western portion of the U.S. She obtained her Master of Public Health (MPH) from the University of Alaska, Anchorage. She also served 18 years in the Army National Guard as a Field Medic. She has spent the past 40 years advocating to improve human and environmental health.

#### Sprayberry, Karen

South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control

Mrs. Sprayberry has worked with environmental justice communities for approximately 22 years; she began working at the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SC DHEC) in the Superfund and Voluntary Cleanup Program/Brownfield program as a public participation coordinator. She initially began to work with the ReGenesis and its communities in Spartanburg, South Carolina, shortly after coming to SC DHEC; ReGenesis would later win environmental justice and redevelopment awards because of the over \$250 million revitalization effort conducted within these communities. She attended many community and public meetings and slowly began to build trust with that community and its leaders. When it was time for SC DHEC to oversee work specifically within this community, a foundation of trust and understanding had been instilled so as there was more of a collaborative, problem-solving method instilled between the various parties as the issues were address.

In 2002, Mrs. Sprayberry went to work for the Environmental Community Liaison for SC DHEC. In this role, she worked with all the media (land, water, and air programs) on community involvement and environmental justice concerns. During this time, we also strived to enhance our culture within our agency on these items. In 2009, SC DHEC was awarded a cooperative agreement from the EPA. Mrs.

Sprayberry oversaw that project called "Leaders in Environmental Action Pilots – LEAP". We were allowed to provide \$25,000 to four environmental communities. These communities built capacity (leadership and partnerships) while identifying and addressing their environmental and social justice needs. After that project ended (three years later), SC DHEC held an SC Environmental Leadership Forum. We partnered with the University of South Carolina, Arnold School of Public Health, to develop our curriculum. The 19 students who were selected came from various walks of like. They were citizens, students, or represented environmental organizations, non-profit organizations, local governments, and industry. The participants came together during 4 1½ day workshops to learn about 1) Effective Leadership and Engagement, 2) Understanding Government and our Environment 3) Community Organization and Development 4) Strategies for Sustaining Your Initiatives. During the Forum, participants gained knowledge and insight, but they also developed a stronger understanding among one-another, even if they did not see things eye-to-eye. The EPA-Region 4 Office has since used this as a model. SC DHEC values public participation and environmental justice and continues to work closely with our communities across the state using the knowledge gained from experiences and our various partners along the way to conduct more meaningful involvement for all our stakeholders.

Mrs. Sprayberry now serves as the Special Advisor to the Director of Environmental Affairs at SC DHEC, with her specialty being environmental justice and community involvement; she retired in 2015 and now is a part-time employee. As well as working with the Director, she continues to work closely with the Environmental Justice and Community Involvement Liaisons and other public participation staff within SC DHEC. She has received both internal and external awards for her work at SC DHEC, including receiving a House Resolution from the S. C. House of Representatives in 2015. Another award she is proud of is from 2008, when SC DHEC was awarded the "U. S. EPA Environmental Justice Achievement Award" due to the public participation and environmental justice work conducted both internally and externally by her and her peers. In 2011, Mrs. Sprayberry conducted the "Fundamentals of Public Participation" training during the EPA's Community Involvement and Training Conference. Mrs. Sprayberry has a BA degree in Political Science from Columbia College.

# Talley, Pamela

Lewis Place Historical Preservation Inc.

Pamela Talley is an advanced nurse practitioner with a master's degree in nursing and a national certification in adult psychiatric mental health nursing. She oversees both clinic and outreach services to areas that serve the poor and vulnerable, food pantries, libraries, churches, health fairs etc. In 2000, she co-founded Lewis Place Historical Preservation, a community-based nonprofit organization, with two other neighbors. The mission of Lewis Place Historical Preservation is to save this historic community that was placed on the national registry of historic places in 1979. Since 2009, Pamela Talley has served as the volunteer Executive Director.

In 2007, Pamela Talley was recognized by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation as a Community Health Leader for assisting grandparents raising grandchildren, many of whom were facing issues of eminent domain and were being displaced. She founded an organization, known as "Grandparents As Parents Support Project". As an awardee, she participated in the group that conducted research on social determinants of health. In 2011, She successfully led neighbors in an effort to drive St. Louis city

government with assisting uninsured neighbors with rebuilding their homes after the community was hit by an enhanced fajita scale 1 tornado.

In 2015, Lewis Place Historical Preservation obtained a vacant house from the city of St. louis on one of the three blocks of Lewis Place and entered a joint venture as a co-developer with an established developer and construction company. The home was completely renovated and sold to a family at an affordable rate. Pamela Talley currently serves as co-chair of a steering committee, a collaborative community group, organized to execute and implement residential development to improve the Lewis Place and Fountain Park neighborhood.

### Trevino-Sauceda, Hermila "Mily"

Arlianza Nacional de Campesinas

Ms. Trevino-Sauceda is the third of ten children, born in Bellingham, Washington, to a migrant farmworker family. Since the age of eight, she was a farmworker in Idaho and California, and eventually became a union farmworker and organizer with the UFW in the 1970s and early 1980s. She co-founded "Mujeres Mexicanas" (Mexican Women), in the Coachella Valley – a campesinas' advocacy group. In 1991, Ms. Trevino-Saucedo returned to school and obtained her Associate of Arts in chicano studies. She went on to earn credits for a minor in women studies at Cal State Fullerton in 1997. She then earned her master's degree in social sciences, with focuses on rural development, women's leadership, and oral history at Antioch, Ohio.

Ms. Trevino-Sauceda worked for 12 years as the Executive Director of Líderes Campesinas. In addition, she worked with California Rural Legal Assistance Migrant Project for 10 years; representing farmworkers as a community worker/advocate. In 2011, she co-founded and is the current President of Alianza Nacional de Campesinas – a national farmworker women's alliance. As a consultant, she provides technical assistance to Pequeños Agricultores de California – a group of Latino organic small farmers and ranchers in San Benito County. She also provides technical assistance to the National Hmong American Farmers, ensuring their small farmers are trained in business regulations and labor laws, including prevention of pesticides poisoning. She sits on numerous state and national boards and task forces representing Latinas, farmworker community & immigrant women in general on health, violence against women, labor, education, environmental and gender issues.

Throughout her activism, Ms. Trevino-Sauceda has received numerous recognitions & awards, including "100 Heroines of the World" in 1998; the Alston/Bannerman Fellow in 2002; and the Ford Foundation and NYU "Leadership for a Changing World" award in 2004. She was recognized twice in 2006, by People Magazine. In 2009, she was honored by Líderes Campesinas in California for her 30+ years of distinguished leadership, and in 2011 was recognized by the US EEOC.

### Whitehead, Sandra F.

George Washington University

Sandra is the Interim Program Director for the Sustainable Urban Planning Program, effective July 1, 2019. Prior to joining GW full-time, she worked as the Director of Partnership Development at the National

Environmental Health Association where she created tools and trainings for environmental health professionals.

Dr. Whitehead also worked at the National Association of County and City Health Officials and the Florida Department of Health. While working at the Florida Department of Health she provided capacity building assistance to the 67 local health departments.

Sandra has been teaching for GW since 2015. She teaches PSUS 6204: Land Use Law and PSUS 6230: Studio in Sustainable Urban Planning. She has also taught at the University of Florida and Florida State University.

# Wilson, Sacoby

Maryland Institute of Applied Environmental Health

Dr. Sacoby Wilson is an Associate Professor with the Maryland Institute for Applied Environmental Health and Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, School of Public Health, University of Maryland-College Park. Dr. Wilson has over 15 years of experience as environmental health scientist in the areas of exposure science, environmental justice, environmental health disparities, community-based participatory research, water quality analysis, air pollution studies, built environment, industrial animal production, climate change, community resiliency, and sustainability. He works primarily in partnership with community-based organizations to study and address environmental justice and health issues and translate research to action.

Dr. Wilson is Director of the Community Engagement, Environmental Justice and Health (CEEJH) Initiative. CEEJH is focused on providing technical assistance to communities fighting against environmental injustice and environmental health disparities in the DMV region and across the nation. Through CEEJH, Dr. Wilson is engaging communities in the Washington, DC region on environmental health issues including exposure and health risks for individuals who fish and recreate on the Anacostia River; use of best management practices to reduce stormwater inputs in the Chesapeake Bay; air pollution and health impacts due to industrial and commuter traffic in Bladensburg, MD; built environment, environmental injustice, and vectors in West Baltimore; cumulative impacts of environmental hazards on air quality in Brandywine, MD; goods movement, industrial pollution, and environmental injustice in South Baltimore, MD; environmental justice and health issues in Buzzard Point area of Washington, DC; industrial chicken farming on Maryland's Eastern Shore; health impact of assessment in the Sheriff Road community; and other topics. In addition, he is working with schools in the region on pipeline development efforts in the STEM+H disciplines (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, and Health).

He has worked on environmental justice issues including environmental racism with community-based organizations through long-term community-university environmental health and justice partnerships in South Carolina and North Carolina including the Low Country Alliance for Model Communities (LAMC), in North Charleston, South Carolina; the West End Revitalization Association (WERA) in Mebane, NC; and the Graniteville Community Coalition (GCC) in Graniteville, SC. He has provided technical assistance to REACH in Duplin County, NC; RENA in Orange County, NC; and the NC Environmental Justice Network.

Dr. Wilson has been very active professionally as an environmental justice advocate. He is Founder of 17

for Peace and Justice and a Co-Founder of the DC/Maryland/Virginia (DMV) Environmental Justice Coalition. He is a member of the USEPA's National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC), on the Board of the Patuxent Riverkeeper, a past Chair of the APHA Environment Section, on the Board of Community-Campus Partnerships for Health from 2010-2018, a former member of the Board of Scientific Counselors for the CDC NCEH/ATSDR, and former Chair of the Alpha Goes Green Initiative, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. He is also a senior fellow in the Environmental Leadership Program.

Dr. Wilson has received many awards for his contributions and achievements as an environmental justice researcher and advocate. He recently the 2018 Taking Nature Black Environmental Champion Award. He also received the APHA Environment Section Damu Smith Environmental Justice Award in 2015. From the University of Maryland School of Public Health, he received the George F. Kramer Practitioner of the Year Award (2014-2015) and the Muriel R. Sloan Communitarian Award (2012-2013). He also received the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Social Justice Award from the University of South Carolina in 2011. He received a USEPA Environmental Justice Achievement Award given to Low Country Alliance for Model Communities, North Charleston, SC and Mitigation Agreement Committee. Additionally, Dr. Wilson received the Steve Wing International Environmental Justice Award in 2008.

Dr. Wilson, a two-time EPA STAR fellow, EPA MAI fellow, Udall Scholar, NASA Space Scholar, and Thurgood Marshall Scholar, received his BS degree in Biology/Ecotoxicology with a minor in Environmental Science from Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical University in 1998. He received training in environmental health in the Department of Environmental Sciences and Engineering, at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Dr. Wilson received his MS degree in 2000 from UNC-Chapel Hill and his PhD from UNC-Chapel Hill in 2005.

### Wright, Kelly C.

Shoshone Bannock Tribes

Mr. Wright currently serves as an alternate on the following EPA committees: Regional Tribal Operation Committee for Region 10; National Tribal Caucus; Tribal Science Council, and the National Tribal Toxic Committee. In this position, his work experience (30 years) includes both federal, State, Tribal and private. Mr. Wright obtained a bachelor's degree in microbiology and a Master's Degree in environmental science with an emphasis on waste management. Being able to conduct environmental site assessment, he has been able to identify a variety of recognized environmental conditions which put a different perspective on things. Mr. Wright is also a team member of the newly formed Natural Resource Damage Assessment Team for the Southeast Idaho Phosphate Mining where there are 17 mine sites.