

Women's Policy Institute County Class of 2016

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Alcohol Sales, Los Angeles County

Mihae Jung



Mihae Jung received her master's in Social Welfare from the University of Washington, focusing on administration and policy. She is grounded in the work of social service delivery and community organizing. She especially has in-depth experience with program design and evaluation, serving culturally diverse youth in settings such as community based organizations, juvenile-justice centers and public schools. Mihae also interned for a year at the Washington State Legislature for a State Representative Tina Orwall and learned the policy process for the state of Washington. She currently works as a Prevention Education Manager at KYCC (Koreatown Youth + Community Center) and manages a team of 8 community organizers and prevention specialists. In this role, she manages the comprehensive pipeline of school-based prevention curricula, youth leadership group, and environmental prevention strategies.

She also chairs two regional coalitions: Los Angeles Drug and Alcohol Policy Alliance (LADAPA), and the Coalition to Prevent Alcohol Related Harms (CoPalm). Aside from these roles, she has participated in community organizing activities to close opportunity gap for marginalized youth and worked in the phone bank to create income tax for the top earners making \$250,000 or more in Washington State. Currently, she volunteers for the organization A New Way of Life at expungement clinics, helping people erase their conviction records. With deeper knowledge of policy advocacy, she seeks to involve culturally-diverse youth and parents to change policy they would like in their communities.

Sara Cooley Broschart



Sara Cooley Broschart has been learning with and working for strong communities for the past twelve years. As Project Coordinator for Partnership for a Positive Pomona (P³), she has created, grown and led a community coalition of over sixty members dedicated to the prevention of youth substance abuse. In 2015, the P³ coalition passed a smoke free parks ordinance in the City of Pomona through a youth-led effort. Also in 2015, the coalition blocked Walmart Neighborhood Market, which was very near a high school, from getting a liquor license. In 2014, Sara began a collaborative effort in Pomona to bring a *Promotoras* program to the city. Now, there are twenty-five women and one man trained to share knowledge about health and social wellbeing with their neighbors and families peer to peer and to bring the concerns of those people and places to a collaborative of health with another cohort scheduled to be trained this spring. Regionally, Sara has taken an interest in making sure other community coalitions and nonprofits get training on how they can be involved in the policy and advocacy process: she has developed and trained over 100 community members and colleagues on the line between Advocacy and Lobbying. Sara's passion has been to connect the voices of predominantly Spanish-speaking women and neighborhoods with those who are able to bring them the changes they need.

Prior to P³, Sara worked for UCLA's Center for Culture and Health on a qualitative research project exploring the everyday lives of Hispanic working class families, listening to and documenting the experiences of over two hundred families in Los Angeles County. This work was able to bring the real struggles and challenges of the LA Hispanic community during Great Recession to the attention of decision makers and program developers at the state and national levels. She also worked with the Rand Corporation to study the dynamics of low income Hispanic newlyweds to fill out research on marriage that for decades had been conducted primarily with college-educated white couples. Early in her career, Sara served in the Peace Corps in a small *pueblito* in Nicaragua, working to organize the local community on health issues and served as the Chair of the Gender and Development Committee, which educated volunteers on best practices to equitably include women, men, girls and boys into hyperlocal community development.

Sara is currently the Chairperson for the Issues Action Committee of the new statewide coalition, California Alcohol Policy Alliance. She is a many time volunteer coach with Girls on the Run, a curriculum built around running that inspires girls to be joyful, healthy and confident. She is a graduate of the Coalition of Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA)'s National Coalition Institute, a three-week residential program and will soon attend the renowned Midwest Academy's community organizer training.

Sara has a master's in Public Health and a master's in Cultural Anthropology from the University of Michigan. She graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Virginia with a BA in Biology and Anthropology. Sara is originally from the Midwest but has travelled extensively in Central and South America for work and play.

Veronica De Lara



Veronica De Lara is a Program Director at Pueblo Y Salud, Inc. She has three bachelor's of Arts, in Psychology, Spanish Literature, and Chicano Studies, and is working on a master's degree in Public Administration. She is currently working with parents and youth to bring awareness of the damage alcohol and drug abuse can cause. She works closely with liquor outlets to adopt best safe practices when selling and serving liquor.

Through her collaborations with the Coalition to Ban Alcohol Ads on Public Property in Los Angeles, the coalition passed an ordinance in 2014 that banned alcohol ads on all city owned and controlled properties. This coalition evolved into the Los Angeles Drug and Alcohol Policy Alliance (L.A.D.A.P.A). They are currently working towards creating geographic sub-districts that will allow individual City Council members to prohibit any new liquor licenses.

At this time, she is also working on passing an ordinance that will mandate liquor store and bar owners in the City of San Fernando to have mandatory staff training in Responsible Beverage Service every two years. This mandate will reduce liquor sales to minors.

Veronica is also the Vice President and Acting Chair of the Outreach Committee of the Arleta Neighborhood Council, where she is working to improve safety for families and encouraging youth to become more involved in the community.

Waunette Cullors



Waunette has worked with children and youth all her life in various positions and capacities, from peer counselor to Project, Membership director in various organizations such as Girl Scouts, 4H and is currently the Program Coordinator at Pueblo y Salud. The goal of the project she oversees is to reduce alcohol availability in the Antelope Valley where alcohol outlets are concentrated and violent crime rates are the highest.

She also works with the WOW Flower Project & AV Pageant mentoring ladies of color as they gain their voice and reduce AOD issue within the Antelope Valley. They also conduct community service projects, culture awareness and promote living a healthy and fit life style.

The young girls with whom Waunette works are taught they can change these conditions and are encouraged to address policy makers to create policy that will result in alcohol outlet reduction and eventually high crime reduction. In essence, youth are being taught to take control of their environments and their lives.

During the past 15 years, she has accumulated all her learned skills and talent and channeled them toward the formation and implementation of projects of her own creation with a NAACP, African American Leadership and Community Action League which focused on developing confidence and self-esteem in young women.

Budget Alternatives to Mass Incarceration, Los Angeles County

Aurora Garcia



Aurora Garcia is the Los Angeles Organizer and Coordinator for the California Partnership (CAP) where she has worked on advocacy and training on the state budget and its impact on low income communities. Aurora has over 6 years of experience working in the nonprofit sector, which began with working with The Council of Mexican Federations where she raised funds for programs designed to help the Latino community. With a greater desire to organize, she began working as the CA Outreach Coordinator for Young Invincibles advocating on issues impacting young adults. She then transitioned to CAP, where she has learned to understand the complexities of the state budget and process and the needs of our communities, fueling her passion even further to organize, strengthen relationships, and display intersections to better unite our communities.

Aurora graduated from UCLA in 2009 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology with a minor in Chicana/o Studies. While at UCLA, she began organizing on issues impacting underserved communities and immigrant rights. Through this all, Aurora has developed experience in building strong partnerships, working with the most vulnerable and underserved communities, and hopes to build a more unified movement that can lead to needed change.

Christina Tsao



As an activist and abolitionist with Critical Resistance, Christina aims to abolish the prison industrial complex. Christina is an anchor in the LA No More Jails Coalition's campaign to stop a \$2 billion jail plan, and to instead prioritize community-based alternatives. Christina works closely with CURB's media team to amplify grassroots movements led by people most directly impacted by police violence and imprisonment. Christina takes a hard line on abolition in community organizing, and consistently initiates critical conversations about abolitionist praxis in organizing principles and best practices.

In addition to her work to shift power, Christina understands the importance of empowerment through education. She wants to turn up people power by increasing communities' capacity to fight policing and imprisonment through the development of strategic outreach tools. An important lesson learned is the necessity of creating alternatives for dealing with violence and harm on all levels, especially interpersonal. Building alternatives in our intimate networks is the internal work that is fundamental to our movements. The work with each other inside of movement organizations and groups, inside of community relationships, is just as important as the deeply compelling political work we are involved in.

Christina is a graduate of Gender and Sexuality Studies at UCI. Her interests in critical race theory, queer theory and civil rights along with her commitment to transformative justice drive her motivations and practices. In this pivotal moment, she is particularly interested in developing greater analysis around anti-Black racism in her work against state-sanctioned violence.

Diana Zuñiga



Diana Zuñiga has over 8 years of non-profit professional experience in strategic planning, coalition building, fund development, grassroots organizing, and youth counseling. She holds a BA in Political Science and Chicana/o Studies with a minor in Psychology from Loyola Marymount University. Diana is the Statewide Co-Coordinator for Californians United for a Responsible Budget, a statewide coalition of 70 grassroots organizations working to reduce the number of people incarcerated, the number of prisons and jails, and shift state and local spending from corrections to human services.

She helped pass Proposition 39 in 2012, aided in strengthening the Alternative Custody Program, and coordinated efforts to cancel almost \$8 billion in jail and prison expansion funding in California.

Diana is a 2013 graduate of the Women's Policy Institute State Program. She has developed a network in Los Angeles called Young Professionals for Justice with a group of colleagues.

Eunisses Hernandez



Eunisses Hernandez is a Criminal Justice Policy Associate for Drug Policy Alliance. She quickly found her calling when she was given the opportunity to implement landmark reforms like Proposition 47.

At DPA, she has worked diligently to implement Prop 47, and advance alternatives from incarceration. She is an accomplished speaker, having given dozens of formal bilingual Prop 47 trainings and presentations. Additionally, Eunisses has coordinated dozens of legal clinics and resource fairs. Concurrently, she worked with the Amity Foundation, an all-inclusive therapeutic treatment community for people coming out of incarceration, where she assisted dozens of formerly incarcerated men and women obtain employment.

Positive interactions with retired law enforcement inspired Eunisses to obtain a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from California State University, Long Beach. She started with the goal of joining law enforcement, but quickly realized there are better and more effective ways to bring about change, specifically for those communities and groups most impacted by the criminal justice system.

Jessica Farris



Jess Farris is Policy and Advocacy Counsel at the ACLU of Southern California, where she works on issues related to criminal justice and police practices, and also provides strategic leadership to ACLU SoCal's network of volunteer chapters. Jess has worked on national, statewide, and local policies that seek to promote fairness and reduce racial bias, including the following successes: USA Freedom Act, SB 1010 (the California Fair Sentencing Act), AB 953, (the Racial and Identity Profiling Act), and pushing for alternatives to incarceration, including mental health diversion in LA County. She has worked in coalition to help research and craft policy vehicles, including contributing to bill language and drafting motions and letters for the Board of Supervisors.

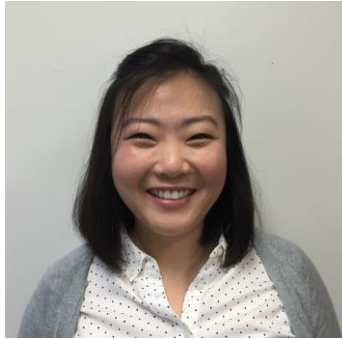
Before ACLU SoCal, Jess worked at Innocence Matters, a nonprofit working to prevent and correct wrongful convictions, where she performed investigation and co-authored the habeas corpus petition that freed an innocent man after nineteen years of wrongful imprisonment. She also served on Innocence Matters' board for the maximum term.

While attending law school, Jess completed over 450 pro bono hours of legal work. Jess also participated in the Drexel Haiti Justice Project, which took her to Port-au-Prince, Haiti as a researcher for a recent class action lawsuit filed on behalf of the Haitian population infected with Cholera by Haiti-stationed United Nations forces. Jess graduated Phi Beta Kappa and magna cum laude from Muhlenberg College with a degree in Philosophy and English, earned a Master of Arts, with high honors, in Anglo-Irish Literature from University College Dublin, where she focused on post-colonial theory, and earned a J.D. magna cum laude from Drexel Law School, where she was a Merit Law Scholar, Outstanding Pro Bono Service Honors Graduate, and received the faculty award for Outstanding Pro Bono Student.

Jess comes from a long line of women interested in social justice and the law. Her great grandmother, Margaret, was the first married woman principal of a school and she had to sue to keep that position, which gave her trust in the law to do good. Margaret raised Jess' mom, Karen. When Karen was fired from her waitressing job as a consequence of Jess' rather prominent gestation, and Karen's boss was ill-informed enough to admit it was because of the pregnancy, Margaret helped Karen get to court. Karen won and kept her job. Margaret and Karen passed these stories to Jess, along with the stories of others not so fortunate, including Jess' biological father, who battled drug addiction. Having had the opportunity to become a lawyer—something that wasn't comprehensible for her mom, father, or great grandmother—Jess feels a certain sort of sweet debt, a need to help improve laws and policies again for the next generation.

Religious Rights of Muslim Women in Jail, Los Angeles County

Dorothy Chang



Dorothy Chang is currently a staff attorney with the impact litigation unit at Asian Americans Advancing Justice – Los Angeles. As a staff attorney, Ms. Chang both litigates cases and provides direct services to clients. Most recently, she helped the monolingual Korean tenants of a low-income senior apartment complex gain access to much needed language support.

Before coming to Asian Americans Advancing Justice – Los Angeles, Ms. Chang was a staff attorney with Central California Legal Services, an intern with the Center on Race, Poverty & the Environment, and a student attorney with the Michigan Innocence Clinic. Through her work with vulnerable communities, she’s seen how important it is for legal challenges and innovative policies to work together to create positive change.

Ms. Chang earned her J.D. from the University of Michigan Law School, and a B.A. in English Literature with a minor in Music from the University of California, Berkeley.

Sahar Pirzada



Sahar Pirzada is the Youth Development Manager at the Council on American-Islamic Relations, Greater Los Angeles Area Chapter. Her role is to promote empowerment, social consciousness and civic engagement among American Muslim students by creating and administering educational programs and platforms for youth organizing.

Before joining CAIR, Sahar worked in Singapore as a Program Manager for Gender Equality IS Our Culture. She helped to create a regional network of gender advocates who shared strategies and experiences on promoting gender-equitable interpretations of Islam with the goal of catalyzing legislation and policy changes around the Convention to Eliminate All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW).

Sahar is an American Muslim woman who draws inspiration to do her work from the lived experiences of the women in her community.

Sahar graduated with a BA in Development Studies from the University of California, Berkeley and is excited to expand her knowledge base about policy advocacy through the Women's Policy Institute.

traci ishigo



traci ishigo currently works at the Japanese American Citizens League-PSW District as the Program Coordinator of efforts such as the Nikkei LGBTQ Initiative, the Vigilant Love Coalition against Islamophobia and Violence, and Bridging Communities, a Muslim and Japanese American solidarity arts fellowship. traci is part of the founding team of API RISE, a culturally relevant Asian Pacific Islander Los Angeles based reentry support group in the making.

Previously, traci served as UC Irvine's Student Body President, working on the statewide affordability of public higher education and campus climate issues impacting students of color, LGBTQ, undocumented and disability students. The personal, the Japanese American experience and her work within diverse communities continue to inform traci's organizing.

Shaped by her Buddhist background, traci is also part of Bend the Arc's Interfaith Community Organizing Residency. She is a trauma-informed yoga facilitator, offering weekly classes at People's Yoga and at the Japanese American National Museum.

Yalda Satar



Sahar is a Civil Rights Attorney for the Council on American-Islamic Relations, for the Greater Los Angeles Area ("CAIR-LA"). As a Civil Rights Attorney, she is tasked with investigating and litigating various federal and state matters related to the areas of employment discrimination, public accommodation discrimination, traveler and prisoner rights, immigration delay, and national security and law enforcement misconduct. She has also provided legal education through CAIR's Know Your Rights Campaign, and frequently lectures at various law schools and college campus on issues facing individuals and groups when exercising their 1st Amendment rights, engaging with law enforcement, and overcoming discrimination in the workplace and at school. Although she is a new member to the bar, Sahar has been fortunate to have had opportunities to represent clients on several high profile cases, including the San Bernardino shooting, and Salem v. USA, et al. (C.D. Cal. Filed Oct. 9, 2015), and Orange County's KKK rally.

Much of Sahar's interest is focused on high impact civil rights cases related to police misconduct, excessive force, First Amendment rights, and policy issues surrounding religious freedom for pretrial detainees and inmates. One of her proudest accomplishments include taking historically and factually inaccurate textbook material out of circulation in California high school World History classes. She truly understood the value of high impact cases when she represented an Orthodox Jewish, Graduate student that was penalized for missing an examination date to observe a religious holiday. Successfully winning this case not only resolved her client's issue, its bigger impact was changing the schools policy to accommodate all students of all faiths in the program.

She obtained her BA degree in Political Science and International Affairs with an emphasis on Middle Eastern Studies from the University of California, Riverside. She received her JD degree and Business Law Certification from Western State University College of Law and served as president of the Phi Alpha Delta International Law Fraternity, Warren Burger Chapter. During her undergrad career she served as the Chair for the People of Middle Eastern and South Asian Descent Caucus for the United States Student Association (USSA), and was a UCR delegate for the University of California Student Association (UCSA). She was involved opposing the University of California Board of Regents' 32% tuition hike for all 10 universities in the system and lobbying and advocacy campaigns for the DREAM Act, a bipartisan legislation, and its state counterpart, AB130 and AB131, the California DREAM Act, which provides greater access to public scholarships and financial aid for AB540 and undocumented students residing in California.

She was admitted to practice in the State of California and United States District Court for the Central District of California and is a native speaker of Farsi and Dari.

Early Childhood Development, Monterey County

Dora Mckean



Dora has the joint responsibility of Professional development for MCOE Head Start & Early Head Start and is the Coordinator for the Monterey County Child Care Planning Council. In both roles, Dora works with administrators and staff to develop training plans and support opportunities for continuing education. For the council, Dora supports effort to educate the community about child care needs in Monterey County. She also works with various committees to develop long term plans to enhance the quality and availability of child care for children birth to 12. There are two special projects Dora was engaged in. First, a 7 year health literacy research project for Beginnings Guides, supporting parents through a reflective functioning strategy to develop health literacy skills. The second was Office of Head Start web-based Homelessness lessons to support family and community engagement. Both support family engagement as well as long term self-sufficiency. A particular story from Dora's work is incorporated in the training materials for Beginnings Guides.

Dora is proud of the impact of services through MCOE Head Start & Early Head Start. In home based services, Dora's focus was working with families to set attainable goals and celebrate the victory. Specialized transdisciplinary mental health training offered by First 5 Monterey County enhanced skills in reflective practice and offered opportunity to build collaborations with county agencies serving children birth to 5. Despite best efforts, education and training, parent feedback on what was the biggest impact to them is that she kept showing up and engaged them in the process. Showing up is the first and most important piece.

With a special passion for the impact of family function on the development of young children, Dora has volunteered with the Monterey County Domestic Violence Advocacy response team and has been involved in various domestic violence trainings in the MCOE Head Start & Early Head Start program. A second area of involvement has been recovery issues, serving as a board member with Sun Street Centers and participating on a committee that established a scholarship for men in recovery.

Dora has participated in formal education most of her career. She believes children deserve our best and, for her, that means learning and developing her skills. While completing her bachelor's degree in Psychology through Brandman University, most of her research involved the effects of domestic violence on attachment and learning. Having experienced domestic violence, she knows firsthand intervention can change things. "Together, we can do better."

Mayra Perez Diaz



Mayra has lived in Greenfield, CA for 23 years and that is where she and her husband decided to raise their three sons. She comes from humble beginnings and a disadvantaged background. She was a teen mother who overcame tremendous odds to complete high school and graduate from college. Mayra was raised by her grandparents who worked very hard in the fields to provide a better life for their family. Growing up, her grandparents instilled the importance of helping others even though they did not have much to give. Her passion in both professional and personal aspects has been to help and advocate for those in need.

It was these core values that shaped her interest in a career where she could help others. She graduated from San Jose State University with a BSW, and MSW with the concentration in Family and Children Services and Public Administration. Mayra is currently a student in the Master's in Governance Program through CSBA. She completed the LEAD program (Leadership Education and Development) through the Community Foundation of Monterey County this past December. She worked at Hartnell College in Salinas for five years in the Career Center and HEP program as a Program Coordinator and currently have been with United Way Monterey County as a Community Impact Manager managing the CalWORKs program and assist with other programs such as Impact Monterey County (IMC) and the Early Childhood Development Initiative (ECDI). Even though Mayra works full time and is raising a family, she still finds the time to volunteer to advocate for community change. She was the volunteer Welfare Manager for Salvation Army Greenfield Extension for over 3 years assisting needy family with basics needs that included paying their electricity bill, providing food vouchers and coordinating special programs such as the Shoes and Blanket program and Holiday Assistance program. She is an active parent volunteer at Greenfield Union School District. She helped establish a PTA in the school district over 3 years ago to advocate for children's rights and create a culture of parent engagement. She is proud of the positive impact it is making in students' education and lives. In addition to being an elected Board Trustee of the Greenfield Union School District, she also serves in various committees in the school district such as GUSD LCAP committee, Superintendent PTA Council Committee, Cesar Chavez Elementary PTA, and Unification Committee.

Mayra recently received the honor of Outstanding Woman of the Year through the Monterey County Commission on the Status of Women.

Vanessa Robinson



Vanessa is a dual-degreed professional with a bachelor's in Business Administration from California State University at Monterey Bay (CSUMB), and a master's in Public Policy from Pepperdine University. Her background includes strategic planning and advocacy; this advocacy has taken her around the world to Burundi, Rwanda, and Kenya.

In Kenya, Vanessa served as a Public Health Volunteer teaching health education in rural Kakamega, Western Kenya. She is currently serving as a Court Appointed Child Advocate and Secretary for the Monterey County Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). Vanessa first started working for nonprofits as an intern in 2007 Community Housing Improvement Systems and Planning Association (CHISPA). She has over nine years of experience serving nonprofits in Monterey County and abroad.

Vanessa recently joined the United Way of Monterey County as Impact Coordinator. She has a strong history of volunteering, interning, and working for nonprofits and governmental agencies. She is a world traveler and has volunteered at an organic farm in Ireland, in Burundi building a maternity wing to an HIV/AIDS clinic, interned with the Department of Social Protection in Kigali, Rwanda and Peace Corps Kenya. Vanessa's work is centered on serving women and children.

Being an adoptee, Vanessa is especially passionate about protecting children in the foster care system. She hopes to implement laws that reform foster care and uphold adoptee's rights. Vanessa's capstone project at Pepperdine highlighted the need for prison reform in California. As an executive member of the NAACP, she works serving marginalized communities of color.

Community Health, Riverside County

Amber Amaya



Amber Amaya is the program manager and editor for Coachella Unincorporated, a youth media program based in the eastern Coachella Valley. In this role, Amber developed a program structure and curriculum designed to help youth strengthen their media skills and deepen their understanding of community health issues and policies. In 2015, Amber launched a second youth cohort in Mecca, Calif.

Before returning home to the Coachella Valley, Amber reported on community issues in Orange County and Los Angeles County. Here, she observed how multiple factors contribute to the overall health and wellbeing of communities.

Amber graduated magna cum laude from Biola University in 2014 with a bachelor's degree in journalism and integrated media after completing the Torrey Honors Institute. During this time, Amber was awarded a Pew Young Scholars grant for her study examining young Latinos and social media. She was also selected for the Who's Who Among Students in American Universities & Colleges program.

Daisy E. Ramirez



Daisy E. Ramirez has called the Coachella Valley her home for 26 years. After graduating from the University of California, Irvine with a Public Health Policy BA, Public Health Science BS, and a minor in History, she has been able to apply her education as a health educator for the County of Riverside Department of Public Health. Her roles include serving as an Active Transportation Ambassador, a Child Passenger Safety Technician, and a passionate advocate for community empowerment and policy.

Through her work with the Land Use Planning Awareness (LUPA) Project, Daisy has helped youth foster critical thinking, civic dialogue, and civic engagement skills in order to influence decision making in land use planning for better health outcomes. In 2015, the American Planning Association California Chapter (APA CA) awarded the LUPA Project with the Award of Excellence recipient for Community Outreach. As part of the healthy communities work of the Riverside County Health Coalition, Daisy is now working on establishing, promoting, and coordinating the operation of a Healthy Cities Network to provide a venue for cities to share resources, best practices, and benefits of implementing health in all policies.

Outside of her work, Daisy is actively involved in the Desert Hot Springs – Emergency Preparedness / Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). She has been sponsored by her city's fire chief to become the first Civilian Bilingual Instructor for the FEMA CERT program to target educational outreach to the Spanish speaking community. Additionally, it is through the involvement with the Women's Policy Institute that she aims to expand her advocacy and leadership skills among other inspirational do-ers.

Maria Guadalupe De Anda



Maria Guadalupe De Anda works as an independent contractor with the Building Healthy Communities - Prevention Action Team. As a consultant for the initiative her main goal is to share her knowledge about grassroots organizing, leadership development and community based building strategies.

Her work in community health programs allowed her to learn and understand cultural diversity, how immigration affects an individual's mental health and the power of collaboration as a key to influence legislation in issues that threaten the well-being of her community.

Maria is Co-chair of the Building Healthy Communities Prevention Action Team in the Eastern Coachella Valley and member of the state-wide Promotora Network Vision y Compromiso regional committee in Coachella.

She graduated in business management in Mexico and is currently pursuing a degree in human services management. Maria has participated in two Promotores binational exchanges Mexico-US and the Institute of Migration and Health offered by the School of Medicine Benemérita Universidad Autónoma de Puebla and the University of Berkeley where she learned and shared with Promotores and community health professionals from Oaxaca and Puebla. Both events were life-changing opportunities that opened her eyes and her heart.

Economic Justice, San Bernardino County

Kim Carter



Kim Carter is the Founder and Executive Director of Time for Change Foundation. Certified in accounting with an emphasis on not-for-profits, Kim was inspired to leave the corporate world in 2002 to start Time for Change Foundation. Motivated by her own experiences as a formerly incarcerated woman, Kim made it her mission to help women and children make the transition from homelessness and recidivism to self-sufficiency. Today she is a powerful voice for women who bear the scars of poverty, homelessness, and incarceration. It is Kim's belief that by providing these women with training and the opportunity to develop life skills, in a nurturing and supportive environment, they will become independent and active participants in their communities.

She aspires to the work of her idol, Harriet Tubman, by lighting a path and leading others to freedom from addiction and incarceration. Her motto is that "a lit candle loses nothing when it lights another." Alongside her role as an executive director at Time for Change, she is also a motivational speaker, an advocate, an author and more recently an affordable housing developer.

Lois Perkins



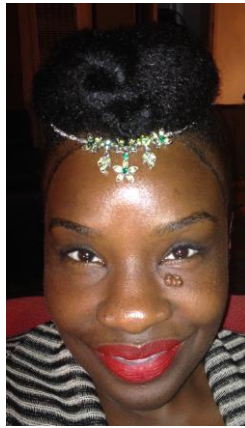
Lois Perkins is the CEO of Life Community Development which is a non-profit organization. Her devotion behind starting LCD was adhered by her concern and interest to help homeless individuals.

As a Director of Dove Enterprises in 2000, she applied and obtained their non-profit status and obtained an \$850 thousand dollar grant to open a childcare center for 120 children in a business park, which was a difficult task. Needless to say, it still stands today.

She is the Chairman of the Board for Desert Mountain Region Homeless Partnership Network. She has also received the Culture Competence Excellence Award from the County of San Bernardino Behavior Health.

Lois attended Cal State Northridge and majored in Public Administration. She then transferred to Cal State Dominguez Hills and finished her degree in Public Administration. She is currently working on a master's degree for License Clinical Social Worker.

Porscha N. Dillard



Porscha N. Dillard is a community activist, advocate, and survivor. In 2003, Porscha was convicted of a felony, which motivated her to do what is best for correcting the social and economic injustice that occurs with individuals who experience domestic violence. Since 2009, Porscha has been volunteering in a number of political arenas, campaigns, coalitions, non-profit and faith-based organizations. In 2010, she joined It's Time to Pray Ministry. As a domestic violence survivor herself, she was able to connect with the different battered women and children by providing monthly tea luncheons, testimonies, and encouragement. In 2012-2013, Porscha collaborated with H.O.P.E. (Helping Others Prosper Economically) Foundation Inc. to provide low-income high school students with free prom attire and accessories. In 2015, she completed a class with the African American Health Coalition (AAHC) to provide mental health awareness to the African-American community, and later that year, she became an intern for IE Fair Chance Coalition (IEFCC) working on advocacy around Fair Chance Hiring Bill AB 218.

Currently, Porscha is a Special Project Coordinator for Time for Change Foundation working on Proposition 47, the Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Act. Porscha obtained her master's in Public Administration in 2015, a bachelor's in Sociology with a minor in Psychology in 2013 from Forbes School of Business Ashford University, and an associate's in Liberal Arts in 2006 from Crafton Hills College. Her life choices, educational journey, and determination allowed her to free herself from her 2003 felony conviction, because Porscha's motivation and inspiration comes from her daily affirmation to, "Retaliate by being great."

Renea Wickman



Renea Wickman is a wife, mother of three and grandmother of four. She is the youngest of five siblings. Born and raised in Chicago, she moved to California in 1986 and settled in Redlands in 1988. In 1995 she obtained a bachelor's degree in biology. She is currently the Public Relations Chair for the Inland Empire Concerned African American Churches. As a member of the IECAAC her job is to focus on issues that most affect the African American community that can be changed through public policy.

She has been a volunteer in her community since she was 16. Her first volunteer job was for the Institute of Positive Education on the south side of Chicago. Once she moved to Redlands, she began volunteering for the Redlands Family YMCA and United Way. In 2007 she began volunteering for then Senator Barack Obama's Presidential Campaign. She was appointed the 41st Congressional District Coordinator for President Obama's campaign. At that time San Bernardino County was considered a red county. With hard work her team registered enough voters to turn the county blue. They trained thousands of volunteers for the campaign, canvassed, phone banked and sent hundreds of volunteers to other states. He won the 2008 election. In 2012 she was selected as a Fellow for the re-election of President Obama in Florida, where she spent three months working on his campaign. They won again. Renea took this training to the IECAAC where she and others trained church members to register voters and lead them to becoming more active as poll workers for elections.

For two years Renea was on the Board of Habitat for Humanity and for one of those years serving as their treasurer. She is a member of the Two Continents One People organization charged with uniting the African and African American people to build and unite our economic base. In addition, she is co-founder and member of the African American Coalition which is a group of African American organizations pooling our information and resources to help improve and promote the African American Community as a whole. She is a member and active volunteer for the Inland Empire Fair Chance Hiring Coalition where they work to minimize the collateral damages of unfair hiring for those who were formally incarcerated.

Sarah Glenn-Leistikow



Sarah is the Director of the SB County office at Center for Employment Opportunities (CEO). She manages all aspects of the program, including day-to-day operations, partnership and fund development and policy recommendations. She opened the CEO SB office in 2013.

Sarah is also a licensed attorney and serves as a pro bono attorney for the Alliance for Children's Rights. She has been doing reentry work in various forms for the last 8 years. She has also worked as an employment attorney and as a high school history teacher.

Sarah is a member of numerous reentry coalitions, including the San Bernardino Reentry Collaborative and the Inland Empire Fair Chance Coalition.

Sarah has a juris doctorate with a specialization in Critical Race Studies from University of California Los Angeles School of Law (2011), and a master's degree in arts and teaching as well as a bachelor's degree in English from Tufts University.

Sharon Green



Sharon Green is the Founder and Chief Executive Officer at Victor Valley Family Resource Center (VVFRC) with responsibility for leading the development and execution of the organization's long term strategy with a view to creating stakeholder value. Mrs. Green is responsible for all day to day management decision and the implementing VVFRC's long and short term plans. She communicates on behalf of the Company to stakeholders, employees, Government authorities, other stakeholders and the public.

VVFRC, under her leadership has provided transitional housing and supportive services to the High Desert Region of San Bernardino County for seven (7) years with a success rate of 86%. She currently oversees the organization's forty (40) bed Re-Entry Housing Project for San Bernardino Probation Department. She is also advocating within the San Bernardino County for the homeless and Re-Entry client that she passionately serves.

She is the Chair of San Bernardino Homeless Partnership Network for four (4) years and a board member of the San Bernardino Inter-Agency Council on Homelessness. Sharon Green has been a strong advocate for the Re-Entry population since 2010 traveling to Washington D.C. to voice the concerns of the people she has been blessed to serve. Sharon also volunteers for Southern California First Jurisdiction Department of Women Community Outreach Project providing food, clothing and make-overs for the at-risk individuals in the Los Angeles community.

Sharon Green is a retired Telecommunication Manager, Project Manager for Verizon's Mega Center project, and the Company liaison for employee and customer litigation for thirty (30) years. Prior to establishing VVFRC, she was an accountant collection specialist for Nexen Tire America for seven (7) years recovering more than 45 million in lost revenue.

She is married with six (6) adult children and thirteen (13) grandchildren. She is the Senior Pastor of Higher Praise Tabernacle Church and the Chair of the Fundraising Initiative Committee for the Southern California First Jurisdiction Women's Department providing scholarships for at-risk youth. She is currently attending Grand Canyon University to obtain her master's degree in Business.