



2019 Bringing it Home Conference

Featured Speakers

Day One

Samuel Gunter

Executive Director, North Carolina Housing Coalition

Samuel started at the Coalition in August of 2015 as its Director of Policy and Advocacy, and since October of 2018 has served as its Executive Director. He currently sits on the Advocacy Committee of Habitat for Humanity International, and the Board of Directors of both Habitat for Humanity of North Carolina & the Council of Independent State Housing Associations. Samuel has a background in community development and public policy from his time at Habitat for Humanity of Wake County, AmeriCorps VISTA, and the Peace Corps. He is a graduate of The University of Texas at Austin (B.A.) and Duke Divinity School (M.Div), and is also a Baptist minister who has served churches in North Carolina and Texas. Contact Samuel at 919.827.4496 or [sgunter \(at\) nchousing dot org](mailto:sgunter@nchousing.org).

Mandy K. Cohen, MD, MPH

Secretary, North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

Dr. Mandy Cohen was appointed to the role of Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) in January 2017 by Governor Roy Cooper. Secretary Cohen and her team work tirelessly to improve the health, safety and well-being of all North Carolinians. DHHS has 17,000 employees and an annual budget of \$20 billion serving as the home to NC Medicaid, Public Health, Mental Health/IDD/SUD, State Operated Hospitals and Facilities, Economic Services, Adult and Child Services, Early Childhood Education, Employment Services, and Health Services Regulation. Secretary Cohen and her team are focused on building a strong, efficient Medicaid program, improving early childhood health, safety and education and combatting the opioid crisis.

Secretary Cohen is an internal medicine physician and has experience leading complex health organizations. Before coming to the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, she was the Chief Operating Officer and Chief of Staff at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). She brings a deep understanding of health care to the state and has been responsible for implementing policies for Medicare, Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program and the Federal Health Insurance Marketplace.

A graduate of Cornell University, she received her medical degree from Yale School of Medicine and a Master's in Public Health from the Harvard School of Public Health. She trained in Internal Medicine at Massachusetts General Hospital. Secretary Cohen is married to Sam Cohen, a health care regulatory attorney. They have two daughters, ages 4 and 7.



Tara Myers

Deputy Secretary, North Carolina Human Services

Tara Myers has been the Deputy Secretary for Human Services, part of the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services, since October 2018. She is responsible for a wide and varied population base from birth to death. Among her responsibilities is the oversight of the Division of Aging and Adult Services to which the Emergency Solutions Grant Program is attached.

She began her career at DHHS in 1994 as a rehabilitation counselor, where she carried a variety of caseloads, in various disciplines. She has served in a variety of capacities within the Division, including as Rehabilitation Counselor in Charge, Unit Manager, Facility Director for a residential evaluation and training program, Assistant Regional Director and Regional Director.

Ms. Myers received her Master of Science in rehabilitation studies at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Va., and her Bachelor of Science in speech language and auditory pathology at East Carolina University in Greenville, N.C.

Denise Neunaber

Executive Director, North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness

Denise Neunaber is the Executive Director of the North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness (NCCEH), a position she has held for fourteen years. A native of Austin, Texas and a graduate of Warren Wilson College near Asheville, North Carolina, Denise began working to find an end to homelessness as a Crisis Intervention Counselor in Asheville, working with homeless individuals to access resources and services.

Under Denise's direction, the Coalition has significantly broadened its scope and impact. It provides staffing and structure for the Balance of State Continuum of Care, a 79-county region that spans the state, including extensive data management services. Most recently the Coalition coordinated the application and subsequent annual awards of \$8.6 million dollars for projects serving the homeless through the Balance of State region. It serves as the primary training agency for implementation of effective strategies for those working in direct services, and has been particularly successful as a trainer for those assisting disabled homeless persons to obtain income and health insurance through social security applications. Denise and her staff are called daily for support and guidance around a spectrum of needs as varied as a data entry challenge, to starting an emergency shelter, to advice on building effective collaborations.

Denise is recognized nationally as a strategic thinker, and is often requested to give presentations and serve on federal committees exploring effective and creative solutions to homelessness. She served on a team that helped to write the federal legislation that became the Homeless Emergency Assistance for Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act. Passed in 2009, the Act provides the blueprint for homeless activities across the nation.

Denise is married to Rob Wylie, a woodworker and carpenter. They live in Raleigh with their two children, Emmeline and Jake.



Dave Richard

Deputy Secretary, NC Medicaid

Dave Richard is the Deputy Secretary for NC Medicaid, where he leads North Carolina's \$14 billion Medicaid and NC Health Choice programs for DHHS.

Richard's vision for Medicaid is to ensure a sustainable, person-centered and innovative Medicaid program for more than 2 million North Carolinians who use Medicaid. As the programs undergo transformation to even better fit the needs of the state's residents, he is committed to improving the health and well-being of all residents by working closely with Medicaid stakeholders.

Prior to leading Medicaid, Richard was the Deputy Secretary for DHHS Behavioral Health and Developmental Disability Services and the State Operated Healthcare Facilities divisions. He joined DHHS in May 2013 as the Director of the Division of Mental Health, Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services.

Richard had previously led The Arc of North Carolina, an advocacy and service organization for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, as its Executive Director for 24 years.

Richard has a bachelor's degree in education from Louisiana State University.

Champions for Change Panelists

Terry Allebaugh, Moderator

Community Impact Coordinator, North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness

Terry Allebaugh has dual roles as the Community Impact Coordinator for the North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness (NCEH) and with the North Carolina Department of Military and Veteran Affairs (NCDMVA) as the Ending Veteran Homelessness Coordinator. His primary responsibilities include advocacy and education on the federal, state, and local level to enact policy, encourage funding, and provide technical support for activities that assist NC communities to end all homelessness, with a special emphasis on veterans. Mr. Allebaugh was the founder and long-time Executive Director of Housing for New Hope in Durham. He has 30 years of experience working as a housing and services provider both to build new housing and to create access to sustainable, affordable housing for people stymied in homelessness. Mr. Allebaugh also is an adjunct professor of housing at the Duke University Sanford School of Public Policy.

Donna Carrington

Community Empowerment Fund, Durham, NC

Donna Carrington draws from her own experience to deliver compassionate support, encouragement and advice to individuals and families living with mental illness and homelessness. As a qualified NAMI presenter and a mother of four with lived mental illness she also advises parents of children with mental illness on the importance of advocating for their children so that they can thrive as they grow. In her job as the Member Services Coordinator for the Community Empowerment Fund - Durham, Donna provides financial coaching to individuals with limited incomes and those experiencing homelessness. Donna also trains Duke students to learn how to advocate for this population in an equitable, trauma-informed way. In 2017, she was awarded the Duke Chapel Humanitarian Service Award. Donna enjoys music, Jeopardy, Mahjong, and cooking shows.



Shanita Jackson

Berea College, Berea, Kentucky

Shanita Jackson is a poet and student hailing from the mountains of Asheville, NC. Jackson has competed and performed on national stages through poetry, theatre, storytelling, and Youth Speaks Presents: Brave New Voices. Despite the odds of being the youngest child to emerge from a single-parent home, Jackson graduates from Berea College on May 5, 2019 where she focused on African and African American studies, theatre, peace and social justice, literature, and creative writing.

Workshop Speakers

Debbie Alford

Housing Placement Manager, Homeward Bound

Debbie Alford has been involved with local social justice organizations in Asheville, NC for 6 years. She believes that every person has value and the right to a home. Currently, she is the Housing Placement Manager for Homeward Bound of WNC where her team cultivates relationships with landlords to secure affordable housing for clients.

Terry Allebaugh

Community Impact Coordinator, North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness

Terry Allebaugh has dual roles as the Community Impact Coordinator for the North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness (NCCEH) and with the North Carolina Department of Military and Veteran Affairs (NCDMVA) as the Ending Veteran Homelessness Coordinator. His primary responsibilities include advocacy and education on the federal, state, and local level to enact policy, encourage funding, and provide technical support for activities that assist NC communities to end all homelessness, with a special emphasis on veterans. Mr. Allebaugh was the founder and long-time Executive Director of Housing for New Hope in Durham. He has 30 years of experience working as a housing and services provider both to build new housing and to create access to sustainable, affordable housing for people stymied in homelessness. Mr. Allebaugh also is an adjunct professor of housing at the Duke University Sanford School of Public Policy. He can be reached at 919-755-4393 or terry@nceh.org



Thomas Barrie

Prof. of Architecture, Dir. of Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Initiative

Thomas Barrie AIA, DPACSA teaches undergraduate and graduate design studios and history-theory seminars. Professor Barrie served as Director of the School of Architecture from 2002 to 2007 and is the recipient of a number of teaching awards including the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA) Distinguished Professor Award and Creative Achievement Award and the ACSA/American Institute of Architecture Students New Teaching Award. He is a member of the ACSA College of Distinguished Professors and the NC State Academy of Faculty Engaged in Extension.

Professor Barrie is the co-founder and Chair of the Board of Directors of the *Architecture, Culture, and Spirituality Forum*, an international community of scholars. His scholarship has been supported by numerous grants, including two from the Graham Foundation for Advanced Study in the Fine Arts.

Professor Barrie directs the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Initiative. Its mission is to provide educational resources for government, non-profit and community leaders, students, and the general public, and innovative and applicable solutions to the housing and urban challenges that North Carolina communities face. In 2014 he received the NC State Outstanding Extension Service Award.

Professor Barrie maintains a critical architectural practice in Raleigh, North Carolina and his built works and projects have been recognized by a number of design awards including two from the Detroit Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

Chris Battle

Homeless Programs Coordinator, North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Aging and Adult Services

Chris Battle is the ESG Homeless Programs Coordinator for the NC Department of Health and Human Services (NC DHHS) Division of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS). As Homeless Programs Coordinator Chris provides program coordination, monitoring and technical assistance for North Carolina's federal HUD Emergency Solutions Grant. Prior to joining the NC DHHS, Chris served 15 years as Executive Director of a private non-profit, serving the homeless and nearly homeless population of Nash and Edgecombe Counties. Chris worked tirelessly within the community as a "champion" for change while pursuing his never-ending quest to end homelessness in eastern North Carolina. Serving as the community CoC lead for 8 years in conjunction with the development and implementation of innovative Permanent Supportive Housing and Rapid Rehousing programs, Chris played a significant role in effecting positive change while moving the community towards progressive engagement and a housing focused approach in addressing homelessness.

Heather Black

NC 2-1-1 Statewide Strategy Director, United Way of NC

Heather Black joined United Way of North Carolina as the NC 2-1-1 Statewide Strategy Director in August 2015. In her role with NC 2-1-1, Heather oversees the work and planning for the statewide 2-1-1 information and referral system supported by United Ways across the State. As the Statewide Strategy Director, Heather focuses on building partnerships with state and local government agencies, non-profit organizations, healthcare organizations, and others seeking to improve the lives of North Carolina citizens through access to information. Heather is a graduate of Meredith College in Raleigh with a B.S. degree in Business Administration. She has spent her career in public service working both in the non-profit sector in Washington, D.C. and in state government in North Carolina.



Beth Bordeaux

Partners for Impact

Beth Bordeaux, MSW is an executive leader with over 29 years of nonprofit and local government experience working across various levels of organizations and service systems from Volunteer to Social Worker, Program Director, evaluator, funder, community developer, Executive Director, advocate, coalition builder, consultant, coach, board member, and more. She has worked in programs supporting individuals and families with many types of needs: mental health, developmental disabilities, substance abuse, housing, childcare and child care quality, maternity care, domestic violence, faith support, education, and basic needs such as food and shelter. Over the past 10 years, Beth has worked specifically with programs supporting individuals and families experiencing homelessness, including 1) leading a successful organizational change effort shifting practice and programming from a transitional housing/emergency shelter in apartment settings to rapid rehousing and reducing lengths of stay from an average of four-six months down to an average of 45 days while also significantly reducing the cost per family to move from homelessness to stability; 2) leading the balance of state and triangle counties through HMIS transition; and 3) providing technical assistance for the Emergency Solutions Grant office in supporting providers and in revising requisition and reporting processes and training providers on the updated processes.

Jonathan Bumgarner

Housing Specialist, First Fruit Ministries

A North Carolina native, Jonathan grew up in Boone and lived in the beauty of the Appalachian mountains. While studying at NC State University, he discovered his love for helping others through working with various community programs. In 2000, Jonathan moved to Wilmington seeking warm weather and found new chances to work in homelessness outreach. He played a part in helping establish the non profit organization, Heart of Wilmington (HOW), serving as Resource Director. Volunteer opportunities in homeless communities and social organizations drew him deeper into the social service profession. Belief in the concept of the housing first approach for the betterment of communities and individuals, coupled with intensive case management, he has seen positive change throughout the homeless community. Jonathan transitioned to a full-time career in ministry in 2018 at First Fruit Ministries. He serves in housing and outreach to those experiencing homelessness in southeastern NC. Since Hurricane Florence, Jonathan has been acting as the Back@Home Lead for First Fruit Ministries. He finds great fulfillment in serving others.

Caity Bunch

Occupational Therapist, UNC Center of Excellence in Community Mental Health

Caity Bunch has been working as an occupational therapist in mental health and housing positions since 2011. She is currently an occupational therapist for the HomeLink team at the UNC Center for Excellence in Community Mental Health, serving clients who are currently homeless and at risk of homelessness. Prior to serving on HomeLink, Caity was the occupational therapist for the Durham VA Homeless Programs for four years, working with veterans who were homeless, in transitional housing, and in permanent supportive housing. Caity also completed the VA Interprofessional Fellowship in Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Recovery and worked in inpatient psychiatry at Central Regional Hospital.



Christina Caputo

Viral Hepatitis Program Manager, State of North Carolina

Christina Caputo serves as the Viral Hepatitis Program Manager for the State of North Carolina. Christina received her Master's degrees in epidemiology at the Boston University School of Public Health. Christina has worked in viral hepatitis and drug user health for six years, and aims to help increase access to integrated care and hepatitis C cure in North Carolina.

Emily Carmody

Program Director, North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness

In May 2010, Emily Carmody joined the North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness (NCCEH), a statewide membership nonprofit that works to end homelessness by creating alliances, encouraging public dialogue, securing resources and advocating for systemic change. Emily is the state lead for the NC SOAR program and advises on projects including health and human services and technical support for continuums of care. Prior to working at NCCEH, Emily worked in homeless services for ten years in Connecticut, Washington, DC, Michigan, and North Carolina and received her Master's in Social Work from the University of Michigan in 2007.

Donna Carrington

Community Empowerment Fund

Donna Carrington draws from her own experience to deliver compassionate support, encouragement and advice to individuals and families living with mental illness and homelessness. As a qualified NAMI presenter and a mother of four with lived mental illness she also advises parents of children with mental illness on the importance of advocating for their children so that they can thrive as they grow. In her job as the Member Services Coordinator for the Community Empowerment Fund - Durham, Donna provides financial coaching to individuals with limited incomes and those experiencing homelessness. Donna also trains Duke students to learn how to advocate for this population in an equitable, trauma-informed way. In 2017, she was awarded the Duke Chapel Humanitarian Service Award. Donna enjoys music, Jeopardy, Mahjong, and cooking shows.

Ben Cattell Noll

Technical Assistance Specialist, National Alliance to End Homelessness

Ben Cattell Noll is a Technical Assistance Specialist with the Alliance's Center for Capacity Building. Ben provides collaborative and interactive training, consultation and technical assistance to communities across the country seeking to adopt best practices to improve their homeless services systems with specific focuses on rapid re-housing, systems design and crisis response services. Ben got his start in the field as a permanent supportive housing case manager, developing his skills in participant-centered models and kindling his passion for ending homelessness. He has also managed a team of case managers and specialists within a Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) rapid re-housing program at Friendship Place in Washington, DC.

Liz Clasen-Kelly

CEO, Urban Ministry Center/Men's Shelter of Charlotte

Liz Clasen-Kelly serves as the CEO of the newly merged Men's Shelter of Charlotte and Urban Ministry Center. She previously served as the Executive Director of the Men's Shelter of Charlotte, where she led the shelter's effort to renovate its main shelter. Previously, as the Associate Director of Urban Ministry Center, she oversaw the community's street outreach efforts and served as project manager for Housing First Charlotte-Mecklenburg, the community effort to end chronic homelessness. She is a graduate of Davidson College and received her Master of Public Policy from Duke University.



Kim Crawford

ESG/ Homeless Programs Coordinator, North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Aging and Adult Services

As the State of North Carolina ESG / Homeless Programs Coordinator, Kim Crawford brings a wealth of housing and homelessness experience to the program. She holds both a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and a Master of Science in Corporate Communication from Lindenwood College. In addition, she has a Master of Arts, in Religion and Theology from United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities. Kim is a results-driven leader that uses a “hands-on” leadership style to bring value to organizations and foster relationship building. As a change agent, she utilizes her strong business acumen to turnaround underperforming programs. Prior to her arrival at the NC ESG / Homeless Programs office, Kim was the Executive Director of two homeless centers. During Kim’s short 4-year tenure in NC, she has served on or chaired several North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness (NCCEH) committees including: Coordinated Assessment Governance Committee, NC Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Governance Committee, Regional Lead BoS Steering Committee. Chaired the Alamance County Interagency Council for Homeless Assistance – ACHICA. Spearheaded conception and launch for the ACAC Food Pantry, the Alamance County Project Homeless Connect, and facilitated the successful execution of the first ACICHA “Bad Building Tour,” highlighting the poor quality of affordable housing in our communities. Through her work, Kim effectively promotes interagency collaboration to develop and sustain a comprehensive system of housing and services designed to maximize the self-sufficiency of individuals and families.

Ehren Dohler

Project Specialist, North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness

Ehren Dohler is a Project Specialist at NCCEH working on the Balance of State Continuum of Care team. Ehren came to Raleigh from Washington, D.C., where he coordinated special projects for the housing policy team at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. Before that, he managed Kansas City's 100,000 Homes Campaign and worked on a PATH team in Chicago. Ehren earned his master's degree in social work from the University of Chicago School of Social Service Administration.

Heather Dominique

Program Coordinator, North Carolina Housing Finance Agency

Heather Dominique, MSW has worked in the fields of affordable housing and homelessness services for over 15 years. She began her career as a grant manager at a homeless service agency in Portland, OR that developed and managed affordable housing and operated behavioral health treatment programs and primary health care clinics. Heather moved to Raleigh in 2006 and joined the NC Dept. of Health and Human Services Office of the Secretary to work with the Targeting Program, a housing program for individuals with disabilities. Heather currently works at the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency as a program coordinator in the Department of Community Living Initiatives and Rental Assets for programs that provide housing resources to individuals with disabilities and individuals who are homeless.



Erika Feruson

Director of the Office of Health Opportunities, North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

Erika Ferguson serves as the Director of the Office of Healthy Opportunities for the NC Department of Health and Human Services. In this role, she leads the Department's comprehensive strategy to effectively deliver health, not just health care by addressing the medical and non-medical drivers of health including housing, food, transportation and interpersonal safety. Erika started her career managing a homeless shelter in the Mississippi Delta and has since served in a variety of capacities across health care and human services including positions at Duke University and the World Health Organization. Erika holds a BS in Public Health from the University of North Carolina Gillings School of Global Public Health and Duke University and a Master of Public Policy from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government.

Robin Gauthier

Executive Director, Samaritan House, VA

Robin Gauthier is the Executive Director of Samaritan House, a private non-profit serving people that have experienced violence and homelessness for more than thirty-five years. Currently she chairs and sits on numerous workgroups to end domestic violence and combat human trafficking. She plays a significant role in the Virginia Beach Continuum of Care and is a staunch advocate for the rights of marginalized people. Understanding there is no single approach that is the right for everyone, she has designed and implemented a variety of best practice programs at Samaritan House including Housing First and Rapid Re-housing. Her newest initiative is working with Attorney General's office on the Hampton Roads Human Trafficking Task Force that uses a victim-centered and coordinated approach to identify people that have been trafficked, provide services and prosecute perpetrators. She is originally from a small town in Massachusetts; it should be no surprise that she is a New England Patriots fan. She holds a degree in Social Work from Norfolk State University and resides in the City of Virginia Beach with her husband.

Candice Givens

Bridge Counselor, Durham County Health Department

Candice Givens serves as the Bridge Counselor for the Gilead FOCUS program in Durham, NC. She has a clinical social work and substance abuse background and strives to not only address Hepatitis C, but the whole person when linking patients to care. Candice prioritizes patient empowerment and motivational interviewing in her interaction with patients. She also serves at the chair for the Durham Knows workgroup which focuses on HIV and STI awareness and education in Durham

Samuel Gunter

Executive Director, North Carolina Housing Coalition

Samuel started at the Coalition in August of 2015 as its Director of Policy and Advocacy, and since October of 2018 has served as its Executive Director. He currently sits on the Advocacy Committee of Habitat for Humanity International, and the Board of Directors of both Habitat for Humanity of North Carolina & the Council of Independent State Housing Associations. Samuel has a background in community development and public policy from his time at Habitat for Humanity of Wake County, AmeriCorps VISTA, and the Peace Corps. He is a graduate of The University of Texas at Austin (B.A.) and Duke Divinity School (M.Div), and is also a Baptist minister who has served churches in North Carolina and Texas.



Leigh Hackney

Rapid Re-housing Director, Homeward Bound

Leigh is an Asheville, NC native. Leigh has worked for Homeward Bound four years and in her current role for two. Leigh has been working in homeless services, in some capacity, for a decade.

Trish Hobson

Executive Director, The Relatives

Trish has served as the Executive Director of The Relatives since December, 2016. Trish brings years of experience as she recently served as Vice President of Alexander Children's Foundation before joining The Relatives as Executive Director in 2016. Prior to working at Alexander Youth Network, in January 2015, she worked at the YMCA of Charlotte as their Senior Financial Development Director. Trish joined the YMCA after six years with the Emergency Winter Shelter, now known as the Men's Shelter of Charlotte. She also served as the CEO and Chairperson of the Board of Directors for the Junior League of Charlotte, Inc. Trish's passion lies in helping those with the most critical needs in our community. Trish moved to Charlotte in 1984 to attend Queens College. Upon graduation, she stayed in Charlotte and started a family. Trish and her husband, Ross, have two adult children, two dogs and a cat.

Stan Holt

Partners for Impact

With over 28 years in nonprofit development, executive leadership and grantmaking, Stan is an accomplished nonprofit professional who believes in the power of the collective. Innovative and impactful solutions can be created for complex human service problems by groups that come together, share their diverse perspectives and experiences, create a common goal, assess and develop their collective resources, and build a plan. When Stan works with a group, he builds a space where each individual's authentic voice contributes to the emerging group voice within the group process. Stan brings a set of skills that transcends issues. He works with arts, environmental, health and human services, and educational organizations, drawing out the common elements for building community change. Stan's constant inquiry coupled with his ability to synthesize diverse perspectives are at the heart of helping leaders define a common goal. Mapping systems, creating a space to share experiences as a basis for problem solving, building the capacity for group learning, and moving conversations beyond personal positions are some of the tools Stan uses to help build successful partnerships. As structures and plans emerge, the efficient use of human, intellectual, and financial resources become an essential part of creating momentum for community impact.

Charles Holton

Director, Duke Law School's Civil Justice Clinic

Charles Holton serves as Director of Duke Law School's Civil Justice Clinic in which he teaches a seminar and mentors students in basic civil litigation skills and oversees their handling of actual cases for clients who are not able to obtain adequate representation in the civil justice system, collaborating closely with lawyers from Legal Aid of North Carolina (LANC). Established in 2014, the Civil Justice Clinic is operated in partnership with LANC, where Holton is a former chair of the board of directors and a longstanding member of the local advisory committee for LANC's Durham office. He was named Pro Bono Attorney of the Year for 2013 by the North Carolina Bar Association, and he received the 2012 Pro Bono Award from the national Legal Services Corporation. He is president of the non-profit Caris Foundation, which provides education, housing, and health services in Honduras and Durham. In January, 2019 Holton was re-appointed by N.C. Chief Justice Mark Martin to a new three-year term on the N.C. Equal Access to Justice Commission.



Rivianna Hyatt

Program Officer, True Colors United

Rivianna is a Program Officer at True Colors United. Before that, they spent a few years as a founding member of the National Youth Forum on Homelessness, where they talked (a lot) about the role of people with lived experience in the movement to end homelessness. Previously, they did outreach and positive youth development work in Hollywood with the Los Angeles LGBT Center. In 2015, they founded Beyond the Balcony - a program for young people looking to develop careers in theatre arts.

Shanita Jackson

Berea College

Shanita Jackson is a poet and student hailing from the mountains of Asheville, NC. Jackson has competed and performed on national stages through poetry, theatre, storytelling, and Youth Speaks Presents: Brave New Voices. Despite the odds of being the youngest child to emerge from a single-parent home, Jackson graduates from Berea College on May 5, 2019 where she focused on African and African American studies, theatre, peace and social justice, literature, and creative writing.

Lauren Knott

Associate, Technical Assistance Collaborative

Lauren Knott has over 11 years of experience in policies and practices related to affordable housing and homelessness. She has extensive knowledge of federal programs serving low-income populations. Ms. Knott is the one of the lead technical assistance (TA) providers for HUD's Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP), working with Seattle, Boston, and Vermont Balance of State Continuums of Care (CoCs) to draft plans to end youth homelessness. She also leads TAC's efforts on youth homelessness, including facilitating community planning processes, developing products for community use, and helping communities ensure that youth voice is central in their strategies. Ms. Knott authored several of HUD's Guidebooks on Ending Youth Homelessness and has been a featured speaker on youth homelessness at several national conferences. Additionally, she works with communities on designing and implementing their coordinated entry systems, applying a Housing First philosophy at both the agency and community levels, and navigating the requirements of the HUD CoC Program.

Patricia Lentz

Program Specialist, NC Homeless Education Program

Patricia Lentz (Co-Presenter) Patricia "Tricia" Lentz has been with the NC Homeless Education Program (NCHEP) since 2014 as Program Specialist. Before joining NCHEP, Tricia served as a homeless liaison in a NC school district for over 5 years, as well as serving in other capacities within the Student Services Department of that LEA during that time. Tricia held other various positions within that LEA beginning in 2001. Tricia holds a B.S.B.E.-P (Business Education – Professional) degree from East Carolina University. Tricia provides technical assistance to the homeless liaisons in the four western Prosperity Zones in NC, as well as supporting the work of the State Coordinator's office. In addition to providing numerous school district training sessions, Tricia has presented at numerous local, state and national conferences and meetings, including the NCHEP Annual Learning Institute, the Charter School Institute, the School Social Work Conference, NC CCSA/CCES and Synergy. Nationally, she has presented at the National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth (NAEHCY) conference. Patricia and her husband have 3 sons, all of whom have either served or are serving in the US military. She enjoys spending time with her family, reading and participating in church activities.



Emily Locklear

Executive Director, Southeastern Family Violence Center

Emily Locklear is the Executive Director at Southeastern Family Violence Center and serves as the Regional Lead for the NC Balance of State, Region 8. She serves on the NC Inter-Agency Council for Coordinating Homeless Programs and is also a member of the NC Coalition Against Domestic Violence State Steering Committee. Emily has a passion to empower people to succeed in life even through life's struggles. She aims to see all people be the best that they can be and reach self-sufficiency.

Harry Mack

Director, Housing CLT

Harry Mack is the Director of HousingCLT which is operated by Socialserve, a nonprofit that connects people to housing and provides supportive, second chance employment. In his role Harry operates the Charlotte-Mecklenburg landlord consortium where he creates partnerships between housing providers, service agencies whom support those persons who are currently experiencing homeless. He also serves as the face of the organization, with the goal of educating landlords, service providers, tenants and the community about HousingCLT. Prior to joining the team at SocialServe, Harry served the volunteer coordinator and housing specialist for the Salvation Army Center of Hope for over 12 years. Harry has a Degree in Business Administration and Psychology from the University of North Carolina, Charlotte. Harry has a strong passion for helping those who are in need and believes everyone deserves a place to call home.

Amanda Mason

First Tier Consulting, LLC

Ms. Mason has worked in the field of community development and disaster recovery for over 10 years. After 6 years in the public sector, she branched off in 2015 and started her own consulting company. Ms. Mason works with her clients to strengthen their policies and effectively manage state and federal grants. After completing her undergraduate studies at the State University of New York (SUNY) at Oswego in Public Justice, she earned a Master's Degree from Northwestern University in Public Policy and Administration. Ms. Mason is a member of the Citizens' Housing and Planning Association, the American Planning Association and the American Society for Public Administration. She is also a past local board member for the Syracuse United Way Emergency Food and Shelter program.

Kay Moshier McDivitt

Senior Technical Assistance Specialist, National Alliance to End Homelessness

Kay Moshier McDivitt is the Senior Technical Assistance Specialist with the Center for Capacity Building at the Alliance. Ms. Moshier McDivitt has more than 20 years experience developing and administering rapid re-housing and homelessness programs, as well as leading a local homeless coalition and Continuum of Care. As a Technical Assistance Specialist, she develops and delivers training and technical assistance on best practices, including rapid re-housing, retooling transitional housing and building a crisis response system. Additionally, Ms. Moshier McDivitt developed the Alliance's Rapid Re-Housing Learning Collaborative, which helps rapid re-housing providers build their capacity and adopt best practices. Before joining the Alliance, Ms. Moshier McDivitt served as the Community Homeless Advisor for the Lancaster County (Pa.) Coalition to End Homelessness, providing leadership for the county's 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness and Continuum of Care. She also served as Vice President for Programs for Tabor Community Services Inc., during which time she oversaw a number of model program initiatives focused on ending homelessness, including prevention and rapid re-housing approaches. Ms. Moshier McDivitt received her degrees in Social Work and Sociology from Eastern Mennonite University.



Thomas Montaglione

Housing Program Supervisor, The Relatives

Thomas Montaglione joined The Relatives team in 2016 as a case manager where he discovered his passion for housing Charlotte's vulnerable, young homeless population. In 2018, Thomas took on the new role of Housing Program Supervisor where he directs both The Relatives transitional living home and scattered site housing. Thomas has a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice and a Master's Degree in Criminology and Justice.

Zach Moore

Chief of the Epidemiology, North Carolina Division of Public Health

Dr. Moore serves as the State Epidemiologist and Chief of the Epidemiology Section with the North Carolina Division of Public Health. In this role, he helps guide the state's efforts to prevent, detect and respond to a wide range of health threats including those caused by communicable diseases, environmental and occupational health threats, and natural and man-made disasters. Dr. Moore is trained as a pediatrician and pediatric infectious disease specialist and first joined North Carolina Public Health in 2006 as an officer with the CDC's Epidemic Intelligence Service.

Denise Neunaber

Executive Director, North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness

Denise Neunaber is the Executive Director of the North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness (NCCEH), a position she has held for fourteen years. A native of Austin, Texas and a graduate of Warren Wilson College near Asheville, North Carolina, Denise began working to find an end to homelessness as a Crisis Intervention Counselor in Asheville, working with homeless individuals to access resources and services.

Under Denise's direction, the Coalition has significantly broadened its scope and impact. It provides staffing and structure for the Balance of State Continuum of Care, a 79-county region that spans the state, including extensive data management services. Most recently the Coalition coordinated the application and subsequent annual awards of \$8.6 million dollars for projects serving the homeless through the Balance of State region. It serves as the primary training agency for implementation of effective strategies for those working in direct services, and has been particularly successful as a trainer for those assisting disabled homeless persons to obtain income and health insurance through social security applications. Denise and her staff are called daily for support and guidance around a spectrum of needs as varied as a data entry challenge, to starting an emergency shelter, to advice on building effective collaborations.

Denise is recognized nationally as a strategic thinker, and is often requested to give presentations and serve on federal committees exploring effective and creative solutions to homelessness. She served on a team that helped to write the federal legislation that became the Homeless Emergency Assistance for Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act. Passed in 2009, the Act provides the blueprint for homeless activities across the nation.

Denise is married to Rob Wylie, a woodworker and carpenter. They live in Raleigh with their two children, Emmeline and Jake.



Jef Rawlings

Rapid Re-housing Case Manager, Johnston-Lee-Harnett Community Action

Jefferey Rawlings attended NC State University and later Phillips College receiving a degree in Computer Science. He worked for 20+ years in the IT support field. His de-escalation technique and excellent customer skills were rewarded with multiple advancements and professional awards. However feeling life had more to it than IT support, he left the field to pursue a more “meaningful” path for those skills. He worked with a local church nonprofit with persons experiencing poverty and homelessness. He worked providing food and in his free time volunteered at the local shelter. He soon began working at JLH Community Action on the Crisis Intervention program assisting families. He took his skills into the position of Rapid Re-Housing case manager and two years later was elected the first chairperson of S3 Housing Connect (Shelter, Shelter and Stability Housing Connect). S3 is a consortium comprised of city and county officials and employees, the Sanford Housing Authority, all five local shelters, all major local nonprofits, civic groups, churches and interested individuals. S3 seeks to bring all the relevant entities together to muster a more coordinated and comprehensive response to homelessness. During his tenure a new shelter opened, two existing shelters adopted the “Low Barrier” approach, an Emergency lodging program was created, an unrestricted local Rapid Re-Housing program was started and a housing committee was started to recruit and retain landlords.

Megan Raymond

Community House Program Manager, Inter-Faith Council

Megan is the Program Manager at Community House - IFC's shelter for men experiencing homelessness. She has been with IFC for four years and prior to this position, provided therapeutic intervention in her work with adolescents and families in various agencies and settings. In all her roles, she has partnered with individuals and families to help work through trauma.

Corey Root

Coordinator, Orange County Partnership to End Homelessness

Corey Root has served as the Coordinator of the Orange County Partnership to End Homelessness since March 2016. In her tenure, the Partnership completed a systems map and gaps analysis in 2016-2017 and is now working to fill the seven remaining systems gaps. Before coming to Orange County, Corey worked with a team to coordinate homeless funding and services for 79 rural counties in our state at the North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness. She received a BFA from New York University in Film and Television and a MPA from NC State University. Prior to working in housing and homelessness, she produced OPEN/net, a weekly statewide public affairs television program about North Carolina state government and worked in Africa for Doctors without Borders as an administrator.

Amy Sawyer

Project Specialist, North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness

Amy Sawyer has experience working on homelessness at the local and federal level, serving as Asheville-Buncombe's Homeless Initiative Coordinator and most recently working with the US Interagency Council on Homelessness before joining the team at North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness this spring as a project specialist. Rooted in a human rights approach, Amy's passion is building strong relationship that support coordination and evidence-based practices to make an impact.



Phillip Sheldon

Research Assistant, UNCG Center for Housing and Community Studies

Phillip Sheldon is a research assistant at the Center for Housing and Community Studies, with a Master's Degree in Public Affairs with a concentration in Community and Economic Development. Phillip's work at CHCS focuses on local housing policy, eviction, fair lending, and rural housing development. His research in the MPA program is centered around affordable housing finance and building community power within the planning and redevelopment process. In addition to his work with CHCS, Phillip has served the Greensboro community through AmeriCorps Partnership to End Homelessness. While serving in this capacity he became interested in policies to decrease homelessness in North Carolina and increase efficiency within the homeless service continuum of care (CoC). He has also volunteered on the New Horizons Fair Housing Committee in Winston-Salem, helping with the planning and development of a symposium on gentrification in the Piedmont Triad.

Mina Silberberg

Duke Department of Family Medicine and Community Health

Mina Silberberg, Ph.D. is associate professor in the Duke Department of Family Medicine and Community Health and vice-chief for Research and Evaluation in the department's division of Community Health. Silberberg specializes in program evaluation, community-engaged intervention research, and research translation for community health. Prior to coming to Duke, she was a senior policy analyst at the Rutgers Center for State Health Policy. She received her doctorate in political science from the University of California at Berkeley.

Stephen Sills

Director, Center for Housing and Community Studies

Dr. Stephen Sills is a Professor of Sociology and Director of the Center for Housing and Community Studies at the University of North Carolina Greensboro. His work focuses on the intersection of housing studies, urban planning, and public health. He is a mixed methodologist drawing on a variety of research tools such as GIS, data informatics and analytics, as well as Community Based Participatory Research (CBPR) and Participant Action Research (PAR) to better understand social determinants of health and well-being.

Peter Skillern

Executive Director, Reinvestment Partners

Peter has served as Executive Director of Reinvestment Partners since 1999. He is a graduate of University of California at Santa Cruz with highest honors, and holds a Masters in City and Regional Planning from UNC Chapel Hill. Skillern is a licensed real estate broker and general contractor who has been involved in housing and community economic development, as an advocate and practitioner, for a really long time.



Kari Thatcher

Prevention and Evaluation Specialist, North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Kari Thatcher, MPH (she/her/hers) is the Prevention and Evaluation Specialist NCCADV. She has a Master of Public Health from UNC, Chapel Hill and a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre from Chapman University. Kari specializes in community-based participatory research and program evaluation, and is driven by a belief in the importance of leadership and capacity-building at the neighborhood level. At NCCADV, Kari leads the evaluation of IPV primary prevention efforts on the CDC-funded DELTA Impact project. Outside of NCCADV, Kari serves as Co-Chair of the Greensboro Health Disparities Collaborative, a community-academic research partnership, and also works independently training and consulting with organizations and communities working for racial equity. Kari is a member of the network of organizers and trainers known as the Racial Equity Institute, who work to create racially equitable systems and institutions. She has a track-record and passion for developing and sustaining partnerships across organizations, sectors, and among leaders that might not typically collaborate.

Jasmin Volkel

System Administrator, North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness

Jasmin Volkel has been an HMIS System Administrator at the NCEH Data Center since 2015. She currently assists agencies with their data entry needs, state and federal reporting, and improving their understanding and utilization of HMIS. Prior to that, she worked for several years in the child welfare system. First, as a youth-focused case manager at a Mental Health agency in Durham, then as a Graduate Research Assistant on a joint foster care project between Cumberland County DSS and NC State University where she earned her Masters of Social Work. Jasmin is a native New Yorker who currently resides in NC with her husband and children.

Paullett Wall

Program Specialist, North Carolina Homeless Education Program

Paullett Wall (Co-Presenter) Paullett Wall joined the NC Homeless Education Program (NCHPEP) in January of 2017 as a Program Specialist. Prior to joining NCHPEP, Paullett fulfilled the role of homeless liaison for the Richmond County School District for 8 years. Paullett worked in the mental health field as a Qualified Professional from 2006 to 2015, administering intensive in-home services to children, youth and their families. Paullett was employed by the NC Department of Community Corrections from 1993 to 2003, serving as a Correctional Officer and a Probation Officer. Paullett provides technical assistance to homeless liaisons in the four eastern Prosperity Zones, as well as supporting the work of the State Coordinator's office. She has also provided presentations to numerous groups, including but not limited to school administrators at UNC – Chapel Hill; the National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth; the NC School Social Work Conference, NC CCSA, and the NC Coalition to End Homelessness. Paullett graduated from Fayetteville State University with a BS in Criminal Justice and a minor in Psychology. She also holds a BS in Theology and is currently working towards her Masters in School Counseling. In her spare time, Paullett enjoys reading, traveling, and working with at-risk youth in the community.



Lisa Worth

Homeless Programs Coordinator, North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Aging and Adult Services

Lisa Worth began working at the NC ESG office in February 2019. She was previously with the Division of Aging and Adult Services as the Housing Program Consultant. She has an MA in Psychology from Northern Arizona University. She has been working in mental health and housing/homeless services for 20 years. She has a background in in-patient mental health services, psychiatric rehabilitation programs, and administration of housing/homeless programs including ESG, Shelter Plus Care, HPRP, and SSVF.

Matt White

National Coordinated Entry Expert

For the past 25 years Matt White has been working with communities to design and implement effective Continuum of Care systems for persons experiencing homelessness and at imminent risk of homelessness. He specializes in homeless system policy development and implementation, research and evaluation, and refinement of Coordinated Entry (CE) processes. Mr. White's homeless system technical assistance expertise includes improving data collection and analysis capabilities, evaluating the effectiveness of homeless systems, and leading strategic planning and facilitation engagements to reorient homeless services. His recent work in the past 10 years focuses on developing more effective CE management processes and improving crisis response system operations so limited CoC resources are allocated according to CoC prioritization policies and increasing inflow demands. As chair of HUD's CE product development team, Mr. White is the primary author of multiple tools and guides designed to support the implementation of compliant CE processes.