



2019 RACE TO EQUITY SUMMIT

FEBRUARY 20-21, 2019

WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA

www.MBKPBC.com

**#MBKPBC #MBK #RaceToEquitySummit
#2019RacetoEquitySummit**

**Facing,
Embracing and
Leading with Equity**



MBK COMMUNITY CHALLENGE



In September 2014, President Obama issued a challenge to cities, towns, counties and tribes across the Country to become “My Brother’s Keeper Communities”. This challenge represents a call to action for all members of our communities, and mayors in particular, as they often sit at the intersection of many of the vital forces and structural components needed to enact sustainable change through policy, programs, and partnerships.

My Brother’s Keeper (MBK) Community Challenge encourages communities to implement a coherent cradle-to college-and-career strategy for improving the life outcomes of all young people to ensure that they can reach their full potential, regardless of who they are, where they come from, or the circumstances into which they are born. Over 250 mayors, tribal leaders, and county executives across the country and the District of Columbia have accepted the MBK Community Challenge.

THE SIX MILESTONES OF THE MBK COMMUNITY CHALLENGE ARE ENSURING ALL:

1. Entering School Ready to Learn
2. Reading on Grade Level by 3rd Grade
3. Increase High School Graduation Rate
4. Increase Enrollment and Completion of Post-Secondary Education or Training
5. Ensure Access to Jobs and Valuable Work Experience
6. Fostering Community That Prevents Exposure to Violent Crime



MISSION • CORE BELIEFS • GOALS

MISSION

The My Brother's Keeper Network (MBK) is a coalition of public and private entities that work together to improve life outcomes for boys and young men of color by promoting internal agency policy review, mentoring, and by creating educational and employment opportunities.

CORE BELIEFS

Three core beliefs guide the My Brother's Keeper Network:

First: There are dedicated leaders and organizations that are successfully changing the life outcomes for boys and young men of color. However, they are lacking the infrastructure, support and resources needed to sustain their work and increase their efforts to scale.

Second: Long-term success requires a coordinated movement of leaders and organizations working together to advance shared goals.

Third: Boys and young men of color live within a system that was previously designed to discriminate based on race. As a result, we need to address this issue with race-based solutions that are strategic and targeted.

Based on these core beliefs, MBK will undertake the following interconnected strategies:

- Mentor Recruitment
- Strategic Communications
- Network Building
- Capacity Building

In taking this step, MBK intends to play a role that is currently unfilled in the broader landscape of organization participants who are engaged in seeking the advancement of boys and young men of color. MBK sees its role as furthering the collective efforts of its partner organizations. MBK is designed to provide coordination, resources and support to other entities who are working to achieve the MBK overarching goals. It will complement, but not duplicate, the work performed by existing groups (i.e. child and youth symposium workgroups and the Superintendent's TaskForce, etc.) that are working towards the same goals.

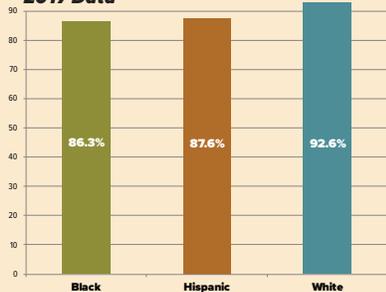
MBK NETWORK GOALS

- To create a network of agencies that are working together to achieve shared goals (MBK goals)
- To assist network agencies in assessing current program policies and practices that focus on improving outcomes for boys of color, in determining their effectiveness and provide recommendations, resources, and strategies for improvement
- To create a sustained initiative that increases the number of male mentors and structured activities that promote the achievement of MBK goals
- To promote systemic changes in order to improve the community's attitudes and practices toward boys and young men of color, and to strategically allocate public and private resources to enhance their educational and economic opportunities

MILESTONES

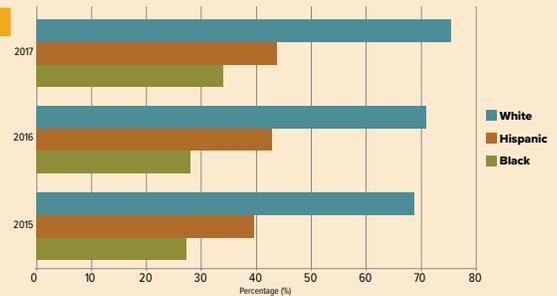
1 ENTERING SCHOOL READY TO LEARN

2017 Data



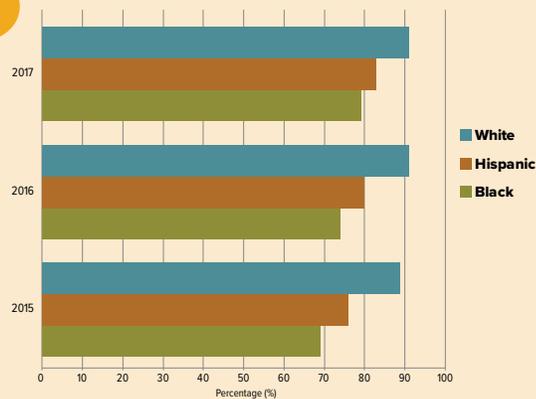
Source: School District of Palm Beach County, Department of Research & State Assessment Special Request 2017

2 READING ON GRADE LEVEL BY 3RD GRADE



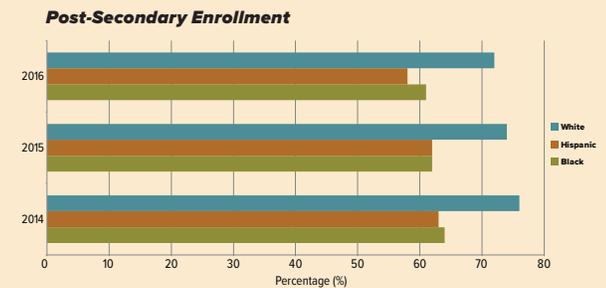
Source: School District of Palm Beach County, Department of Research & State Assessment Special Request 2017

3 INCREASE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE



Source: School District of Palm Beach County, Department of Research & State Assessment Special Request 2017

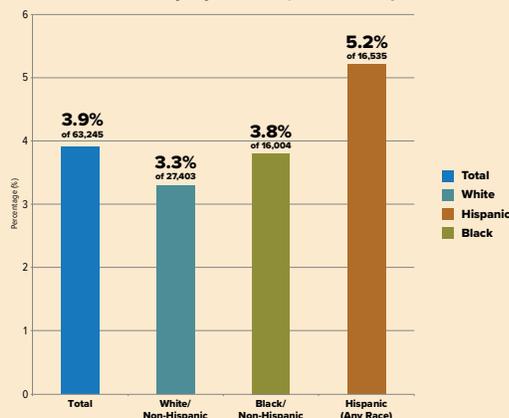
4 INCREASE ENROLLMENT AND COMPLETION OF POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION OR TRAINING



Source: School District of Palm Beach County, Department of Research & State Assessment Special Request 2017

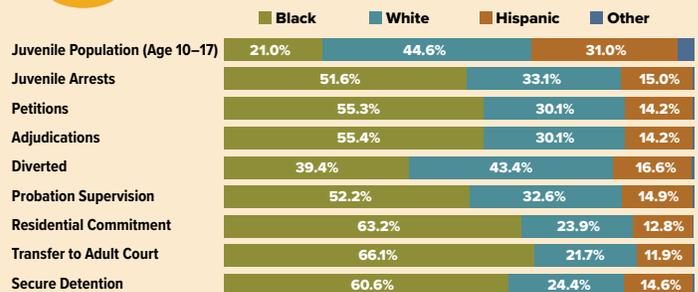
5 ENSURE ACCESS TO JOBS AND VALUABLE WORK EXPERIENCE

"Idle Youth" (Not working/not in school), Age 16-19, Palm Beach County, By Race/Hispanic Ethnicity, 2012-2016



Source: US Census Bureau, 2012-2016 American Community Survey, Table S0902 - 2012-2016 5-Year Estimate

6 FOSTERING COMMUNITY THAT PREVENTS EXPOSURE TO VIOLENT CRIME



Source: <http://www.djj.state.fl.us/research/reports/reports-and-data/interactive-data-reports/disproportionate-minority-contact-reports/amc-red-profile-fy-2016-17>



LISA WILLIAMS-TAYLOR
Chief Executive Officer
Children's Services Council
of Palm Beach County



TAMMY FIELDS
Director
Palm Beach County
Youth Services Department

A message from **LISA WILLIAMS-TAYLOR and TAMMY FIELDS**

Welcome to the **2019 Race to Equity Summit**, and thank you for participating!

In Palm Beach County, we recognize the importance of convening, connecting and collaborating to tackle the systemic barriers that restrict opportunities for communities of color. We are excited about the high-quality speakers, presenters and workshops on the agenda.

The theme this year is *Facing, Embracing and Leading with Equity*. That means examining systems, using a racial equity lens, and tackling head-on the challenges we see in government, education, health, labor, housing, social services and criminal justice. We look forward to intense discussions in the next two days about creative solutions to transform the lives of children, youth and young adults of color in Palm Beach County.

“Birth to 22: United for Brighter Futures” is the key alliance of major community partners in the county that supports the healthy growth, development and education of our children and youth prenatal through young adulthood, so that they can graduate from high school and succeed in life. As leaders of Birth to 22, we are committed to advancing equity and engaging other existing coalitions, networks and organizations that serve youth, as well as connecting with families, community members, and, most importantly, with local youth directly.

We know that’s why you’re here too. We encourage each of you to not just attend these sessions, but to soak up information and fresh perspectives, form new connections, and then get involved to strengthen the vital work.

Thank you for being here, and enjoy the Summit!



A message from
IKE POWELL III

Welcome to the 2019 Race to Equity Summit, and may this be an awesome engaging experience for you!

My Brother's Keeper (MBK) Network of Palm Beach County in partnership with the Birth to 22: United for Brighter Futures alliance of major community partners in the county is proud to convene this Summit to foster robust discussion on issues involving racial equity. Our goal throughout this Summit is aligned with the theme, ***Facing, Embracing and Leading with Equity.***

As a community, we recognize the vital importance of working collectively to address the systemic challenges that limit opportunity for communities of color. This work falls naturally within the scope of MBK and Birth to 22, two of Palm Beach County's initiatives dedicated to advancing equity for youth of color. Together, we know that advancing equity is the surest path to ensuring ALL of Palm Beach County's children, youth and young adults achieve optimal development and can fully contribute to the health and wealth of our community.

Thank you for your participation and enjoy the Summit!

Sincerely,

Ike Powell III

Task Force Leader

My Brother's Keeper Network of Palm Beach County

7:30 AM

Registration

8:30 – 8:45 AM

Opening Ceremony: Special Presentation

8:45 – 9:05 AM

Welcome & Acknowledgements

Ike Powell, My Brother's Keeper Network Palm Beach County
 Mayor Mack Bernard, Palm Beach County
 Verdenia Baker, Palm Beach County Administrator
 Tammy Fields, Director, PBC Youth Services Department
 Marsha Guthrie, Children's Services Council of PBC

9:05 – 9:10 AM

Introduction of Keynote Speaker Jane Elliott

James Green, Director, PBC Community Services Department

9:10 – 10:10 AM

Opening Plenary Keynote Speaker Address

Facing Systemic Inequities for Communities of Color: For more than 50 years, educator, lecturer, trainer and activist Jane Elliott has worked to eliminate white supremacy in our society. Most famous for the Blue Eyes & Brown Eyes Exercise, Ms. Elliott has led thousands of people through a brief experience of what it is like to be treated as a person of color in this country. In doing so, she has demonstrated how the notions of white superiority and anti-black racism that form the very core of America are harmful to all of us. Most recently, Ms. Elliott shared time with Jada Pinkett Smith and family during her Red Table Talk series to discuss the racial divide between Women of Color and White Women. Ms. Elliott's less than 7-minute appearance helped to make this episode go "viral." It currently has more than 8.3 million views, despite being limited to Facebook as its only platform for access. Ms. Elliott's keynote presentation focuses on understanding and deconstructing White privilege – speaking specifically to the experiences and responsibilities of White people to understand racism and to be involved and accountable in actively dismantling white supremacy. It will encourage participants to come to grips with the depth and breadth of the healing needed to address past and contemporary racial trauma, and how developing racial equity frameworks can be used to transform institutions, advance healing and support those who are building safe, healthy and thriving environments for all people, especially People of Color. The presentation will set the historical context for the work taking place at the Summit.

10:10 – 10:25 AM

Break

10:30 – 11:30 AM

Intersectionality and Racial Equity Part 1

Nikotris Perkins, Ubuntu Research & Evaluation, LLC
 Monique I. Liston, Ubuntu Research & Evaluation, LLC

Facing Intersectionality in Racial Equity (FIRE): Ubuntu Research and Evaluation, LLC is a professional learning community founded and run by Black women who use liberation and beloved community frameworks to evaluate, facilitate and strategize with individuals, organizations and communities. The team from Ubuntu will lead the Race to Equity Summit participants through an interactive 60-minute exercise that will define the concept of intersectionality, how it lives in us and our society, and why we must be astutely conscious of how we all show up in the work of building more equitable and just environments. FIRE is the first of two engagements with the Ubuntu team. This interactive activity will both allow us to reflect on the lessons shared by the keynote while also inviting us to more thoroughly examine our own biases as we move through and attempt to implement the many lessons learned throughout the Summit and our work to operationalize racial equity.

11:45 – 12:45 PM **Lunch**

1:00 – 2:15 PM **Breakout A Sessions**

Leaders of local, regional and national entities will share skills, tools, materials and lessons learned in 75-minute sessions of their own design. See descriptions below.

2:30 – 3:45 PM **Breakout B Sessions**

Leaders of local, regional and national entities will share skills, tools, materials and lessons learned in 75-minute sessions of their own design. See descriptions below.

4:00 – 5:00 PM **Intersectionality and Racial Equity Part 2**

Ubuntu Research & Evaluation, LLC

Embracing Intersectionality in Racial Equity (EIRE): In this second exercise, the Ubuntu team will lead the Summit participants through a process that will challenge them to not only be aware of the intersectional realities that they and their fellow participants present, but to also intentionally embrace these realities. Participants will publicly recognize the multiple ways that people identify themselves and show up; how those multiple identities contribute to the beauty, vitality and progress of our society; and brainstorm simple but effective ways that intersectionality can be built into racial equity frameworks and efforts they are implementing in their work.

Day 1 Breakouts A & B Session Descriptions (Session A, 1:00–2:15 PM | Session B 2:30–3:45 PM)

:: Culture Change ::

A.1: White People’s Anti-Racist Responsibilities

Jane Elliott will lead a deep dive exploration into the obligations that White people have in eliminating white supremacy and in building anti-racist environments that affirm and celebrate the many ethnic and cultural differences of people in our society.

Local: **Tammy Fields, PBC Youth Services Department;**
Gail Price Wise, Trainer

National: **Jane Elliott**

Moderator: **Julie Nelson, Race Forward,**
Government Alliance on Racial Equity

:: Health ::

A.2: Detain or Detox: The Opioid Crisis in Black and White

This session will examine the anti-black, racialized implications of the criminal justice strategies that were/are being used to address the “Crack Epidemic” that began in the 1980s, versus the public health approach being used to address the current “Opioid Crisis.” Presenters will share information about efforts being implemented in Palm Beach County—the challenges that a racialized system and culture of health care presents in the treatment of substance abuse in communities of color, and strategies being used to build trust in communities of color with the goal of ensuring greater use and access to treatment.

Local: **Alton Taylor, Drug Abuse Foundation**

National: **Ruben Castaneda, Journalist**

Moderator: **Lauren Zuchman, Be Well Initiative**

∴ **Education** ∴

A.3 & B.3: Race, Poverty and Educational Equity:

The New Institution Revolution There have been, and will continue to be, numerous versions of concepts and models of school reform since the 1950s. Current iterations focus on not just reforming but transforming public education systems. At the core of this notion of transformation is moving away from ideas of standardization in curricula to more individualized ways of instructing students. This session will explore how some school systems are designing and implementing racial equity plans in everything from how the central office is run to how children are instructed.

Local: **Patricia Trejo, School District of Palm Beach County;**
Dr. Carlos Diaz, Florida Atlantic University
National: **Deena Hayes Greene, Racial Equity Institute**
Moderator: **Lhisa Almashy, School District of Palm Beach County**

∴ **Economic Development** ∴

A.4: The Racial Equity Dividend: Leveraging Power Through Community Benefits Agreements (CBA)

Major economic development projects happening in urban areas can be opportunities for financial gain for the residents, as well as the developers leading the projects. This session will explore how CBAs can be used to leverage sustainable economic power for some low-income residents of neighborhoods where developers have been granted land and other public resources for developments that may or may not benefit the neighborhood's current residents.

Local: **Chuck Ridley, SEIU; Sherry Howard, Palm Beach County**
National: **Jerry Roberts, Employ Milwaukee**
Moderator: **Eric Kelly, Quantum Foundation**

∴ **Criminal Justice** ∴

A.5 & B.5: Reclaiming Justice through Community Empowerment and Social Responsibility

This is a conversation between community members and representatives from governmental and non-governmental organizations, who are also members of the community, exploring how to build stronger, more authentic community relationships that foster transparency and broader identity while holding institutions accountable and responsible for the joint roles “organizational reps” play in building community empowerment and social responsibility.

Local: **Alphonso Mayfield, SEIU; Suzette Harvey, Primetime PBC;**
Jane Tierney, Catalyst for Justice
National: **Shawna Davie, Government Alliance on Race and Equity**
Moderator: **Deandre Poole, Florida Atlantic University**

∴ **Culture Change** ∴

B.1: Reimagining the BMOG Space: Healing-informed Approaches to Working with Young People of Color

Efforts designed to create pathways to better life outcomes for boys and young men of color have grown in number in recent years. A large number of these efforts, however, use approaches that unintentionally promote unhealthy, dangerous patriarchal and white supremacist concepts that do more to harm communities of color, especially to people who identify as girls, women and gender non-conforming. This session will promote intersectional, gender-focused efforts that recognize that healing is a core element of work with youth of color.

Local: **C. Ron Allen, KOP Mentoring Network;**
Dr. Blaise Amendolace, Florida Atlantic University
National: **Dr. Monique Liston, Ubuntu Research**
Moderator: **E. Bomani Johnson, Emergent Pathways, LLC**

∴ **Culture Change** ∴

B.2: Defining the Struggle: Faith-Based Leaders Advancing Racial Justice within Their Communities

In neighborhoods throughout the country, local faith-based leaders are using intentionally anti-racist and anti-misogynist views, values and practices to build collective visions for justice with people in the areas served by their institutions. A few leaders will share their challenges and accomplishments in this session.

Local: **Rae Whitely, Minister;**
Rev. Dr. Robert L. Rease, St. John First Missionary Baptist Church
Pastor J.R. Thicklin, Destiny By Choice, Inc.
Moderator: **Barbara Cheives, Converge & Associates**

∴ **Criminal Justice** ∴

B.4: Racial Equity Meets Criminal Justice in Palm Beach County

In March of 2018, Palm Beach County's Criminal Justice Commission took an additional step in their journey towards racial equity in the local justice system by implementing the Racial and Ethnic Disparity (R.E.D.) Project. The CJC will describe the partnership with the W. Haywood Burns Institute, share the findings from its data analysis efforts and solicit recommendations from the community to remedy the inequities enumerated and the issues identified during the first year of the R.E.D. Project.

Local: **Angie Pagan, Criminal Defense Lawyers Association of PBC,**
R.E.D. Team
Adriana Lopez, State's Attorney, Hispanic Bar Association,
R.E.D. Team
National: **Christopher James, W. Haywood Burns Institute**
Moderator: **Kristina Henson, Criminal Justice Commission**

7:30 AM

Registration

8:30 – 8:40 AM

Special Performance

8:40 – 9:05 AM

Welcome/Day 1 Reflections/Remarks

Mayor Jeri Muoio, City of West Palm Beach
Marsha Guthrie, Children’s Services Council of PBC

9:05 – 10:35 AM

Day 2 Opening Plenary Panel

LaTosha Brown, Truthspeaks Consulting
Maria Torres-Lopez, Women’s March, FL
Desmond Meade, Florida Rights Restoration Coalition
Alphonso Mayfield, President SEIU-FPSU
Moderator: James Green, Director, PBC Community Services Department

Embracing Racial Equity via Political Power In accordance with the Summit theme — to intentionally embrace strategies using a racial equity lens to challenge reforms in our government, education, health, labor housing, social services and criminal justice systems — this panel will demonstrate how several aspects of the political process (voting, protesting, ballot initiatives and advocacy) can collectively and individually be used to build political power in marginalized communities throughout the South.

10:35 – 10:50 AM

Break

10:50 – 12:05 PM

Breakout C Sessions

Leaders of local, regional and national entities will share skills, tools, materials and lessons learned in 75-minute sessions of their own design. See descriptions below.

12:05 – 1:05 PM

Lunch

Remarks – Dr. Donald Fennoy II, Superintendent, Palm Beach County School District
Special Presentation – SaulPaul, “A Musician with a Message”

1:20 – 2:35 PM

Breakout D Sessions

Leaders of local, regional and national entities will share skills, tools, materials and lessons learned in 75-minute sessions of their own design. See descriptions below.

2:45 – 4:15 PM

Closing Plenary Panel

Judith Browne Dianis, Esq., Advancement Project
Dr. Robert Simmons, See Forever Foundation
Dr. Debra Robinson, Palm Beach County School Board
Patrick McNamara, Palm Health Foundation
Moderator: E. Bomani Johnson, Emergent Pathways, LLC

Disruptive Leadership: Strategic Approaches to Normalizing, Organizing and Operationalizing Racial Equity within your Organization Panel discussion with four leaders representing organizations that have racial equity as a core value and operationalize racial equity in their respective policies, practices and organizational cultures. The moderator and panelists will briefly share their personal and organizational journeys to leading with racial equity as they work to transform communities they serve. Panelists also will be asked to share their Self Care journeys as key voices in this work.

4:15 – 4:30 PM

Closing Ceremony

Empowerment Speaker – Coretta Talbot, Coretta Speaks Life

Closing Remarks

Day 2 Breakout C & D Session Descriptions (Session C 10:50–12:05 PM | Session D 1:20–2:35 PM)

:: Health ::

C.1 & D.1: A Culture of Stigma: Addressing Mental Health Challenges in the Black Community

Understanding the prevalence of trauma, and trauma-induced mental health conditions in Black communities has received increased attention in recent years. But has this recognition helped to reduce the stigma related to seeking support for mental health? This session will focus on how mental health issues are addressed/and not addressed in Black communities.

Local: **Jeanette Marshall, Healthier Neighbors;**
Dr. Manny Gonzalez, Florida Atlantic University
National/State: **Eddy Regnier, Ph.D., Argosy University at Sarasota**
Moderator: **Seth Bernstein, United Way of PBC**

:: Health ::

C.2 & D.2: Black Health Matters: Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health Care by Confronting Racism

How to use race-based strategies to address historic and contemporary inequities in how doctors diagnosis and implement treatment when their patients are Black. This session also will discuss high rates of stress-induced medical conditions, infant mortality rates, and Black women’s sexual and reproductive health. Lastly, the session will address the impacts of racial disparities on overall health and wellness by examining the intersections of housing and community development and their impacts on health.

Local: **Dr. Lisa Williams Taylor, Children’s Services Council of PBC**
National: **Sarah Norman, NeighborWorks**
Dr. Joia Perry, National Birth Equity Collaborative
Moderator: **Abigail Goodwin, Palm Health Foundation**

:: Health ::

C.3: Racism and Social Emotional Wellness: What’s the Charge, What’s the Cost

The prevalence of systemic racism in our society means that it is active even when there are no identifiable, overtly heinous acts being perpetrated. From the constant stress plaguing communities of color and related mental and physical health conditions, to the economic strain on society created by centuries of discriminatory laws and practices, to White people supporting candidates and ideas that are harmful to themselves, the impacts of racism are ultimately harmful to all people. This session will attempt

to answer the question, “What are the true costs of operating with core values based in the notion of a racial hierarchy?” This session builds on self-awareness by acknowledging implicit bias, mindfulness, self-management, social awareness.

Local: **Dr. Alina Alonso, Florida Dept. of Health Palm Beach County;**
Sheree Wolliston, American Heart Association
National: **Dr. Joie Perry, National Birth Equity Collaborative**
Moderator: **E. Bomani Johnson, Emergent Pathways, LLC**

:: Cultural Change ::

C.4: Social Justice is Beautiful: The Arts and Community Change

Throughout history music, dance, drama, storytelling, visual and other genre of art have been used not only to express the beauty and majesty of people throughout the world, but also as practical tools to survive the man-made atrocities that result in human suffering. This session will explore ways that the arts, as a natural means of cultural expression, are used as a catalyst to mobilize change against harmful political, economic and social conditions and to build a Beloved Community throughout our society.

Local: **Dr. Alisha Winn**
National: **LaTosha Brown, Truthspeaks Consulting**
Moderator: **Charlene Farrington, Spady Museum**

:: Economic Development ::

C.5 & D.5: Opportunity for Whom? Race, Equity & Inclusion in Responsible Economic Development

Community development and redevelopment efforts happening in urban areas throughout the country often result in low-income people of color being displaced due to the increased costs of living in these areas. This session investigates the benefits and losses in community redevelopment processes nationally and locally.

Local: **Sara Selznick, THRIVE Delray Beach**
National: **Cheryl Washington**
Moderator: **James Green, PBC Community Services**

continued on next page >

:: Education ::

C.6: Education or Indoctrination? Curriculum, Instruction and Racial Equity A required aspect of any effective work in building a culture of racial equity is acknowledgment of the existence of white supremacy in our history and the harms that have been perpetrated in building a society anchored on the notion of a racial hierarchy. Schools, however, teach myths about the founding and growth of America that distorts, revises and/or omits the truth. Seasoned educators (in and out of the classroom) will share their experiences how truth telling can be used as a tool for community healing and to adequately prepare our children for the future.

Local: **Brian Knowles, School District of Palm Beach County;**
Keith Oswald, School District of Palm Beach County
 National: **Dr. Robert Simmons III, See Forever Foundation**
 Moderator: **Nikki Martin-Bynum, Martin Bynum Consulting Group**

:: Cultural Change ::

D.3: Immigration and Allyship: Building Solidarity and Advancing Social Justice for Migrant Youth of Color The number of immigrants entering the United States has been relatively flat in recent years, and the claims of heightened illegal activity committed by immigrant populations have proven to be false. Yet the criminalization of immigrants of color has been central to local, state and national political campaigns; the plots of big budget movies and television shows; and coverage in print, network and internet news outlets. Since the 2016 presidential campaign, reports of violent, anti-immigrant criminal behavior has skyrocketed. This session will highlight work happening in Palm Beach County and throughout Florida to build positive attitudes and safe spaces for immigrant youth of color that promote their full humanity and rights.

Local: **Isabel Sousa-Rodriguez, Florida Immigrant Coalition**
 National: **Judith Browne Dianis, Esq., Advancement Project**
 Moderator: **Heather Tate-Boldt, El Sol**

:: Criminal Justice ::

D.4: Adverse Community Experiences: Building Resilience through Healing-Centered Engagement for Communities Traumatized by Violence This session will explore how natural, community-based support and healing networks have developed, and are helping some communities that have a history of violence find means for collective healing and growth.

Local: **Dr. Twila Taylor, PBC Youth Services Department**
Ricky Aiken, Inner City Innovators
 National: **Dwayne Bryant, Inner Vision International**
 Moderator: **Kevin Jones, Mayor's Village Initiative, City of West Palm Beach**

:: Culture Change ::

D.6: Making the Uncommon Common: Shifting Narratives to Center the Realities of People of Color The “policing” and subsequent criminalization of the daily activities of non-white people is a central theme of the history of the United States. Lying at the root of these injustices are inaccurate narratives and attitudes of Black people that fuel racist policies and practices, hashtagged as “Living while Black.” This session will focus on practical tools and experiences that both build and promote accurate narratives of Black people and other People of Color, while dismantling harmful messages, attitudes and cultures that often lead to violent results.

Local: **Jervonte Edmonds, Suits for Seniors;**
Leontyne Brown, salt513
 National: **Desmond Meade, Florida Rights Restoration Coalition**
 Moderator: **Gail Sherman, Palm Beach County School District**



SPEAKERS AND PANELISTS

Ricky Aiken



Ricky Aiken is the founder of Inner City Innovators, a movement aimed at providing indigenous leadership and innovative yet collaborative solutions to the problems facing the Inner City. As a product of the Inner City of West Palm Beach, he strives to use his life-story and social capital to bring positive transformation to his community. Through his movement, Mr. Aiken led multiple anti-violence protests and initiatives to end gun violence that plagued his community and instill hope in the residents who live there. Inner City Innovators was one of many key contributors to West Palm Beach's very first "Summer of Peace."

C. Ron Allen



C. Ron Allen is a highly respected newsman who is President and CEO of CRA Media Group, the parent company of the Delray Beach Tribune and a media relations firm. An award-winning journalist, he previously worked 24 years as a reporter for the Sun-Sentinel newspaper. During his tenure, he was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize and inducted into the Black Journalists Hall of Fame. Mr. Allen has delivered numerous keynotes, panel discussions, coaching sessions and workshops focused on helping businesses grow the bottom line through sales & leadership training, succession planning, change management, talent retention and communications.

He has nearly single-handedly been the lifeline for more than 600 children over the past 28 years.

Few in South Florida are unfamiliar with C. Ron and his KOP Mentoring Network, formerly Knights of Pythagoras Mentoring Network (www.kopmn.org). Many think they know his story, a veteran journalist, who started the organization in 1991 to pull wayward youth off the streets in southern Palm Beach County. But they really don't know how hard he works, uses much of his own funds, and spends most of his time trying to educate and enlighten, oftentimes forsaking his own personal needs.

To date, more than 800 students have participated in the KOP mentoring program, and more than 4,000 have been impacted indirectly. More than 250 of them are in or have graduated from college, 15 are in the armed forces, three are athletic coaches, two are serving in the U.S. Job Corps, one with the U.S. Peace Corps and one is employed with the U.S. Border Patrol.

Mr. Allen retired after 30 years with the Navy Reserve. In the early 1990s, he led members of his unit to adopt an elementary school and childcare center in Dade County. They also developed a mentoring program and donated a trailer, which they later transformed into a literacy center.

In October 2013, the Palm Beach County School District approved his charter for Eagle Arts Academy School of the Arts, a K-8 performance and production arts school in Wellington. The school opened in August 2014.

In August 2015, he launched the South Florida Oratorical Academy and an Entrepreneur's Academy to improve the mastery of the community's youth public speaking and entrepreneurial skills. The following year, he launched a Financial Literacy academy and a STEAM academy. Today, that academy has become STRE2AM2 (Science, Technology, Reading, Engineering, Entrepreneurship, the Arts, Mathematics and Medicine), and involves partnerships with Florida Atlantic University, Delray Beach Public Library, Capital One, the Arts Garage and Airbus of Americas.

In the summer of 2016, he was notified that his team of grassroots change agents were finalists in the development round of "XQ: The Super School Project," a national competition aimed at redesigning how high school is taught in South Florida. Five winners each received a \$10 million grant to help them implement their innovative idea.

This summer he launched the Summer Enrichment Academy, which demonstrated how to improve student engagement, increase academic rigor, and create a climate and culture that leads to success for all learners.

In other words, he created an environment that exemplifies everything he believes that a mentoring program should be.

Lhisa Renee Almashy



Lhisa Almashy is a 25-year veteran teacher and trainer in Palm Beach County. She is currently the Cultural Competency Program Planner for The School District of Palm Beach County. She is also a consultant and facilitates Cultural Competency and Diversity workshops as well as trainings designed to aid prevention of sexual harassment and violence in the workplace. She has worked with The National Urban Alliance and The Southern Poverty Law Center as a mentor, teacher, consultant and advisory board member.

Ms. Almashy previously taught ESOL and Cultural Diversity classes at Nova University and now teaches the online endorsement classes through the School District of Palm Beach County and The Schultz Center for Education. She has presented at local, state and national conferences such as Palm Beach County's Annual Culture and Language Conference, PBTESOL, Sunshine State TESOL, CATESOL, NABE, NAALS and NABSE.

Ms. Almashy holds a Master of Arts degree in TESOL from the University of San Francisco and is currently a doctoral student at Vanderbilt University.

She won the esteemed Dwyer Award for Special Programs in 2009 and the Governor's Award for Excellence in Education for the State of Florida as well as The Hispanic Teacher of the Year Award for Palm Beach County in 2010. Lhisa earned national recognition with The 2013 Teaching Tolerance Award for Excellence in Culturally Responsive Teaching.

Alina Alonso, M.D.



Dr. Alina Alonso has been serving the medically underserved in Palm Beach County through the Health Department since 1989. As the Director since 2009, she oversees the operations of one of the largest county health departments in the state. She has extensive training with communicable and emergent diseases and a passion for a healthy community with equity for every resident and visitor.

Dr. Alonso earned her Bachelor of Science degree from Barry University with a major in biology. She pursued her medical career as a 1984 graduate of the foreign medical school, Universidad Autonoma de Ciudad Juarez in Mexico. She is a diplomat of the American Board of Family Practice, a member of the Palm Beach County Medical Society and the Chair of the Palm Healthcare Foundation Board of Directors. She is also a commissioner at the Health Care District Board.

Dr. Alonso is an Affiliate Assistant Professor of Family Medicine at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine. She serves on the faculty for Nova Southeastern University, Health Professions Division as Clinical Assistant Professor and for Florida Atlantic University Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine as Affiliate Associate Professor. She is an Administrative Faculty Advisor for Keiser University. Finally, she serves as the institutional officer for the Preventive Medicine/Public Health Residency Program at the Florida Department of Health in Palm Beach training and mentoring future public health leaders.

She has won numerous awards and recognition, such as Executive Women of the Palm Beaches 2009 award in the Public Sector,

Cardinal New High School Alumni Legacy Award in 2013 and the Palm Beach County Medical Society Hero in Medicine Physician of the Year in 2016. She has published and co-authored numerous publications during her career which have been used to improve the quality of life in Palm Beach County.

In addition to her Public Health responsibilities, Dr. Alonso combines her Cuban heritage and her experience and training in Mexico and Central America to stay active in minority health issues, patient's rights advocacy, cultural diversity, health equity, and population health. Her favorite pastime is snorkeling and scuba diving off the Florida Keys and the Bahamas Islands with her two sons.

Blaise Amendolace, Psy.D.



Dr. Amendolace is the Interim Director at Florida Atlantic University's Counseling & Psychological Services. He is a licensed psychologist, anti-racist, and current trainer with the Racial Equity Institute based out of Greensboro, North Carolina. As a counselor and educator, Blaise strives to integrate social justice and equity issues into his work to aid individuals and institutions in becoming more compassionate and supportive of one another. His areas of specialty include: trauma/abuse survivors, racial equity, counseling center administration, therapeutic personality assessment, and group counseling.

Blaise has devoted much of his life to working with marginalized populations. During his time as an undergraduate student at Florida State University, he worked at Capital City Youth Services' Someplace Else shelter program which provided short-term housing and guidance for at-risk youth. Blaise then joined Dr. John C. Brigham's research lab, and completed an undergraduate thesis exploring the Own-Race Bias. As a graduate student at Florida Institute of Technology, Blaise worked for three years at The Family Learning Program, one of 14 state-funded sexual abuse treatment programs in Florida. In addition, Blaise is an author, supervisor, consultant, and advocate for the prevention of childhood maltreatment.

Seth Bernstein, Psy.D.



Dr. Seth Bernstein is a Licensed Psychologist and an expert in behavioral and mental health prevention and intervention. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Maryland at College Park, obtained his Doctorate of Psychology degree from the Florida Institute of Technology, and is a Certified Addictions Professional.

Dr. Bernstein is currently the Senior Vice President of Community Investments at United Way of Palm Beach County, where he helps determine how to invest donor dollars into vital community organizations. Prior to working for United Way, he served as the Staff Psychologist and Director of Community Engagement at Boys Town South Florida, directing several evidence-based programs in communities and schools throughout Palm Beach County.

Dr. Bernstein is on the Advisory Board of South University's Mental Health Graduate Program in West Palm Beach. He also serves on the Juvenile Justice Board, the Steering Committees of the Palm Beach County Action Alliance for Mental Health, Birth to 22—United for Brighter Futures, and Healthier Delray Beach. He is the Vice-Chair for the Palm Beach County School Health Advisory Committee and Community Chair of the Wellness Promotion Task Force. Nationally, Dr. Bernstein serves as an advisory board member of the Center for School Mental Health at the University of Maryland at Baltimore and is a member of the Mental Health Education Interdisciplinary Consortium. In addition, Dr. Bernstein is a published author who regularly presents at state, national, and international conferences on topics related to prevention and early intervention services and support systems for children and families.

Dr. Bernstein has received numerous awards and recognitions for his extensive efforts to improve the lives of people throughout our community. He lives in Delray Beach with his wife of 25 years and their two sons.

LaTosha Brown



LaTosha Brown is an award-winning organizer, philanthropic consultant, political strategist and jazz singer with over twenty years of experience working in the non-profit and philanthropy sectors on a wide variety of issues related to political empowerment, social justice, economic development, leadership development, wealth creation and civil rights.

Ms. Brown is the co-founder of Black Voters Matter Fund, a civic engagement organization that played an instrumental role in the highly publicized 2017 Alabama U.S. Senate race. She is also Principal Owner of TruthSpeaks Consulting, Inc., a professional facilitation and philanthropy advisory consulting business.

For more than 25 years, Ms. Brown served as a consultant and advisor for individual donors, government, various public foundations and private donors. Most recently, she was Director of Grantmakers for Southern Progress, a funder working group of the Neighborhood Funders Group (NFG) committed to facilitating and increasing investment dollars towards structural change efforts.

She is a founding member of the Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors' Gulf Coast Fund for Community Renewal and Ecological Health and also served as fund's first Executive Director. Under her leadership the Gulf Coast Fund gained national recognition, created strategic national partnerships and distributed over \$6 million in re-granting dollars for community and coastal organizations in the gulf coast region.

As a native of Alabama, Ms. Brown has dedicated her life's work towards organizing resources and supporting the development of community-based institutions in the South, particularly in the Black Belt and Gulf Coast regions. She is the founder of Saving OurSelves Coalition, the Southern Black Women Organizing Project and the Southern Black Girls & Women's Consortium. She serves as a board member for the National Coalition on Black Civic Engagement and the Southern Documentary Fund and is an active member of several national and international organizations.

Ms. Brown is the recipient of several national awards including the 2006 Redbook Magazine Spirit and Strength Award, 2007 Spirit of Democracy Award from the National Coalition on Black Civic Participation, the Louis E. Burnham Award for Human Rights, the 2008 Emory Business School MLK Service Award, 2010 Audubon Award and 2011 White House Champion of Change Award. Ms. Brown currently lives in Atlanta, Georgia.

Leontyne Brown



Leontyne Brown is an award-winning marketing executive with a proven record of achievement in integrated marketing and communications, strategy development, branding, national advertising, and public relations. She is the founder of salt513, a boutique advertising and communications agency.

Her clients include many of the world's most recognizable brands including the City of West Palm Beach, Truth Anti-Tobacco Campaign, Coca Cola, Sprite®, Honey Nut Cheerios, Bacardi USA, Toyota USA, CVS Pharmacy Stores, Ralph Lauren, and Nike's flagship Brand Jordan. Ms. Brown has also worked as a consultant with the Democratic National Committee.

Ms. Brown's pro-bono marketing, communications and political advocacy work includes her consultation on the first- and second-term elections for President Barack Obama.

In 2014, Ms. Brown launched a strategic social media outreach program Pretty Girls Vote that has been instrumental in engaging and educating voters on local, state, and national issues. The program

encourages political involvement among women with a focus on women of color.

To change the media narrative and coverage of African-American participation in local protests after a series of police-involved shootings, Ms. Brown and a childhood friend organized over 10,000 college-educated, professional African-American men and women across the U.S. to participate in peaceful, social impact demonstrations and protests in 16 U.S. cities that received national attention. The group remains active, bringing attention to civil right injustices as well as political and economic disparities in the U.S..

Ms. Brown is a member of several local and national organizations, including Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., The League of Women Voters, Executive Board Member of the Black Chamber of the Palm Beaches, Women's Chamber of Palm Beach County, Florida A&M Alumni Association, and ADCOLOR Team Member.

She has received a number of awards and accolades including two Effie Awards, the American Advertising Federation Award, the Multicultural Excellence Award from the Association of National Advertisers (ANA), the Florida A&M Distinguished Alumni Award, and Legacy Magazine 40 Under 40 Honoree, 2018 NCBW 100 HERSTORY Award, and was a nominee for the 2018 Everyday Hero Award.

Dwayne Bryant



Dwayne Bryant is an internationally renowned author, motivational speaker and TV personality known for his high-energy, witty personality. Founder and CEO of Inner Vision International, Inc., Mr. Bryant fuels audiences by sharing his credo of hard work, perseverance, integrity, and applied faith, which are the

keys to his success. He is sought after by corporations, nonprofits and academic institutions for his proven ability to offer step-by-step resources to audiences on how to unlock their unlimited power. Mr. Bryant has conducted keynote address, workshops, conferences, town halls, fundraiser hosting, and appeared on multiple television shows including The Oprah Winfrey Show and Know Your Heritage.

Mr. Bryant authored The Vision®, a series of 21 Social Emotional Learning educational curricula, as well as the book The STOP: Improving Police and Community Relations. He has also produced numerous DVDs on his mission to motivate individuals, especially youth, around the world.

Mr. Bryant graduated from Florida International University with dual degrees in business finance and international business.

Barbara I. Cheives



Barbara Cheives is the President and CEO of Converge & Associates Consulting. Converge specializes in race and ethnic relations consulting, employee relations and community engagement. Converge has developed a training niche in Cultural Competency, Implicit Bias, Respectful Communication in the Workplace and Workplace Bullying and Harassment. Their client base includes government entities; law enforcement and public safety; not for profit organizations; media; education; and corporations.

Among the organizations that Barbara has provided training for are International Speedway Corporation; Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office; Palm Beach County and Broward County Children's Services Councils; Florida Department of Juvenile Justice; The City of West Palm Beach; Planned Parenthood of Palm Beach and the Treasure Coast plus numerous municipalities and non-profit organizations.

Additionally, Barbara is a Trained Mediator; a certified Ethics Trainer with the Palm Beach State College Center for Applied Ethics; a national trainer for NeighborWorks America; a Senior Associate for Everyday Democracy in Hartford, CT; and a trainer with the Racial Equity Institute in Greensboro, NC.

Barbara's community appointments include Past Chair of the Palm Beach County Criminal Justice Commission. She served on the West Palm Beach Mayor's Transition Team where she chaired Neighborhood Improvement and Community Outreach. She was also appointed as a Commissioner to the statewide 2007 Blueprint Commission for the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice.

She serves on the National Board of the Institute of Community Peace in Washington, DC, and on the board of The Lord's Place in Palm Beach County (an agency dedicated to breaking the cycle of homelessness). She is Past President of National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc. West Palm Beach Chapter and the Co-Chair of the Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church Social Justice Ministry. Barbara is an alumna of Leadership Palm Beach County, from the Class of 2002.

Judith Browne Dianis



Judith Browne Dianis has an extensive background in civil rights litigation and advocacy in the areas of voting, education, housing and employment. After serving as Managing Attorney in the Washington, DC, office of the NAACP Legal Defense & Educational Fund, Inc., Ms. Dianis joined Advancement Project at its inception to dismantle the school-to-prison pipeline. She currently

serves as its Co-Director and is on the frontlines in fighting against restrictions on early voting, state photo ID requirements, limits on voter registration and other laws designed to suppress the voting rights of people of color, the elderly, youth and the disabled.

Ms. Dianis filed pioneering litigation against the State Maryland for failure to enforce the Motor Voter law. She represented the NAACP and disenfranchised African-American Floridians in 2000. Ms. Dianis helped stop Florida's use of an erroneous felon purge list in 2004, and served as counsel against the RNC that ended illegal challenges against voters of color. In 2008, Dianis represented the Virginia NAACP in litigation to eliminate racial disparities in the allocation of voting machines. She also worked tirelessly to protect survivors of Hurricane Katrina by filing critical litigation on behalf of displaced survivors and working to stop the exploitation of immigrant reconstruction workers.

Ms. Dianis has authored groundbreaking reports including *Derailed: The Schoolhouse to Jailhouse Track*, and partnered with grassroots organizations that led to significant declines of arrests and suspensions of students. She is a Convener of the Forum for Education and Democracy and serves on the Board of the 21st Century Foundation and FairTest.

Ms. Dianis graduated from Columbia University School of Law. She served as a Tobias Simon Eminent Scholar at Florida State University Law School and is currently an Adjunct Professor of Law at Georgetown University Law Center. She was named one of the "Thirty Women to Watch" by *Essence* magazine and has written and commented extensively in the media about race issues.

Dr. Joia Crear-Perry



Dr. Crear-Perry is the Founder and President of the National Birth Equity Collaborative. Recently, she addressed the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to urge a human rights framework to improve maternal mortality. Previously, she served as the Executive Director of the Birthing Project, Director of Women's and Children's Services at Jefferson Community Healthcare Center and as the Director of Clinical Services for the City of New Orleans Health Department.

After receiving her bachelor's trainings at Princeton University and Xavier University, Dr. Crear-Perry completed her medical degree at Louisiana State University and her residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at Tulane University's School of Medicine. She was also recognized as a Fellow of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

Dr. Crear-Perry currently serves on the Advisory Committee of the Black Mamas Matter Alliance, Principal at Health Equity Cypher and on the Board of Trustees for Community Catalyst, National Medical Association, and the New Orleans African American Museum. She received the Congressional Black Caucus Healthcare Hero's award and the Maternal Health Task Force at Harvard University Global Visionary Award for Commitment to Advancing Women's Health.

Dr. Crear-Perry is married to Dr. Andre Perry and has three children.

Shawna Davie



Shawna Davie is the Government Alliance on Race and Equity (GARE) South and East Regional Project Manager at the new Race Forward. The new Race Forward is the union of two leading racial justice non-profit organizations: Race Forward and Center for Social Inclusion (CSI).

Ms. Davie's career began with the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Mississippi as a community organizer and lobbyist, where her work focused on reproductive health and justice, youth development, and juvenile justice.

Ms. Davie founded and served as executive director of Alignment Jackson at United Way of the Capital Area in Jackson, MS. She also directed United Way's education initiative, a project that increased graduation rates dramatically and improved third grade literacy scores district-wide by 15 percent.

Prior to joining the new Race Forward, Ms. Davie lead efforts to develop strategic relationships and implement internal operations while contributing to strategy development in Healthy Communities for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

Ms. Davie holds a BA in English from Jackson State University and earned her MPA from Baruch College, City University of New York (CUNY).

Jervonte Edmonds



Jervonte Edmonds is the Founder and CEO of Suits for Seniors, a youth preparedness program.

Mr. Edmonds received his degree in political science at Florida Atlantic University, where he was President of Progressive Black Men (PBM), and appointed as a Leadership Ambassador on behalf of the university.

Throughout his lifetime, Mr. Edmonds has championed the rights of minorities, women, the elderly, children, those incarcerated and

homeless by advocating for education and leadership. He serves as the President of Palm Beach Young Black Progressives as well as being a member of the City of Delray Beach Board of Education, the Engagement Director for New Leaders Council Palm Beach, board member to Sequel's Palm Beach Youth Academy, member of Leadership Palm Beach County, and Legacy's 40 under 40 today and tomorrow 2018 Honoree.

Jane Elliott



Jane Elliott is an internationally known teacher, lecturer and diversity trainer. As an anti-racism activist, feminist, and LGBT activist, Ms. Elliott works to expose prejudice and bigotry. She is perhaps best known for her 1968 Blue-Eyes/Brown-Eyes Exercise that is the forerunner of diversity training.

She is the recipient of the National Mental Health Association Award for Excellence in Education.

Charlene Farrington



Charlene Farrington manages and oversees the programming of Expanding and Preserving Our Cultural Heritage, Inc. and the Spady Cultural Heritage Museum, located in the historic West Settlers' District of Delray Beach, Florida.

Under her leadership since 2012, the museum has implemented a consistently high quality exhibition schedule, strengthened relationships with stakeholders across the board, increased revenue and redefined its cultural programs and events. As a result, in 2014, the Spady Cultural Heritage Museum was awarded the prestigious Muse Award: Chair's Choice, presented by the Cultural Council of Palm Beach County, and the Florida Preservation Award for the "preservation of Florida's rich history," presented by the Florida Trust for Historic Preservation.

Ms. Farrington earned her bachelor's in business administration from Mercer University. She is a recent graduate of the Jim Moran Institute for Global Entrepreneurship, sits on the board of the Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce, is co-president of the South Florida branch of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History, and is a member of the Delray Beach chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.

Ms. Farrington has two children.

Dr. Donald E. Fennoy II



Dr. Donald E. Fennoy II is the 26th Superintendent of Schools for the School District of Palm Beach County. The District is the 10th largest district in the country with a student enrollment of more than 193,000 students. Prior to his appointment as Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Fennoy served as the District's Chief Operating Officer.

Dr. Fennoy graduated from Florida A&M University with a degree in elementary education. He went on to earn a master's degree in educational leadership, and a doctorate in educational leadership and administration from the University of Central Florida.

He and his wife Kendra are the proud parents of two children.

Tammy K. Fields



Tammy K. Fields is the Director of the Youth Services Department (YSD) for Palm Beach County. As Director, she oversees a wide range of services for youth including behavioral healthcare, Summer Programs, Youth Violence Prevention Programs, education and employment opportunities, and coordination with community providers.

Ms. Fields co-chairs the Birth to 22: United for Brighter Futures collaboration consisting of over 100 youth-serving organizations dedicated to the health growth, development and education of Palm Beach County youth.

Prior to joining YSD, Ms. Fields served in the Palm Beach County Attorney's Office for over 25 years.

Abigail "Abby" Goodwin



Abigail "Abby" Goodwin is the Vice President, Grants and Community Investments at Palm Health Foundation. She leads the foundation's grantmaking activities, supporting effective, impactful health-related networks for Palm Beach County.

For over 10 years, Abby led a direct service program supporting refugees and survivors of torture and a federally funded technical assistance program to develop and enhance responses to support highly traumatized immigrant populations nationally. Abby joined the College of Nursing & Health Sciences at FIU as Director of Research before moving to the Executive Director role at the Achievement Centers for Children & Families Foundation in Delray Beach to support the agency's fundraising and program development efforts.

James Green



James Green is currently director of the Palm Beach County Community Services Department, where he leads the county's efforts in an array of programs for senior citizens, veterans, low-income residents and the farmworker population. He recently engaged leaders from various sectors to begin developing a comprehensive plan to end homelessness and reduce poverty in Palm Beach County.

Previously, Mr. Green served as director of the Outreach and Community Programming (OCP) division of the Palm Beach County Youth Services Department, where he was a lead strategist in the development of a cradle-to-career countywide youth master plan called Birth to 22: United for Brighter Futures. He also led the My Brother's Keeper Network in the implementation of a local action plan that outlined strategies to recruit mentors, review internal policies and create economic opportunities for boys and young men of color. In February of 2017, Mr. Green worked with community leaders to host a Racial Equity conference to address racial disparities within the county's healthcare, criminal justice, education and employment systems.

He is the former program director for the Palm Beach County Community Action Agency (CAA) that received the 2014 Florida Association for Community Action, Inc. Agency of the Year Award for assisting the greatest number of families and individuals to achieve economic independence and self-sufficiency.

Mr. Green is a Six Sigma Green Belt, Nationally Certified Results Oriented Management Accountability Trainer and a Standards of Excellence Peer Reviewer (Based on the Malcolm Baldrige Model). He is native of Prattville, AL, and received his BA degree from Auburn University. He completed his graduate studies at Palm Beach Atlantic University and is currently a doctoral student at Florida Atlantic University.

Mr. Green is an active member of Omega Psi Phi, Fraternity, Inc., leader for the Black Street Alliance Investment Group and a mentor for African American boys in the Omega Lamplighters Program.

He is a devoted husband and father of two daughters.

Marsha Guthrie



Marsha Guthrie is a Community Planning & Partnerships Officer Lead with the Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County (CSC) where her work focuses on community planning, partnership development and new initiative resource exploration and management. Ms. Guthrie provides leadership to Palm Beach County's Birth to 22: United for Brighter Futures collec-

tive impact effort and plays a key role in advancing its racial equity systems' transformation work.

Previously, Ms. Guthrie was Program Officer in System Performance at CSC, where she was instrumental in leading the Council's Strategy Review and Allocation Analysis process, aimed at refining its existing system of care to achieve child outcomes. She also led the exploration, development and implementation of CSC's placed-based initiative BRIDGES that focuses on improving child health and well-being outcomes within at-risk Palm Beach County communities.

Ms. Guthrie holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in sociology from Montclair State University.

Deena Hayes-Greene



Deena Hayes-Greene is the Co-Founder and Managing Director of the Racial Equity Institute (REI). Ms. Hayes-Greene's work includes serving as a racial equity consultant, trainer and organizer with an analytical focus on the structure and impacts of race and racism on systems, institutions, and organizations.

Ms. Hayes-Greene began her work with the People's Institute for Survival and Beyond. She has presented keynote speeches, workshops, and seminars across the nation to organizations interested in addressing and eliminating racial and ethnic inequities. She is also an organizing member of the Guilford Anti-Racist Alliance.

Previously, she served as a Human Relations Commissioner for the City of Greensboro. She also served on several boards including the Guilford Gang Commission, the Ole Asheboro Street Neighborhood Association, and chair for the International Civil Rights Center and Museum. Ms. Hayes-Greene Deena was elected for four terms to the Guilford County School Board where she chaired the Achievement Gap Committee, the Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) Advisory Committee and the School Safety/Gang Education Committee.

Ms. Hayes-Greene received the Diversity Advocate of the Year award in 2013 at the Minority Enterprise Development Conference.

Kristina Henson



Kristina Henson is the Executive Director of the Palm Beach County Criminal Justice Commission. Her additional work experience includes the State Attorney's Office in Orlando and the Department of Community Control for the Broward Sheriff's Office (BSO).

Ms. Henson has a record of successful jail population control through expanding pretrial release and creating community-based programs

that protect public safety. She has worked on all facets of the criminal justice system from law enforcement, courts, corrections, and crime prevention. She has extensive experience in strategic planning, data-driven policy planning, and building partnerships among agencies to improve the criminal justice process and prevent crime.

A native Floridian, Ms. Henson holds a master's degree in political science from the University of Central Florida and a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Florida Atlantic University.

Sherry Howard



Sherry Howard has been in charge of Palm Beach County's economic development programs since January 2010. As Deputy Director of the Department of Housing and Economic Sustainability (DHES), Sherry manages the county's efforts to promote business development opportunities through public-private partnerships to implement business recruitment, expansion and retention. She currently oversees all business programs, including \$35M in loan programs, industrial development bonds, tax exemptions and incentives.

Additionally, during the same period, Sherry has directed County allocations for affordable housing and community redevelopment infrastructure projects. Over the last three years, over 2,500 affordable housing units have been rehabilitated, hurricane hardened, or newly constructed, leveraging more than \$74M in private development costs, and \$37M in infrastructure investments have been implemented. More than \$5.1M has been provided to public services and emergency shelter for 22,000 county residents, and \$6M was utilized from these grants to construct the County's first homeless resource center.

With over 20 years in county government service, Sherry served previously as the County's Legislative Coordinator, advocating legislation with Federal, State and local officials, and as Assistant Scripps Program Manager, serving as a liaison between the Board of County Commissioners, the Governor's Office, Scripps personnel and the public. Her problem-solving and cost-cutting skills, used in collaboration with county departments, have earned her two Golden Palm awards, which represents the County Administrator's highest level of recognition for employee achievement.

Sherry is a Summa Cum Laude graduate of Palm Beach Atlantic University. She is an alumna of Leadership Palm Beach County, serves on the Housing Leadership Council's Public Policy Committee, the Lake Okeechobee Regional Economic Alliance and is a member of the International Economic Development Council.

Christopher James



Christopher James is a Site Manager at the W. Haywood Burns Institute (BI) in Oakland, CA, where he works to reduce racial and ethnic disparities in adult and youth justice systems nationwide.

Mr. James brings a background of direct legal representation of students recommended for suspension and expulsion throughout the Greater New Orleans area. While completing his education, he interned with the Youth Law Center in San Francisco, CA, and the Federal Public Defender's Office in Miami, FL. Directly prior to joining the BI, Mr. James worked to help develop, manage, and install a community advocacy program for foster youth in an underserved rural area.

Mr. James graduated Tulane Law School with the desire to become a public defender but eventually came to realize he wanted to have more of a widespread impact. He sees the connection between youth justice systems, school discipline, and the adult criminal justice system. With this perspective, he continues to advocate for youth and believes improvements in youth justice serve as the best models for developing strategies which can be implemented in adult systems.

E. Bomani Johnson



Grounded by a racial and gender justice philosophy, E. Bomani Johnson is committed to building environments that allow all people, especially young Black people and their families, to thrive. A native of Chicago, Mr. Johnson has more than 25 years of organizing, program development, organizational development and advocacy experience working in the nonprofit and philanthropic sectors in local, national and international arenas.

Mr. Johnson founded Emergent Pathways, a management consulting firm that builds and implements strategies for racial equity, gender equity and social justice with organizations working to increase positive life outcomes for children, youth and families of color. Before Emergent Pathways, he served as Senior Director of Programs & Partnerships for the DC Trust, and in several capacities at The Greater Washington Community Foundation (formerly The Community Foundation for the National Capital Region).

Mr. Johnson is also a member of the inaugural Power Moves Consultants Group of National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy and a trainer of ABFE's Responsive Philanthropy in Black Communities Framework.

Reverend Kevin L. Jones



Rev. Kevin L. Jones is Assistant Pastor at Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church. In addition to Youth and Young Adults, he works primarily with the Adopt-A-School Ministry, Christian Education Ministry, Men's Ministry, and the Social Justice Ministry.

Rev. Jones also serves as Coordinator of Community Initiatives in the Office of Mayor Jeri Muoio in the City of West Palm Beach. Rev. Jones coordinates the African American Advisory Council, Mayor's Youth Council, Faith Advisory Council and the Mayor's Village Initiative to improve the outcomes of young black men in targeted areas of the city. He is the first clergy nominated to serve on the board of the Palm Beach County Criminal Justice Commission.

Rev. Jones is the Past Co-President of P.E.A.C.E., a congregation-based organization charged with the mission of fighting injustice in the communities of Palm Beach County.

Rev. Jones graduated with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Radford University. Rev. Jones also holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in ministry from Palm Beach Atlantic University and a Master of Divinity degree from The Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta, GA.

He is a proud member and Past Master of Pride of Palm Beach, Lodge #447, Free and Accepted Masons, and the Delta Delta Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

Rev. Kevin L. Jones is a native of Rustburg, VA. He is married to Michelle T. Jones and is the father of three sons.

Monique I. Liston



Monique Inez Liston, Ph.D., also known as Modupe, is an educator, organizer, social innovator and a researcher with a focus on human dignity, historical traditions of food, culture and Black independent institution building. She founded Ubuntu Research and Evaluation, a strategic consulting firm that works with schools, non-profits and small businesses to increase capacity towards a liberated world—especially for Black children.

Dr. Liston is a daughter of the African diaspora with roots from Atmore, Gary, Memphis, Washington, DC, and Milwaukee.

Dr. Liston earned a bachelor's degree from Howard University, a Master of Public Administration from the University of Delaware, a graduate certificate in Women's Studies and a Ph.D. in Urban

Education from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. She is a past fellow for the Campaign for Black Male Achievement.

Adriana Lopez



Adriana Lopez has been an attorney since 2009 and is currently Assistant State Attorney 15th Judicial Circuit in the Organized Crime Unit of the Palm Beach County State Attorney's Office. She prosecutes drugs trafficking and sale cases as well as gang racketeering cases.

Ms. Lopez is a graduate of the Florida Coastal School of Law. She is the past president of the Hispanic Bar Association.

Desmond Meade, J.D.



Desmond Meade is a formerly homeless-returning citizen who now serves as Executive Director of the Florida Rights Restoration Coalition (FRRRC). Additionally, he is Chair of Floridians for a Fair Democracy and Chair of the Florida Coalition on Black Civic Participation's Black Men's Roundtable.

In this work, Mr. Meade led the successful Amendment 4 campaign that established voting rights for over 1.4 million Floridians with a prior felony conviction.

Mr. Meade speaks nationally at events such as the APSA's Inequality, Democracy and America's Future, NACDL Presidential Summit, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and the 2018 Unrig Summit. He testified before Congressional members and staff and was a part of a delegation to the United Nations, where he gave testimony regarding disenfranchisement in Florida.

Mr. Meade is a graduate of Florida International University College of Law.

He is a frequent guest and contributor on national news outlets and has appeared on Full Frontal with Samantha Bee, Al Jazeera, Democracy NOW with Amy Goodman, MSNBC's AM Joy Reid and MSNBC's former Melissa Harris-Perry Show. Mr. Meade has served as a columnist for the Huffington Post and has been interviewed by journalists from publications such as ColorLines, The Atlantic, Politic365, the Washington Post, Orlando Sentinel, and The New York Times Magazine.

Mr. Meade is married and has five children.

Mayor Jeri Muoio



Jeri Muoio was first elected Mayor of the City of West Palm Beach March, 2011 and re-elected in 2015. She previously served on the West Palm Beach City Commission for four years, having been reelected twice by the voters.

During her administration, Mayor Muoio has presided over the important first stages of an economic resurgence in the city. Her focus on strengthening the economy has led to hundreds of new jobs in the city since taking office. Mayor Muoio has pledged to make the City of West Palm Beach more business-friendly, understanding that progress and growth are the keys to the city's future.

Mayor Muoio is a strong advocate for open, transparent government. Her ongoing "Open Access" campaign has led to numerous town hall meetings, neighborhood chats, and outreach efforts. She is the first mayor in the city's history to make herself available for a weekly "no question off limits" press briefing. She is also the first mayor to reach out directly to residents with a Twitter Town Hall.

Mayor Muoio holds a doctorate in education leadership from Syracuse University and worked for many years as a school district leader.

She resides in West Palm Beach with her husband. She has a daughter and three grandchildren.

Sarah Norman



Sarah Norman joined NeighborWorks in 2014 as Director of Healthy Homes and Communities. This position recognizes the important role that homes and neighborhoods play in determining health and the focus that NeighborWorks places on promoting health through community development.

Previously, Ms. Norman discovered the importance of field work when she served as Chief of the Lead, Asthma and Healthy Housing Bureau and as senior policy advisor for the Baltimore City Health Department.

Ms. Norman also worked at the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), where she directed a \$250 million grant program to enhance transparency around medical and insurance prices. She also served as Senior Health and Housing Policy Advisor to New York's Congresswoman Louise M. Slaughter. She has additional experience working in public health in Egypt, Zambia and Ethiopia.

Ms. Norman serves on the boards of several nonprofit organizations, including the Baltimore Medical System and the Harvard Alumni Association.

A Massachusetts native, Ms. Norman worked in the state's House of Representatives and completed her education at Harvard University with both a master's degree in public policy from The Harvard Kennedy School and a BA from Harvard College.

Keith Oswald



Keith Oswald is a veteran educator who began his career in Palm Beach County as a teacher at Barton Elementary School and now serves as the Deputy Superintendent and Chief of Schools for the School District of Palm Beach County, the nation's 11th largest school district.

During his tenure with the School District, Mr. Oswald has been privileged to serve as a teacher, Assistant Principal, Principal at South Grade Elementary School and Boynton Beach High School; Restructuring Administrator, Assistant Superintendent, Area Superintendent and Chief Academic Officer.

As Deputy Superintendent and Chief of Schools, Mr. Oswald assists the Superintendent in all activities designated by the Superintendent, works closely with the Superintendent as a strategic partner, and assists in providing administrative coordination and supervision of work and personnel of all departments and schools. Mr. Oswald ensures that quality academic programming and initiatives are offered to all students as part of a mission to increase academic achievement, graduation rates, and follow through on the District's Strategic Plan long-term outcome of post-graduate success.

Mr. Oswald has been active with many nonprofit agencies in Palm Beach County throughout his time with the District, serving as a board member for Prime Time Palm Beach County, the United Way of Palm Beach County, and the Early Learning Coalition of Palm Beach County.

Mr. Oswald earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Exceptional Education and Elementary Education from State University College at Buffalo in Buffalo, NY, and has a Master's of Education degree and Education Specialist in Educational Leadership from Florida Atlantic University.

Angela Maria Pagán



Angela Maria Pagán, Esq., of Dominican and Puerto Rican descent, is a criminal defense attorney in Palm Beach County. Prior to opening her firm, the Law Office of Angie Pagán, Esq., PLLC, Ms. Pagán started her legal career at the Office of the Public Defender

in Palm Beach County, Florida, where she worked as an Investigator and Assistant Public Defender.

Ms. Pagán graduated with honors from the University of Florida, where she minored in sociology and received dual degrees, a Bachelor of Science in psychology and a Bachelor of Arts in criminology. She is a Founding Sister of the Chi Chapter of Lambda Theta Alpha Latin Sorority, Inc., the first Latina/Hispanic sorority in the State of Florida. She held numerous leadership positions within the sorority and in other student groups such as U.E.P.A (Union de Estudiantes Puertorriqueños Activos) and D.A.S.A. (Dominican American Student Association).

For her legal education, Ms. Pagán attended the University of Florida's Levin College of Law, where she held leadership positions in various student organizations and was selected Vice President of the Law Student Council. While in law school, she was chosen to participate in study abroad programs at both the Université de Montpellier in France and Universiteit Leiden in The Netherlands. After graduating Cum Laude and receiving her Juris Doctor, Ms. Pagán is currently the President of the Palm Beach County Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers and a Board Member at Large of the Hispanic Bar Association. She is also Co-Chair of the MacArthur's Foundation Racial and Ethnic Disparity Team and a member of the 15th Judicial Circuit's Pro Bono Committee.

Nikotris Perkins



Nikotris Perkins is a Senior Strategist at UBUNTU Research and Evaluation. She has worked with educational and youth development institutions including schools, district administrators and policymakers across the United States. Her research focuses on developing Beloved Communities for youth-serving environments and engaging all parties, providing a research-based, quality, and engaging environment for youth to grow.

Ms. Perkins works with schools, foundations, and community-based organizations to implement youth and parent voice with a dignity lens within their work. Currently, she is a fellow with the Campaign for Black Male Achievement and is working on ways to deepen impact and improve sustainability in programming and initiatives.

Ms. Perkins is a proud Milwaukeean that received all of her education from local institutions. Between Alverno College, Marquette University, and UW-Milwaukee, she earned her BA in community leadership and development, MA in non-profit management, M.Ed in curriculum design, and an MA in community counseling. She is currently working on her doctoral degree in urban studies. She is also an alum of the Bailey Sullivan Leadership Institute, where she

worked with educational scholars and activists from around the nation and built a neighborhood-based educational engagement model for parents.

Ike Powell III



Ike Powell is the Senior Program Specialist in the Outreach and Community Programming Division of the Palm Beach County Youth Services Department (YSD) that consolidates various youth programs and services under the Board of County Commissioners. Mr. Powell serves as the Task Force Leader for the My Brother's Keeper Network of Palm Beach County.

For nearly 15 years, Mr. Powell served in various leadership roles at Urban League of Palm Beach County and CareerSource Palm Beach County, where he focused on community and economic empowerment, and workforce development, resulting in preparing youth and adults for successful life outcomes. He is committed to actively serving in the community and fostering social justice. Mr. Powell serves in several volunteer leadership and mentorship roles with community- and faith-based organizations. Mr. Powell is an active member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

Mr. Powell holds a Bachelor of Science degree in industrial technology from Illinois State University.

Gail Price-Wise



Gail Price-Wise's work addresses culture very broadly to include race, ethnicity, language, religion, gender, sexual orientation, socio-economic level, physical ability, physical presentation, (clothing, tattoos, piercings, body type) and other factors that divide people. She has led training workshops in cultural competence and diversity for over 5,000 people throughout the U.S. and in several other countries. Her training materials are used by organizations throughout the U.S. including the Colorado Attorney General's office and the Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

Ms. Price-Wise has authored several articles in USA Today and the Sun Sentinel such as "The More Subtle Racism: Lessons in Misconceptions" as well as the book An Intoxicating Error: Mistranslation, Medical Malpractice, and Prejudice.

She received her master's degree in health policy and management from Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health.

Ms. Price-Wise is a past President of the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health Alumni Council, a past President of the Harvard Club of

Broward County, a former member of the Harvard Advisory Council on Children's Health, and a past member of the Board of the Broward Healthy Start Coalition.

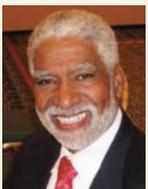
Rev. Dr. Robert Rease



Dr. Robert Rease is a native of West Palm Beach, Florida. Throughout his lifetime, he has exhibited a passion for learning which has afforded him the opportunity to earn various degrees. Dr. Rease has a diverse background in teaching, business and financial management, as well as theological pursuits. Dr. Rease is the Senior Pastor of St. John First Missionary Baptist Church in Belle Glade, Florida and the Constituent Services Representative for Florida House of Representative, Tina Polsky. He is an active member of his community where he currently serves a Chairman or Vice Chairman of several organizations which includes but is not limited to the following:

- Chairman of Lakeside Medical Center Advisory Board
- Vice-Chairman of the Lake Okeechobee Regional Economic (LORE) Alliance of Palm Beach County
- Vice-Chairman of the Lighthouse Café Board
- Founding member of the Guardians of the Glades
- Member of the Glades Career Readiness Roundtable
- Co-President of PEACE Palm Beach County (People Engaged in Active Community Efforts)
- Member of the Glades Area Ministerial Association.
- Chaplain for the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office
- Member of Leadership Glades Class of 2007
- Leadership Palm Beach County Class of 2016

Eddy M. Regnier, Ph.D.



Eddy Regnier was appointed to the Council in 2007 by former Florida Senate President Ken Pruitt. Currently, he is an associate professor of the Sarasota School of Professional Psychology and Behavioral Sciences for Argosy University at Sarasota. Dr. Regnier is also in private practice at Assessment and Psychotherapy Services, where he works as a clinical and forensic psychologist. In addition, he serves on various community boards. Dr. Regnier is a graduate of the University of Massachusetts and received a master's degree and a doctorate from Boston University.

Jerry Roberts



Jerry Roberts is currently Director of Philanthropic and Corporate Engagement for Midwest Urban Strategies, a consortium of 13 U.S. Department of Labor Workforce Development Boards working to marry traditional workforce development practices with economic development.

Mr. Roberts brings a career steeped in the corporate, nonprofit and philanthropy sectors. Previously, Jerry worked for Bader Philanthropies, where he guided the Foundation's annual \$1.5 million investment in workforce grants and its growing \$16 million Program Related Investment portfolio.

Mr. Roberts is also President of the Milwaukee Area Workforce Funding Alliance, a consortium of funders working on employment issues at the systemic level. Mr. Roberts serves on the board of Voice of the Experienced (VOTE), New Orleans and on the Race and Equity Advisory team of the National Fund for Workforce Solutions. He also lends his time, talent and resources to other boards and committees.

He is a frequent public speaker on various issues relating to workforce needs, social enterprise, poverty, racism, equity, and economic opportunity. Jerry is a 2015/2016 Connecting Leaders Fellow of ABFE, the Association of Black Foundation Executives.

Mr. Roberts holds a master's degree in the cultural foundations of education from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee as well as bachelor's degrees from Grace Christian College and UW-Milwaukee.

Ramon "Absoloot" Robinson



Ramon "Absoloot" Robinson is an artist, educator, mentor, author, and community leader. They say when someone helps others and they are struggling too, that is not help—that is love. It is this very sentiment that has fueled Ramon "Absoloot" Robinson to continue fighting against all of the odds. His career path could be described as a thrill-seeking rollercoaster ride with twists and turns. Huge ups and downs but, for the last decade a few things have remained the same. Even in the face of adversity, whether those struggles were mental, physical or financial, Absoloot has maintained his passion to uplift his community, his desire to mentor the youth and his unique outlook on how to be successful in the music industry.

He received over 20 million Sound Cloud plays in 2017/2018. His comic, "American Soldier," prompted a partnership with a major soft-drink producer. His VIO Mobile ring tone deal garnered digital downloads over 150,000 in 35 different countries. In 2012, the Huffington

Post featured the video for “99 Percent” as the theme song for the “Occupy Wall Street Movement” Absolut was picked by Hard Rock for Hard Rock Rising 2016 due to his clean music and substantial online following.

Wilford “Wil” Romelus



Wilford “Wil” Romelus is passionate about serving and developing youth. His vision is to develop avenues to keep children healthy, happy and active. In 2010, this vision propelled Wil to start an innovative nonprofit organization, Digital VibeZ, Inc., that empowers youth in diverse and underserved communities through dance fitness, technology and the arts. Wil believes that youth are more engaged when they are having fun, so the fun factor is embedded in all Digital VibeZ programs.

Over the past 15 years, Wil has served youth and families in Palm Beach and Broward counties in various capacities ranging from Afterschool Coordinator, Youth Liaison, to Program Director. Wil also loves technology and utilized his certification as a Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer to train young people about Information Technology and useful practical applications.

Born in Haiti, he moved to the United States at age 11 to seek better opportunities. Wil knows all too well the challenges and obstacles that underserved communities face. His passion for mentoring and preparing young people toward successful outcomes was and is the driving motivator for Digital VibeZ.

In his spare time, Wil loves to play soccer and enjoys spending time with his wife of four years and two young daughters

SaulPaul



SaulPaul transitioned from tragedy to triumph. His story has been featured in movies, magazines and books. For over a decade, SaulPaul has earned an international reputation as an Artist and Activist known for entertaining and inspiring audiences across the world. SaulPaul uses his platform to promote social good and advocate for youth.

In 2017, he was named Austinite of the Year. In 2018, he received the Texas Civil Rights Project Rising Star Award. Also in 2018, SaulPaul was honored to have 2 hit singles climb the charts and become #1 songs on Sirius XM radio.

SaulPaul has shared his story and his music at 2 TEDx talks, America’s Got Talent as well as the Kennedy Center for Performing Arts. For

over a decade, SaulPaul has earned an international reputation as an Artist and Activist known for entertaining and inspiring audiences across the world.

SaulPaul is passionate about empowering others to live their best life and training leaders to lead. He most often uses his platform to promote social good and advocate for youth.

For more about SaulPaul, visit www.SaulPaul.com.

Sara Selznick, Ph.D.



Dr. Sara Selznick is a licensed clinical psychologist. Before moving to Delray Beach, she worked in Chicago’s Cabrini Greene Public Housing Community providing direct services and super-ising a community outreach and advocacy team.

Dr. Selznick graduated with a BA in psychology from the University of Florida and received her master’s and doctorate in clinical psychology from DePaul University in Chicago. She completed her fellowship at Harvard Medical School/Children’s Hospital Boston and has provided services and developed, delivered, and evaluated programs and interventions in many settings including hospitals, schools/after-schools, juvenile detention centers, and community mental health agencies.

Recognizing the impact of systemic racism and the importance of power (not just programs), Dr. Selznick left the direct service world to work on community capacity building initiatives as founder of Thrive.

Gail Sherman



Gail Sherman is Manager of the Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) Grant for the School District of Palm Beach County. She worked with the “It’s Never Too Late Literacy Institute” and has presented throughout the United States on the topics of literacy and classroom instruction.

Ms. Sherman has worked with teachers on both Cherokee and Navajo reservations as well as with educators in Alaska and Hawaii surrounding the educational challenges faced by Native students. She has also worked extensively with educators in St. Thomas and St. Croix.

Ms. Sherman is featured in the book, Words, Words, Words, and authored short stories and lesson plans for Plugged into Reading by Recorded Books to accompany sets of young adult novels. Prior to her work as an SEL Manager, Gail worked as Program Planner for the

Palm Beach County School District for the Department of Student Services, Equity and Access.

Ms. Sherman is a graduate of The University of Central Florida. She holds a master's degree in educational leadership, and a bachelor's degree in English language arts. She has twice been named Teacher of the Year and holds Gifted and Reading Endorsements.

Dr. Robert Simmons III



Dr. Robert Simmons is the CEO of the See Forever Foundation and the Maya Angelou Schools in Washington, DC. As a nationally recognized scholar and expert on racial equity and urban education, Dr. Simmons has lectured and delivered workshops throughout the United States and Europe as well as been asked to comment on racial equity and a variety of education issues on national media outlets such as CNN.

During his career as an educator, Dr. Simmons served as the Vice President of Strategy and Innovation at the Campaign for Black Male Achievement and as the Chief of Innovation & Research with the District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS), where he was nationally recognized Empowering Males of Color initiative. His leadership and relentless advocacy helped establish the Leading Men Fellowship at The Literacy Lab, the first single-gender high school for boys in DCPS—Ron Brown College Preparatory High School, and a comprehensive early childhood strategy in collaboration with Bank Street College.

Prior to joining DCPS, Dr. Simmons was the founding director of the Center for Innovation in Urban Education and Institute for Urban Catholic Education at Loyola University Maryland. As Associate Professor of Urban Education and African/African American Studies, Dr. Simmons served as a research associate at the Baltimore Education Research Consortium at Johns Hopkins University.

He authored over 45 publications, including the book, *Talking about Race: Alleviating the Fear*.

Dr. Simmons was nominated twice as the Walt Disney National Teacher of the Year and once for the Whitney and Elizabeth MacMillan Foundation Outstanding Educator Award. He has been a fellow with the Woodrow Wilson Fellowship Foundation and the Fulbright Memorial Fund. Recently selected for the Outstanding Alumni Award at Western Michigan University and the BE Modern Man Award from Black Enterprise, Dr. Simmons is on the board of directors for Black Girls Code and the national chair of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion advisory board for FIRST® Lego® Robotics.

Isabel Sousa-Rodriguez



Isabel Sousa-Rodriguez was born in Bogota, Colombia and moved to Miami with their family at the age of 6. She began organizing against deportations and for immigration reform in 2007 and has since become the Membership and Organizing Director and the Florida Immigrant Coalition. Ms. Sousa-Rodriguez has a bachelor's in sociology from the University of South Florida. She has published articles detailing the effects of legal status and marginalization on undocumented mothers and immigrant adolescents in the transition to adulthood. She also served on the national selection committee of the DREAM.US Undocumented Youth Scholarship Fund from 2013–2015.

Coretta Talbot



Coretta Talbot is a paramount woman who is committed to leaving the world empowered with the priceless assignment she has been entrusted to accomplish. Her electrifying passion to see others grow to the epitome of what God has called them to be ignites a restlessness of surge to tell the world to “Speak Life.”

As an evangelist, creative director, poet, empowerment speaker, mentor, therapist, and fashion designer, Coretta has dedicated her life to reaching back out to others. She has a servant's heart and compassion for at-risk teen girls and women. She challenges them to vigorously analyze their current and/or past circumstances and not allow it to define their future outcome and the essence of who they are.

Her motivation comes from her testimony of overcoming personal struggles with low self-esteem, unidentified purpose, and a number of other issues. With the gifts that God has blessed her with, Coretta thrives on sharing her faith and testimony in a non-traditional way that plants a seed of Hope into the lives of others.

Coretta has a Bachelor's degree in Social Work and a Master's degree in Mental Health & Psychology Counseling. She is also a registered Licensed Mental Health Intern with the state of Florida.

Her motto is:

“My MISSION is His mission.

“My VOICE is His voice speaking through me.” #TeamJesus

Alton Taylor



Alton Taylor is the Chief Executive of The Drug Abuse Foundation, the largest publicly supported substance abuse facility in Palm Beach County. Under Mr. Taylor's leadership, The Drug Abuse Foundation partnered with the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office to create the first jail-based residential treatment program in the State

of Florida. This program went on to become a model for the State of Florida and many others.

Prior to working at The Drug Abuse Foundation, Mr. Taylor worked with children with disabilities as well as adults in acute mental health distress. He also gained experience working as a technician, counselor and substance abuse therapist in a drug and alcohol detox unit.

Mr. Taylor graduated from Palm Beach Atlantic College, where he majored in psychology-education and minored in business administration. He received his master's degree from Florida Atlantic University with a focus area in Psychology-Education.

He has served on numerous local and state committees and boards including Palm Beach County's Corrections Task Force. Mr. Taylor played a leadership role in the development of the Children Services Council and participated in the promotion and effort to create the Health Care Taxing District. Mr. Taylor was the first President of the Citizens Advisory Committee, a committee appointed by the Board of County Commissioners, to advise on behavioral health, and to provide advice on implementing the Health & Human Services element of the County's Comprehensive Plan. He also helped create the Southeast Florida Behavioral Health Network, where Mr. Taylor currently serves as a Board member.

Dr. Twila Taylor



Dr. Twila Taylor is a licensed clinical psychologist with over 25 years of experience working with youth and families. Dr. Taylor currently serves as the Chief of Clinical Services at Youth Services Department's Highridge Family Center for the past 15 years. As such, she is responsible for day-to-day operations of the 60-bed residential facility serving youth between 11 and 16 who reside in Palm Beach County. Dr. Taylor is involved in the process of transforming both the organization and the clinical programming to incorporate evidence-based Trauma-Informed Care practices into all aspects of treatment through implementation of the Sanctuary Model.

Dr. Taylor earned her bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of Maine and her doctorate in clinical psychology from Nova Southeastern University (NSU). She completed her predoctoral internship training at Louisiana State University's Medical Center in New Orleans and her postdoctoral work at Highridge Family Center in Florida.

Dr. Taylor's clinical experience includes managing a dual diagnosis day treatment program for trauma survivors, the NSU Community Mental Health Clinic, Highridge Family Center; provision of inpatient and outpatient individual, family and group psychotherapy, crisis intervention; in addition to work in inpatient adolescent and adult psychiatric hospital units.

Cheryl Washington



Cheryl Washington is the President and Chief Executive Office for East Baltimore Development, Inc. (EBDI), which is the non-profit 501(c)(3) organization charged with overseeing the \$1.8 billion revitalization of an 88- acre portion of East Baltimore adjacent to Johns Hopkins medical campus. EBDI's mission is to positively transform a targeted East Baltimore neighborhood by creating new and enhanced economic, housing, employment, business and human development opportunities for current and future residents. In addition to overseeing the administrative, finance and operational functions of the organization, Ms. Washington serves as the lead negotiator in real estate development transactions and sets the programmatic and policy agenda for EBDI's human and community services work.

Prior to EBDI, Ms. Washington was the Executive Director of Aunt Hattie's Place, Inc., a residential leadership program for boys in foster care.

Ms. Washington graduated magna cum laude from Norfolk State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in mass communications. She received her Juris Doctor from the University Of Maryland Francis King Carey School Of Law in 1996 and was admitted to the Maryland State Bar later that same year.

Ms. Washington currently serves on the Board of Trustees for the East Baltimore Community School Board where she is the Treasurer and Chair of the Finance Committee. From 2011 through 2014, she was a Mayoral-appointed member of the Governing Board for Baltimore City Head Start and served as Secretary and Chair of the Board during her tenure. Previous board service was with Outward Bound and Girl Scouts of Central Maryland. In 2013, Ms. Washington was honored to be a recipient of the Daily

Record's Top 100 Women of the Year Award. Ms. Washington was a member of the Class of 2000 Greater Baltimore Committee LEADERSHIP program and the Class of 2003 of Leadership Maryland. Ms. Washington has been a proud member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. since 1992.

Lisa Williams-Taylor, Ph.D.



Dr. Lisa Williams-Taylor is Chief Executive Officer at Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County. As CEO, she oversees a wide range of prevention and early intervention services that help Palm Beach County's children grow up healthy, safe and strong. Last year, the Council served 135,000 local children and their families through nearly 60 programs and numerous public education and outreach campaigns.

Prior to becoming CEO, Dr. Williams-Taylor served as Chief Program Officer at the Council, overseeing the areas of research and evaluation, system and program performance, and program operations. In that role, she was responsible for strategic planning. Dr. Williams-Taylor has extensive experience working with local, state and national policymakers to build evidence-based systems of care. She has written more than 25 publications. Prior to focusing on early childhood intervention, Dr. Williams-Taylor studied research and evaluation in the areas of education, addiction, mental health and criminal justice.

Dr. Williams-Taylor holds a master's degree in forensic psychology and criminal justice. She earned her Doctor of Philosophy Degree in criminal justice from City University of New York City College.

Sheree Wollinston



Sheree Wollinston is the Community Impact Director for the American Heart Association (AHA), Palm Beach County. She serves her organization as the health strategies subject matter expert for Palm Beach County and collaborates with community partners to support the AHA mission to be a relentless force for a world of longer, healthier lives.

She is constantly developing and driving corporate engagement strategies, working with volunteer and community partners to create a culture of health, developing and managing Collective Impact campaign plan activities, building coalitions, collaborating with local health systems and providers to improve patient out-

comes, and working to crush unequal health outcomes that exist largely due to the social determinants of health.

A featured presenter at both 2017 and 2018 national Black Women Rise conferences, the 2017 National Sex Ed Conference, and multiple local conferences, Ms. Wollinston graduated from Florida Atlantic University with a degree in public communication, minoring in sociology with a certificate in ethnic studies.

She currently serves as the Mentorship Chair for the New Leaders Council of Palm Beach County, an organization that provides millennial leaders with opportunities to engage with – and challenge – current policymakers, to create blueprints to tackle current and future policy issues, and to support one another along their individual path to a more progressive political and cultural landscape.

Lauren Zuchman



Zuchman is the Executive Director for BeWellPBC and a Licensed Clinical Social Worker. She has more than 20 years of experience developing programs and working with youth, adults and families in specialization areas of mental health, substance abuse, domestic violence, and crisis management. She is a national trainer for Wraparound and Motivational Interviewing and has provided clinical supervision and training for professionals across the social services field. She has a passion for community organizing and worked for many years with Healthier Delray Beach to spread behavioral health awareness, encourage equitable practices, and support residents to reach their full health potential. Currently, she is leading the countywide initiative, BeWellPBC, in an effort to advance behavioral health for children and families by increasing and improving interagency coordination and alignment of services and supports while also engaging community members in innovative solutions.

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Children's Services Council
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JOIN PALM BEACH COUNTY'S ULTIMATE YOUTH COUNCIL: FUTURE LEADERS UNITED FOR CHANGE!

Future Leaders United for Change is the voice for Palm Beach County youth. Members play an active role in the community by providing input on the design, implementation and communication of an ongoing strategic plan for future community conversations, focus group discussions, interviews, surveys and youth summits.



OPPORTUNITIES & BENEFITS:

- Letters of recommendation
- Community service hours
- Certificates, awards & incentives
- Job and internship opportunities

Future Leaders United for Change
meets on the last Tuesday of
every month at:

**Palm Beach County
Youth Services Department**

50 S Military Trl, Ste 203
West Palm Beach, FL 33415

5:30-7:30 p.m.



futureleadersunited

For more information, contact YSD-Future-Leaders@pbcgov.org or (561) 242-5739.

For more information, meeting dates and to RSVP, visit bit.ly/2Nm4wuc.



Palm Beach County
Board of County Commissioners






Community & School Based Services	Education & Training	Family Therapy	Individual & Group Therapy
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Residential Program	Highridge Family Center
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Outreach & Community Programs	Summer Food	Summer Camp Scholarships
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Youth Empowerment Centers (YECs)	My Brother's Keeper (MBK)
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Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners
Youth Services Department
 50 S Military Trl, Ste 203 | West Palm Beach, FL 33415
 (561) 242-5700



www.pbcgov.com/youthservices



Palm Beach County **COMMUNITY SERVICES**

Helping People Build Better Communities

*Raising the Standard & Building a
Culture of Excellence*

OUR MISSION

To promote independence and enhance the quality of life in Palm Beach County by providing effective and essential services to residents in need.

OUR VALUES

- Respect
- Equity
- Compassion
- Integrity
- Professionalism
- Empowerment

OUR VISION

A community where all residents of Palm Beach County have the resources and opportunities to achieve their full potential.

OUR PROGRAMS & SERVICES



Community Action Program (CAP)
& Farmworker Career Development
Program (FCDP)



Division of Senior Services
(DOSS)



Division of Human &
Veteran Services (DHVS)



Ryan White Program (RWP)



Substance Use Disorder (SUD)



Financially Assisted
Agencies (FAA)



Palm Beach County
Board of County Commissioners

Administrative Offices

810 Datura Street
West Palm Beach, FL 33401
(561) 355-4700

www.pbcgov.org/communityservices

@pbccsd



Our Mission:

We inspire and fund solutions for better health in Palm Beach County through community collaboration.

With the support of donors, Palm Health Foundation builds strong community partnerships, advocates for its most vulnerable neighbors and inspires innovative solutions to lead change for better health today and for generations to come.

The foundation has granted more than \$78 million to the Palm Beach County community since 2001.

www.PalmHealthFoundation.org



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Palm Beach County
Board of County Commissioners

