Adrienne L. Hollis, JD, Director of Federal Policy at WE ACT for Environmental Justice

Adrienne L. Hollis is the Director of Federal Policy at WE ACT for Environmental Justice, in its Washington, DC Federal Policy office, where she works to support the work of WE ACT’s headquarters office in Harlem, New York. As Director, Adrienne also facilitates the Environmental Justice Leadership Forum on Climate Change, composed of more than 40 environmental justice organizations across the country. She has extensive experience in the environmental arena and holds both a doctorate degree in biomedical sciences and a law degree focused in environmental law. She received her doctorate from Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee, conducted her postdoctoral studies in inhalation toxicology at Harvard University’s School of Public Health, and received her law degree from Rutgers School of Law in Newark, New Jersey. Adrienne is passionate about environmental justice and has been working on EJ issues for almost 20 years. She is an adjunct professor at the George Washington University Milken School of Public Health and American University’s Washington College of Law where she teaches Appellate Advocacy.

Alayna Chuney, Chesapeake Bay Foundation, Environmental Justice Staff Attorney

Alayna Chuney grew up in Detroit, Michigan and has always had a love for the environment and helping people. She is a member of the Maryland Bar and earned her J.D. from Western Michigan University Cooley Law School. She received her B.A. degree in Social Relations and Policy with a minor in Science, Technology, and Environmental Public Policy from Michigan State University’s James Madison College. She has been at the Chesapeake Bay Foundation for almost 2 years and is the new Environmental Justice Staff Attorney. Outside of her legal career, Alayna has worked for Student Conservation Association as crew leader, worked in the Detroit Public School system teaching inner-city youth the importance of being sustainable and having a relationship with the environment, and spends a great deal of her time volunteering in the community to bring awareness to environmental justice issues and ways to get more people of color in the environmental field.
Alice Huang, Food Access Planner, City of Baltimore, Department of Planning, Office of Sustainability, Baltimore Food Policy Initiative

Alice Huang is the Food Access Planner with the Baltimore Food Policy Initiative, Office of Sustainability, and Department of Planning. She works on good food procurement, provides technical assistance to small retailers on SNAP and WIC related issues and is responsible for coordinating the Food Policy Action Coalition and the Resident Food Equity Advisors. Alice holds a Masters of Public Health from Johns Hopkins University and has experience in project management and health behavior research.

Alisha Camacho, Near Buzzard Point Resilient Action Committee (NeRAC)

Alisha Camacho is an environmentalist based in Washington, D.C who uses her experiences in film, outreach and environmental education to empower communities around local environmental issues. For the past three years, Alisha has worked closely with ANC Commissioner Rhonda Hamilton to support residents living near Buzzard Point as they advocate for clean air. This worked has included producing the documentary, *The Untold Stories at Buzzard Point*. Although the film is still under production, the preliminary video has helped garner support and awareness around the pressing issues facing near Buzzard Point residents.

Amanda L. Nesher, Food Security Programs Manager, Montgomery County Food Council

Amanda Nesher is the Food Security Programs Manager for the Montgomery County Food Council. She manages and coordinates the implementation of the Food Council’s Food Security Plan initiatives, which aim to build a Montgomery County in which all people have access to safe, sufficient, and nutritious food, with dignity. Amanda brings considerable experience in both the public and private sectors, and most recently worked as the Legislative Associate for anti-hunger nonprofit MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger. She previously worked as a corporate attorney at the offices of Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen & Hamilton LLP before relocating to Israel for five years, where she worked as a Legal and Strategic Advisor for the Office of the Prime Minister. Amanda has an LL.M. from Columbia Law School in New York and a B.A. in Law from Cambridge University in England.
Ami Zota, DSc, George Washington University
Dr. Zota is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Environmental & Occupational Health at the George Washington University Milken School of Public Health. Her research examines population exposures to environmental chemicals, their effects on women and children’s health, and implications of these risks for health disparities. She received a career development award from the National Institutes of Health for her research on environmental health disparities. Dr. Zota is equally committed to developing innovative approaches for science translation so that her research can more effectively be used to inform individual and collective decision-making. Her research has been featured in high-impact national and international media publications including the Washington Post, LA Times, USA Today, Huffington Post, and the Atlantic Monthly. Her work has helped shape health and safety standards for consumer product chemicals by participating in legislative briefings, providing technical assistance to the NGO community, and communicating science through mainstream and social media outlets. She received her masters and doctorate in environmental health at the Harvard School of Public Health and then completed postdoctoral fellowships at Silent Spring Institute and UCSF Program on Reproductive Health.

Ana Rule, PhD, Associate Professor, School of Public Health, Johns Hopkins University. Dr. Rule is an expert in exposure assessment of occupational and environmental hazards, including urban, agricultural and nosocomial environments. Dr. Rule’s main research goal is the development and evaluation of sampling and analysis strategies for the assessment of exposure to aerosols and other air pollutants. She is passionate about health disparities and has used her expertise to try to address environmental injustices in her community. She has extensive experience working with community organizations around exposure and health burdens in Baltimore and beyond. Dr. Rule has maintained a close relationship with the Turner Station community since 2010, and has been an active member of the Maryland Environmental Health Network since its inception in 2012. She has helped organize community workshops in 2013 and 2014, information sessions in 2015, and helped write a report on the health of Maryland’s children in 2013.
Dr. Rule has testified in several occasions in front of the Baltimore City Council and Maryland house of representatives in support of bills that address community concerns. She has collaborated since 2014 with researchers in Wisconsin to assess community exposures to irrigated dairy manure, and in North Carolina to assess exposure to airborne contaminants affecting the health and quality of life of communities surrounded by concentrated animal feeding operations. She is also a member of the group “community of communities” formed in 2016, which aggregates groups in Maryland impacted by pollution from natural gas infrastructure.

Anna Scott is a PhD student in the Earth and Planetary Science Department at the Krieger School of Arts and Sciences at Johns Hopkins University. Her thesis research looks at how the urban heat island effect—the tendency for cities to be hotter than rural areas—changes during heatwaves, using observations, low-cost sensors, and models from cities around the world. Anna also runs Baltimore Open Air, an urban monitoring network measuring air quality. She is interested in climate dynamics, and she’s been known to dabble in projects on regional hydrology, the climate impacts of aerosols, and North African precipitation. Anna is an advocate for urbanism, sustainability, and open source software practices.

Ayana Jones, MPH Candidate, Health Equity Program, School of Public Health, UMD-College Park

Ayana is a second-year graduate student at the University of Maryland College Park, pursuing her Master’s in Public Health with a concentration in Health Equity. Currently, she serves as the Graduate Representative for the University of Maryland Sustainability Council. She continues her work with her professors and colleagues in efforts to promote awareness about environmental centered topics such as air pollution, food access, and other key environmental justice issues in Prince George’s County. Previously, Ayana served as a Sanitarian-in-Training for the Environmental Health Department at the Cuyahoga County Board of Health in Ohio. As a sanitarian, she regulated and ensured the health and safety of food service operations and establishments. While at the County Board of Health, she served on the Healthy Eating Active Living (HEAL) subcommittee, which sought to create tobacco free spaces, increase access and health eating environments, and promote safe routes to school to increase physical activity. Her passion is centered
Barbara Bates-Hopkins is the Community Relations Coordinator for the Community Outreach and Engagement program at the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health. She is a graduate of Sojourner-Douglass College in Baltimore, Maryland. Fifteen years ago, Barbara helped to establish “The Day at the Market,” which is held at least two days a month at the Northeast Market. This program provides walk-up information on nutrition and a host of health concerns ranging from cancer, heart disease, asthma and diabetes. “The Day at the Market” has been active since that time, and most recently has provided blood pressure screening to help people prevent and manage chronic illness. Barbara has helped multiple researchers connect with communities around Baltimore and is the voice of the communities inside the institution.

Bre’Anna Brooks is a Program Coordinator within the Outreach and Education team at the Chesapeake Bay Trust. A staff member since April 2016, she manages the Community Engagement Mini Grant Program, assists with the Outreach and Restoration Grant Program and the Chesapeake Conservation Corps, and, most recently coordinates the Prince George’s County Rain Check Rebate Program. She is the co-lead for the Chesapeake Bay Trust’s Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee, which serves several functions to meet the goal of ensuring that their grant making is reaching as many diverse audiences as possible. A Colorado native, Bre’Anna holds a Bachelor’s of Arts in Environmental Studies with an emphasis on Ecology and Evolutionary Biology from the University of Colorado at Boulder. She is currently pursuing a Maryland Master Naturalist certification to broaden her knowledge and engagement in natural resources. She was driven to this area due to an interest in making an impact on the Chesapeake Bay watershed and those who call this region home.
Charles Lee, APHA Environment Section, Co-Chair of the Environmental Justice Subcommittee is widely recognized as a true pioneer in the arena of environmental justice. He was the principal author of the landmark report, Toxic Wastes and Race in the United States. He helped to spearhead the emergence of a national environmental justice movement and federal action including the First National People of Color Environmental Leadership Summit, Executive Order 12898, EPA’s Office of Environmental Justice, National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC), and the Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice. Charles Lee is currently the Senior Policy Advisor for Environmental Justice at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). In this capacity, he leads development and implementation of EPA’s agency-wide environmental justice strategic plans (i.e., Plan EJ 2014 and EJ 2020). He has served in multiple capacities, ranging from creating the United Church of Christ’s environmental justice program to directing EPA’s environmental justice office. He was a charter member of the NEJAC, where he chaired its Waste and Facility Siting committee, as well as serving on National Academy of Science/Institute of Medicine Committee on Environmental Justice and numerous other panels. Mr. Lee has authored numerous papers, reports, journals and articles on environmental justice over the past three decades. He is the recipient of many awards for his work, including the American Public Health Association’s first Damu Smith Environmental Achievement Award. EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy presented him the EJ Pioneer Award on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the signing of Executive Order 12898. In February 2017, the 122nd Session of the South Carolina House of Representatives passed Resolution H*3732 to honor his work.

Chinyere Osuala, Earthjustice, Clean Energy Senior Associate Attorney

Chinyere Osuala is a Senior Associate Attorney with the Clean Energy Program at Earthjustice. She is based in the Washington, D.C. office and much of her casework focuses on rate cases in New York, and utility proceedings in Maryland and D.C. In Maryland she has worked on the Exelon-Pepco merger, Empower Maryland energy efficiency proceedings, Offshore Wind proposal, and PC 44 grid modernization proceedings.
Chloe Marshall, Prince George’s Food Equity Council and Capital Area Food Bank

Chloe Marshall is the Maryland Advocacy & Outreach Coordinator at the Capital Area Food Bank, working to address food insecurity through better policy and community programs. Chloe came to food justice work through the culinary field; she graduated from Johnson & Wales University in 2014 with a degree in culinary nutrition, originally pursuing a career in health and foodservice. After graduating, she worked and volunteered in several food banks before finding the Capital Area Food Bank. Through her work with CAFB, she became a member of the Prince George’s County Food Equity Council in 2016 and now serves on its steering committee. Working on local food policy to advance equity led her to help establish the Food Justice Coalition of 20743, a group of residents, grassroots leaders, and elected officials working to restore ownership of the local food system to marginalized communities.

Chris Nidel, JD, Nidel Law

After graduating from the University of Virginia with a bachelor’s degree in chemical engineering. He attended graduate school at MIT. Later, Nidel attended the University of Virginia School of Law, winning the school’s award for health and the law. After graduating, he went on to work for Baron and Budd, one of the largest and most respected plaintiffs’ law firms in the country, co-counseling on some of the largest environmental cases in the country. Mr. Nidel returned to Washington, D.C., and after a short stint at a small environmental firm in the city, he left to start Nidel Law, P.L.L.C. Mr. Nidel combines a top-tier engineering and science background with a passion for human health, protecting life, and preserving justice in the face of environmental and other threats including dangerous drugs and other products.
As Director of Conservation Community Engagement at the National Aquarium, **Curtis Bennett** works collaboratively with community residents and stakeholders to develop relatable environmental programs and projects which meet the needs of the community, and ultimately facilitating and implementing these efforts, directly where people are, within their communities. One of the programs that he coordinates is the Urban Conservation & Education Summer Internship Program, designed to provide opportunities for local Baltimore college students to experience environmental stewardship and to expose students to career options in the conservation sector. Additionally, through his involvement in the EPA Chesapeake Bay Program’s Diversity Workgroup as well as the State of Maryland’s Project Green Classrooms, we frequently discuss career pathways and pipelines within the environmental field, especially through a diversity, equity and inclusion lens, in order to ensure that students not only have opportunities for entry into the field but for matriculation as well. Curtis is also the 2018 Robert Finton Outdoor Educator of the Year Award Recipient, by the Maryland Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education. Curtis has a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Science and Policy, Wildlife Ecology and Management concentration, from the University of Maryland, College Park and a Master of Science degree in Wildlife Conservation from the University of Delaware. Curtis has over 10 years of experiences in environmental education and community engagement, through naturalist positions with the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission (MNCPPC) and Delaware Nature Society respectively.

**Dante Swinton** is the Environmental Justice Researcher and Organizer for the Energy Justice Network in Baltimore City. Beginning his activism in his home state of South Carolina, he was a member of statewide, environmental college group that played a role in the cancellation of a new coal-fired power plant in 2009. He has been working with the Energy Justice Network since 2015, fighting to close Baltimore City’s largest air polluter, the Wheelabrator Baltimore trash incinerator. Dante has a BA in Environmental Studies from Winthrop University, and an MS in Nonprofit Management and Social Entrepreneurship from the University of Baltimore.
Darius Stanton, Chesapeake Bay Program, USEPA

Darius A. Stanton II, native of Bowie, Maryland, is an environmental management professional with an emphasis on sustainable community development. Darius attended Claflin University, where he studied environmental science, minoring in political science. Graduating with Cum Laude honors, Darius was the 10th Mr. Claflin University, President of the university’s Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Incorporated’s Chapter, a Green For All student ambassador and student committee member of the Sustainability committee. Darius then attended Duke University’s Nicholas School of the Environment, where he earned his Master’s degree in environmental management. Concentrating in global environmental change, Darius traveled to Italy and Bolivia to study, and obtained certificates in Community-Based Environmental Management and Teaching Inclusion and Diversity within Environmental Leadership. Darius currently works with the Chesapeake Research Consortium as the Diversity workgroup staffer under the Environmental Protection Agency’s Chesapeake Bay Program. A Climate Reality Fellow and adjunct professor at Prince George’s Community College teaching environmental science, Darius plans to obtain his PhD in sustainable design and own an environmental consulting firm.

Dawn Biehler, PhD, is an Associate Professor of Geography and Environmental Studies and Affiliate Faculty in Gender and Women’s Studies at University of Maryland, Baltimore County. She is author of Pests in the City: Flies, Bed bugs, Cockroaches, and Rats. She is currently working on publishing findings from a six-year collaborative study of environmental justice and mosquitoes in West Baltimore, and also a book about inclusion and justice for diverse humans in the animal landscapes of New York’s Central Park.
Destiny Watford, Community Organizer and Activist, Free Your Voice

The 2016 North America Goldman Prize Winner, Destiny Watford fought alongside her Baltimore community to stop the nation’s largest trash-burning incinerator from being built in her neighborhood. She continues to fight for her community’s future by creating a community land trust to perform truly democratic community-driven development in her neighborhood.

Devon Payne-Sturges, DrPH, is an Assistant Professor with the Maryland Institute for Applied Environmental Health at the University of Maryland, School of Public Health. Her current research is aimed at improving how society makes decisions about environmental policies that impact the health of communities and populations, especially vulnerable, low income and minority populations. She recently conducted and published the first ever study on food insecurity as a determinant of poor academic outcomes among UMD College Park undergraduate students. This pilot study inspired UMD Counseling Center to implement a larger study of food insecurity among undergraduate and graduate students at UMD. Dr. Payne-Sturges earned her Master of Public Health and Doctor of Public Health degrees in environmental health sciences from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Prior to joining the faculty at the University of Maryland, she served as the Assistant Center Director for Human Health with U.S. EPA’s National Center for Environmental Research.
Emma Cogan, MPH Candidate, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, received her BA from Loyola University Maryland and found her passion for public health during a Fulbright Scholarship to Malaysia in 2013. Prior to returning to graduate school, Emma worked on a variety of public health research projects with the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and on behalf of the CDC and the NIH through government consulting. Emma focuses on Global Environmental Sustainability and Health, Epidemiology, and Biostatistics as a MPH student. Her research interests include energy and health, community resilience, sustainable agriculture, and the impact of climate on human health. She will be continuing on at Johns Hopkins Fall 2018 to start her PhD in Environmental Health Science (Exposure Sciences and Environmental Epidemiology).

Ernesto S. Vargas – National Director of Chispa, joined the League of Conservation Voters (LCV) and LCV Education Fund in November 2014. Chispa is a program aimed at building the voice and leadership of Latino families and leaders in the fight against climate change. Today Chispa programs are operating in Arizona, Nevada, Colorado, Connecticut, New Mexico and Maryland. Vargas was born in Mexico City and migrated to the US in 2008. Since then, he has been organizing with the Latino community on immigration, labor rights and civic engagement. Ernesto worked with SEIU and Change to Win to organize low-wage workers. He led several labor strikes on federal buildings, which moved President Obama to sign an executive order raising wages for federal contract workers. Prior to joining LCV and LCVEF, Ernesto was the Field Director for Rescatemos Nuevo León, the first campaign launched in Mexico to elect independent progressive candidates. Ernesto holds a Bachelor’s degree in Philosophy and Latin-American Literature from Universidad de las Américas, Puebla.
**Genee Smith, PhD, MSPH** is an Assistant Professor in the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health in the Department of Environmental Health and Engineering. Dr. Smith received a BS in Biology from Fayetteville State University and a MSPH and PhD from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Prior to joining Hopkins in July 2016, Dr. Smith spent eight years working at the US Environmental Protection Agency and conducting epidemiologic investigations on interconnecting characteristics of environment–disease relationships, predominately focused on exposures such as air pollution and extreme weather. Dr. Smith is now pursuing research focused on neighborhood-level inequities in environmental exposures including both chemical and non-chemical stressors. She utilizes large national datasets to explore the synergistic effects of inequities in the built, natural, and social environment and conducts community based participatory research to address local environmental justice concerns. She is passionate about leveraging her knowledge of environmental exposures, geographic information systems, and psychosocial determinants of health to address environmental health disparities.

**Gerrit Knaap, PhD** is Executive Director of the National Center for Smart Growth Research and Education at UMD and Chair of the Purple Line Corridor Coalition. Dr. Knaap earned his BS from Willamette University, his MA and PhD from the University of Oregon, and received post-doctoral training at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, all in economics. Knaap’s research interests include the interactions between housing markets and policy, the economics and politics of land use planning, the efficacy of economic development instruments, and the impacts of environmental policy. On these subjects, Knaap has authored or coauthored over 65 articles in peer refereed journals, and co-authored or co-edited nine books. He received the Chester Rapkin
award for the best paper published in Volume 10 of the *Journal of Planning Education and Research*, with Greg Lindsey, he received the 1998 best of ACSP award, and in 2006 he received the Outstanding Planner Award from the Maryland Chapter of the American Planning Association.

**Irena Gorski** grew up in the Ironbound section of Newark, NJ where her passion for fighting environmental injustices was ignited at a young age. She received her degree in Geoscience from Penn State University where her thesis focused on evaluating the water quality impacts of unconventional natural gas development. While working for an environmental remediation company in Pennsylvania, she became more concerned about the health impacts of the industry. She worked with Chesapeake Physicians for Social Responsibility last year on their part of the campaign for the hydraulic fracturing ban in Maryland and she is now pursuing her PhD at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health where she is learning epidemiologic methods and will be focusing her doctoral research on investigating the health impacts of unconventional natural gas development.

**Jennifer Roberts**, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Kinesiology, University of Maryland is an Assistant Professor of Kinesiology at the University of Maryland College Park, School of Public Health. She is also the Director of the Public Health Outcomes and Effects of the Built Environment (PHOEBE) Laboratory. Her research interests focus on the relationship between the built environment and physical activity in addition to its impact on obesity and other public health outcomes. More specifically, much of her research has explored the dynamic relationship between environmental, social and cultural determinants of physical activity and using empirical evidence of this relationship to infer complex health outcome patterns among adults and children.
Josh Tulkin serves as the Director of the Maryland Chapter of the Sierra Club. He oversees the organization’s campaigns, fundraising, and membership. Under his leadership, the Sierra Club has played a key role in the passage of the Maryland Offshore Wind Bill, the expansion of the Maryland Wildlands Program, the successful effort to ban fracking, and the passage of the 2016 Pollinator Protection Act. During his tenure the Sierra Club has doubled its staff and grown its supporter base by 150%. Prior to joining the Sierra Club, Josh worked for the Chesapeake Climate Action Network (CCAN), Jewish Funds for Justice, and the Energy Action Coalition. Tulkin had his environmental awakening as a student at Pomona College, and believes that students have a critical role to play in the environmental movement. After graduating Josh continued to support student organizing, helping to launch the Power Shift conferences and leading the 2008 youth “Power Vote” initiative. Tulkin earned his B.A. in Environmental Policy from Pomona College, and will receive his M.A. in Public Management from University of Maryland, College Park in May of 2013. He now serves on the Maryland task force on proposed Accounting for Growth Regulations and the Attorney General’s Environmental Advisory Committee, and the Baltimore County Solid Waste Planning Advisory Committee.

Kari Fulton, Near Buzzard Point Resilient Action Committee (NeRAC) is an award-winning Environmental and Climate Justice organizer, advocate and writer. She has worked with various domestic and global coalitions to coordinate campaigns and national conferences including Power Shift, the largest youth climate summits in the United States. Fulton has trained and engaged students and communities on Climate and Environmental Justice across the United States. She has traveled to Europe, Latin America and South Africa attending and reporting on international environmental conferences. Fulton supports local community organizations in the Washington, DC area to develop strategies for stronger public health, community empowerment, and environmental policies. Her work has been featured in various media including Black Entertainment Television (BET), Teen Vogue, Essence Magazine, and Chinese Cable Television America (CCTV). You can find her writings at www.checktheweather.net
Kathy Phillips, Assateague Coastkeeper, is Executive Director of Assateague Coastal Trust. She has extensive experience in advocacy and coalition building, having served as the Executive Director of Assateague Coastal Trust since 2007. She brought the issue of land and water conservation in the coastal bays watershed to the forefront of the 2006 Worcester County election during her campaign for District 3 Commissioner. Kathy is a member of the Bay Enforcement Network, a coalition of environmental attorneys and organizations interested in forcing compliance of current environmental laws to clean up our waterways. In 2012 she was a key witness in Federal Court for the Waterkeeper Alliance ground breaking Perdue/Hudson Clean Water Act lawsuit to bring Integrator Liability and accountability to EPA Confined Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) Clean Water Act permits. She sits on the Board of WATERKEEPERS Chesapeake, Inc., a regional coalition of Riverkeepers with the WATERKEEPER Alliance. Kathy also serves on the WATERKEEPER Alliance Council. As COASTKEEPER, Kathy monitors the coastal watershed for signs of polluting activities and follows local issues relating to water quality and resource degradation. She is an in-the-trenches advocate for the health of the Delmarva coastal watersheds and the communities who depend on them; making sure existing laws to protect water quality are fully enforced, pressing for the enactment of stronger measures to safeguard our water, air and communities, and standing up to polluters and policymakers to hold them accountable for their actions.

Keeve Nachman, PhD, is an Assistant Professor and Director of the Food Production and Public Health Program at the Johns Hopkins Center for a Livable Future. As Director of the Center’s Food Production and Public Health Program, Keeve leads investigations of the public health and environmental impacts of industrial agriculture, with interest in livestock and poultry production. He is also on the faculty of the Departments of Environmental Health and Engineering and Health Policy and Management at the Bloomberg School of Public Health. In addition to teaching two of the Center’s food systems courses, Keeve co-directs the MPH concentration in Food Systems and Public Health and the Center’s Certificate in Food Systems, the Environment
Keeve’s research program focuses on the human health risks posed by drugs used in food animals. His publications include studies of antibiotic use in food animals and the development of antibiotic resistance, the use of arsenicals in poultry production, and environmental health policy and decision-making. Previously, Keeve was an environmental health scientist and risk assessor with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Keeve frequently explains scientific issues in the media. He has appeared on ABC, CNN, CBS Radio, and NPR, and has been published and quoted in publications such as the New York Times, the Washington Post, USA Today, the Guardian, the Baltimore Sun, and the San Francisco Chronicle.

Khushi Desai is a Staff Attorney in the Healthy Communities program at Earthjustice, a non-profit public interest environmental law organization. Khushi’s work includes advocacy to protect communities across the country from the mismanagement of hazardous wastes. She has also litigated cases involving issues of harmful air and water pollution, and the public’s ability to participate meaningfully in government decisions that affect health and the environment. Khushi received her undergraduate degree in environmental science and policy from the University of Maryland, College Park, and her law degree, with a concentration in environmental law, from the University of Maryland School of Law.

Dr. Kirkland Hall, Sr. has served as an Assistant Professor at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore for over 41 years teaching in the School of Pharmacy and Health Professions Department of Kinesiology. He currently specializes in the teaching of Sports Psychology. Dr. Hall has been a community activist while serving as President of the Somerset County Branch NAACP for twelve years. He has been advocating to improve the health and quality of living for the Somerset County citizens by serving as the voice of the voiceless. Dr. Hall has been an opponent of the Industrialized Farming Projects in the regions by speaking at workshops and seminars in the area.
Kristie Trousdale, MPH, is the Deputy Director of the Children’s Environmental Health Network (CEHN), where she provides organizational leadership and development. She leads CEHN’s Science Committee and the Network’s science translation and education projects, communications and marketing, the organization of CEHN’s research conferences, program training activities, and assists with fundraising and development efforts. Ms. Trousdale has over seven years of experience developing curriculum and other educational resources for CEHN’s Eco-Healthy Child Care® program, and has served as Co-Editor of “Putting it into Practice” a pediatric environmental health training resource for health care faculty. She has presented at state and national conferences on issues pertaining to environmental health in early learning and child care settings, and has co-authored publications on epigenetics and pediatric environmental health, environmental hazards in school settings and child care facilities, perspective articles on children’s environmental health, and environmental hazards in residential facilities for persons with developmental or intellectual disabilities. She received a B.S. in Sociology and Environmental Science from Willamette University and a MPH in Environmental Health from the University of Maryland.
**Krystina White,** Director of Strategic Alliances, Black Millennials for Flint, is a California native and Howard University graduate, and a long time community advocate within the D.C. Metro area. Krystina cultivated her community engagement experience by serving as an intern on Howard University’s School of Communications Executive Board and by being actively involved with The Greater Washington Urban League, Thursday Network. She is a founding board member of Black Millennials for Flint, an organization founded on the Board of Thursday Network, in response to the Flint Water Crisis, that advocates for the eradication of lead nationwide, specifically in Black and Latino communities, where she currently serves at the Director of Strategic Alliances. In 2016, Krystina was awarded the Distinguished Young Professional Award, awarded by the National Urban League Young Professionals for over 500+ hours of community service. A recent milestone of her advocacy work includes being instrumental, under the Black Millennials for Flint umbrella, in helping to draft and pass local legislation, that was unanimously approved, by the DC City Council, that addresses The District’s lead and water quality issues, in all DC educational facilities.
*Larry Bannerman*, Green Team, Turner Station Conservation Team, is a community activist and board member with Turner Station Conservation Teams. He retired in 2008 after 38 years as a high voltage maintenance technical leader. Representing his community of Turner Station, Mr. Bannerman is a member of the Maryland Port Administration Innovative Reuse Committee (researching innovative and beneficial uses for maintenance dredge material) and the Chromium Remediation Community Workgroup, overseeing the relining of storm drains at the Port of Baltimore. He is currently working with numerous organizations in the revitalization and environmental protection of Turner Station. From the Maryland Transportation Authority and the Diesel Roundtable looking for ways to limit truck traffic and emissions, to CleanWater.org and Johns Hopkins monitoring air quality, to Honeywell and Tradepoint Atlantic working with the community in revitalization efforts; the work and the rewards are numerous. Most recently, Bannerman worked with CCAN and others to stop the hazards of oil terminals in Baltimore. In 2017, he received the Henrietta Lacks Legacy Group – Man of the Year award. In April 2018, he received the Turner Station Recreation Council–Community Service Award. People say they “give back” to their community, but he prefers to say that he invests in the community. “What we do now echoes in the next generation—and the next.”

*Len Zuza*, Resident, Solomon, MD

After a career as a Senior Intelligence Analyst at DIA and Senior Budget Examiner at OMB, in 1999, Dr. Zuza started his own consulting business informing clients about the U.S. budget process. In 2004/5, he became active in environmental matters affecting the Chesapeake Bay by joining the Calvert County Environmental Commission and the Board of the Patuxent Riverkeeper. In 2007, Dr. Zuza and his wife, Karen, organized the Southern Maryland Oyster Cultivation Society (SMOCS), an organization that planted 12 million spat on reefs it restored on the Patuxent River. In 2014, he ran unsuccessfully for Delegate to the General Assembly. During the campaign, he learned of Dominion Energy’s request to build a $3.8 billion methane liquefaction facility at Cove Point and became concerned when he learned that regulators indicated that this facility would emit 2 million tons of Greenhouse Gases and hundreds of tons of other hazardous and
toxic pollutants right next to residential communities. In 2015, Dr. Zuza joined the board of the Calvert League of Women Voters. Because he had some knowledge about the Dominion facility, he agreed to do research on whether federal and state regulations protected nearby residents from toxic pollution. His research revealed that regulations would not. His presentation today will include lessons learned from Cove Point that will help other communities afflicted by NGI to be more effective in opposing these harmful facilities.

Dr. Lesliam Quirós-Alcalá is an Assistant Professor in the Maryland Institute of Applied Environmental Health at the University of Maryland School of Public Health. She is also Affiliate Faculty at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and Affiliate Researcher at the Center for Environmental Research and Children’s Health at the University of California (UC) at Berkeley. Her research focuses on characterizing environmental exposures and examining their potential health effects on vulnerable populations of color underrepresented and understudied in public health research, including among occupational populations, women, and children. Her research also seeks to design and implement culturally-appropriate interventions to reduce environmental health disparities among Latino and African American populations. She is a recent recipient for a 2017 National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute career development award, which seeks to address environmental health disparities among African American youth in inner-city Baltimore. Dr. Quirós-Alcalá received her PhD in Environmental Health Sciences from UC Berkeley, and prior to starting her current faculty appointment, she conducted her postdoctoral work at the Center for Environmental Research and Children’s Health at UC Berkeley.

Leslie G. Fields, JD, is the Director, Environmental Justice and Community Partnerships for Sierra Club in Washington, DC. Leslie brings twenty-five years of federal, state, local and international environmental justice and environmental law and policy experience to the Sierra Club. Fields was appointed by President Obama to serve on the Board of Directors of the Mickey Leland Urban Air Toxics Research Center. She serves on the boards of the Children’s Environmental Health Network and Empower DC. She also serves on the board of Adeso African Solutions (formerly Horn Relief - an East African natural resources and development organization) and has been an adjunct law professor at Howard University School of Law. Fields is a graduate of Cornell University and the Georgetown University Law Center.
Lyn Griffith-Taylor, Marylanders for Energy Democracy and Affordability, is a savvy energy and development professional specializing in energy affordability, clean energy and energy efficiency research, utility regulatory policy, and project support -- in the United States as well as Latin America and the Caribbean. She works as an Energy Democracy Specialist at NIRS, leading the organization’s work to advance clean energy, energy affordability, consumer and community ownership, and climate resilience. Her primary focus is the coordination of Marylanders for Energy Democracy and Affordability (MEDA), a diverse network representing low-income consumers, climate action, community solar, and green jobs organizations united in their vision for reform of Maryland’s electricity sector.

Marcus Hendricks, PhD, School of Architecture, UMD-College Park, has a research and practice agenda rooted in environmental justice and interests that focus on how infrastructure, environmental outcomes and neighborhood forces interact to affect people’s everyday lives and their lives during times of extreme events. He specializes in infrastructure planning and management, environmental planning and hazard mitigation. Hendricks draws upon equity planning, social vulnerability and environmental justice theory to ensure that low-income and communities of color are planned and accounted for in light of natural hazards, and investigates how the inventory, condition and distribution of public infrastructures can modify hazard exposures and resulting disaster impacts. His broader interests include disaster resiliency, public health and the built environment, smart growth, land use planning, and community engagement.
Margaret Flowers, MD, is a pediatrician from Baltimore. She co-directs Popular Resistance, which is a co-founder of the We Are Cove Point campaign. Margaret also co-founded the Maryland Health Care is a Human Right campaign and is co-chair of the Maryland chapter of Physicians for a National Health Program (PNHP). She is an adviser to the board of national PNHP and is national coordinator for the Health Over Profit for Everyone (HOPE) campaign.

Maria Payan, Socially Responsible Agricultural Project (SRAP)

In addition to her consulting work with SRAP, Maria is Executive Director and a founding member of Peach Bottom Concerned Citizens Group. She has worked for years to educate people about and advocate for socially responsible agriculture through forums, films, community events, and even after-school programs for children. Maria has been instrumental in working with communities to fight the expansion of industrial animal facilities throughout Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, and New York. She is committed to keeping independent farmers viable, while striving to preserve our natural resources and rural heritage for future generations.
**Mariah Davis**, Choose Clean Water Coalition

As the Field Manager for the Choose Clean Water Coalition, Mariah manages outreach, grassroots advocacy, and civic engagement efforts to support the Choose Clean Water Coalition’s policy priorities. Mariah coordinates conservation organizations efforts in Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Delaware, New York, West Virginia and the District of Columbia. This includes working with conservation organizations at the local, state and regional level to enact sound state policies to ensure Chesapeake Bay restoration success.

Prior to her experience at the Coalition, she drove strategic action at the state and federal level to defend regulatory rollbacks under the EPA’s Clean Water Rule and Clean Power Plan. She played an active role in the formation of Virginia’s newly formed Advisory Council on Environmental Justice and engaged regularly with elected officials to combat injustices facing marginalized communities. Mariah holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Virginia Commonwealth University in Environmental Studies.

**Mary Jane Reyes**, is an activist for environmental protection in Lorton/Mason Neck, Virginia. Active since 1989, she has been focused in more recent years on studying the Covanta Fairfax trash incinerator in Lorton, one of the largest in the nation. She has organized and hosted community education events on zero waste and the massive 2017 fire at the incinerator, and has provided testimony at various public hearings, comment periods, and environmental events.

**Michelle Mabson** serves as the director of advocacy for Black Millennials for Flint, a D.C.-based grassroots environmental justice group working to reduce lead exposure across the country and to provide technical assistance to affected communities. Mabson also works as a Staff Scientist in the Healthy Communities program based in Earthjustice’s Washington, D.C. office. Prior to joining Earthjustice, Michelle worked in the Office of Children’s Health Protection at the U.S. EPA, where she served as an Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education
Fellow. While at the EPA, her research focused primarily on early-life exposure to environmental pollutants and carcinogenic effects. The experience afforded her the opportunity to present her research to the scientific community both domestically and abroad. Michelle received a dual Masters of Public Health and Master’s of Science from the University of Michigan, and a biology degree from Howard University. While at University of Michigan, she also earned a graduate certificate in risk science and human health and served as a graduate student instructor teaching the principles of environmental justice. In her spare time, she is also a member of the NAACP’s Climate and Environmental Justice Committee and the Greater Washington Urban League.

Mike Ewall, is the founder and director of the Philadelphia-based Energy Justice Network, a national network supporting grassroots resistance against dirty energy and waste facilities, notably biomass and waste incinerators, coal and natural gas facilities. Active since high school in 1990, he has led winning campaigns stopping numerous incinerators, power plants, landfills, ethanol biorefineries, a coal-to-oil refinery, a liquefied natural gas (LNG) import terminal, water fluoridation, a multi-state nuclear waste dump and more. He has done extensive work to document and expose environmental racism in several specific Mid-Atlantic communities, in demographic and mapping research nationally, and in various climate, energy and waste policies. His long-time work against environmental racism in Chester, PA earned him a "tuition-free law school for activists" scholarship to the University of the District of Columbia. Since moving to DC for law school in 2008, he has focused heavily on fighting power plants, waste incinerators and other environmental injustices in Northern Virginia,
DC, and throughout Maryland. In the past decade, his work has helped stop five proposed incinerators in this region, and is now focused on closing the largest air polluters in Baltimore City and Montgomery County – the state’s last two trash incinerators, the nation’s largest medical waste incinerator, and a fossil fuel power plant. He’s a leading force in efforts to clean up Maryland’s dirty “renewable” energy mandate, about half of which comes from subsidizing biomass and waste incinerators. His Zero Waste Hierarchy was adopted as a standard by the Zero Waste International Alliance.

Monica Brooks, Community Activist, Wicomico County, Md., organizes against the expansion of mega-poultry complexes on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. Brooks co-founded the citizens group Concerned Citizens Against Industrial CAFOs, which recently stopped the siting of what would have been the largest-ever poultry complex in Maryland. Monica is also on the Board of the Socially Responsible Agricultural Project, a national grassroots organization that educates the public about the devastating effects of industrial agriculture, while working directly with impacted communities. Personally, she is a pastor’s wife, mother, business owner and Spanish teacher. While she leads a full life, she will never be too busy to fight for environmental and social justice. Brooks is passionate about empowering and educating her children and the community she loves about the importance of civic engagement.

Pat Bishop is a long term Southwest resident. She has attended the environmental and Greenleaf Gardens meetings to advocate for herself and on behalf of residents who have been negatively impacted by environmental hazards in the community and poor living conditions in her public housing complex.
Ramon Palencia-Calvo, Maryland League of Conservative Voters

Director of Chispa Maryland, Palencia-Calvo is committed to raising environmental awareness and promoting civic participation and environmental leadership among Latinos in Maryland. Since joining Maryland LCV in 2014, he has developed and partnered with a number of Latino leaders, residents, and organizations in Maryland, by providing educational and engagement opportunities on environmental health, stewardship and climate change. Prior to joining Maryland LCV, he has worked conducting research and outreach on environmental and social issues for over 15 years. Most recently as the Latin American Climate and Energy Fellow at the Worldwatch Institute, identifying social, political and economic opportunities to promote renewable energy in Central America, and creating partnerships to advance low carbon development. Ramon obtained his M.S. in Environmental Sciences and Policy from Johns Hopkins University.

Rhonda Hamilton, Near Buzzard Point Resilient Action Committee (NeRAC)

Rhonda Hamilton received her master’s degree in public administration from Southeastern University and bachelors in psychology from University of the District of Columbia. She was raised in Southwest Washington, D.C. and she has spent the past 10 years working in her community to help residents as an Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner in Ward 6. Rhonda is also the president of Syphax Gardens Resident Council, which is a public housing property. She is very active in advocating on behalf of residents to address the environmental issues that have negatively impacted her community especially the well-being of low to moderate income residents. Rhonda has been working to make sure that the health concerns and vital needs of her residents are not overlooked with the massive amount of redevelopment that is taking place in Southwest. She is determined to bring the environmental justice concerns that are present in her community to front so that the residents do not continue to suffer in silence from the ill health effects that have come from their exposure to the contamination coming from Buzzard Point.
**Rianna Murray**, PhD Candidate, Maryland Institute for Applied Environmental Health, received her Bachelor of Science degree with a double major in Chemistry and Biochemistry from the University of the West Indies in Trinidad and Tobago. She went on to pursue a Master’s of Public Health with a concentration in environmental health science from the University of Maryland and graduated in 2013. She is currently a PhD student in the Toxicology and Environmental Health program in the Maryland Institute for Applied Environmental Health. Her research interests include environmental justice, global health, water quality, and health disparities, particularly among underserved populations.

**Robin Lewis**, is an EJ activist, community organizer, public speaker, and local entrepreneur, assisting marginalized communities with legislative advocacy, collaborative engagement, and outreach strategies to create sustainable and inclusive solutions. She is currently serving as the Director of Environmental Justice for the Fluoride Action Network (FAN). She has consulted with the Interfaith Power & Light, Energy Justice Network, Food and Water Watch, and other non-profits on various environmental issues. Additionally, Robin has worked as a Certified Project Management Professional for many years, leading complex technical project launches as well as large community engagement projects. Robin has a BA in Economics and an MBA from Rutgers University, as well as a MA in Sustainable Urban Planning focusing on Climate Change from George Washington University. She spends her time working to educate and engage communities of color, low income and other marginalized communities to advocate against environmental injustices impacting their health and wellbeing.
**Rosemary Ezeugoh**, MPH Candidate, Maryland Institute for Applied Environmental Health, School of Public Health, UMD-College Park moved Maryland from Nigeria, and is a graduate student at the Maryland Institute of Applied Environmental Health, University of Maryland. Passionate about environmental justice and air pollution, Rosemary’s current research is focused on air pollution in Bladensburg, Maryland. Also, Rosemary works with residents of Bladensburg to utilize air sensors and interpret the data from these sensors. Rosemary was a Dean’s Scholar (MPH) for 2018.

**Sacoby Wilson**, PhD, MS, Associate Professor, UMD School of Public Health

Dr. Sacoby Wilson is an Associate Professor with the Maryland Institute for Applied Environmental Health and Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, School of Public Health, University of Maryland-College Park. Dr. Wilson is Director of the Community Engagement, Environmental Justice and Health (CEEJH) Initiative. Through CEEJH, Dr. Wilson is engaging communities in the Washington, DC region on environmental health issues including stormwater impacts on neighborhoods; environmental justice and green infrastructure; cumulative impacts of hazards in Brandywine, MD; air pollution issues in the Buzzard Point area of Washington, DC; industrial chicken farming on Maryland’s Eastern Shore; and other topics. In addition, he is working with schools in the region on pipeline development efforts in the STEM+H disciplines (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, and Health).

He is Founder of 17 for Peace and Justice and a Co-Founder of the DC/Maryland/Virginia (DMV) Environmental Justice Coalition. He is a member of the USEPA’s National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC), a past
Chair of the APHA Environment Section, on the Board of Community-Campus Partnerships for Health, a former member of the Board of Scientific Counselors for the CDC NCEH/ATSDR, and former Chair of the Alpha Goes Green Initiative, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. He is also a senior fellow in the Environmental Leadership Program.

Dr. Wilson has received many awards for his contributions and achievements as an environmental justice researcher and advocate. He is a 2018 Environmental Champion, Taking Nature Black Conference, Audubon Naturalists Society. He received the APHA Environment Section Damu Smith Environmental Justice Award in 2015. Additionally, Dr. Wilson received the Steve Wing International Environmental Justice Award in 2008.

**Samantha Rubright, DrPH, Manager of Communications and Partnerships, FracTracker Alliance**

Dr. Rubright is a communications manager with 12 years of experience working on controversial energy, public health, and environmental issues. She is currently the Manager of Communications and Partnerships for FracTracker Alliance, a non-profit whose mission is to study, map, and communicate the risks of oil and gas development to protect the planet and support the renewable energy transformation. With FracTracker, she conducts and translates environmental health research for the website; nurtures collaborative relationships; manages FracTracker’s student internship program; and serves as the primary contact for media inquiries. Certified in Public Health, Dr. Rubright obtained a Master of Public Health degree in 2010 from the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health’s Behavioral and Community Health Sciences department, and more recently in 2016 her Doctor of Public Health degree from Pitt Public Health’s Environmental and Occupational Health department, focusing on the effects of exposure to cyanide and hydrogen sulfide. Additionally, she has explored and advised on the impacts of extractive industries on communities and public health in Africa and Europe.
**Samuel Jordan**, President, Baltimore Transit Equity Coalition

The Baltimore Transit Equity Coalition was formed out of the Baltimore Red Line Title VI Initiative, a group of community economic development advocates in West Baltimore who contributed thousands of collective hours of time to plan the Red Line as a successful transportation and community development project. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibits the disparate and adverse impacts on African-American and low income communities accompanying the Red Line’s cancellation.

---

**Sarah Anderson**, Lillie Leaf Solutions

Sarah Lillie Anderson is the Founder & CEO of Lillie Leaf Solutions, LLC, a consulting firm which delivers professional services to those working with natural resources in urban areas. Throughout her career, Anderson has specialized in professional development for urban greening professionals. She has channeled her passion for supporting urban parks and forestry practitioners via recent Lillie Leaf projects, including delivering the conference program for the Greater & Greener 2017 International Urban Parks Conference and hosting the first ever Trees for All: Chesapeake Regional Environmental Justice Workshop. Sarah serves as Vice Chair for the Chesapeake Bay Program Diversity Workgroup, and Chairs the Audubon Naturalist Society Membership Committee. She is active as a community volunteer, speaker, and mentor. Anderson has her Master’s Degree in Public Administration from Bowie State University and a dual Undergraduate degree in Urban and Environmental Studies with a certificate in Geographic Information Systems from the University of Pittsburgh.
Seema Kakade, University of Maryland Carey School of Law, Environmental Law Clinic Director

Seema Kakade joined the University of Maryland Carey School of Law as an Assistant Professor and Director of the Environmental Law Clinic in July, 2017. Professor Kakade has extensive practical experience in implementation, enforcement, and compliance with environmental law. Her substantive expertise and research interests are in the area of air pollution, energy, and climate change. Prior to joining the law school, Professor Kakade served as a federal government attorney with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Office of Civil Enforcement, and the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of General Counsel. At both agencies, Professor Kakade won numerous awards for her work, including several bronze and silver medals for service, and twice received the Administrator’s Award for Excellence. Before her federal government practice, she worked as a research attorney and Co-Director of the India Program at the Environmental Law Institute. She also spent time as a litigation associate in private practice. Professor Kakade holds a bachelors in Economics and International Relations, with a Certificate in Environmental Studies from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She received her JD from the George Washington University Law School. She is a member of the South Asian Bar Association.

Shizuka (Zukes) Hsieh, is an Associate Professor of Chemistry at Trinity Washington University, a liberal arts college dedicated to serving women from underrepresented groups and low-income families, mostly from the DC area. After a 2009 AAAS Science and Technology Policy Fellowship at US EPA with a focus on Environmental Justice, she has worked with local atmospheric chemists to set up air quality monitoring for communities that bear a disproportionate burden of pollution. She was a part of the Ivy City Right to Breathe partnership with Empower DC, and has been working with residents of the Buzzard Point neighborhood since 2016. Hsieh was Associate Professor of Chemistry at Smith College (2008-2013) and a Henry Dreyfus Teacher-Scholar. She mentored 26 undergraduate researchers, half of whom were
co-authors, in laser spectroscopy and molecular reaction dynamics. She has taught courses in environmental chemistry and pollution, with the Associated Kyoto Program in Japan and at Oberlin College. Hsieh attended Oxford as a Marshall Scholar, and holds a D.Phil. in Physical Chemistry. Her B.A. in Chemistry is from Carleton College.

Valerie Butler, Community Activist and Resident of Mt. Winans. Valerie Butler, BS is the oldest of three of parents children and a mother of three children with four grandchildren. She has been a CPR/AED and First Aid instructor for 20 years through American Heart Association and presently with the National Safety Council. She is also a retired Paramedic Firefighter from Baltimore City Fire Department since 2005. She has been an educator with Baltimore City Public School system for 8 years working with at risk youth through the Great Program at Carver High School and also taught health and emergency services at Patterson High School before taking a leave of absence in 2012 to return to school full time on scholarship to complete her sports degree (May 2017). She has always been an advocate of the people from health and safety issues to educating people of a variety of safety concerns which started while she was a member of the Baltimore City Fire Department. She has worked under the leadership of Pastor Patricia Johnson in the Shalom Ministries to empower communities on various issues plaguing our communities from substances abuse, homelessness, literacy and senior concerns. She is an active member of the Mt. Winans Community Association to address issues related to transportation, health and safety, housing, youth involvement and education.
Vivek Maru, JD, Chief Executive Officer at Namati: Innovations in Legal Empowerment. Vivek Maru started Namati in 2011 to grow the movement for legal empowerment around the world. Namati and its partners have built cadres of grassroots legal advocates – also known as “community paralegals” – in eight countries. The advocates have worked with more than 65,000 people to protect community lands, enforce environmental law, and secure basic rights to health care and citizenship. Namati convenes the Global Legal Empowerment Network, made up of over 1000 groups in 120 countries who are learning from one another and collaborating on common challenges. This community successfully advocated for inclusion of access to justice in the new global development framework, the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals. From 2003 to 2007, Vivek co-founded and co-directed the Sierra Leonean organization Timap for Justice, which has been recognized by the International Crisis Group, Transparency International, and President Jimmy Carter as a pioneering model for delivering justice services in the context of a weak state and a plural legal system. From 2008 to 2011, he served as senior counsel in the Justice Reform Group of the World Bank. His work focused on rule of law reform and governance, primarily in West Africa and South Asia. Vivek was named a Social Entrepreneur of the Year by the World Economic Forum, a “legal rebel” by the American Bar Association, and an Ashoka Fellow. He, Namati, and the Global Legal Empowerment Network received the Skoll Award for Social Entrepreneurship in 2016.

Walkiria Pool, is the president and founder for Centro de Apoyo Familiar or Center for Assistance to Families (CAF) a non-profit organization with offices in Riverdale, Maryland, Fall Church, Virginia and Lawrence, Massachusetts which mission is to revitalize and stabilize communities and families through economic social and educational empowerment in collaboration with faith-based organizations. Ms. Pool’s professional career includes more than 20 years of experience in community development and the housing industry with a focus on affordable housing, wealth and asset building. She earned her Master’s degree in
Community Economic Development from Southern New Hampshire University and a graduate certificate in Women and Politics and Public Policy from the University of Massachusetts in Boston. As an undergraduate Ms. Pool earned her bachelor’s Degree from the University of Massachusetts in Boston, majoring in Psychology and Sociology. Ms. Pool was responsible for developing and implementing the Project “Más a ti” for the National Council of La Raza, or UNIDOS US, the first community-based financial institution for low-income families. Centro de Apoyo Familiar or Center for Assistance to Families (CAF) works with a network of more than 200 pastors empowering communities and families. Together over 25,000 families have been served in areas such as foreclosure prevention, homeownership, financial management, business development, workforce development, healthy eating, environmental health protection and much more.

Willow Lung-Amam, PhD, Assistant Professor, Urban Studies and Planning & Director of Community Development, National Center for Smart Growth Research and Education, University Maryland

Dr. Lung-Amam serves as Director of Community Development at the National Center for Smart Growth Research and Education. She is also Affiliate Faculty at American University’s Metropolitan Policy Center and at the University of Maryland’s Consortium on Race, Gender, and Ethnicity, the Department of American Studies, the programs in Historic Preservation and Asian American Studies, and a Faculty Associate at the Maryland Population Research Center. She is a 2017 Nancy Weiss Malkiel Scholar and former Ford Postdoctoral Fellow. Her work has been supported by the Ford Foundation, Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Environmental Protection Agency, Enterprise Community Partners, Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development, and other local, state and federal agencies and foundations.

Dr. Lung-Amam’s scholarship focuses on the link between social inequality and the built environment. It is concerned with how the conditions in disadvantaged communities are shaped by urban politics, policy, and planning and design practice and the changing metropolitan geographies of social and economic inequality. She is the author of *Trespassers? Asian Americans and the Battle for Suburbia*
(University of California Press) and has written numerous articles on the topic of Asian immigrant suburbanization. Other recent projects have focused on equitable development, gentrification, the suburbanization of poverty, and the geography of opportunity. Her research has appeared also various journals and books such as *Journal of Urban Design* and *Journal of Planning, Education and Research*, and popular media outlets, including *The Washington Post*, *The Baltimore Sun*, and *The Atlantic’s CityLab*. She also teaches graduate and undergraduate courses in urban inequality and diversity, social planning, and community development.

**Yinka N. Bode-George,** Program Manager, Maryland Environmental Health Network

Yinka N. Bode-George is an environmental public health advocate, and is enthusiastic about creating health equity, environmental justice, and sustainable development through activism, policy, and practice. As a Program Manager for the Maryland Environmental Health Network (MdEHN), Yinka develops, implements, and promotes effective programmatic initiatives. She also promotes environmental health equity through legislative action. Yinka has worked in various capacities in support of programs that promote health outcomes and undo drivers of health inequities in Baltimore City. She is a graduate of Johns Hopkins School of Public Health where she received her Master of Health Science degree in Environmental Health.

**Yu-Wei Wang,** PhD, Research Director/Assistant Director of the Counseling Center, Clinical Associate Professor, University of Maryland Counseling Center

Dr. Yu-Wei Wang is the Research Director and Assistant Director of the Counseling Center, Clinical Associate Professor with the University of Maryland Counseling Center. The primary charges of the Counseling Center Research Unit that she directs are to conduct the annual University New Student Census and the survey completed by undergraduate students who withdraw from the University. Dr. Wang has published articles and book chapters on international and multicultural issues in psychology, counseling, education, & training; stress, trauma, and coping/problem solving. Dr. Wang received her Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology from the University of Missouri.
Yudith A. Nieto is an organizer and advocate born in Mexico who grew up in the fence-line refining community of Manchester in Houston, TX. Out of necessity to mobilize her community, she joined the environmental justice movement and dedicated her media making skills, advocacy, and art to confronting the petrochemical industries that perpetuate environmental racism in marginalized communities of color. She attended the Four Directions Intergenerational Youth Exchange of Los Jardines Institute in Albuquerque, NM, in 2013 where she learned how the Chicana, Mexican American, and Indigenous cultures are intrinsically linked. Yudith now serves on the planning committee for Four Directions and is currently part of NEJAC’s Youth Perspectives on Climate Change Work Group, to continue to build youth leadership to contribute to the discussion on the many issues youth face in their communities at the mercy of the fossil fuel industry, as well as other human rights issues that impact their way of life.

Nancy J. Meyer is the Chief Executive Officer of Community Forklift and has been a tireless advocate and visionary leader advocating a holistic approach to environmental issues, community development, economic justice, civil and women’s rights. She has seamlessly woven these causes together at Community Forklift and throughout the local community. She has taken Community Forklift from a struggling start up to a thriving building materials reuse center with revenues of over $2 million annually and more than 40 employees. She is also Chair of the Port Towns Community Development Corporation which is a regional leader in the development of the Port Towns EcoDistrict. She is a seasoned social justice organizer, scholar and environmentalist. With almost thirty years of experience, she demonstrates how to take good ideas and translate them into action. Nancy is an independent scholar whose work focuses on participatory action, women, political analysis and the dynamics of social change.