

SECURING **OUR** FUTURE ECONOMIC MOBILITY SUMMIT

Building pathways for upward mobility

Program Guide



December 5, 2022

Palm Beach County Convention Center

Updated 11/2022

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A Letter from our Chairs

We are excited about our 1st Annual Securing Our Future Initiative (SOFI) Economic Mobility Summit. SOFI seeks to move community stakeholders in bold new directions to address poverty by laying the foundation for a comprehensive, integrated system of social supports that will empower families as they advance economically. This community-driven, data-informed effort will enable system leaders to work collaboratively to strengthen our local ecosystem, increase financial stability for families and dismantle public policies that perpetuate racial, geographical, and other types of inequities within our workforce, healthcare, education and criminal justice systems.

With multiple collective impact initiatives currently underway, this summit aims to increase awareness about how various health and human services organizations are promoting cross-sector alignment. The workshops will highlight our local efforts to enhance access to health and human service supports in order to help families advance economically.

We are committed to challenging mental models and shifting embedded social narratives that shape policies, institutional practices and resource flows. We are also committed to finding sustainable solutions with the people who are most affected, keeping families in the center of our work and strengthening the relationship between service providers and the families we serve.

By partnering with us for this Summit and engaging in this conversation, you will have the opportunity to shape solutions that will encourage the workforce of the future.

Thank you in advance for supporting this conference and our local economic mobility initiative. Together, we can ensure that every child and family has the opportunity to live in a community where the promise of becoming financially independent is a reality.



Dr. Merlene Ramnon

Community Health Promotion and Education Director,
Florida Department of Health Palm Beach County
Chair, Citizens Advisory Committee



Dr. Lisa Williams-Taylor

CEO, Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County
Birth to 22 Alliance
Steering Committee Co-Chair



Tammy Fields, Esq.

Director, Youth Services Department
Birth to 22 Alliance
Steering Committee Co-Chair

Welcome to the 2022 Securing Our Future Economic Mobility Summit

The objective of the summit is to bring systems leaders together in support of our unemployed or underemployed families. The workshops and plenary sessions will provide information about ways in which health and human services systems can work collaboratively to help families earn more and move out of poverty. To enhance the networking and learning opportunities during the summit, local workshop presenters are matched with national speakers with similar expertise.

You are crucial in finding sustainable solutions for families experiencing poverty, keeping our families in the center of our work, and strengthening our relationship with them. Participating in this event demonstrates your commitment to eliminating inequities that keep our families in poverty.

Committee Members

Dr. James Green

Director, Palm Beach County
Community Services Department

Mrs. Jodie Boisvert

Coordinator, Securing Our Future
Initiative, Palm Beach County
Community Services Department

Mr. Jonathan Brown

Director, Palm Beach County
Department of Housing and Economic
Development

Ms. Sherry Howard

Deputy Director, Palm Beach County
Department of Housing and Economic
Development

Anne Caroline Valtin

Member, Citizens Advisory Committee

Jaime-Lee Bradshaw

Chief Strategy Officer, Community
Partners of South Florida

Ms. Julia Dattolo

President/Chief Executive Officer,
CareerSource Palm Beach County

Ms. Tammy Fields, Esq.

Director, Palm Beach County Youth
Services Department

Ms. Geeta Loach-Jacobson

Director of Outreach and Community
Programming, Palm Beach County
Youth Services Department

Mr. Ike Powell

Senior Program Specialist, Palm Beach
County Youth Services Department

Dr. Lisa Williams-Taylor

Chief Executive Officer, Children's
Services Council Palm Beach County

Ms. Wilneeda Emmanuel

Chief of Staff, Commissioner Mack
Bernard

Ms. Donna Quinlan

Vice President of Community Impact,
United Way of Palm Beach County

Ms. Sandra Wright

Director of Programs, CareerSource
Palm Beach County

Ms. Jennifer Kuiper

Associate Program Director, Resilient
Economies & Communities, National
Association of Counties

Ms. Carolina Buitrago

Senior Program Manager, Resilient
Economies & Communities, National
Association of Counties

Mr. Mack Bernard

Palm Beach County Commissioner,
District 7

Download our Economic Mobility Summit App!

You will have full access to materials from the speakers; get to chat and share photos with other attendees; and stay connected throughout the entire conference!

Scan the QR code with your smartphone or mobile device to download the app. Available for Apple and Android devices.

Search for our event using the code: **SOFIEMS2022** or the phrase **Securing Our Future Initiative Economic Mobility Summit**



About the Securing Our Future Initiative

The Securing Our Future Initiative (SOFI) was developed through the Birth to 22 Alliance as a strategy to facilitate the financial upward mobility of our families to ensure our youth have the resources they need to thrive in our community.

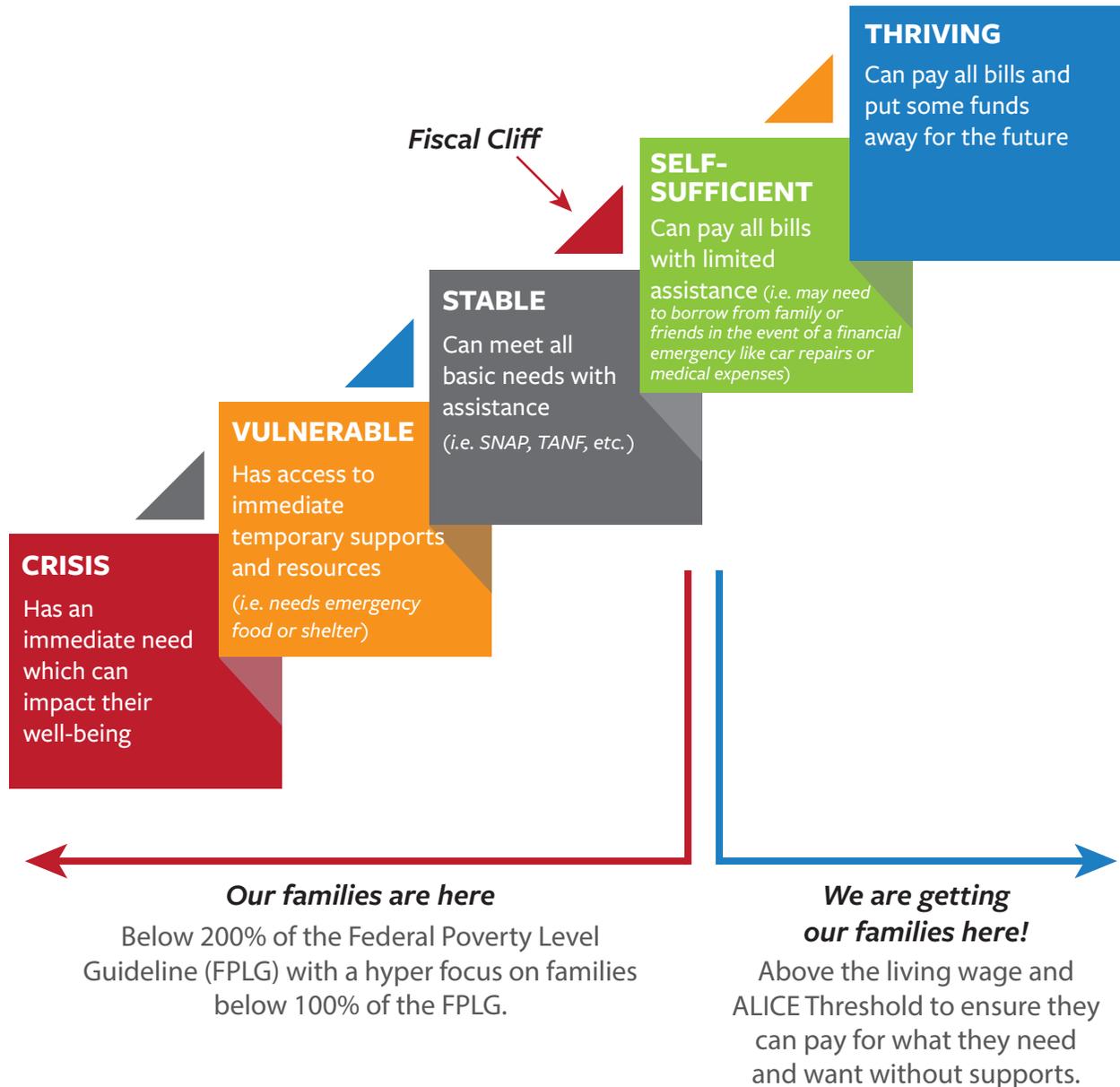
Palm Beach County Community Services Department answered the call to lead this collective-impact, poverty-reduction initiative. As a well-respected Health and Human Services funder in Palm Beach County, the Community Services Department acknowledged they had the opportunity to engage local nonprofit organizations in the work of SOFI so they designed outcomes for SOFI and released a Request for Proposals to appoint community organizations that could conduct activities yielding the poverty-reducing outcomes identified.

Following the Request for Proposals, a number of organizations were selected to participate in the Securing Our Future Initiative. The Initiative has undergone shifting and transformations over the last three years and we are happy to announce that we are beginning our second three-year grant cycle in October 2022!

As you will see on the next few pages, the Securing Our Future Initiative has made strides in reducing childhood poverty in Palm Beach County. We have accomplished much in the last three years and acknowledge there is still much more work to do. We are proud to collaborate with our local community to achieve a 10% reduction of childhood poverty over the next 10 years.

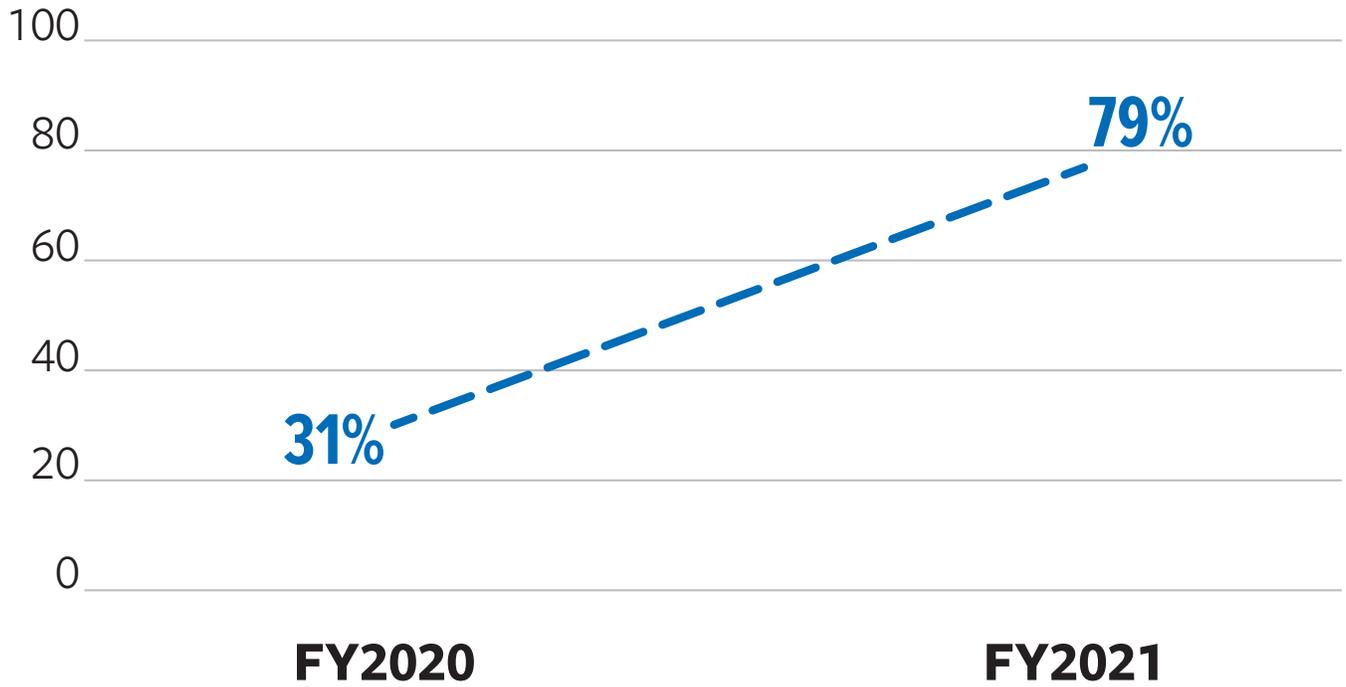


Self-Sufficiency Continuum

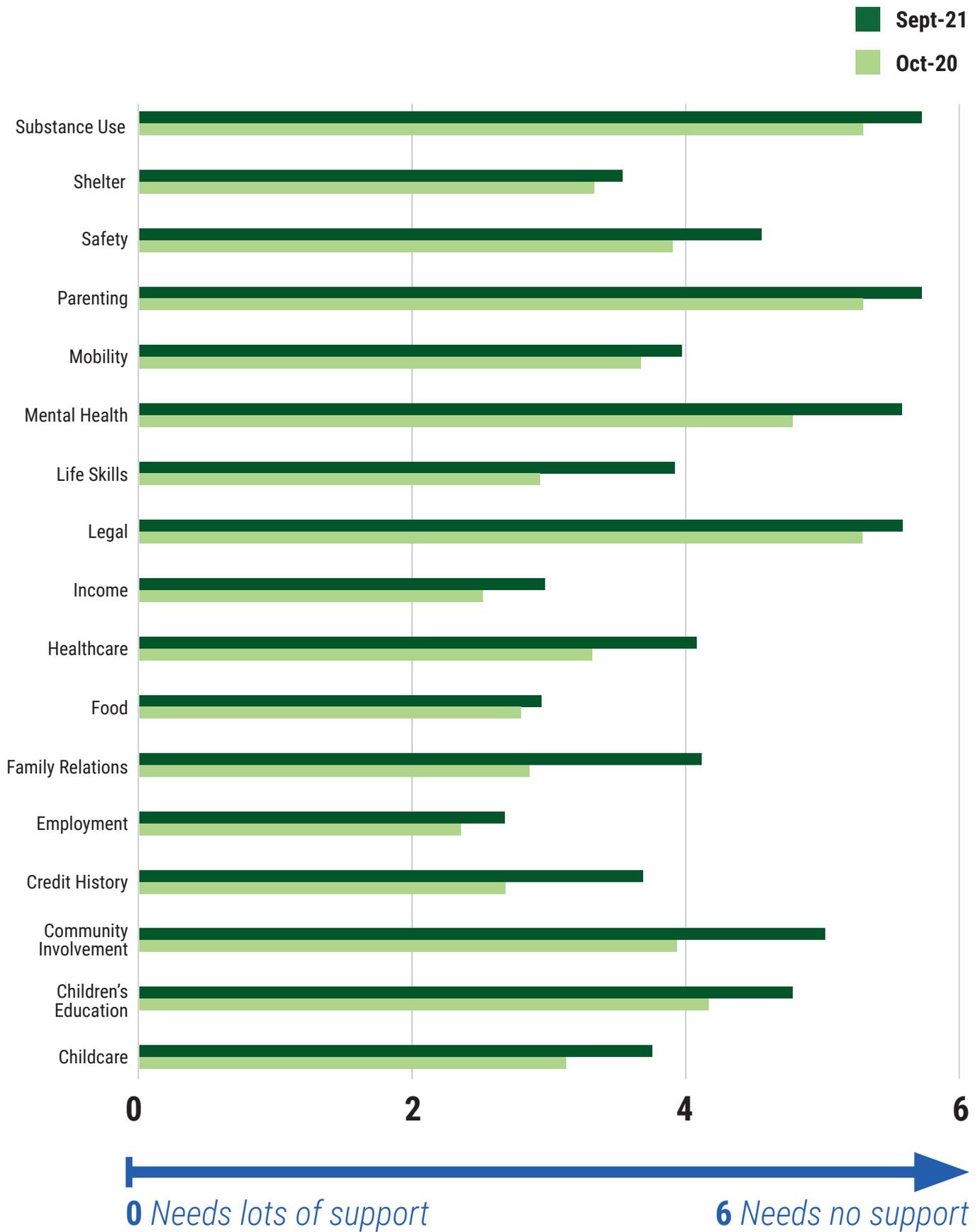


Data and Results

Percentage of Families Increasing Income



Self-Sufficiency Assessments

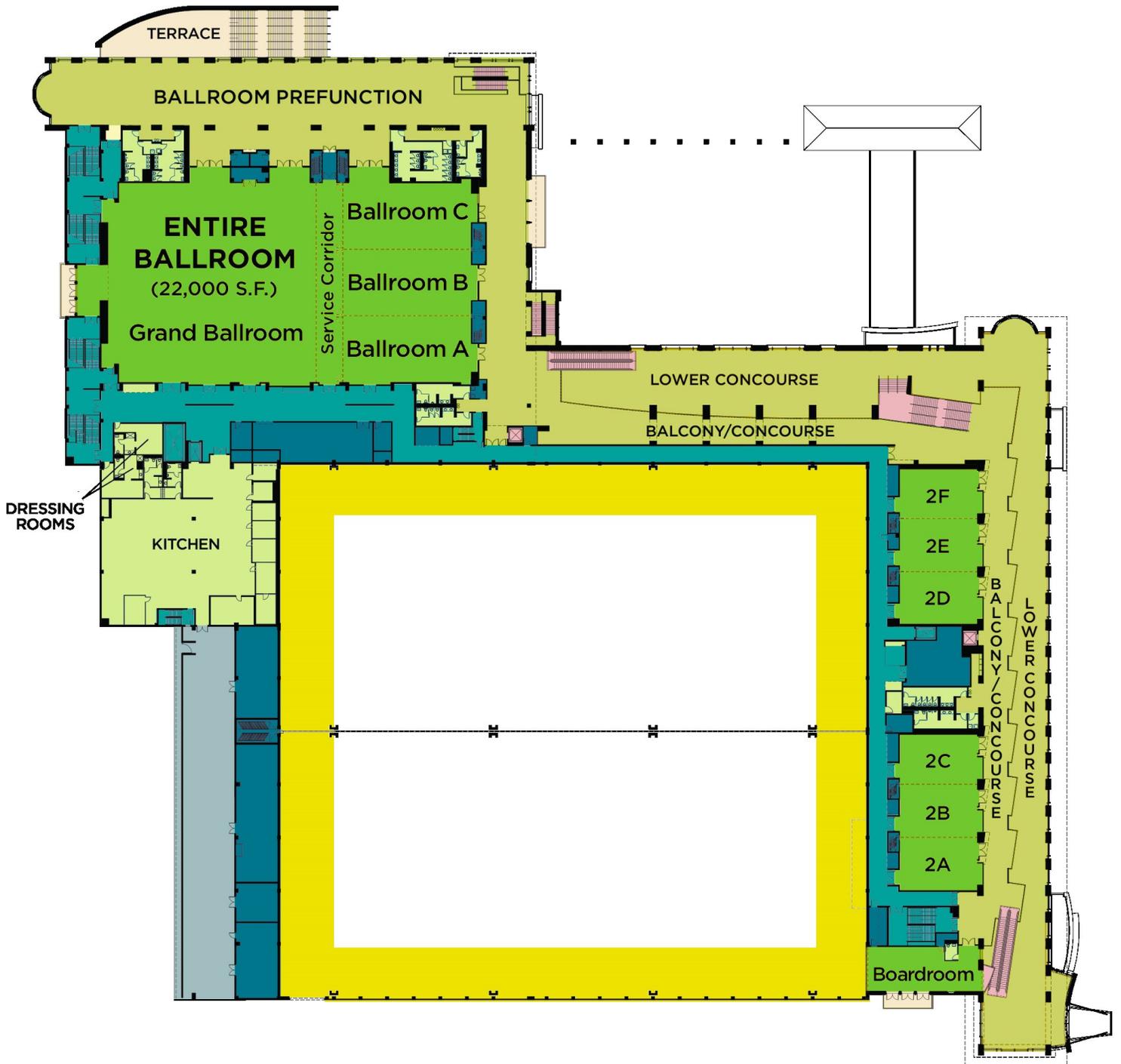


“Christmas 2020 was my most proudest moment ever. I bought a live tree, and every single present under that tree by myself, no help from anyone, not cheap things to be able to let them have something. I used to cry every single Christmas because I always felt so bad, this year I cried because of what I have accomplished.”

~ Linda

Securing Our Future Initiative Client

Convention Center Map



Agenda

9:00AM – 10:15AM

Opening Plenary Session: *Leveraging Social Capital Networks to Advance Economic Mobility;* **Grand Ballroom**

10:30AM – 11:30AM

Barred from Unemployment: *Promoting Criminal Justice Policy Reform to Promote Economic Mobility;* **Ballroom C**

Taking the Long View: *Using Health as a Lever to Advance Economic Mobility;* **Ballroom A**

Food and Economics: *Leveraging the Food System to Promote Economic Mobility;* **Ballroom B**

Intentional Relationships: *Improving Pathways for Upward Mobility for Low-Earning Workers;* **Room 2EF**

12:00PM – 1:15PM

Land of Opportunity Lunch Panel: *Place, Race, and Economic Mobility;* **Grand Ballroom**

1:30PM – 2:30PM

For the Public Good: *Investing in Childcare to Promote Economic Mobility;* **Ballroom C**

Housing and Opportunity: *Best Practices for Addressing Housing Barriers to Advance Family Economic Mobility;* **Room 2EF**

Opening the Door: *Educations' Role in Earnings, Employment, and Economic Mobility;* **Ballroom B**

Getting Around to Get Ahead: *The Role of Transportation in Fostering Economic Mobility;* **Ballroom A**

2:45PM – 3:45PM

Opportunity Accelerator: *Advancing Economic Mobility Through Technology;* **Grand Ballroom**

Schedule of Events

9:00AM – 10:15AM
Grand Ballroom

OPENING PLENARY SESSION

Leveraging Social Capital Networks to Advance Economic Mobility

Can an individual's social network be a factor in their ability to earn more and achieve the American Dream? Can socially connected communities provide a pathway out of poverty? This session will explore economic connectedness and its association with upward mobility. This session will also discuss the relationship between upward mobility and other factors like racial segregation and poverty. This session will end with recommendations on how communities can leverage social networks to help families who are experiencing poverty advance economically

Keynote Speaker:

Dr. Raj Chetty

Professor, *Public Economics at Harvard University*
Director, *Opportunity Insights*

Panelist:

Dr. Camille Busette

Director, *Race, Prosperity, and Inclusion Initiative, Brookings Institute*

Moderator:

Mr. Scott Hansel

Chief Executive Officer, *Community Partners of South Florida*

10:30AM – 11:30AM
Ballroom C

SAFETY AND JUSTICE

Barred from Employment: Promoting Criminal Justice Police Reform to Promote Economic Mobility

Some policies promoted within the criminal justice system adversely impacts an individual's ability to obtain gainful employment. When a person is imprisoned, family members may struggle to make ends meet and children struggle mentally and emotionally causing an enormous amount of stress on the family unit. Returning citizens experience even more stress when attempting to reintegrate into society. This session will uncover ways to eliminate barriers to economic mobility so that families can thrive economically during and after an interaction with the criminal justice system.

Panelists:

Ms. Sarah Couture

Florida State Director, *Fines and Fees Justice Center*

Ms. Regenia Herring

Executive Director, *Palm Beach County Criminal Justice Commission*

Mr. Orié Bullard

Director, *Reentry Center, City of Riviera Beach*

Moderator:

Ms. Jessica Hildago

Program Manager, *Reentry Center, Palm Beach County Public Safety*

10:30AM – 11:30AM
Ballroom A

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Taking the Long View: Using Health as a Lever to Advance Economic Mobility

The health and wellness of a person can significantly impact their ability to gain and/or maintain employment. Individuals with poor health are more likely to experience poverty; those who are employed often do not get paid when they miss work due to an illness. Many families struggle to pay for medical care which perpetuates a cycle of mental anguish and emotional distress. This session will focus on innovative strategies to promote health and wellness while aligning policies and institutional practices to enhance opportunities for economic mobility.

Panelists:

Mr. Eric Kelly

President, *Quantum Foundation*

Mr. Mighty Fine

Director, *Center for Public Health Practice and Professional Development, American Public Health Association*

Moderator:

Mrs. Andrea Stephenson Royster

Chief Executive Officer, *Health Council of Southeast Florida*

10:30AM – 11:30AM
Ballroom B

FOOD AND HUNGER

Food and Economics: Leveraging the Food System to Promote Economic Mobility

Key stakeholders within Palm Beach County are engaging in a new endeavor to alleviate the hunger needs of impoverished families, whereby improving their ability to gain and maintain employment. This comprehensive hunger relief strategy could also create opportunities for entrepreneurship in the food and hunger space. This session will share insights on recent efforts to enhance the county's food infrastructure and ways it could help promote economic mobility for individuals and families.

Panelists:

Florence French Fagan

Southeast Senior State Director, *Bread for the World*

Ms. Jamie Kendall

Chief Executive Officer, *Palm Beach County Food Bank*

Ms. SueJay Collins

Southeast Regional Economic Self-Sufficiency Program Manager, *Department of Children and Families*

Moderator:

Terri Shermett

Vice President of Hunger Relief, *United Way of Palm Beach County*

10:30AM – 11:30AM
Room 2EF

EMPLOYMENT

Intentional Relationships: Improving Pathways for Upward Mobility for Low-Earning Workers

Families experiencing poverty have limited social and human capital to support their opportunities to advance economically. Research has shown that these social networks can significantly improve an individual's prospect to become financially independent. This workshop will explore evidence-based models that can help families build social capital, whereby enhancing pathways for employment and opportunities to advance economically.

Panelists:

Dr. Camille Busette

Director, *Race, Prosperity, and Inclusion Initiative, Brookings Institute*

Ms. Kamatara Johnson

Executive Director, *Circles USA*

Moderator:

Ms. Kemberly Bush

Chief Executive Officer, *Pathways to Prosperity*

12:00PM – 1:15PM
Grand Ballroom

LUNCH PANEL

Land of Opportunity: Place, Race, and Economic Mobility

Rates of upward mobility vary substantially based on where children grow up; low-income families are segregated into lower-opportunity areas. Oftentimes, communities of color, limited to specific zip codes throughout Palm Beach County, struggle with poverty and economic mobility. This plenary session will explore how a person's zip code and race can impact their future. The session will close with action items organizations can implement to be a catalyst for change.

Dr. Camille Busette

Director, *Race, Prosperity, and Inclusion Initiative, Brookings Institute*

Mr. Josh Kirschenbaum

Chief Operating Officer, *PolicyLink*

1:30PM – 2:30PM
Ballroom C

CHILDCARE
For the Public Good: Investing in Childcare to Promote Economic Mobility

The lack of affordable, quality childcare is a significant barrier to employment for parents of young children. When parents are unemployed or out of the labor force, it is more challenging for them to move up the economic ladder. Furthermore, substantial research demonstrates that accessible high-quality childcare positively affects childhood growth, physical development and health, cognitive, behavioral, and school outcomes; thus, lack of such child care access limits the child's future economic mobility. This session will focus on strategies to enhance childcare supports to help individuals advance economically.

Panelists:

Mr. Warren Eldridge

Chief Executive Officer, *Early Learning Coalition*

Dr. Julian Serrano

Executive Director, *Head Start Palm Beach County*

Dr. Herman Knopf

Senior Research Scientist, *University of Florida*

Ms. Michele Watson

Chief Executive Officer, *Florida Alliance of Children's Councils & Trusts*

Moderator:

Mr. Randy Palo

Director of Programs, *Children's Services Council*

1:30PM – 2:30PM
Room 2EF

HOUSING
Housing and Opportunity: Best Practices for Addressing Housing Barriers to Advance Economic Mobility

Housing is a significant driver for economic mobility. There are a number of efforts currently underway to increase the availability of affordable housing throughout Palm Beach County. This workshop will discuss housing strategies that can improve access to affordable housing supports and will share policy recommendations that can help families advance economically.

Panelists:

Ms. Wendy Tippet

Director of Human Services and Community Action, *Palm Beach County Community Services Department*

Dr. Philip Lewin

Professor of Sociology, *Florida Atlantic University*

Ms. Chantelle Wilkinson

Campaign Manager for Opportunity Starts at Home, *National Low-Income Housing Coalition*

Moderator:

Ms. Sherry Howard

Deputy Director, *Palm Beach County Department of Housing and Economic Development*

1:30PM – 2:30PM
Ballroom B

EDUCATION

Opening the Door: Educations' Role in Earnings, Employment, and Economic Mobility

Education is a clear pathway to upward economic mobility. In today's high-tech world, highly skilled labor is in demand, and increasingly, education or a technical certification beyond high school is viewed as a requisite for earning an adequate standard of living. This workshop will discuss the relationship between education and economic mobility and will share strategies and policy recommendations that will maximize opportunities for impoverished families to advance economically.

Panelists:

Mr. Keith Oswald

Chief of Equity and Wellness, *School District of Palm Beach County*

President Ava Parker

President, *Palm Beach State College*

Ms. Rachel Hirsch

Senior Policy Analyst, *National Governors Association*

Ms. Tiffney Marley

Senior Vice President, Practice Transformation, *National Community Action Partnership*

Moderator:

Mr. Michael Corbit

Vice President, *CareerSource Palm Beach County*

1:30PM – 2:30PM
Ballroom A

TRANSPORTATION

Getting Around to Get Ahead: The Role of Transportation in Fostering Economic Mobility

Lack of reliable transportation can prevent individuals from gaining or maintaining employment. Furthermore, transportation is the second largest expense for American households, costing more than food, clothing and sometimes healthcare. In this session, we will discuss the critical impact transportation has on a family's ability to advance economically and share ways that key stakeholders are promoting upward mobility through transportation policy.

Panelists:

Mr. Andrew Uhrir

TPA Deputy Director of Programs, *Palm Beach Transportation Planning Agency*

Mr. Joshua Pedersen

Interim Senior Director, *211, United Way Worldwide*

Mr. Clinton Forbes

Executive Director, *Palm Tran*

Moderator:

Ms. Sharon L'Herrou

President and Chief Executive Officer, *211 Palm Beach and Treasure Coast*

2:45PM – 3:45PM
Grand Ballroom

CLOSING PLENARY SESSION

TECHNOLOGY

Opportunity Accelerator: Advancing Economic Mobility Through Technology

This session will discuss the use of technology and system integration to improve access to health and human service supports. It will also discuss ways that the county's workforce development organization uses technology to identify industry trends and to match unemployed and underemployed skills with future job opportunities. Finally, this session will highlight ways that communities can use broadband as a tool to advance economic mobility.

Panelists:

Ms. Taruna Malhotra

Deputy Director, *Palm Beach County Community Services Department*

Mr. Peter Pignataro

Manager of Performance Analysis, *CareerSource Palm Beach County*

Ms. Jaime-Lee Bradshaw

Chief Strategy Officer, *Community Partners of South Florida*

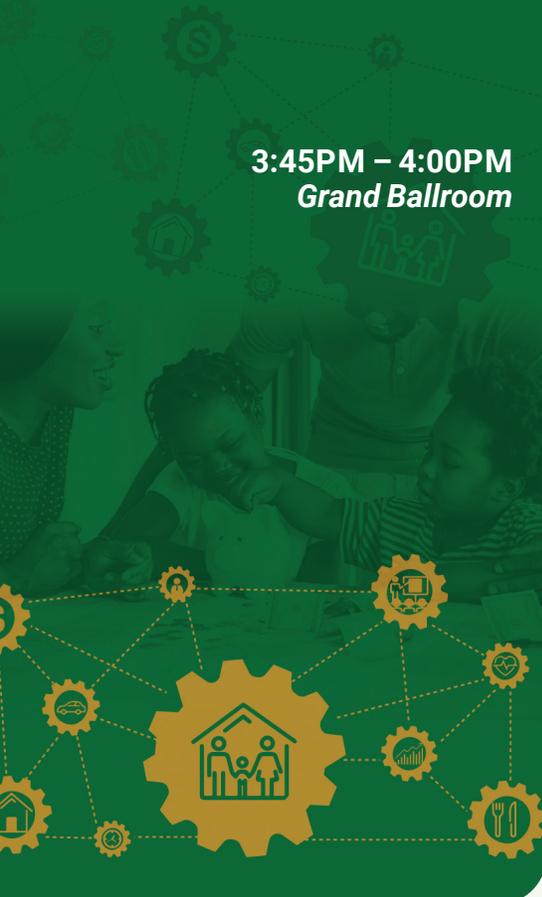
Moderator:

Mr. Eric Kelly

President, *Quantum Foundation*

3:45PM – 4:00PM
Grand Ballroom

CLOSING REMARKS



Speakers



Dr. Raj Chetty

Professor
Public Economics
at Harvard University

Director
Opportunity Insights

Dr. Raj Chetty is the William A. Ackman Professor of Economics at Harvard University. He is also the Director of *Opportunity Insights*, which uses “big data” to understand how we can give children from disadvantaged backgrounds better chances of succeeding. Chetty’s research combines empirical evidence and economic theory to help design more effective government policies. His work on topics ranging from tax policy and unemployment insurance to education and affordable housing has been widely cited in academia, media outlets, and Congressional testimony.

Chetty received his Ph.D. from Harvard University in 2003 and is one of the youngest tenured professors in Harvard’s history. Before joining the faculty at Harvard, he was a professor at UC-Berkeley and Stanford University. Chetty has received numerous awards for his research, including a MacArthur “Genius” Fellowship and the John Bates Clark medal, given to the economist under 40 whose work is judged to have made the most significant contribution to the field.





Dr. Camille Busette

Director

Race, Prosperity, and Inclusion Initiative, Brookings Institute

Camille M. Busette, Ph.D., is a Senior Fellow in Governance Studies with affiliated appointments in Economic Studies and the Metropolitan Policy programs. She is the Director of the Race, Prosperity, and Inclusion Initiative, Brookings's cross-program initiative focused on issues of equity, racial justice and economic mobility for low-income communities and communities of color. At Brookings, her work has focused on systemic racism, the economic advancement of Black and Native American boys, the importance of social relationships to economic mobility, and equity in healthcare and in local and state government policy priorities and builds on her work for low-income populations at EARN (now SaverLife) and the Center for American Progress.

Prior to joining Brookings, Busette was an executive at the World Bank where she led the World Bank's financial inclusion innovation arm, working globally with technology and financial service executives and with central bank governors on product, regulatory, data and cybersecurity issues. Before joining the World Bank, Busette was the inaugural CEO of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's Office of Financial Education, where she initiated research on financial well-being, and was a member of the Policy and Executive Management teams there. Busette has held executive positions at PayPal, Intuit, and NextCard and is a Public Governor of FINRA, the self-regulatory agency for the broker-dealer industry.





Josh Kirschenbaum

Chief Operating Officer
PolicyLink

Josh Kirschenbaum, Chief Operating Officer, enjoys building projects, initiatives, and organizations. As one of the original PolicyLink staff members, Josh has worked across the programmatic, communications, and operations teams, which allows him to bring comprehensive organizational knowledge to bear on supporting diverse alliances of internal and external teams to deliver on the promise of equity. His broad understanding of PolicyLink programs, funding, and partners enables him to design and launch new initiatives, drive organizational strategy, and chart the future of PolicyLink. Josh accomplishes this by being in steadfast service to the organization's mission, leadership, staff, and partners. When not immersed in the future of PolicyLink, he loves building alternative communities, dreaming of utopian societies, and chasing after his wild three-year-old, Sammy Rose.

Prior to joining PolicyLink, Josh was the director of special projects at the University of California, Berkeley Institute of Urban and Regional Development, where he managed a defense conversion research program and fostered partnerships between the university and the City of Oakland to strengthen and revitalize low-income neighborhoods. He holds a BA from Brown University and an MS in city and regional planning from the University of California, Berkeley.





Jamie -Lee Bradshaw

Chief Strategy Officer
*Community Partners of
South Florida*

Jamie-Lee Bradshaw serves as the Chief Strategy Officer at Community Partners of South Florida (CPSFL) in Palm Beach County, Florida. She first joined CPSFL as director at a neighborhood resource center, called BRIDGES. Jaime previously worked to support youth engaged in the criminal justice system, as an emergency housing case manager, an after-school director, and as a consultant for a local early childhood funder.

Through community building, stabilization, and engagement, Jaime has cultivated strong relationships with several local, regional, state, and national partners including NeighborWorks America, where she serves on the Community Initiatives Advisory Council and Everyday Democracy, where she manages CPSFL's anchor relationship designed to help build capacity and engage communities in creating positive change. In her current role, she oversees the implementation of the organizations' strategic plan, applying a strategy and equity lens to each of the organization's major lines of business, health, housing, and community. In her role as liaison for NeighborWorks America, she also supports the NeighborWorks Florida Collaborative as Coordinator. Jaime also supports various local and national efforts engaged in community engagement, collective impact, and comprehensive community development to create actionable outcomes.

Originally from Barbados, Jaime moved to Palm Beach County in 1987. An outspoken advocate of CPSFL's mission, she seeks to engage resident voice in all aspects of programs and projects that impact their community. Jaime received her degrees in Criminal Justice and Psychology from the University of North Florida. She is an alumna of the Nonprofits First Rising Leaders program and Leadership Palm Beach County. Jaime enjoys spending time with her family and friends both locally and abroad.



Orié Bullard

Director
 Reentry Center,
 City of Riviera Beach

Orié Bullard Orié Bullard is currently the director of The Reentry Center in Riviera Beach and has been on a mission for more than a decade to engage and empower his local community by diminishing the barriers for its most underserved population: returning citizens. Throughout his tenure at The Reentry Center, Orié has helped to impact the lives of more than 1500 criminal justice-involved men and women.

Orié's goal is to provide a sustainable system of care that educates and supports returning citizens and their families throughout the arduous reentry journey. With 15 years of executive level leadership in the Reentry field, Orié has been consistently effective in merging his transformational leadership style and passion for innovative community engagement to create impactful opportunities for returning citizens.





Kemberly Bush

**Co-Founder and
Chief Executive Officer**
Pathways to Prosperity

Kemberly Bush is the Co-Founder and CEO of Pathways to Prosperity, Inc., (P2P) a non-profit organization committed to strengthening communities by improving the lives of children and families in Palm Beach County through education and social services. She has more than 30 years of experience working with children, families, individuals and communities and holds a Bachelor of Social Work.

She began her career in addiction disorders and crisis management becoming one of the first Relapse Prevention Specialist in the state of Florida. At P2P, Kemberly has focused on partnership development, family strengthening and community improvement.





SueJay Collins

Regional Program Manager
Department of Children and Families

SueJay Collins is a Program Manager in the Office of Economic Self-Sufficiency for the Florida Department of Children and Families' Southeast Region. During more than 10 years of service with DCF, Sue-Jay has served in multiple roles, from determining eligibility for applicants seeking public benefits (Medicaid, Temporary Cash Assistance, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), to supervising Economic Self-Sufficiency Specialists, leading the Case Maintenance and Special Programs units, managing Operations, and managing Planning and Performance.

As Program Manager, Sue-Jay is responsible for ensuring staff are trained and policy is disseminated and implemented appropriately throughout the region (Palm Beach, Martin, St. Lucie, Indian River, Okeechobee, and Broward counties). Sue-Jay earned a bachelor's degree in health education from the University of Florida and a master's degree in public health from Florida International University.





Michael Corbit

**Vice President of
Business Development**
CareerSource Palm Beach County

Michael Corbit Michael Corbit is Vice President of Business Development for CareerSource Palm Beach County, our regional workforce board. Through CareerSource Michael collaborates with regional businesses, government, education & industry leaders to spur job growth and economic development. He represents CareerSource on a variety of boards and committees across South Florida including Palm Beach County League of Cities, City of West Palm Beach Mayor's Village Initiative, Miami Dade College Science and Biotechnology Advisory Board, Florida Makes, City of West Palm Beach Center for Arts & Technology, Business Development Board of PBC Business & Financial Services Committee, South Florida Tech Hub, Marine Industry Association of Palm Beach County, Palm Beach Transportation Planning Authority Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board, South Florida Manufacturers Association, South Florida Business Council Tourism Embassy, City of Boynton Beach Affordable Housing Advisory Council and numerous Hospitality & Tourism Task Forces.

Michael holds a BS Degree from Milligan College, TN and Executive Development Certificate from Nova Southeastern University, Davie, FL.





Sarah Couture

Florida State Director
Fines and Fees Justice Center

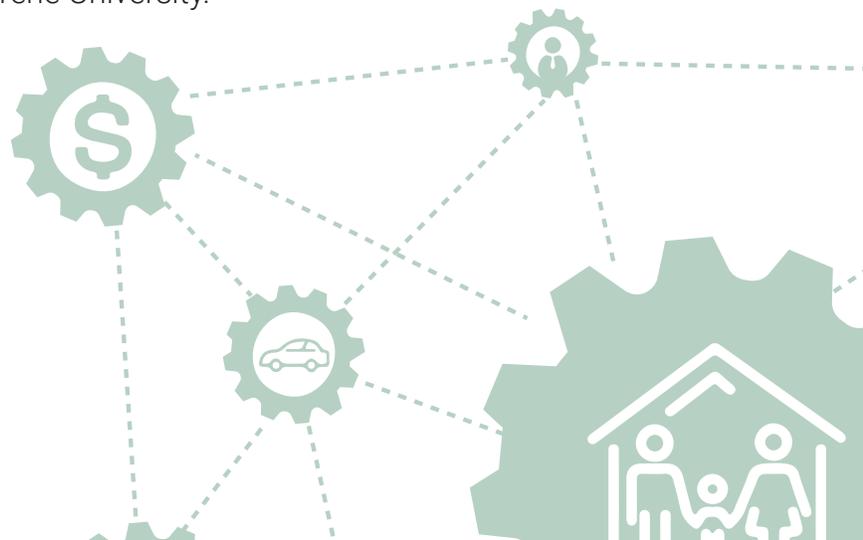
Sarah Couture is the Florida State Director, previously the Deputy Director, at the Fines and Fees Justice Center (FFJC). Sarah works with community organizations, legislators, and justice system stakeholders to advocate for and advance state and local campaigns for fines and fees reforms; and educates the public on fines and fees reform issues.

Before joining FFJC, Sarah was the Community Outreach Manager for Feeding Tampa Bay where she managed the SNAP Outreach Team that assisted clients with applying for SNAP benefits. Prior to joining Feeding Tampa Bay, Sarah was an employee of the State of Florida Courts System for over six years.

She began her career as a case manager for family law self-represented litigants in the 13th Judicial Circuit. She next served as the paralegal to the Legal Department of the 13th Judicial Circuit where she worked with and assisted staff attorneys, general counsel and judges. In her last position with the Florida Courts System, Sarah was a Court Operations Manager with the 5th Judicial Circuit assigned specifically to Hernando County.

Sarah was an active member of the National Association for Court Management and previously served as a Director on the Board of Directors until leaving the court system.

Sarah holds a Master's in Judicial Administration from Michigan State University, an Advanced Technical Certificate in Paralegal Studies from Hillsborough Community College and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration from Southern Nazarene University.





Warren Eldridge

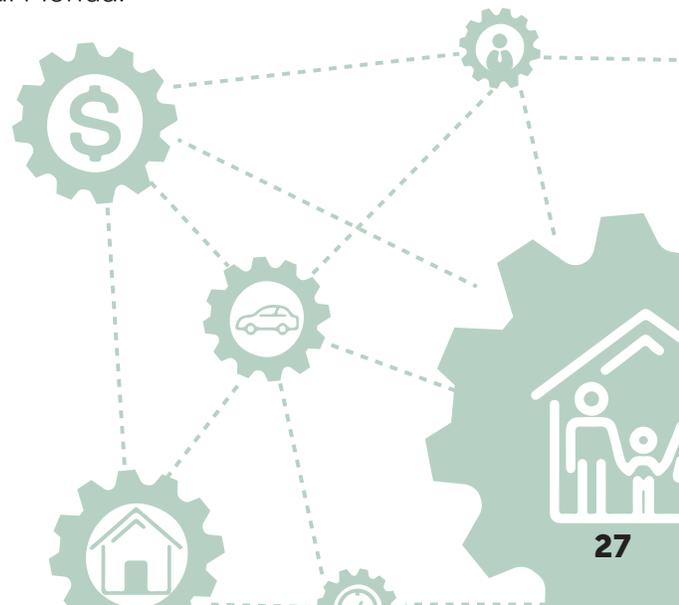
Chief Executive Officer
Early Learning Coalition

Warren Eldridge has been the Chief Executive Officer of the Early Learning Coalition of Palm Beach County since 2003. Overseeing one of the largest Early Learning Coalitions in the state, Mr. Eldridge and his team serve more than 30,000 children and their families, advancing quality care and education for Palm Beach County's youngest residents.

Mr. Eldridge has dedicated his career to improving the lives of Florida's children and families for more than two decades. Before his position at The Early Learning Coalition of Palm Beach County, he was Chief Operating Officer for the Miami-Dade School Readiness Coalition, Deputy Director for the Florida Partnership for School Readiness in Tallahassee, Vice President of Public Affairs and Government Relations at the Children's Forum, and Director of Community Affairs for the Child Care Resource Network.

Mr. Eldridge is also involved in numerous community and statewide partnerships and initiatives. He currently serves on the board for Association of Early Learning Coalitions. He has previously chaired the Board of Prime Time Palm Beach County, served as Regional Co-Chair for the Children's Movement of Florida, served as Vice-Chair at Healthy Start Volusia County and previously served as Chair of the legislative committee.

Mr. Eldridge received his bachelor's degree in Business Administration from the University of North Florida and post-graduate training in Education and Mental Health Counseling from the University of Central Florida.





Florence French Fagan

Southeast Senior State Organizer
Bread for the World

Florence French Fagan is the Senior Southeast Organizer with Bread for the World, a faith based advocacy organization advocating for federal policies that address the root causes of hunger. Florence is always searching for ways to connect people to one another to build community and hope, especially where challenges exist.





Mighty Fine

Director

Center for Public Health Practice and Professional Development, American Public Health Association (AHPA)

Mighty Fine is the Director of the Center for Public Health Practice and Professional Development at the American Public Health Association (APHA). His portfolio focuses on enhancing health science, policy, public health practice and public health leadership. He designs, develops, and evaluates public health programs and provides programmatic technical assistance, consultation and research translation support to local, state and national partners.

His efforts aim to not only prevent disease and infirmity but to also bolster opportunities for growth, development and self-actualization for individuals and communities. Trained as a Social Epidemiologist, his work has stemmed across various aspects of public health, including injury and violence prevention, maternal and family health, HIV/AIDS, HCV, social policy and chronic disease prevention.

Having lived and worked in rural and urban environments, Mighty credits this empirical insight with anchoring his understanding of systematic levers of oppression. Thus, a core part of his work has focused on addressing the structures that serve as pillars of disadvantage. He has built expertise in the social determinants of health and brings a social justice perspective to the assessment and prevention of public health issues. Mighty earned a Bachelor of Science in Public Health from Rutgers University and a Master of Public Health from Yale University, with a concentration in Social and Behavioral Sciences/Chronic Disease Epidemiology. He is also certified by the National Commission for Health Education as a Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES).

In his free time, Mighty enjoys both domestic and international travel, reading science fiction and spending time with family and friends.





Clinton Forbes

Executive Director

Palm Tran

For over 30 years, **Clinton Forbes** has solidified a reputation as a leader and innovator in public transportation. A Florida native, Forbes has been the Executive Director of Palm Tran since November 2015. Palm Tran, a mid-size transit agency, provides fixed-route and paratransit services to the geographically largest county east of the Mississippi River. The bus system, using over 400 vehicles, travels to every major destination in Palm Beach County providing more than nine million rides and nearly one million paratransit trips annually. Forbes is responsible for a \$174 million budget which includes local, state and federal funding.

Prior to Palm Tran, Forbes spent 25 years at the senior management and leadership levels at the Miami-Dade Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and three transit properties; Miami-Dade Transit (MDT), the Jacksonville Transportation Authority (JTA) and the Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA). At COTA, Forbes was Vice-President of Operations overseeing more than 900 employees. In November 2015, Forbes rejoined the South Florida community when he accepted the role of Palm Tran Executive Director.

Immediately upon arriving at Palm Tran, Forbes re-energized and transformed the Palm Beach County transit agency introducing a variety of bold and necessary enhancements.





Scott Hansel

Chief Executive Officer
*Community Partners
of South Florida*

Scott Hansel, CEO of Community Partners of South Florida (CPSFL), utilizes his expansive business and entrepreneurial experience to lead the vision, design and implementation of a comprehensive community development model that focuses on housing, financial coaching, community building and engagement and community mental health so that families and neighborhoods will thrive.

Scott serves on the Executive Committee of the Housing Leadership Council of Palm Beach County. Scott is Vice-Chair of the NeighborWorks Florida Collaborative, working to foster sustainable homeownership, develop affordable housing and provide needed capital to build strong, thriving communities. Most recently, he graduated from the NeighborWorks Achieving Excellence Program, in collaboration with Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government. Scott holds an MBA from Bellarmine University and a Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy from the University of Kentucky.





Regenia Herring

Executive Director
*Palm Beach County
Criminal Justice Commission*

Regenia Herring serves as the Executive Director of the Palm Beach County Criminal Justice Commission, a 32-member board of public/private sector members created by County Ordinance to study all aspects of the criminal justice and crime prevention systems within the federal, state, county, municipal and private agencies.

Ms. Herring holds a Master's degree in Management and a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminology. She has over 20 years of senior management experience leading human services and criminal justice initiatives, working with municipal and county government leadership, developing, coordinating, managing and evaluating programs and systems, and building successful alliances and collaboratives with community stakeholders (elected officials, judiciary, public defender, state attorney, government leaders, and community leaders and organizations). She brings a diverse public service background in law enforcement, corrections, court administration, community development and human services administration.

She has successfully developed, implemented, revamped and coordinated many multi-level jurisdictional criminal justice and human services initiatives that reduces the system's overreliance on the mass incarceration of low-level juvenile and adult offenders; saving millions in front-end processing costs. She is also an experienced and successful grant writer of federal and state grant awards for criminal justice, human services and community improvement programs.

She has many years of training and experience working within the criminal justice system, analyzing and evaluating programs, policies and systems for efficacy and effectiveness. She is a subject matter expert on systems and process design/redesign to improve outcomes and impact, community engagement, racial equity, and smart justice legislation.



Jessica Hildago

Program Manager
 Reentry Center,
 Palm Beach County Public Safety

Jessica Hildago joined Palm Beach County Public Safety in July 2018 as a Reentry Program Coordinator, and now serves as the Manager of Criminal Justice Programs with over 15 years of experience. In this role she builds and manages the reentry continuum, supports the Full Reentry Task Force, create initiatives to provide innovative programming to people returning from incarceration and work collaboratively towards systemic change. In 2018, she implemented a BJA grant enhancing current reentry efforts with transitional job opportunities coupled with cognitive behavior intervention. The initiative showed promising outcomes and has since been sustained through other funding sources.

Prior to the joining PBC Public Safety in 2018 her experience included facilitating classes inside institutions, HIV testing and counseling, providing intensive services to individuals returning to their community from incarceration, advocacy, and developing and overseeing adult and juvenile criminal justice programs.

Jessica was born and raised in New York. She graduated from Boston University and immediately relocated to sunny south Florida. It is here that she put down roots; meeting and marrying her husband, raising two amazing kids and the sweetest pup.





Rachel Hirsch

**Senior Policy Analyst,
Post Secondary Education**
National Governors Association

Rachel Hirsch serves as a senior policy analyst for the Economic Opportunity Division of the National Governors Association's Center for Best Practices, where she works to assist states in scaling and strengthening best practices in postsecondary education and workforce development. Her areas of focus include work-based learning and apprenticeship, sector partnerships and industry engagement, supportive services for those with barriers to employment, and reskilling and upskilling for adults.

Before working at NGA, Rachel was state network manager at National Skills Coalition. There, she led the organization's first-ever policy academy on work-based learning. She organized multiple statewide coalitions towards achieving policy impacts in expanding access to and success in education and training programs. Earlier in her career, Rachel ran a research project based out of Northwestern University focused on helping underserved high school youth improve their performance in job interviews. During graduate school, Rachel also held an internship on the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Rachel received her Master of Public Policy from Georgetown University and her Bachelor of Arts in communication studies from Northwestern University.

Rachel originally hails from Illinois.





Sherry Howard

Deputy Director

*Palm Beach County Department of
Housing and Economic Development*

Since 2012, **Sherry Howard** has served as the Deputy Director of Palm Beach County's Department of Housing & Economic Development. Sherry has been involved in managing the county's efforts to promote business and affordable housing development opportunities through Federal, State and local funding and through public-private partnerships.

With over 27 years in county government service, Sherry served previously as the County's Economic Development Director prior to merging with the Housing Department, 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 and serves on numerous Federal, State and local housing and economic development committees.





Kamatara Johnson

Executive Director
Circles USA

Kamatara Johnson has served the CUSA community of practice, which includes 80+ chapters across the United States and into Canada, for the last four years as the Chief Learning Officer and now as ED. With a master's degree in organizational leadership, almost 25 years of experience in secondary education, and a personal experience of poverty, Kamatara brings her skills, passion, and experience to deepen the expression of the Circles model which is building community to end poverty.

Kamatara holds the space for national collaboration, local innovation, and personal empowerment for all the people in the Circles family and beyond. Kamatara is also a licensed minister with the Centers for Spiritual Living and resides in Albuquerque, NM.





Eric Kelly

President
Quantum Foundation

Eric Kelly has a Bachelor of Science degree in Communications from Florida State University and a Masters of Nonprofit Management from Florida Atlantic University.

He is the President of Quantum Foundation—a West Palm Beach-based health corporation that manages a \$170 million investment portfolio. As President Eric is responsible for formulating strategy to deploy \$7.5 million annually to qualified organizations in Palm Beach County to improve community and health outcomes. He is a corporate officer of the foundation and manages the governing affairs of the corporation with the Board of Directors; and oversees all administrative duties. Eric is a community leader who works across the private, not-for-profit, and public sectors to ensure community improvement initiatives are sustainable and offer systemic solutions. Eric often challenges the historical philanthropic assumption of “doing charity” in an effort to create effective drivers for equitable change.

Eric is a member of the Board of Directors of Florida Philanthropic Network, a statewide association of private, corporate and family foundations, community foundations and public charities who hold \$6.5 billion in assets and collectively invest over \$430 million annually to communities around the state of Florida. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Southeastern Council of Foundations, a regional association of 340 grant-making foundations that represent 11 states in the American South and the U.S. Virgin Islands. He also serves on the Board of the Economic Council of Palm Beach County, a non-partisan business organization that supports collaboration between the public and private sectors in the County as well as the board of the Business Development Board of Palm Beach County.

Eric Kelly lives in West Palm Beach with his wife, Kirra. They have four children: Madison, Mason, Miles, Malachi and two family dogs, Meadow and Madden.



Jamie Kendall

Chief Executive Officer
Palm Beach County Food Bank

A new resident of Boynton Beach, **Jamie Kendall** moved to Palm Beach County after serving for 12 years as chief operating officer for America's Second Harvest of Coastal Georgia – a nonprofit focused on ending hunger in a 21-county area of Ga. In her last fiscal year there, her leadership allowed the food bank to more than double the amount of food they distributed, compared to years prior.

"I am extremely passionate about the mission of ending hunger," said Kendall. "I am an outside-the-box kind of leader and know that problems can be solved by being creative with our solutions. The Palm Beach County Food Bank has a great staff and an amazing board of directors who are each very involved with our mission to end hunger in our community. The need for our services is greater than ever and we must help our neighbors in need of assistance."

Prior to her most recent food bank experience, Kendall spent more than 25 years in the nonprofit sector, working for social service humanitarian organizations, as well as land conservation groups across the state of Ga. She is an Ohio native and attended Bowling Green State University.

The Palm Beach County Food Bank procures food from grocery stores, farmers, food distributors, wholesalers and other sources and provides it to almost 200 local community partners, including food pantries, soup kitchens and residential housing programs. Palm Beach County Food Bank programs reach families, children and seniors, and connect those in need to available benefits and resources. Partner agencies distribute the products received, including culturally appropriate food and necessities. This process ensures families have access to food when they need it most.

Jamie has two grown daughters that reside in Atlanta and New York. She enjoys art, music and traveling. She can often be found gardening or spending time with her two big dogs who keep her very busy!

**Dr. Herman Knopf**

Senior Research Scientist
University of Florida

Herman Knopf, Ph.D., joined the faculty at the University of Florida in 2016 as a Research Scientist at the Anita Zucker Center for Excellence in Early Childhood Studies. Immediately preceding his position at the University of Florida, Dr. Knopf served as the Director of the Yvonne & Schuyler Moore Child Development Research Center and an Associate Professor of Early Childhood Education at the University of South Carolina. Dr. Knopf has conducted research supported by the US Administration for Children and Families, Office of Planning Research and Evaluation; Florida Department of Education, Office of Early Learning; The South Carolina State Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs; the South Carolina Center for Child Care Career Development; and the South Carolina Department of Social Services, Division of Early Care and Education. Throughout his career, Dr. Knopf has focused to strengthen systems to coordinate efforts to leverage existing administrative data to build infrastructure to support data-informed policy decision making, transform professional development for early care and education practitioners, measure and support child and family access to quality child care services, and facilitate transdisciplinary partnerships among practitioners, policymakers and researchers to improve outcomes for young children and their families.





Dr. Philip Lewin

Professor of Sociology
Florida Atlantic University

I joined FAU's Sociology Department in 2014 after earning my Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Georgia. My last major research project examined how energy market changes, mining-related pollution, population loss, government malfeasance, opioid addiction, and cultural stigmatization were affecting communities in Central Appalachia. The purpose of the research was to document how mountain communities were responding to these social problems, produce knowledge that could be used to address them more effectively, and debunk cultural stereotypes about the region.

I recently began a new research project that examines how commercial real estate speculation, government housing policy, and public and private development initiatives have affected South Floridians' ability to access affordable housing; how various institutions and stakeholders within the region are responding to the rising cost of, and ability to profit from, housing; and the role that housing and the real estate market play in the production and reproduction of inequality in the United States.

In the past, I have also studied how young people use subcultures to bring attention to their unmet needs, adapt to blocked opportunities, and critique the deficiencies they perceive in mainstream society.



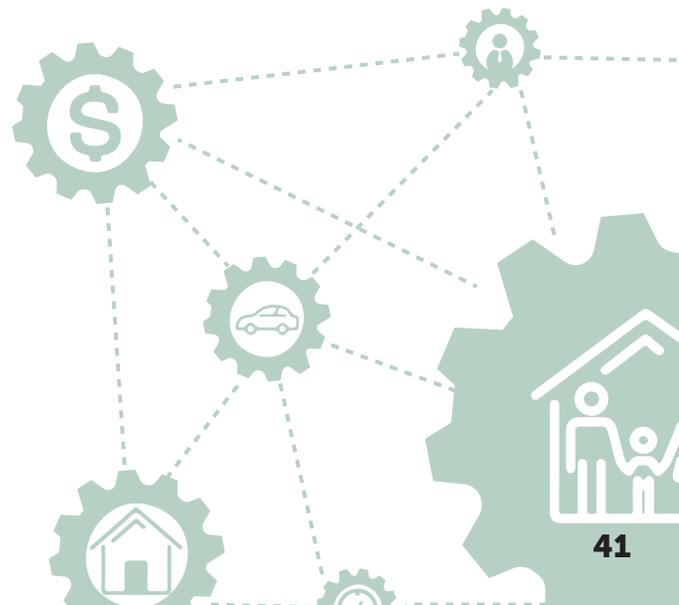


Sharon L'Herrou

**President and
Chief Executive Officer**
*211 Palm Beach and
Treasure Coast*

Sharon L'Herrou has been serving as the President/ CEO of 211 HelpLine since 2016. 211 is the local Helpline and Crisis Hotline serving the 5-County region of Palm Beach County and the Treasure Coast. During her tenure, she has led the organization in launching many new initiatives, increasing the organization's funding and program offerings with services such as: texting, Lifeline Chat, First Responders, and Veterans. She has served as the statewide Chair for the Florida 211s, and assisted with coordinating efforts for the rollout of the new 988 Lifeline number.

Sharon has a master's degree in Educational Leadership with over 20 years of experience in social services and management.





Taruna Malhotra

Deputy Director
*Palm Beach County
 Community Services Department*

Taruna Malhotra currently serve as Deputy Director, Community Services, Palm Beach County where she oversees and responsible for various Health and Human Services programs that includes Homeless, Seniors , Veterans, FAA and other programs. Her department oversee budget of more than 80 million and is responsible for assessment of need, planning, implementation and evaluation of system of care under various programs and grants.

In providing for human service needs, Palm Beach County augments its own services mix by providing financial assistance to community-based organizations. Financially Assisted Agencies (FAA) is a program within the administrative section of the Department of Community Services.

She is a dynamic professional who has demonstrated the ability to operate program serving vulnerable populations while utilizing creative operational efficiencies to provide high quality service. Her areas of focus are access to social services for the underserved, community welfare and capacity building for the nonprofit agencies. In her role, she leads the Department grant making activities, building effective, impactful health-human related programs for Palm Beach County.

Taruna is an advocate, bridge builder and voice of the community, serves on various committees and works with various advisory boards to build the expression and extension of commitment to leading and serving others. Her work is to improve financial and programmatic standards to build stronger and efficient social services network. She is instrumental in creating multiple technology innovations that has led to improving service delivery in Palm Beach County especially under Covid-19 crisis.

Ms. Malhotra holds a Master Degree in Economics and a Bachelor of Arts with specialization in Political Science and computer Science. She has lived in Palm Beach County for last seventeen years with her husband and two children, Inayat 20 and Ruhaan 14.



Tiffney Marley

**Senior Vice President,
Practice Transformation**
*National Community
Action Partnership*

Tiffney Marley, MDIV, CCAP, NCRMT is the Senior Vice President for Practice Transformation at the Partnership, where she leads training and technical assistance strategies to maximize impact and transform anti-poverty/social & economic mobility practices of the Community Action Network. Since 2015, Tiffney's portfolio has grown to include the National Learning Communities Resource Center (LCRC), Whole Family Approach Initiatives, and the Transforming Leadership and the Human Services Ecosystems Initiative. This work has included leading multiple intensive technical assistance cohorts aimed to innovate, transform, and implement effective programmatic and organizational practices; and collaborating with governmental and private stakeholders on special initiatives to transform organizations and systems. Tiffney is an institutional equity expert and serves as a thought-partner to the CEO on national equity implementation and other strategic initiatives.

Tiffney is a Head Start Alumni and touts her personal transformation from being Community Action customer to becoming a national Community Action leader. She has 11 years of Community Action professional experience, having served as the Training Coordinator for the North Carolina Community Action Association prior to joining the Partnership team.

Tiffney is the former Director of Black Church Studies at Duke University Divinity School and has over 18 years of senior-level experience in the academic, faith-based, and nonprofit sectors. She is a Certified Community Action Professional, Nationally Certified ROMA Master Trainer, and a Rx Racial Healing Practitioner. She also holds a Nonprofit Management Executive Certificate from Georgetown University McCourt School of Public Policy, a Master of Divinity from Duke University, and a Bachelor of Science in Secondary Mathematics Education from North Carolina State University. Her biggest accomplishment is that she is the mother of twins, Randi and Jesse, whom she is grooming to become future leaders.



Keith Oswald

Chief of Equity and Wellness
School District
of Palm Beach County

As the Chief of Equity and Wellness of Palm Beach County Schools, the nation's tenth-largest district, **Keith Oswald** takes great pride in ensuring excellence and equity in education for all children.

Mr. Oswald is a veteran educator who began his career in Palm Beach County as a teacher at Barton Elementary School. His passion to make a difference in the lives of students brought him from the classroom to numerous administrative posts including Chief Academic Officer and Deputy Superintendent before being appointed Chief of Equity and Wellness in 2021.

In his current role, Mr. Oswald works closely with the Superintendent as a strategic partner in the District's commitment to addressing equity in the school system and increasing academic achievement at the 179-District operated schools.

In addition to this executive-level position in the A-rated School District of Palm Beach County, Mr. Oswald enjoys active participation in numerous non-profit agencies.





Randy Palo

Director of Programs
Children's Services Council

Randy Palo is Director of Community Planning and Partnerships for Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County. The Council, an independent district established by county voters in 1986, provides a dedicated source of funding so more children are born healthy, grow up safe from abuse and neglect, enter school ready to learn, and have access to quality after-school and summer programming.

Randy leads the Council's efforts in collaborating with local, state and national partners in the health, human service and education fields to plan and fund programs for children and families. He has worked in local government, mostly at the Council, for more than 30 years and has a long history of building strong partnerships with public, non-profit and philanthropic organizations.





Ava Parker

President
Palm Beach State College

Palm Beach State College President **Ava L. Parker** leads with a strategic approach emphasizing innovation, student success, and business and community collaboration. Parker is the first female president in the history of the institution, which opened in 1933 as Florida's first public community college. Growing with the county, the College now offers more than 130 programs of study, including bachelor's and associate degrees, professional certificates and career training. Palm Beach State has earned national distinction as an Aspen Prize Top 150 U.S. Community College.

Under President Parker's stewardship, the college opened its 5th campus in Loxahatchee Groves in 2016 and reached its highest enrollment in the institution's history.

Before joining Palm Beach State in 2015, President Parker was executive vice president and chief operating officer at Florida Polytechnic University, the state's first public university focused on applied research in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) fields.

She also served for more than a decade on the Florida Board of Governors of the State University System and served on the University of Central Florida's Board of Trustees.

She was a partner in the Jacksonville law firm of Lawrence & Parker, general counsel at Edward Waters College, general counsel for the 11th Episcopal District of the AME Church, assistant general counsel for the state Department of Transportation, and assistant public defender in Miami-Dade County. She currently serves on the board of directors of Orchid Island Capital, a publicly-traded specialty finance company; the Advisory Board of the Community College Research Center; and member of the Orange Bowl Committee.

President Parker earned her B.A. and J.D. degrees from the University of Florida.

She is married to Joe Gibbons. They have two children and enjoy spending their time in the wonderful backdrop of Palm Beach County.



Joshua Pedersen

Interim Senior Director
211, United Way Worldwide

Joshua Pedersen has worked and volunteered in the nonprofit industry for more than 25 years. He led the implementation of the 211 service throughout Utah, has served as Director of Services for the Utah Food Bank, as Vice President of United Way of Northern Utah, CEO of United Way of Frederick County, Maryland and as President & CEO of 211 Maryland. Today Joshua works as the Director of 211 at United Way Worldwide.

Joshua has served on multiple boards including the Frederick County Healthcare Coalition, Catholic Community Services, West Valley City's Cultural Arts Foundation, Murray City Arts Council, the Utah State Commission on Volunteers, Salt Lake Community College Thayne Center for Service & Learning, and as board president for both the Utah Nonprofits Association and Maryland Nonprofits Association.

Today he is chair of the Maryland Governor's Commission on Service & Volunteerism and is a Trustee for the Ausherman Family Foundation. Joshua has a bachelor's degree in Communication from Weber State University.





Peter Pignataro

Manager of Performance Analysis
CareerSource Palm Beach County

Peter Pignataro is the Manager of Performance Analysis with CareerSource Palm Beach County, a non-profit organization chartered by the state of Florida to lead workforce development here in Palm Beach County. As a business Analyst, Peter monitors and reports on trends in our local labor markets and economic conditions, providing information on industry and occupation growth to government officials, public and private individuals, and organizations.

Before joining CareerSource in 2007, Peter worked in electronics manufacturing, product development, planning, logistics and distribution here in South Florida and California over 30 years for a diverse range of successful companies.

Peter is a state certified workforce professional and qualified records management professional certified by the Florida Department of State, Division of Library Management, and a Six Sigma Black Belt.

Peter's goal is to learn something new each day and believes learning should be a lifelong endeavor for everyone. Whether pursuing personal interests and passions or chasing professional ambitions, lifelong learning can help us to achieve personal fulfillment and satisfaction.





Dr. Julian Serrano

Executive Director

Head Start Palm Beach County

Dr. Serrano is the Head Start /Early Head Start Executive Director for LSF Children and Head Start Services in Palm Beach County. He has over 20 years of progressive experience in human services, primarily in the areas of early and middle childhood development especially Early Head Start / Head Start program. Dr. Serrano graduated from Fordham University with a Master of Science degree with a specialization in Special Education with Learning Disorders. He served as a Psychoeducational Therapist where he diagnosed educational/ learning disorders and provided counseling and educational therapy to families and children.

He earned his Doctorate in Education with a specialization in Early and Middle Childhood from Nova Southeastern University. Dr. Serrano has served as a consultant for The National Council for Professionals Recognition (CDA) as well as the Florida Advisory Council on Environmental Education. Throughout his career Dr. Serrano has published articles on Early Childhood Education and has received numerous community awards and merits. He is a former Miami Dade College Adjunct Professor.

Dr. Serrano joined Lutheran Service Florida in April 2014 as the Director at PEPPi Head Start. In July 2014 he assumed the position of the Executive Director of Palm Beach Head Start/Early Head Start responsible for all facets of program development, implementation, and on-going management for over 200 direct employees and 300 employees under the Subrecipient contracts with a budget of approximately \$30 million serving over 2,500 families per year. Dr. Serrano is a member of the Board of Directors for the Palm Beach Early Learning Coalition (ELC), in addition to being a Grievance Committee Member and Audit/Finance Committee. Dr. Serrano is a former member of the Children's Council Coalition (CSC) Integrated Early Care and Education Steering Committee. He served four years on the Florida Head Start Association (FHSA) Directors Group as Chairperson. Under his leadership the program received the very prestigious Governor Best Practice Award.

Through hard work and dedication, he has enjoyed a fulfilling career, and shares in this joy with his most precious gift from God, his family.



Terri Shermett

Vice President of Hunger Relief
United Way Palm Beach County

Terri Shermett has nearly 30 years of experience working with individuals with disabilities and comes to United Way Palm Beach County (WPBC) from the Ann Storck Center as their CEO.

Terri was appointed as the VP of Hunger Relief for the (UWPBC) to lead the Hunger Relief Initiative, the collective impact of Palm Beach County's Hunger Relief Strategic Plan, and McKenzie Scott Hunger Relief Strategies that was originally adopted in 2015 to fight hunger and food insecurity.

Terri has a unique talent for collaborating with community resources and striving for excellence in a way that is both infectious and genuine. She is a dedicated nonprofit executive change agent who leads organizations to their next chapter of long-term success. Terri excels in developing and aligning strategies with organizations' visions and goals by building internal/external consensus at all levels, driving transformational changes resulting in long-term financial and operational sustainability and growth.

Terri Shermett earned her Bachelor of Science in Special Education from Florida International University, along with a Master of Science in Educational Administration and Leadership from Nova Southeastern University.





Andrea Stephenson Royster

Chief Executive Officer
Health Council of Southeast Florida

Andrea Stephenson Royster is the CEO of the Health Council of Southeast Florida (HCSEF), one of 11 local health planning councils established by the Florida state legislature. In this role, she directs a team of dedicated professionals committed to providing an array of services, including health planning, community health, and population health management; program development and evaluation; chronic disease management and the promotion of healthy lifestyles for residents of Palm Beach, Martin, St. Lucie, Indian River, and Okeechobee counties.

Ms. Royster also serves as the CEO of the Lake Okeechobee Rural Health Network (LORHN), which is one of the nine rural health networks in the state, also established by Florida Statute to focus on specific health-related issues and challenges facing residents living in Glades, Hendry, Martin, Okeechobee, and rural Palm Beach County.

With a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology with an emphasis in Medical Sociology as well as a Master's in Health Science and a Master's in Business Administration from the University of Florida, Ms. Royster has nearly three decades of experience in health care and human services. She has devoted her career to efforts to: increase access to health care, reduce disparities in health status, promote health equity, and advocate for vulnerable populations. Efforts on cross-sector collaboration, the integration of data in sound decision-making, and effective and meaningful community engagement strategies has been a focus for Ms. Royster.

Ms. Royster is also a skilled facilitator and trainer and has taught as an adjunct professor, instructing undergraduate students in the various facets of health administration.

Ms. Royster is a graduate of Leadership Palm Beach County (Class of 2005), received the Palm Beach County Medical Society's Heroes in Medicine Award for Community Involvement (2005), was recognized by Success South Florida as one of the "Top 40 Black Professionals Under 40" (2006), and selected as a member of Who's Who in Black South Florida (2007). She has also been recognized by Legacy Magazine as one of the "25 Most Influential Women in Business" (2011), one of the "25 Most Powerful Black Professionals" (2012), one of the "Top Black Healthcare Professionals" (2018), and one of the "50 Most Powerful Black Leaders in Business & Industry" (2019).

Ms. Royster currently serves on the Board of Trustees with Palm Health Foundation, the Board of Directors with both Everglades Area Health Education Center (AHEC) and the Florida Rural Health Association (FRHA).



Wendy Tippett

**Director of Human Services
and Community Action**

*Palm Beach County
Community Services Department*

Wendy Tippett has been involved in with nonprofits and government organizations for 30 years. She holds her bachelor's degree in Sociology with a specialization in Community Services and her master's degree in Nonprofit Management. Ms. Tippett is also a Nationally Certified Grant Writer and holds her Fund Development Certification from Florida Atlantic University as well as her Green Belt Certification in Six Sigma.

Wendy began her career working with abused and neglected teens before moving into providing services, programs and housing for homeless families and their children. She is familiar with local, state and federal funding sources and has been recognized as an expert in collaborations and cross-system teams. After spending 25 years in the non-profit sector, she moved into her current position, Director of Human and Veteran Services, with Palm Beach County and has been instrumental in the implementation of coordinated entry, initiatives to end youth and veteran homelessness, innovative street to work programs, and cross systems collaborations.

Ms. Tippett has served on several boards, including the State Homeless Coalition, the Executive Committee of the Chamber of Health and Human Services of Palm Beach County, Friends of Foster Children, The Community Back to School Bash's Executive Committee, the Homeless and Housing Alliance Executive Committee and chairs the Palm Beach County Cross-Departmental Team for Housing and Homelessness.

Ms. Tippett has been awarded the Women Chamber of Commerce "Sticking Your Neck Out" award for going above and beyond in her field, the Palm Beach County Soroptimist award for work in the nonprofit sector and the Chamber of Health and Human Services Community Spirit award for service to the homeless in Palm Beach County.

Ms. Tippett is a native of Palm Beach County and resides in Lantana with her partner and two children.



Andrew Uhlir

TPA Director of Programs
*Palm Beach Transportation
Planning Agency*

Andrew Uhlir has 7+ years of Metropolitan Planning Organization transportation planning experience and currently serves as the Deputy Director of Programs for the Palm Beach TPA. The team oversees the Long Range Transportation Plan, Transportation Improvement Program, data, and Performance Measures. The Palm Beach TPA annually approves over \$650M to projects and services that advance the vision of a safe, efficient, and connected multimodal transportation system for the 1.5 million people of Palm Beach County.





Michele Watson

Chief Executive Officer
*Florida Alliance of Children's
 Councils & Trust*

Michele Watson is the Chief Executive Officer of the Florida Alliance of Children's Councils & Trusts (FACCT). In this role, Michele provides leadership for the businesses, organizations, agencies and other key stakeholders involved with FACCT. Michele has been involved with the work of FACCT for many years, utilizing her expertise in data analysis and system development in the areas of education, policy and finance.

Her efforts have helped make business cases for the need for increased investments and policy changes in education. Having received a degree in early childhood education from Florida State University, Michele began her career as an educator for the Polk County School Board for eight years. Upon moving to Tallahassee, she became the Policy Chief for Florida's Office of Early Learning where she was responsible for coordinating early learning policy with the Florida Legislature as well as 31 local early learning coalitions.

Before joining FACCT, Michele founded Watson Policy Solutions to focus on helping organizations identify systemic issues, develop new processes, and create system improvements to ensure maximum efficiency that allows entities to focus more on mission activities and services.





Chantelle Wilkinson

**Campaign Manager for
Opportunity Starts at Home
National Low-Income
Housing Coalition**

Chantelle Wilkinson is the campaign manager of the *Opportunity Starts at Home* campaign. Chantelle comes to National Low Income Housing Coalition from New York where she worked as a budget analyst for the state legislature. There she assisted with enacting housing and transportation policies. In 2016, she worked on the Breathing Lights Campaign with the Center for Women in Government and Civil Society. The campaign highlighted the problem of dilapidated vacant housing in the capital region of New York State and spurred collaboration between artists, community organizations, neighborhood ambassadors, project administrators, and government officials.

Chantelle received her BA in Political Science with minors in Latin American/ Caribbean Studies and Spanish, and her MA in Public Administration, both from the Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy at the University at Albany.



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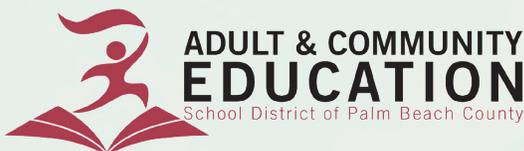
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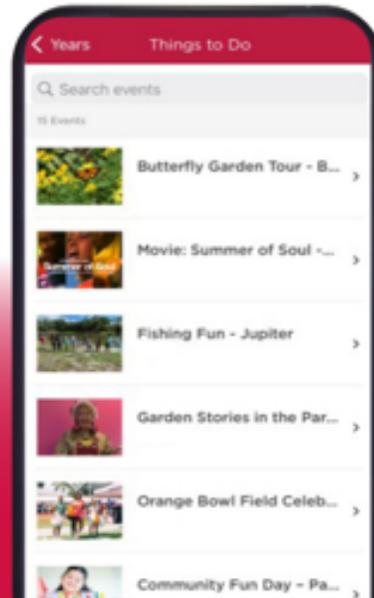
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New Things to Do in the *EveryParent* App!



- Be the first of your friends to hear about local, family-friendly events, activities, learning opportunities and adventures.
- Receive weekly updates on fun, free and low-cost things to do in your community.
- Save the things you like to your calendar, or share on social media.
- Be sure to download the free **EveryParent app** (available for both Apple and Android devices) to get weekly notifications.

Make sure to update the **EveryParent app** and sign back in to access Things to Do!



Palm Health Foundation and local philanthropists partner to build the mental health workforce in Palm Beach County.

Palm Health Foundation is advancing **brain health** in our community by providing needs-based financial support to those seeking bachelor's and master's degrees in the mental/behavioral health field.

"The key to addressing critical workforce shortages in the mental health field is to invest in passionate people who are prepared to meet our community's need. I established a scholarship fund at Palm Health Foundation to encourage students who are dedicated to local health advancement."

– Frances Fisher, Trustee, Palm Health Foundation



Help grow a much-needed field in service to our community. Learn about, support, or establish your own scholarship fund at PalmHealthFoundation.org



Palm Beach County

Board of County Commissioners

Gregg K. Weiss, Mayor, Maria Sachs, Vice Mayor
Maria G. Marino, Dave Kerner, Marci Woodward
Sara Baxter, Mack Bernard

County Administrator Verdenia C. Baker



www.pbcgov.com/communityservices