Special Thanks

MARY REYNOLDS BABCOCK FOUNDATION

COMMUNICATIONS & REGISTRATION TEAM

Angela Boykin
Kiley Clifton
Jewel Flornoy
Lakeeshia Giddeons

Leslie Osborne
Candace Semien
Mary & Elijah Wells

CENTER FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

The partners of SRABC would like to extend a special thanks to the Center for Social Development at Washington University in St. Louis.

Aaron Beswick
Tiffany Davis Heineman
Monique Johnson
Chris Leiker

Abby McNamara
Weidi Qin
Katie Stalter
Anjila Prasai
Building a Lifetime of Economic Security: Mobilizing for Change

CONFERENCE REPORT

2013 SRABC Conference
Jacksonville, Florida
October 16-18, 2013
Acknowledgements


Clockwise from top left: Pulitzer-Prize Winner Isabel Wilkerson with Darnella Burkett-Winston of the Mississippi Association of Cooperatives at Wilkerson’s book signing; taking notes during a presentation; Patricia Williams at the Ritz Theatre and Museum; and Gena McClendon (right) with Angela Spears of Jacksonville Mayor Alvin Brown’s office.
# Table of Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>About SRABC</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference Agenda</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive Summary</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building a Lifetime of Economic Security: Mobilizing for Change</td>
<td>6-13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coalition Partners</td>
<td>14-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participant List</td>
<td>16-25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

About SRABC

Our role is not only to convene and facilitate but to galvanize the strength that lies within the people and communities to make change happen from the local level to the state level, and together we can impact more lives across the region.

— Karen Landry, Executive Director of RAISE Florida Network

The mission of SRABC is to support member and asset building coalitions in advancing state, regional and national policies that promote economic security over a lifetime for low- to moderate-wealth individuals and families.

In pursuing its mission, SRABC provides:

- Asset development guidance
- Information that supports policy development
- Support for programs that enhance the quality of life for families across the region

The Southern Regional Asset Building Coalition (SRABC) seeks to raise awareness and advance strategies and policies that address economic challenges in the South. A regional coalition, SRABC is composed of partner coalitions in four states:

- Alabama: The Alabama Asset Building Coalition (AABC)
- Florida: Raise Florida Network (RFN)
- Louisiana Building Economic Security Together (LABEST)
- Mississippi: Coalition for a Prosperous Mississippi (CPM)

SRABC serves as a forum that highlights common challenges among these states, often associated with low- to moderate-wealth individuals who are working to build economic security for themselves and their families.

A core value of SRABC is the inclusion of traditionally marginalized people. Through its state partner coalitions, SRABC engages organizations in the region that represent people of color and those with disabilities. The diverse perspectives of employers, policymakers, business owners and academia are also represented. By leveraging mutual interests and resources, SRABC seeks the removal of structural barriers to asset building and wealth creation activities. The coalition is funded by the Building Economic Security Over a Lifetime (BESOL) initiative of the Ford Foundation.
Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Getting Equity Advocacy Results (GEAR) Training

Reception and Dinner at the Ritz Theatre and Museum
  Rising Star Author: Meredith Coleman McGee
  Entertainment: The 7th Street Band

Thursday, October 17, 2013

Welcome
  Facilitator: Karen Landry, RFN
  Speaker: Angela Spears, Special Assistant to the Mayor/Community Engagement Officer, Jacksonville

Southern Regional Asset Building Coalition: Our Story
  Speaker: Melbah Smith, CPM

Building Economic Security Over a Lifetime
  Speaker: Kilolo Kijakazi, Ford Foundation

Opening Plenary
  Facilitator: Michael Milner, AABC
  Speaker: Isabel Wilkerson, Author and Pulitzer Prize Winner

Plenary: Inequality, Economic Crisis, and the Future of American Democracy
  Facilitator: Robert Hanson, AABC
  Speaker: Dorian Warren, Associate Professor, Columbia University, and Fellow, Roosevelt Institute

Plenary: State of Housing for Black America
  Moderator: Evelyn Njoroge, CPM
  Speaker: Jim Carr, Senior Fellow, Center for American Progress

Lunch Session
  Facilitator: Joyce James, LABEST
  Speaker: Rashad Robinson, Executive Director, ColorOfChange.org

Isabel Wilkerson – Book Signing

Legislator’s Roundtable

Concurrent Workshop Sessions
  Building Wealth in African American Communities
    Trina Williams Shanks, University of Michigan; Stephanie Boddie, University of Pittsburgh

The Racial Wealth Gap
  Anne Price, Insight Center for Economic Development
  Partnering with Industry and Employers to Promote Financial Security and Mobility
    Krista Comer, Center for Social Development

PolicyLink ACCESS Advisory Board Meeting

Concurrent Workshop Sessions, cont.
  (Same as above)

Reception and Dinner
  Rising Star Author: Dorothy Inman-Johnson
  Entertainment: The 7th Street Band

Friday, October 18, 2013

Welcome and Recap from Previous Day
  Karen Landry, RFN
  Carl Dillon, LABEST

Opening Plenary
  College Savings Account: From Research to Policy
    Facilitator: Karen Landry, RFN
    Speaker: Angela Glover Blackwell, Founder and CEO of PolicyLink

Indiivial State Coalition Meeting Breakout Sessions
Executive Summary

“All over the region, people are starving for information about asset building,” says Michael Milner, executive director of the Alabama Asset Building Coalition. “[This conference] provides the vehicle to get good information.”

The Southern Regional Asset Building Coalition 2013 conference, titled “Building a Lifetime of Economic Security: Mobilizing for Change,” drew a diverse group of leaders from community and faith-based organizations, representatives of financial institutions and government entities, policy advocates, researchers, and members of the public sector. Over more than two days, conference participants discussed challenges impeding economic growth in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida. In particular, attendees prioritized the development of policies and programs that support low-income families and communities.

“Our role is not only to convene and facilitate but to galvanize the strength that lies within the people and communities to make change happen from the local level to the state level, and together we can impact more lives across the region,” says Karen Landry, executive director of the RAISE Florida Network.

The conference included discussion about the bonds that tie the southern region together and how those bonds can be used in the effort to build economic security in the region. From a visit to the Ritz Theatre and Museum to a plenary session with Pulitzer Prize Winner Isabel Wilkerson, discussion often revolved around the South’s “narrative,” particularly for people of color, and how to change it.
At the Ritz, conference participants wandered through the colorful exhibits in a museum that seeks to “research, record, and preserve the material and artistic culture of African American life in Northeast Florida and the African Diaspora, and present in an educational or entertaining format, the many facets that make up the historical and cultural legacy of this community” (www.ritzjacksonville.com). After exploring the museum’s collections, participants enjoyed a Southern-style meal and were entertained by The 7 Street Band of Jacksonville, Florida.

In addition to Ms. Wilkerson, plenary speakers included Rashad Robinson, executive director for ColorOfChange.org; Angela Glover Blackwell, founder and executive director of PolicyLink; Dorian Warren, associate professor at Columbia University and Fellow with the Roosevelt Institute; and Jim Carr, senior fellow with the Center for American Progress. Three concurrent workshops focused on building wealth in Black communities, closing the racial wealth gap, and promoting financial security by partnering with industry and employers.

The conference also included a Legislator’s Roundtable, with eight legislators from all four states, who discussed strategies to affect policy change at the state level. Legislators particularly focused on payday lending practices, identifying the issue as one ripe for future collaborations with SRABC.

Tony Hill, policy director for the City of Jacksonville, says the roundtable is an indication of how much SRABC has grown. “I remember one of the first meetings for the state, and only one legislator showed up. And now you have a legislative roundtable. So this is huge, to have legislators not only from Florida but from around the South to come and hear ... what we’re trying to do in terms of communities that are diverse and communities that don’t have a voice.”

Thank you for attending this conference on “Building a Lifetime of Economic Security.” SRABC looks forward to many more years of working together to build security, close the wealth gap, and assist state coalitions in lending support to families and communities in the southern region.
Building a Lifetime of Economic Security:
Mobilizing for Change

To help individuals and communities build a lifetime of economic security, the Southern Regional Asset Building Coalition focuses on mobilizing for change. In order to secure real and lasting change, the “narrative” must be altered. The stories handed down from generation to generation come in many different forms, but the themes remain the same: poverty, hardship, and culture.

Two authors presented during the conference, Meredith McGee and Dorothy Inman-Johnson. Ms. McGee, who spoke during dinner at the Ritz Theatre on Wednesday evening, is the author of *James Meredith: Warrior and the America that Created Him*. The book is a biography of her uncle, Civil Rights icon James H. Meredith, the first Black person accepted into the University of Mississippi. She spoke about her uncle and the conditions he endured. Ms. McGee is also the coauthor of *Married to Sin*, a memoir about Darlene D. Collier. A collection of her poems and other writings will soon be published.

Ms. Inman-Johnson is the author of *Poverty, Politics, and Race: The View from Down Here*. She is a pioneer, as the first Black female elected to the Tallahassee City Commission and former two-term mayor of Tallahassee. Her book sheds light on the true implications of poverty and challenges stereotypes about race and the poor.

Isabel Wilkerson, who won a Pulitzer Prize for news reporting in the 1990s, has written a narrative nonfiction book, *The Warmth of Other Suns*, which recounts one of the most significant parts of many Black people’s pasts: the Great Migration out of the South. “The migrants were seeking political asylum within the borders of their own country,” Ms. Wilkerson said during her plenary presentation. As a result of this Great Migration, American culture has been changed by the individual decisions of six million people.

**Plenary Sessions**

**Isabel Wilkerson: Migrating for Change**

*The Warmth of Other Suns* is about freedom and the courage of Black people migrating north to improve their lives. As she explained during her plenary session, Isabel Wilkerson writes that “for the first time, the lowest caste people signaled that they had options and were willing to take them.”

“This book is about freedom and how far people are willing to go to achieve it,” Ms. Wilkerson said. “It shows that a single decision can actually change the course of family’s future, and it can actually change our country.”

“Talking about the history gives a kind of weight to what everyone’s doing. And what we are doing has a connection to the past, the present and the future.”

-Isabel Wilkerson, Author
Ms. Wilkerson explained that within the tremendous sacrifices and struggles, each migrant decided that they, alone, would determine where they would live and what they would do for a living. Their lives would not be determined by the laws of segregation, racism, and Jim Crow.

Her research revealed the draining, oppressive, exhausting, and spirit-killing nature of the Jim Crow caste system and that Americans continue to live with its ramifications. “Their migration was a detachment from the caste system, and we still live with the aftereffects when we speak about wealth disparities and the wealth gap,” Ms. Wilkerson said. She explained that the caste system was created for economic domination in order to maintain the agricultural industry of the antebellum South. “They needed to make sure that the people had no other real options – that they had to stay,” she said. “Each family had to think about ‘what will we do?’”

Once they had the opportunity to choose what they would become, she said, the migrants and their descendants became great opera singers, jazz musicians, playwrights, novelists, social workers, doctors, attorneys, and architects. The larger message of the migration, Ms. Wilkerson explained, is that migrants left us with answers on how to think about moving forward in the future. “They showed us the power of the individual decision: one person added to another person, added to another person, multiplied by millions, actually helped to change the country and put pressure on the South ultimately to change.”

They were willing to take matters in their own hands. They understood that their work and lives were devalued and decided to spread themselves across the land. By doing so, she said, they were able to do what President Abraham Lincoln, the Emancipation Proclamation, and Congress could not or would not do: they freed themselves. “And they paved the way for others to do the same,” she said. “We have the beautiful burden to make their sacrifices mean something,” Ms. Wilkerson said.

Rashad Robinson: Technology for Change

Civic activist Rashad Robinson implored SRABC conference participants to “hold corporations and political leaders accountable, utilize the best of inspirational messaging to push back, and give everyday people the opportunity to be heard, and stand up, fight back, use technology, and win.” Mr. Robinson explained that by using technology, groups can move people toward deeper engagement – from signing a petition to making phone calls and showing up to meet elected officials.

“When oppressed people win, they win for everyone.”
- Rashad Robinson, executive director, ColorOfChange.org

These are the strategies Mr. Robinson and his team at the national policy organization ColorOfChange.org use to successfully hold government and political leaders accountable for civic injustices, including Hurricane Katrina, the Jena 6 trial, and voting rights legislation backed by the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC). Mr. Robinson offered these issues
as examples of how technology quickly turned compelling moments into movements. “Unless we pull together the collective energy of our community, it would be another silent moment of injustice,” he said.

ColorofChange.org researchers, along with other partners, identified legislation around the country designed and supported by ALEC. Thanks to countless allies and generous funders, ColorofChange.org uncovered a national policy strategy whereby ALEC crafts model legislation that influences voting rights, taxation, education, gun rights, and immigration.

Rather than target ALEC, however, ColorofChange.org directed its advocacy efforts to corporations benefitting from active relationships with Black communities. By challenging these corporations’ obscured relationships with ALEC, ColorofChange.org has successfully dismantled core corporate funding for ALEC from Pepsi, Coca-Cola, and McDonald’s. Its funding severely threatened and negative press accumulating, ALEC disbanded its committee managing voter ID and “Stand Your Ground” laws. The message was crystallized: “You can’t come for Black folks’ money by day and try to take away our right to vote by night.” Mr. Robinson attributed the success of his ALEC initiative to the 700,000 empowered and engaged members of ColorofChange.org.

According to Mr. Robinson, there are four elements to an effective change campaign: strategic insight, deep research from a wide range of organizations, media savvy, and an organized constituency. “We have great opportunities across a wide range of areas to make real change to the issues that we care about,” he said.

Angela Glover Blackwell: Leaders of Poverty Change

When Angela Glover Blackwell took the stage at this year’s conference, she said she was met with the challenge of motivating a group with sophistication and commitment to the issues of asset building and equality. “It’s pretty clear to me that this is an audience that absolutely is committed to justice and inclusion. That makes you unique in this world... It puts you at the forefront of trying to come up with strategies that may be best for those who are often left behind. We have that in common.”

Ms. Glover Blackwell’s presentation encouraged SRABC members to continue to be ambitious, pursue solutions and strategies, and develop a clear frame of their work in social justice. “Those who are being left behind have so many needs, including homelessness, hunger, access to housing, having a voice and the ability to participate, unemployment, and fair and equal wages, that it has taken a long time to realize that assets and wealth play a key part,” she said.

“It is very important that communities of color are bringing their ideas and their needs to actually lead the transformation of the nation into a place in which all can participate and prosper.”

-Angela Glover Blackwell, Founder & CEO, PolicyLink
Within the work of social justice is a big concern about inequality and how to build a more fair and just society. People of color have systematically been left behind. “We have been outraged to our moral core about that,” she said. “It is imperative that we get our solutions, our strategies, and our coalitions together so that those people who have historically been left behind are not left behind even more as the nation moves forward under new and changing circumstances.”

The nation is rapidly becoming one where the majority of people are people of color, so we are no longer having a conversation about a minority group that is being left behind. By the end of this decade, the majority of all children under 18 will be children of color. By 2043, the majority of all people in this nation will be people of color. “If you combine this with the White people who are being left behind, you have a nation of people who are being left behind,” Ms. Glover Blackwell said. “If we don’t get the equality agenda right for the people who will be the future, we won’t get it right.”

“To move forward as a nation that is competitive and dependable in the global economy, the people of the future have to have wealth, assets, and stability,” she said. “We are in an amazing moment in the history of the nation,” Ms. Glover Blackwell said. After demonstrating that equity is the superior growth model, she challenged the audience to bring their work into a different realm by looking at their partners, understanding how their framework impacts communities of color and Whites, and beginning to plan with them.

“We don’t have to stand on the sidelines to deal with the issues that plague our agenda. The nation will not prosper if the people who are leading the future do not prosper,” Ms. Glover Blackwell said.

James Carr: Housing

By most key indicators, the economy and housing markets are in recovery. The landscape, however, looks very different when viewed from the perspective of Black workers, homeowners, and prospective homebuyers. In the session, “State of Housing for Black America,” James “Jim” Carr with the Center for American Progress reviewed the current economic position of Black and Latino families. In spite of the recent economic crisis, homeownership will likely continue to be the primary wealth-building tool for American families for decades to come.

“It is imperative to rebuild the housing finance system in a manner that enables it to serve the mortgage finance needs of Blacks and Latinos.” Mr. Carr encouraged advocates to support policies that reopen doors of economic mobility and homeownership for Blacks in America, including policies within the Federal Reserve.

“There are policies that drive money to the wealthy,” Mr. Carr said, which, according to his research, plays a major role in the racial wealth gap. “Not only don’t we have a stimulus, but the one thing that generates wealth—homeownership—is under attack like never before.” Since 2005, loans to Blacks have fallen by 80%, and accessing credit has never been more challenging for Blacks and Latinos. Individuals between 29 and 37 years
old have less wealth than their parents during that same age range.

“We really need the American public to start demanding that Congress does the people’s work,” Mr. Carr said. “Otherwise, the middle class, people of color, young adults are going to continue to fall behind.”

Dorian Warren: Economic Crisis

In the session, “Inequality, Economic Crisis, and the Future of American Democracy,” Columbia University assistant professor Dorian Warren urged SRABC members to develop steadfast long- and short-term strategies to remedy inequalities in workers’ rights.

Dr. Warren explained trends in contemporary inequality and demonstrated how these trends were exacerbated by the Great Recession. “The policies that we have are inadequate,” Dr. Warren said. “The national strategy should be enacting labor policies that are equitable and profitable.” To keep their work in perspective, Dr. Warren reminded the audience that ending child labor laws took 50 years of advocacy and small victories.

Dr. Warren described the state of the American economy as a caste system, given that the top 1% of wage earners accounted for 90% of the growth since the onset of the Great Recession. At the same time, Dr. Warren reminded participants that median incomes throughout the country have stagnated since 1989. “We tolerate more inequality than we used to,” Dr. Warren said. “We are one of the less social economic democracies.”

He said, “There is a loss of unions, low minimum wage, growing part time jobs, increasing unemployment, and a quarter of all jobs are low-wage. With more than half of all Black workers employed in low-wage jobs, more than 40% of Black children are growing up in poverty. For Black children born in the bottom percentile, 60% will stay there.” After describing these patterns of inequality, he held policy choices accountable. “The causes of inequality are primarily political, and in order to get to democratic justice, advocates need long-term and short-term goals. We need to be developing people who we can hold accountable.”

“I would argue the southern region is the most important place in the country to be doing this work, and as the South goes the rest of the country will go.”

-Dorian Warren, Assistant Professor, Columbia University
Concurrent Workshop Sessions

The conference featured three concurrent workshop sessions on Thursday afternoon. Each session repeated, so participants enjoyed the opportunity to attend two of the three sessions offered. Anne Price of the Insight Center for Economic Development led a session on the racial wealth gap. Trina Williams Shanks of the University of Michigan and Stephanie Boddie of the University of Pittsburgh discussed building wealth in Black communities. Finally, Krista Comer of the Center for Social Development (CSD) at Washington University in St. Louis presented methods to promote financial security and mobility by partnering with industry and employers.

Ms. Price discussed primary obstacles to closing the racial wealth gap, saying we need to concentrate on creating opportunities for the next generation. She cited statistics that indicate the gap has been relatively unchanged since the early 1980s. “Wealth is growing much higher and faster for White families than it is for Blacks,” Ms. Price said. In 2010, wealth held by Blacks lagged behind that held by Whites in 1983. She attributed the gap to years of higher rates of homeownership, higher family income, better education and more inheritance for Whites.

Ms. Price recommends greater attention on the areas of homeownership, student debt, and jobs. “We need to start to understand the connection of these issues,” she said. “When you think about debt, think about the entire story and the constraints. We always focus on the debt, but there are other restraints than not being able to put up some money.” Student debt is a major factor in the wealth gap. Eighty percent of Black students must borrow money to afford higher education. These students graduate with approximately $30,000 in debt, and one in six default on their loans. Dreams are squashed when students can no longer afford school, or when they graduate with more debt than they can manage.

The wealth gap session also included a discussion on child support debt and its governing policies led by Gabriella Sandoval of the Insight Center and Nino Rodriguez of the Center for Family Policy and Practice. The presenters demonstrated that approximately one third of the national child support debt owed by noncustodial fathers is owed to the government and not to their children. Child support enforcement policies and practices can have a devastating impact on the economic security of low-income Black fathers. Therefore, Ms. Sandoval and Mr. Rodriguez recommend four structural changes to address this problem: base child support orders on reasonable evidence of a parent’s current income and assets, revoke the legal requirement that parents reimburse the state or federal government for welfare assistance provided to their children or their children’s custodial parents, discontinue the practice of incarcerating poor and unemployed men who are unable to pay their child support debt, and include both mothers and fathers – regardless of custody status – in income support, employment support, and asset development social welfare programs and practice.
Drs. Williams Shanks and Boddie each spoke about their research in their respective communities. Shanks’ research involves investigating the household factors of children of color versus children from non-Hispanic White households. Dr. Williams Shanks employs her findings to draw conclusions and recommend interventions for the communities that house these children of color. “You cannot escape the fact that you cannot ‘service’ people out of poverty,” Dr. Williams Shanks said. Communities have homeless shelters, food banks, and the like, and while all these services are necessary, people are still poor. Dr. Williams Shanks discussed moving beyond individuals and focusing on sustaining communities and affecting policies. “We need policy to make a difference.”

Dr. Boddie’s research involves establishing Individual Development Accounts (IDAs) in a community in Pittsburgh as a method to initiate community asset building. She is also involved in Pittsburgh’s replication of the Harlem’s Children’s Zone. Bartering systems, social purpose enterprises, community-centered foundations, and worker-owned cooperatives are examples of effective community-based models for asset-building work, according to Dr. Boddie. These models reduce costs by allowing people to invest collaboratively at the community level, and work best if implemented by resident neighborhood associations, faith-based institutions, civic organizations, or sororities or fraternities at Historically Black Colleges and Universities. “Faith leaders, entrepreneurs, and government community leaders are the best champions for implementing community asset-building programs,” Dr. Boddie said.

Drs. Williams Shanks and Boddie applied their research to the work of SRABC during their workshop session and gave examples to enhance the work of state coalitions and improve the effectiveness of SRABC. Common challenges in SRABC-focused communities and many communities of color are education, health, wealth, and criminal justice. Dr. Boddie recommends, “Regardless of the various work done in the different states, everyone needs to look at all the disparities together.”

Ms. Comer presented research from the Refund to Savings (R2S) initiative regarding saving behavior during tax time, particularly in low-income households. The Center for Social Development partnered with Intuit, the makers of TurboTax, and Dan Ariely, a leading behavioral economist, to use low-touch techniques to encourage tax filers to save a portion of their refund.

Results from the 2012 intervention showed that treatment group participants deposited $1.8 million more into savings accounts than they would have without the intervention. Among those who deposit their refund into multiple accounts, the intervention had a dramatic impact, with treatment group members saving an average of $778 compared to control group members saving an average of...
$307. R2S researchers also found that tax filers with incomes below the poverty line saved at the same rate as those at or above the poverty line.

“We believed that if we could make refund saving easier and more automatic, more people would save,” Ms. Comer told those attending the workshop. “And we’re finding that people do want to save and R2S helps them do it.”

Ms. Comer also shared preliminary findings from the R2S household financial survey, which included responses from more than 20,000 low-income households. Survey data show that, on average, tax filers intend to save about one third of their refund and actually follow through on that intention. Interestingly, income was not a good predictor of saving. A more accurate indicator was the tax filer’s perception of the level of difficulty in covering expenses and paying bills.

**Conclusion**

Participants gave the conference high marks on the exit survey, particularly touting the all of the plenary sessions and the networking opportunity. They also found the concurrent workshops to be informative, and legislators who responded said the roundtable was a valuable addition to the conference.

Although respondents spoke highly of the networking that took place, many commented that they would like to see an even greater opportunity to network with other participants. Another suggestion for the 2014 conference is to focus on tools and resources related to asset-building policies and services. The SRABC executive team will take these – and all recommendations – into account when planning the 2014 conference in New Orleans.

The SRABC team looks forward to seeing all of you in New Orleans this September for the 2014 conference, which will be titled “Closing the Racial Wealth Gap: Innovative Solutions for Change.” Please watch your email for details. Thank you again for attending the 2013 SRABC conference, “Building a Lifetime of Economic Security: Mobilizing for Change.”

Coalition Partners

Michael Milner, Executive Director
601 19th Street North, Second Floor
Birmingham, Alabama 35203
Tel: 205-731-4000
Cell: 205-602-9805
Email: mmilner@alabamaabc.org
www.AlabamaABC.org

Robert Hanson, Program Director
Cell: 205-908-9378
Email: rhanson@alabamaabc.org

Karen Landry, Executive Director
5196-A Norwood Avenue
Jacksonville, FL 32208
Tel: 904-766-7275
Toll: 888-552-9674
Cell: 904-613-5242
Email: klandry@waronpoverty.org
Website: http://www.waronpoverty.org/

Joyce James
State Director
P.O. Box 73032
Baton Rouge, LA 70874
Tel: 225-356-8871, ext. 204
Email: JJames@urecbr.com

Carl Dillon
Co-Lead
Tel: 225-356-8871, ext. 208
Email: CDillon@urecbr.com

Melbah Smith, State Director
120 Monterey Road, Suite A
Richland, MS 39218
Tel: 601-932-4778
Cell: 601-506-9401
Email: msmith@prosperousmississippi.com
www.prosperousmississippi.com

Evelyn Njoroge, Program Director
Cell: 601-813-8784
Email: enjoroge@prosperousmississippi.com

Angela Boykin, Communications Manager
Email: aboykin@prosperousmississippi.com
Coalition Partners

Center for Social Development
George Warren Brown School of Social Work

Gena McClendon
Project Director
1 Brookings Drive, Campus Box 1196
St. Louis, MO 63130
Tel: 314-935-9651
Cell: 314-609-5768
Email: ggunn@wustl.edu
http://csd.wustl.edu

Realize Consulting Group

Toni Cooke
Senior Consultant
1042 N. Mountain Avenue, #334
Upland, CA 91786
Tel: 909-608-7148
Cell: 951-809-4495
Email: toni@realizeconsulting.com
http://www.realizeconsulting.com

Artists & Vendors

Gumbo Gallery
Sonja Griffin Evans
www.gumboartgallery.com
(850) 912-6806
sonjagriffinevans@yahoo.com

Sidney Carter Creations
Sidney Carter
www.sidneycarter.net
(404) 405-7511

JNA Foods, L.L.C
dba Ha U Want It Creole Seasoning
www.hauwantit.com
(337) 224-6274
info@hauwantit.com

Natstee
Leticia Edwards
(407) 399-9975
Participant List

Tywann Arrington
Program Coordinator, MAC
Jackson, MS
601-354-2750
fscmiss@mindspring.com

Jeanella Arvie
CEO, JNA Foods, LLC
Washington, LA
info@hauwantit.com

Anthony Arvie
Owner/Operation, JNA Foods, LLC
Washington, LA
aarvie@centurytel.net

Valerie L. Baham
Proprietor, VALB Designs
Jacksonville, FL
904-699-4370
mahab13@comcast.net

Joe F. Barnes
Agribusiness Management Specialist, MAC
Jackson, MS
601-354-2750
fscmiss@mindspring.com

Alexandra Bastien
Program Associate, PolicyLink
Oakland, CA
510-663-2333
Alexandra@policylink.org

Cassio Batteast
Director of Youth Leadership, MS Faith Based Coalition
for Community Renewal, Inc
Jackson, MS
601-346-7503
cbatteast@faithbasedcoalition.com

Sandra Bennett
Farmer, MAC
Jackson, MS
601-354-2750
mscenter@mindspring.com

Myra Bentley-Draggs
Executive Director, Mississippi Association of Cooperatives
Jackson, MS
601-354-2750

Aaron LaVelle Beswick
Research Assistant, Center for Social Development
St. Louis, MO
abeswick@wustl.edu

Shirley Blakley
Court administrator, Town of Shuqualak/SCAG/Beat IV
Shuqualak, MS
662-251-1234
sblakley@bellsouth.net

Oddess Blocker
Youth Program Manager, Philadelphia Housing Authority
Philadelphia, PA
215-684-8109
oddess.blocker@pha.phila.gov

Stephanie Clintonia Boddie
Visiting Researcher, University of Pittsburgh/ University of Pennsylvania
Pittsburgh, PA
412-624-1346
scb58@pitt.edu

Angela Maria Boykin
Director of Communications, Coalition for a Prosperous Mississippi
Richland, MS
601-932-4778
aboykin@prosperousmississippi.com

Joe Brooks
VP of Civic Engagement, PolicyLink
Oakland, CA
510-663-4380
joe@policylink.org

Cynthia Brown
Executive Director, Heritage Training and Career Center
Montgomery, AL
334-260-6161
jcj3370@aol.com

DeForrest N. Brown
Asst VP, Income/Financial Stability Partnership,
United Way of Central Alabama
Birmingham, AL
205-458-2056
dbrown@uwca.org

Shanita Brown
BOLD Parent, BOLD Program
Jacksonville, FL
rjackson@waronpoverty.org

Grover C. Brown
Loan Officer, Community Enterprise Investments, Inc.
Pensacola, FL
850-595-6234, ext. 203
gbrown@ceii-cdc.org

April W. Brumfield
Deputy Director/Staff Attorney, One Voice
Baton Rouge, LA
abrumfield@uniteonevoice.org
Participant List

Catherine Bryan
Senior Program Officer, First Nations Development Institute
Longmont, CO
303-774-7836
cbryan@firstnations.org

Sam Bryan
Student, First Nations Development Institute
Boulder, CO
720-255-9587
catherineannebryan@gmail.com

Gladys Bryant
CPM member, MAC
Shuqualak, MS
gladysbryant@hotmail.com

Ben F. Burkett
State Coordinator, Mississippi Association of Cooperatives
Jackson, MS
601-354-2750
benburkett@earthlink.net

Darnella Burkett-Winston
Cooperative Field Specialist, Mississippi Association of Cooperatives
Jackson, MS
601-354-2750, ext. 19
darnellaburkett@earthlink.net

David Campbell
Cooperative Member, Mississippi Association of Cooperatives
Jackson, MS
601-354-2750
dollygarrett@earthlink.net

Terry & Caroline Cannon
Farmer, Coalition for a Prosperous Mississippi
Braxton, MS
Carolisande6@aol.com

Jim Carr
Senior Fellow, Center for American Progress
Washington D.C., DC
www.jamescarr.com

Kiley Paul Clifton
Film Maker/Contractor, UREC
Baton Rouge, LA
kileyclifton@gmail.com

Irvin Cohen
Executive Director, Edward Waters College
Jacksonville, FL
904-470-8262
Irvin.Cohen@ewc.edu

Linda Coleman
State Senator, Alabama State
Birmingham, AL
205-254-2079
linda.coleman@birminghamal.gov

Tim Collins
Executive Director, MS Housing Partnership
Jackson, MS
601-969-1895
timcollins11@comcast.net

Krista Comer
Project Manager, Center for Social Development
St. Louis, MO
kcomer@wustl.edu

David Conner
VP, Economic Development and International Commerce,
Southwest Louisiana Economic Development Alliance
Lake Charles, LA
337-302-1095
dconner@allianceswla.org

Toni Cooke
Senior Consultant, Realize Consulting Group
Upland, CA
909-608-7248
toni@realizeconsulting.com

Eunice Cornelius
Small Farmer, Cross Farm
Jasper, FL
ecc123@windstream.net

Marcos Cristano
RAISE Florida
Jacksonville, FL
fwaf@netzero.com

Maya Crooks
Ag Specialist, Mississippi Association of Cooperatives
Jackson, MS
601-354-2750, ext. 19
e_crooks19@yahoo.com

Paye Thomas Dahn
Project Coordinator, Philadelphia Housing Authority
Philadelphia, PA
215-684-5705
paye.dahn@pha.phila.gov

Ida L. Daniels
Coordinator, Food & Nutrition Services,
Hamilton County School District
Jasper, FL
386-792-7805
ida.daniels@hamiltonfl.com
Participant List

Ramika Davis
Call Center Associate, Southern Rural Black Women Initiative
Yazoo City, MS
ramikad24@yahoo.com

Robin Davis
Receptionist, Women on the Move Transportation Services
Yazoo City, MS
mzbyrd09@yahoo.com

Carrie Davis
President, Wealth Watchers Inc.
Jacksonville, FL
904-265-4736
carriedavis@wealthwatchersfl.com

Theodore Debro
Deputy Director, JCCEO
Birmingham, AL
205-320-7025
tdebro@aol.com

Adji Fatou Diagne
Research Assistant, Howard University Center on Race & Wealth
Washington, DC
770-256-1624
adji_diagne@yahoo.com

Carl Dillon
Director of Operations, Urban Restorations Enhancement Corporation
Baton Rouge, LA
225-356-8871, ext. 208
CDillon@urecbr.com

Renae Dismuke
Executive Assistant, JCCEO
Birmingham, AL
205-327-7554
rdismuke@jcceo.org

Herbert Dixon
Representative, Louisiana Legislator
Alexandria, LA
dixonh@legis.la.gov

Scott Douglas
Executive Director, Greater Birmingham Ministries
Birmingham, AL
205-326-6821
scott@gbm.org

Lee A Draggs
Volunteer, MAC
Jackson, MS
601-354-2750

Zaberina J. Duplessis
Administrative Assistant, Alabama Asset Building Coalition
Birmingham, AL
205-731-4000
zstamps@alabamaabc.org

John Duplessis
Partner, Self Sufficiency Through Employment
Birmingham, AL
205-533-3063
johnaduplessis@aol.com

Leticia Edwards
Owner, Natstee
Orlando, FL
336-924-8899
bepeaceful.3@gmail.com

Ronnie A. Edwards
Baton Rouge Metro Councilwoman, Urban Restoration Enhancement Corp
Baton Rouge, LA
225-389-4831
redwards@brgov.com

Marcia Ellison
BOLD Parent, BOLD
Jacksonville, FL

Sherrie Ewing
Retired, Town of Shuqualak/SCAG/Beat IV
Shuqualak, MS
662-251-1234

Christy Finsel
Coordinator, Oklahoma Native Assets Coalition
St. Louis, MO
405-401-7873
cfinsel@oknativeassets.org

Kamalah Fletcher
Community Prosperity Director, Catalyst Miami
Miami, FL
305-576-5001, ext.13
kamalahf@catalystmiami.org

Jewel Flornoy
Parent Organizer, War on Poverty Inc.
Jacksonville, FL
904-766-7275
jflornoy@waronpoverty.org

Jorge Galacia
RAISE Florida
Jacksonville, FL
jgaliciafwaf@gmail.com
Participant List

Jennifer Gardner
Vice President, Business Management, Prosperity Works
Albuquerque, NM
505-217-2747
jennifer@prosperityworks.net

Daisy Garrett
Outreach Specialist, Mississippi Association of Cooperatives
Jackson, MS
601-354-2750
dollygarrett@earthlink.net

Edward Gaston
VP Community Development, Wealth Watchers Inc.
Jacksonville, FL
904-265-4736
edgaston@wealthwatchersfl.com

Ethan Geiling
Program Manager, CFED
Washington, DC
202-207-0121
egeiling@cfed.org

LaKeesha Giddens
Program Director, Center for Rural & Small Business Development,
SU Ag Center
Baton Rouge, LA
225-771-2160
lakeeshia_giddens@suagcenter.com

Ron Gilbert
Executive Director, Community Action Association of Alabama
Birmingham, AL
205-323-6674
rgilbert@caaalabama.org

Karen Gillispie
Executive Director, Mind Over Money, Inc.
Tallahassee, FL
855-243-2221
kareng@mindovermoneyinc.org

Angela Glover-Blackwell
Founder and Chief Executive Director, Policy Link
Oakland, CA
www.policylink.org • www.accesstofinancialsecurity.org

Cheryl S. Gonzalez
Director, Equal Opportunity and Diversity, University of North Florida
Jacksonville, FL
904-620-2507
cheryl.gonzalez@unf.edu

Robert Goode
BOLD Parent, Bold
Jacksonville, FL

David Gray
Policy Analyst, Louisiana Budget Project
Baton Rouge, LA
david@labudget.org

Janet Griffin-Graves
Program Director, Howard University Center on Race and Wealth
Washington, DC
202-865-8582
jgriffin-graves@howard.edu

Charles Griggs
Director, Communications and Community Engagement, Florida
Department of Health in Duval County
Jacksonville, FL
904-253-2276
charles_griggs@doh.state.fl.us

Annie Gulley
dietian, Town of Shuqualak/SCAG/Beat IV
Shuqualak, MS
662-251-1234

Gena Gunn McClendon
Director, CSD
St. Louis, MO
314-935-9651
ggunn@wustl.edu

Doris Hall
Farmer, MAC
Jackson, MS
601-354-2750
mscenter@ mindspring.com

Hazel Hall
Member, Heirs United Investment Club
Jackson, MS
601-372-0229
mosedantzlerpress@gmail.com

Robert S Hanson
Program Director, Alabama Asset Building Coalition
Birmingham, AL
205-731-4000
rhanson@alabamaabc.org

Bruce Harrell
Cooperative Developer, Pointe Coupee Minority Farmer’s Coop.
Marksville, LA
318-201-8083
bruce_harrell@bellsouth.net

Rena Harrell
Consultant, Pointe Coupee Minority Farmer’s Coop.
Marksville, LA
318-201-8083
bruce_harrell@bellsouth.net
Participant List

Clair Hebert  
Economic Development Rep., Entergy, Louisiana  
Lake Charles, LA  
337-302-1095  
eheber5@entergy.com

Tiffany Heineman  
Administrative Coordinator, Center for Social Development  
St. Louis, MO  
theineman@wustl.edu

Ashley Herad  
Government Affairs and Outreach Director, Louisiana Budget Project  
Baton Rouge, LA  
225-925-2424  
ashey@labudget.org

Marlean Horne  
Retired, Town of Shuqualak/SCAG/Beat IV  
Shuqualak, MS  
662-251-1234

Latreace Humphry  
BOLD Parent, BOLD Program  
Jacksonville, FL

Marshall Hunt  
Agri-Business Project Director, Deep South Food Alliance  
Prichard, AL  
251-510-7760  
hunterops@gmail.com

Gail Marie Hurst  
Project Director, F.U.E. L., Inc.  
New Roads, LA  
gailhurst.fuel@gmail.com

Laureen M Husband  
Director Healthy Jacksonville, Florida Department of Health in Duval County  
Jacksonville, FL  
904-253-2276  
Laureen_Husband@doh.state.fl.us

Dorothy Jean Inman-Johnson  
City Manager/ Author, City of Midway FL  
Tallahassee, FL  
Dotinman-johnson@hotmail.com

Savannah F. Jackson  
Cooperative Development Specialist, MAC  
Jackson, MS  
601-354-2750  
Riyan Jackson  
Project Manager, War On Poverty-Florida-Inc  
Jacksonville, FL  
904-766-7275  
rjackson@waronpoverty.org

Robert L. Jackson  
State Senator, Quitman County Development Org. Inc.  
Marks, MS  
662-326-4000  
rjacksonqcd@ yahoo.com

Athena S. Jackson  
Director of Career Services, Florida Memorial University  
Miami, FL  
305-626-3782  
ajackson@fmuniv.edu

Charlotte Jackson  
Deputy Director, Lower 9th Ward NENA  
New Orleans, LA  
504-373-6483, ext. 106  
cjackson@9thwardnena.org

Joyce James  
Director of Programs, Urban Restorations Enhancement Corporation  
Baton Rouge, LA  
JJames@urecbr.com

Tavia James, M.S.  
Baton Rouge, LA  
tavia.james@dars.state.tx.us

Monique Johnson  
Full Time Student, Washington University in St. Louis  
St. Louis, MO  
monique.johnson@wustl.edu

Brenda Johnson  
Assistant Vice President, Iberia Bank  
Monroe, LA  
318-327-3328  
bjohnson@iberia.com

Dorothy “Dottie” Johnson  
President/CEO, The Portrait of Empowerment Inc  
Opa-locka, FL  
305-769-6982  
president@portraitofempowerment.org

Felecia Jones  
President, Black Belt Community Foundation  
Selma, AL  
334-874-1126  
fjones@blackbeltfound.org

Shevrin D Jones  
Representative, Florida House of Representatives  
West Park, FL  
954-893-5010

Mia L. Jones  
State Representative, FL House of Representatives  
Jacksonville, FL  
904-924-1615  
mia.jones@myfloridahouse.gov
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Role and Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Iris Clark Jones</td>
<td>VP Community Dev, Branch Banking and Trust Company - BB&amp;T Jacksonville, FL 904-361-5391 <a href="mailto:ijones@bbandt.com">ijones@bbandt.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darvis Jordan</td>
<td>Outreach Coordinator, MS Faith Based Coalition for Community Renewal, Inc. Jackson, MS 601-346-7503 <a href="mailto:djordan@nhcms.org">djordan@nhcms.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stephen D Kennedy</td>
<td>Secretary, 100 Black Men of Jacksonville, Inc. Jacksonville, FL 904-764-2445 <a href="mailto:su1971@bellsouth.net">su1971@bellsouth.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kilolo Kijakazi</td>
<td>Program Officer, Ford Foundation New York, NY 212-573-5138 <a href="mailto:k.kijakazi@fordfoundation.org">k.kijakazi@fordfoundation.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karen Landry</td>
<td>Executive Director, RAISE Florida Network/War on Poverty-Florida Jacksonville, FL <a href="mailto:klandry@waronpoverty.org">klandry@waronpoverty.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estella Lee</td>
<td>Program Coordinator, Catholic Charities of NWFL pensacola, FL 850-261-0757 <a href="mailto:leee@cc.ptdiocese.org">leee@cc.ptdiocese.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilhelmina Leigh</td>
<td>Senior Research Associate, Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies Washington, DC 202-789-3500 <a href="mailto:wleigh@jointcenter.org">wleigh@jointcenter.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gloria Dean London</td>
<td>Director, Southern University Ag Center Baton Rouge, LA 225-771-4107 <a href="mailto:gloria_london@suagcenter.com">gloria_london@suagcenter.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles Mason</td>
<td>Best of BOLD Parent Volunteer, War on Poverty Inc. Jacksonville, FL 904-766-7275 <a href="mailto:mark_mcdaniel@unc.edu">mark_mcdaniel@unc.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meredith Coleman McGee</td>
<td>Financial Partner, Heirs United Investment Club Jackson, MS 601-372-0229 <a href="mailto:meredithetc@bellsouth.net">meredithetc@bellsouth.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary McGee</td>
<td>Retired Volunteer, MAC Jackson, MS 601-354-2750 <a href="mailto:marymc2006@peoplepc.com">marymc2006@peoplepc.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William E McGee, Jr.</td>
<td>Member, Heirs United Investment Club Jackson, MS 601-372-0229 <a href="mailto:meredithcmcg@gmail.com">meredithcmcg@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tracy McLemore</td>
<td>Executive Director, Anne Hurley Center for Economic Education Lake Charles, LA 337-302-1095 <a href="mailto:tmclemore@mcneese.edu">tmclemore@mcneese.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kimberly M McMillan</td>
<td>Director of Finance, Foundation for the Mid South Jackson, MS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pamela L McNutt</td>
<td>Dir Micro Enterprise Development, Quitman County Development Org. Inc. Marks, MS 662-326-4000 <a href="mailto:pmcnutt@qcdo.org">pmcnutt@qcdo.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Betty Mickey</td>
<td>Farmer, Town of Shuqualak/SCAG/Beat IV Shuqualak, MS 504-432-4079</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Edwin Milner</td>
<td>Executive Director, Alabama Asset Building Coalition Birmingham, AL 205-731-4000 <a href="mailto:mmilner90@aol.com">mmilner90@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lucile Mizelle</td>
<td>Small Farmer, T&amp;M Farm Lake City, FL <a href="mailto:colira@netzero.net">colira@netzero.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan Moller</td>
<td>Director, Louisiana Budget Project Baton Rouge, LA 225-925-2424 <a href="mailto:jan@labudget.org">jan@labudget.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Participant List

Alfred K. Moore  
Owner, Silver Child Media  
Baton Rouge, LA  
225-288-9870  
ak_moore@live.com

Blanca Moreno  
Farmworker Association of Florida  
Apopka, FL  
407-886-5151  
blancamoreno45@yahoo.com

Tirso Moreno  
Farmworker Association of Florida  
Apopka, FL  
407-886-5151  
tirosmoreno@hotmail.com

Maureen Morrow  
Staff Attorney, Southeast La. Legal Services Corp.  
Hammond, LA  
985-345-2130  
maducre@slls.org

Patricia Nelms  
Development Associate, War-on-Poverty  
Jacksonville, FL  
904-766-7275  
patricianelms47@gmail.com

Evelyn Njoroge  
Program Manager, Coalition for a prosperous Mississippi  
Richland, MS  
601-932-4778  
enjoroge@prosperousmississippi.com

Sarah Olson  
Career Coach, Catholic Charities  
Panama City, FL  
olson@cc.ptdiocese.org

Leslie Osborne  
Program Coordinator/Programs, War on Poverty - Florida  
Opa Locka, FL  
llosborn@waronpoverty.org

Charlotte Otabor  
Research Assistant, Howard University  
Washington, DC  
617-459-8317  
edefran2@hotmail.com

Danny Patterson  
Board Member, Alabama Asset Building Coalition  
Birmingham, AL  
205-731-4000  
dkpatterson@lighthousecdc.com

Edward “Jerry” Pennick  
Director, Land Assistance Fund, Federation of Southern Cooperatives  
East Point, GA  
404-765-0991  
lafund@mindspring.com

Gertrude Pennick  
Volunteer, Federation of Southern Cooperatives/Land Assistance Fund  
East Point, GA  
404.765.0991  
lafund@mindspring.com

Jose Perez  
Miami, FL  
305-791-3182  
jose3perez@gmail.com

Roxana Perez Mendez  
RAISE Florida  
Jacksonville, FL

Doris Pitts  
Director, DD’s Second Chance  
Jackson, MS  
601-372-0229  
pittsdoris@gmail.com

Albert Porterie  
Farmer, Pointe Coupee Minority Farmer’s Coop.  
Marksville, LA  
bruce_harrell@bellsouth.net

Anne Price  
Director of Closing the Wealth Gap Initiative, Insight Center  
Oakland, CA  
aprice@insightcced.org

Jackie Prime-Thompson  
Program Manager, Family Foundations  
Jacksonville, FL  
904-396-8112  
jacquelynt@familyfoundationsjax.org

Monica Armster Rainge  
Agricultural Lawyer, N/A  
Tallahassee, FL  
850-702-7560  
monicarainge@hotmail.com

Linda J. Ramsey  
MAC Coop Member, MAC  
Shuqualak, MS  
lindajramsey64@yahoo.com

Gregory Neal Rattler  
Director, New Orleans Fatherhood Consortium  
New Orleans, LA  
gnratllerjr@gmail.com
Participant List

Deirdra Reed  
Senior Organizer, The Center for Community Change  
Nashville, TN  
202-309-2096  
dreed@communitychange.org

Virginia Reno  
Vice President for Income Security Policy, National Academy of Social Insurance  
Washington, DC  
202-243-7282  
vro@nasi.org

Solana Rice  
Associate Director, PolicyLink  
Oakland, CA  
510-601-0469  
solana@policylink.org

Haley Richards  
Community Organizer, Catholic Charities of NWFL  
Pensacola, FL  
850-429-7296  
richardsh@cc.ptdiocese.org

Hynethia Richards  
Homeownership Services Coordinator, MS Housing Partnership  
Jackson, MS  
601-969-1895  
hynethia@comcast.net

Kate Richey  
Policy Analyst, Oklahoma Policy Institute  
Tulsa, OK  
918-794-3944  
krichey@okpolicy.org

Rashad Robinson  
Executive Director, ColorofChange  
Oakland, CA

Nino Rodriguez  
Program and Policy Specialist, Center for Family Policy and Practice (CFFPP)  
Madison, WI  
608-257-3148, ext. 16  
nrodriguez@cffpp.org

Korey Rogers  
Film Maker/Contractor, UREC  
Baton Rouge, LA  
KoreyKooRogers@gmail.com

G. Albert Ruesga  
President & CEO, Greater New Orleans Foundation  
New Orleans, LA

Najla Rushdan  
Program Coordinator, Family Preservation Agency  
Union Springs, AL  
najabout2b@aol.com

Baron Sandlin  
Executive Director, Northeast Alabama CDC  
Anniston, AL  
256-235-8018  
bsandlin5@bellsouth.net

Gabriela Sandoval  
Director of Research and Policy, Insight Center for Community Economic Development  
Oakland, CA  
510-251-2600  
gsandoval@insightcced.org

Kaye Schmitz  
President/CEO, Florida Prosperity Partnership  
Saint Augustine, FL  
904-940-0296  
kayedschmitz@bellsouth.net

Heidi Schoonover  
VP, Community Development Specialist, BB&T  
Birmingham, AL

Conston Scott  
Agribusiness Management Specialist, MAC  
Jackson, MS  
601-354-2750  
fscmiss@mindspring.com

Isabel W Scott  
Volunteer, MAC  
Jackson, MS  
601-354-2750  
jonbellscott@yahoo.com

Candace J. Semien  
Writer/Consultant, LABEST  
Baton Rouge, LA  
225-926-5693  
cjs@jozefpa.com

Hamima Shabazz  
Exec Director, Family Preservation Agency  
Unions Springs, AL  
334-215-6128  
Hamima07@gmail.com

Trina Shanks  
Associate Professor, University of Michigan  
Ann Arbor, MI  
734-764-7411  
trwilli@umich.edu
Participant List

Ashley Shelton
Louisiana Director, One Voice
Baton Rouge, LA
225-802-2435
shelton.ashley@gmail.com

Gloria D. Shields
Program Associate, Childrens Defense Fund-Southern Regional Office
Jackson, MS
601-321-1966
gshields@childrensdefense.org

Violetta M. Simpson
Project Director, Gulf Regional Early Childhood Services
Mobile, AL
251-473-1060
vnattasimpson@gmail.com

Sonya Slaughter
Clerk, Town of Shuqualak/SCAG/Beat IV
Shuqualak, MS
662-251-1234

Melbah M. Smith
Director, Coalition for a Prosperous Mississippi
Richland, MS
601-932-4778
msmith@prosperourmississippi.com

Jane V. Soltis
Consultant, Jmvsoltis consulting llc
Holiday, FL
jmvsoltis.consult@gmail.com

Katie Stalter
Communications Coordinator, Center for Social Development
Saint Louis, MO
314-935-9496
kstalter@wustl.edu

Mana Tahaie
Director of Racial Justice, YWCA Tulsa
Tulsa, OK
918-858-2348
mtahaie@ywcatulsa.org

Andre Taylor
Coordinator, JCCEO
Birmingham, AL
205-201-7501
ataylor@jcceo.org

Jeanette V. Taylor
Circles Coach, Gulf Coast Work Force
Apalachicola, FL
jvt_jet@yahoo.com

Daniel F. Teague
Agribusiness Management Specialist, MAC
Jackson, MS
601-354-2750

Deborah A. Thomas
Program Coordinator, FOCAL
Montgomery, AL
334-262-3456
thomasdeborah@gmail.com

Norma Tillman
Farmer, Raise Florida
White Springs, FL
386-303-1361
147@windstream.net

Willonese Tillman-Adams
Farmer, CONT’D Farm
White Springs, FL
386-365-3743
neecee@windstream.net

Lytyana Toomer
Director, MAC
Jackson, MS
601-354-2750
lytanyatoomer@hotmail.com

Jocelyn E. Turner
Community Relations Director, Florida Department of Health, Duval County
Jacksonville, FL
904-253-2037
Jocelyn_Turner@doh.state.fl.us

Alice Vickers
Attorney, Florida Consumer Action Network
Tallahassee, FL
850-222-4048
alice@fcan.org

Kenneth Walker
Director - Division of Outreach Services, University of West Alabama
Livingston, AL
205-652-3665
kwalker@uwa.edu

Dorian Warren
Associate Professor, Columbia University, Roosevelt Institute
New York, NY

Danita Jo Washington
Administrative Assistant/Housing Counseling, Center For Fair Housing, Inc
Mobile, AL
251-479-1532
dkwashington@sacfh.org
Participant List

Rosalind Washington
Executive Vice President, Neighborhood Development Foundation
New Orleans, LA
504-488-0155, ext. 106
rosalindw@ndf-neworleans.org

Gladys Washington
Program Director, Mary Reynolds Babcock Foundation
Winston-Salem, NC

Rose Watson
Sr. Director, Human Resources, United Way NCA
Vienna, VA
703-472-2530
rosewatson3519@comcast.net

Valentina Renata Webb
Career Coach, Gulf Coast Work Force
Apalachicola, FL
850-370-0116
vwebb@gcwb.org

Mary Gist Wells
Administrative Asst., War on Poverty Fl. Inc.
Jacksonville, FL
904-766-7275
mwells@waronpoverty.net

Melissa R Wells
Policy Assistant, Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies
Washington, DC
202-789-6366
mwells@jointcenter.org

John E Whitfield
Director, Baldwin Housing Alliance of Baldwin County
Daphne, AL
251-279-0461
revjohnwhit3@gmail.com

Isabel Wilkerson
Author, Random House Speakers Bureau
Atlanta, GA

A. Shae Williams
Executive Director, MS Faith Based Coalition for Community Renewal, Inc
Jackson, MS
601-346-7503
swilliams@faithbasedcoalition.com

Patricia "PC" Williams
President, Callouch/Williams & Associates
Atlanta, GA
678-296-1059
pcwil35@comcast.net

Laquitta Williams
BOLD Parent, BOLD
Jacksonville, FL

Frank Williams
Executive Director, Lower 9th Ward NENA
New Orleans, LA
504-373-6483, ext. 106
fwills49@yahoo.com

Darnella B Winston
Farm to School Coordinator, MAC
Jackson, MS
601-354-2750

Joseph K. Wood
Community Gardener, War on Poverty
Jacksonville, FL
904-766-7275
mrjwoodnp@yahoo.com

Dreamal I. Worthen
Professor, Florida A & M University
Tallahassee, FL
850-599-3440
diw116@hotmail.com

Jacquiela Wright
Juvenile Justice Coordinator, The Wellspring/Big Brothers Big Sisters of NELA
Monroe, LA
318-323-9034
jwright@wellspringalliance.org

Marie A. Wright
Managing Attorney, Southeast LA Legal Services Corp.
Hammond, LA
985-345-2130, ext. 104
maducre@slls.org

Otis F. Wright, Jr.
Agribusiness Management Specialist, MAC
Jackson, MS
601-354-2750

Marjorie York
Volunteer, Alabama Silver Haired Legislator
Mobile, AL
myapottery@gmail.com

John Zippert
Director of Program Operations,
Federation of Southern Cooperatives/Land Assistance Fund
Epes, AL
205-652-9676
jzippert@aol.com
2013 SRABC Conference