



## HEALTHY COMMUNITIES & HOMES SUMMIT

August 2 at the Trenton War Memorial

[www.hcdnnj.org/HealthyCommunitiesHomesSummit](http://www.hcdnnj.org/HealthyCommunitiesHomesSummit)

### Featured Speaker & Presenter Biographies



**Bob Atkins**, PhD, RN, FAAN is director of New Jersey Health Initiatives (NJHI) and an Associate Professor at Rutgers University with a joint appointment in Nursing and Childhood Studies. Dr. Atkins has a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and American Civilizations from Brown University and Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Pennsylvania. Fresh out of nursing school, he moved to the city of Camden where he worked as a school nurse at East Camden Middle School and co-founded the Camden STARR Program, a non-profit youth development program dedicated to improving the life chances of youth living in Camden. Dr. Atkins' work in Camden motivated him to complete a PhD in the Department of Public Health at Temple University to better understand the factors that influence the health and well-being of children living in vulnerable communities.



**Jerrell Blakeley** is the campaign organizer for the Work Environment Council of New Jersey's Healthy Schools Now campaign. He most recently taught Civics and History at his alma mater, Trenton Central High School-West, and served as an Organizational Development Consultant with the New Jersey Education Association. He secured an academic scholarship to Howard University, where he earned a degree in History. Mr. Blakely is a graduate of The Graduate School of Education at Rutgers University-New Brunswick, where he earned an Ed.M. in the Social and Philosophical Foundations of Education as an Eagleton Fellow of Politics and Government. He was recently selected as a 2016 New Leaders Council Fellow. He was a member of the Trenton Education Association and the NJ Education Association, where he served on the local and county Legislative Action Teams and was selected as one of 50 Emerging Leaders in the NJEA. He serves on the Mercer County Board of Social Services.



**Joyce Campbell** is the Executive Director of the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen (TASK), which serves an estimated 4,800 free meals each week to the county's needy population. Prior to her employment at TASK, Ms. Campbell worked for more than 20 years at Catholic Charities of Trenton, where she was Associate Executive Director for External Affairs. A professional social worker, Ms. Campbell earned her MSW degree from Rutgers University in New Brunswick. She is a passionate advocate for policies and programs that break the cycle of poverty, and is the current Vice President of the Anti-Poverty Network. She also is President of NAMI (National Alliance for the Mentally Ill) Mercer chapter.



**Sheila Colalillo** is a Certified School Nurse at Veteran's School in Camden, NJ. She received a BSN from Gwynedd Mercy College and an MS from the University of Pennsylvania. Ms. Colalillo is a Fellow in the Johnson and Johnson School Health Leadership Program. She has participated in a project to improve the health and wellness of students with asthma in the Camden City School District. Prior to school nursing, Ms. Colalillo served as a nursing director at a Philadelphia University Hospital. She believes that bringing facets of hospital case management to the school health system is a goal that will enhance the continuity of health care for students with chronic conditions such as asthma.



**Pilar Hogan Closkey** joined the Carpenter Society in 1998 as the Operations Manager and, in 2004, was named the Executive Director. Saint Joseph's Carpenter Society has developed over 800 units of housing including partnering on the Baldwin's Run development and is now actively working to improve other Camden neighborhoods outside of East Camden. She has served on the Housing and Community Development Network of New Jersey's Board of Directors since 2009.



**Drew Curtis** serves as Director of Community Development and Environmental Justice at Ironbound Community Corporation (ICC), where he oversees a staff of fifteen working on community organizing, policy development, economic empowerment & development, affordable housing, neighborhood planning & revitalization, urban agriculture, and environmental initiatives. All of this work is grounded in principles of justice and equity. Prior to his position at ICC, he worked at the Bergen County Division of Community Development, where he coordinated economic development projects and oversaw compliance with federal regulations in the areas of fair housing, labor standards, and the environment. He also holds a Master of Science in Urban Policy Analysis and Management from Milano School of International Affairs, Management, and Urban Policy at the New School University. He sits on the board of the Essex Community Land Trust, which has the mission of keeping housing perpetually affordable.



**Joseph Della Fave** serves as Executive Director of Ironbound Community Corporation (ICC), a multi-service nonprofit agency in Newark assisting nearly 1,000 people daily with programs including early childhood, family services, school age and adult education, senior services, community planning and development, and environmental justice since 1991. The organization has been recognized by local, state and national organizations for its impact and work in the community. He also serves on the Housing and Community Development Network of New Jersey's Board of Directors.



**Rose Farias** works closely with all 24 Democratic Senators in New Jersey to draft legislation and policy affecting urban communities as the Director of Urban Policy for the New Jersey Senate Majority Office. She has had the privilege of working on recent legislation around Superstorm Sandy and Atlantic City. Prior to her work with the New Jersey Senate, she was a Senior Management Associate for the Law Department of the City of Newark, NJ, where she worked in areas of bankruptcy, foreclosure, tax abatement, and real estate. At the same time, she was an adjunct faculty member at the Rutgers School of Public Affairs and Administration where she earned her master's, teaching public financial management and the urban experience in U.S. & Global cities. Ms. Farias has also had the honor of serving as Deputy Chief of Staff for Senator Cory A. Booker when he was Mayor of Newark, and she has also served as the Manager of Operations for the Office of the Deputy Mayor of Community Engagement.



**Molly Greenberg** serves as Environmental Justice Policy Manager at Ironbound Community Corporation where she is responsible for environmental and public health research projects, as well as representing ICC on critical environmental justice policy issues. Since joining ICC in 2010, she has directed two multi-year EPA-funded environmental projects. The first was a stakeholder process focused on Cumulative Impacts, which developed a priority set of action items and policies to alleviate environmental burdens in Newark. The second was another EPA funded two-year initiative to improve indoor air quality in early education centers throughout Newark. Prior to joining ICC, Ms. Greenberg worked for various labor and human rights organizations in New Jersey. She also holds a Master of Social Work from Monmouth University.



**Sherri Goldberg** started her career as a social worker for the NJ Division of Youth and Family Services. In the public service arena for 22 years, she worked her way up holding various administrative positions. In 2010, she was offered the position of Director of Employment and Training for the Jewish Renaissance Foundation (JRF), a non-profit community action agency located in Perth Amboy, NJ. While at the JRF, Ms. Goldberg has created the Academy for Workforce Empowerment, coordinated a team to develop the 1MIC & Renaissance Café social enterprise. She also heads up the Perth Amboy Alliance for Community (PAAC) helping to initiate strategies to strengthen and revitalize the Budapest Neighborhood. She graduated Rutgers University with a Master of Arts in Criminal Justice and a Master in Public Administration.



**Kiki Jamieson** has been president of The Fund for New Jersey since 2011. The Fund for New Jersey is a private grantmaking foundation that provides support for nonprofit organizations working for the benefit of the people of New Jersey. Since it was created in 1969, the Fund for New Jersey has worked to improve the quality of public policy decision-making on the most significant issues affecting the people of New Jersey and our region. Its grant making advances systemic and sustainable solutions to public problems through the work of policy, advocacy, analysis, and organizing. Previously, Jamieson directed the Pace Center for Civic Engagement and taught in the Politics department at Princeton University. She taught as well at Haverford College, the University of Pennsylvania, and Rutgers University and was a visiting scholar at the Institute for Advanced Study. Jamieson was educated at Bryn Mawr College (AB) and Rutgers University (MA, PhD). She serves on the President's advisory council at Bryn Mawr College and is a trustee of the Princeton Public Library.



**Mayor Albert B. Kelly** is President/CEO and Founder of Gateway Community Action Partnership, Inc. The agency that was founded in 1984 has grown to become one of the largest in New Jersey with an annual budget of over 50 million. The agency serves more than 56,000 low to moderate income people through more than 40 programs at sites in Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem counties in southern New Jersey and employs over 700 people. After serving as Council President on Bridgeton City Council in 2009, Mayor Kelly was elected to his first term in May of 2010 with 76% of the vote and assumed office on July 1st of that year as Bridgeton's first African-American Mayor. He is currently serving his second term as Mayor of the City of Bridgeton.



**Robert Laumbach** M.D., M.P.H., C.I.H. is Associate Professor in the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health in the Rutgers School of Public Health. He has a major research focus in cumulative impacts of multiple chemical and nonchemical stressors on health, particularly on mechanisms by which air pollution interacts with other stressors in Environmental Justice communities in New Jersey. He is currently collaborating with the Ironbound Community Corporation on an EPA-funded project to measure the effects of diesel exhaust air pollution and chronic stress on asthma exacerbation among children living in communities adjacent to the Port of Newark/Elizabeth. He directs community outreach and engagement for the National Institute of Environmental Health Services Center (NIEH) for Environmental Exposure and Disease (CEED), at the Environmental and Exposure and Occupational Health Sciences Institute (EOHSI), and maintains a clinical practice at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. A former Sanitarian, Industrial Hygienist, and current member of the NJ Department of Environmental Protection Clean Air Council and Science Advisory Board, Mr. Laumbach strives to apply the best available scientific evidence and approaches to solving real-world environmental health problems in New Jersey.



**Miriam Manon** works with business, government and community leaders across the country to advance policies and projects that bring healthier food choices to underserved communities. She has her Master's Degree in Public Administration from the University of Pennsylvania's Fels School of Government. When not at work, Ms. Manon can be found cooking her way through her Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) share, practicing yoga or dancing in her living room with her daughter, Noa.



**Maria Maio-Messano** is the Director of the New Jersey State Office of the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). In this role, she serves as HUD's contact to the New Jersey Congressional Delegation, State and local officials and stakeholders. HUD funding allocations in New Jersey total \$1.7 billion annually, including the Public Housing/Housing Choice Voucher, Community Planning and Development and Multi-Family Programs and Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity. Prior to this position, she served as the Executive Director of the Jersey City Housing Authority, the second largest in New Jersey. Ms. Maio-Messano was responsible for the oversight of 2300 Public Housing Units, 4000 Vouchers and 130 Assisted Housing Units. Under her leadership, the JCHA successfully implemented the revitalization of three obsolete public housing developments to new mixed-income communities. She is a graduate of St. Peter's College (now University) with a BA in Sociology and Urban Studies and the Leadership New Jersey Program.



**Raymond Ocasio** is the Executive Director of La Casa de Don Pedro, a Newark community based social services and development organization. He is a board member of the Newark Community Development Network as well as a member of Newark's Master Plan Working Group. He also serves on the other Newark, state and national groups governing or advisory boards. Before joining La Casa, Mr. Ocasio's career spanned 30 years of service in housing and community development groups both domestically and internationally, with the non-for profit and different government sectors. He previously served on the Network's Board of Directors, and was the Chair of the Board for two years.



**Beatriz Oesterheld** has served as the Executive Director of the Community Affairs Resource Center in Asbury Park, and Freehold Borough since February 2010. During her tenure, Ms. Oesterheld strengthened the organization's infrastructure, built solid community alliances, enhanced services, and improved the center's financial position. Prior to leading the Community Affairs Resource Center, she served as the Program Manager for the Lead Education and Outreach Program with the Monmouth County Health Department and the Lead Coordinator for the Monmouth/Ocean Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Coalition with the Regional Perinatal Consortium. In these roles, Ms. Oesterheld has significantly reduced lead poisoning among children through increased screenings and large-scale community education programs. She increased public awareness of lead poisoning by conducting hundreds of presentations for preschool directors, physicians, and nurses. She holds a Bachelor Degree in Business Administration from the University of Puerto Rico.





**Doug O'Malley** is Environment New Jersey's Director. He has worked on a broad array of environmental issues over the last 15 years in Trenton. His work has included campaigns to protect New Jersey's waterways from fracking waste and cleaning up New Jersey's air. He has worked to build public support for the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) to combat global warming, fast-tracking NJ's clean energy economy through expansion of solar, off-shore wind and energy efficiency, fighting against the expansion of fossil fuel projects and expanding mass transit. As a clean water advocate, he ran successful campaigns to protect some of the state's largest reservoirs and rivers from development close to their banks and directed citizen outreach offices, coordinating a staff of 20 to educate more than 60,000 Central Jersey citizens about pressing environmental issues. He serves on the board of the Work Environment Council, Environment America and Environmental Endowment of NJ and is a member of the Better Choices Coalition and Anti-Poverty Network. He received the Environmental Quality award in 2012 from EPA Region II. He graduated from Harvard in 2001 with a degree in history.



**Congressman Frank Pallone, Jr.** (NJ-06) has represented central New Jersey in Congress since 1988. Throughout his career, Cong. Pallone has been a leader in protecting the integrity of the Medicare guarantee and Medicaid programs, making the nation's food system safer, strengthening laws to keep our air and water clean, making health care more affordable and accessible, and supporting initiatives that advance and protect the public health. He is the Ranking Member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, which has jurisdiction over issues pertaining to energy, environment, health care, commerce, and telecommunications.



**Elyse Pivnick** is a city planner who has worked in the community development field for over 30 years. Fifteen years ago, she established Isles, Inc.'s environmental health initiative and has since managed multiple projects that both assess and improve urban environmental health, particularly addressing the challenge of unhealthy homes in Trenton, New Jersey and nationally. Ms. Pivnick has been a board member of the National Center for Healthy Housing since 2010. Prior to the NCHH appointment, she was a board member of the Alliance to End Childhood Lead Poisoning. Ms. Pivnick has been the director of projects funded by US Environmental Protection Agency, NJ Department of Health, NJ Department of Community Affairs, NJ Department of Human Services, NJ Department of Environmental Protection, City of Trenton, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and other foundations and corporations. She is a certified trainer for the NJ Healthy Homes Training Center, a satellite training center of the National Center for Healthy Housing, She is a co-producer of three environmental health instructional videos funded by NIEHS and EPA targeted for low-income urban residents.



**Shabnam Salih** serves the Camden Coalition of Healthcare Providers as a Senior Program Manager for External Affairs. She helps lead the Good Care Collaborative, a statewide coalition for Medicaid reform, a key policy initiative of the Camden Coalition. Previously, she served as a legislative aide for NJ Senator Shirley Turner and taught at Newark Legacy Charter School as a Teacher for America Region 2011 Corp Member. She has a her Bachelor's Degree from The College of New Jersey and a Master's in Public Administration from Baruch College, CUNY. She completed New Leaders Council as a 2012 Fellow and is currently a part of the LEAD NJ 2016 class.



**Mandu Sen** is a senior planner at Regional Plan Association, working primarily on the Fourth Regional Plan. Prior to joining RPA, she worked as a planning consultant for the Chinatown Working Group, focusing on demographic analysis, economic development and banking. Ms. Sen has an undergraduate degree from Yale and a graduate degree in urban planning from the Pratt Institute, where she received the 2013 AICP Outstanding Student Award. Before becoming an urban planner, she was a Vice President at J. P. Morgan Chase in the investment bank legal and compliance department.



**Leslie Stivale** is the Executive Director of Triple C Housing Inc. Ms. Stivale possesses 23 years of experience in behavioral health, human services and the supportive housing industry, having worked within the private and non-profit sectors in senior and executive management. In 2010, the Governor appointed Ms. Stivale to the Interagency Council to Prevent and End Homelessness. She has served on the Housing and Community Development Network of NJ's Board of Directors since 2014.



**Laquan Thomas** is an urban farmer for Ironbound Community Corporation, where he is responsible for agriculture production and maintenance of ICC's five-community garden and urban farm sites. He works in partnership with residents of all ages, from youth to seniors, teaching them how to grow their own produce. Mr. Thomas is a life-long Newark resident and graduate of the Greater Newark Conservancy's Clean and Green Program. He is a strong advocate for responsible policing in Newark, as a member of N-CAP, Newark Communities for Accountable Policing.



**Kamili Williams-Bland** is Vice President of Programs and Services at the Community FoodBank of New Jersey, an organization she has been a part of for nearly 20 years. In her role at the FoodBank, she supervises the Agency Relations department and the Kids Division programs. She earned a Bachelor of Business Administration (Accounting) from Howard University and a Master of Public Administration (Nonprofit Management) from Seton Hall University. Prior to joining the Community FoodBank of New Jersey, Kamili worked at Deloitte & Touche LLP and at Prudential Insurance Company. She has also worked on committees and planning groups for Feeding America, the nationwide network of food banks.