

National Brownfields/Land Reuse Health Initiative **Steering Committee**

February, 2015



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry

National Brownfields/ Land Reuse Health Initiative

The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)
National Brownfields/Land Reuse Health Initiative is expanding. To further our
program, we are collaborating with experts who help create healthy communities.

Who We Are

**Our Steering Committee is composed of experts
from these agencies and fields:**

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
State Health Agencies
Local Health Agencies
Academia
Agriculture/Urban Agriculture
American Planning Association
Brownfields Redevelopment
Community Outreach and Education
Economic Development
Educational Film/Video
Food Systems/Food Policy
National Association of County and City Health Officials
Smart Growth/Built Environment
Technical Assistance to Brownfields
Urban Planning

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ATSDR Steering Committee Members

At least one ATSDR staff member from each regional office participates in the Steering Committee as either an active member or an advisor. Advisors to the Steering Committee stay abreast of Steering Committee activities, ensure that they provide resources to the Steering Committee for collaborative projects, and support Steering Committee projects.

ATSDR Brownfields/ Land Reuse Team

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Dr. Tina Forrester is the acting deputy director of the Division of Community Health Investigations of ATSDR. Dr. Forrester was a founding member of ATSDR's Brownfields/Land Reuse Health Initiative. She built the program into a national effort that has funded pilot projects and provided technical assistance to land reuse communities across the country. Dr. Forrester has Ph.D. and M.S. degrees in Toxicology from the University of Kentucky. Dr. Forrester has been with ATSDR for more than 20 years.



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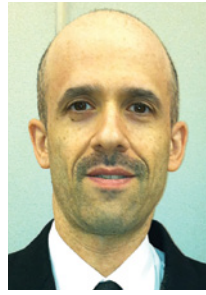
Dr. Laurel Berman is the National Brownfields Coordinator with ATSDR's Division of Community Health Investigations. She coordinates the ATSDR Brownfields/Land Reuse Health Initiative, which integrates public health and redevelopment from the early planning stages. Dr. Berman brings her skills to the Initiative from a long career as an environmental scientist and a community organizer. She has helped the Initiative create tools and resources to construct healthier communities through revitalization practices. Dr. Berman began her environmental career working as a civil/environmental engineer, which led her to pursue graduate studies in public health. She holds Ph.D. and M.S. degrees in Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences from the University of Illinois at Chicago School of Public Health, with a focus on industrial hygiene and toxicology.



Leann Bing,
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Kathryn Leann Lemley Bing (Leann) is an Environmental Health Scientist working as an ATSDR regional representative in Atlanta, GA. Leann has more than 19 years working experience in environmental health. She graduated from the University of SC with B.S. degrees in Mechanical Engineering and Biology in 1991. Leann has specialized expertise working in brownfield/land reuse communities. She helped create tools, resources, and “how to” videos to encourage communities to protect and promote community health in brownfields and land reuse projects. Leann has provided environmental health assistance and education at RCRA, Superfund, and brownfields hazardous waste sites. Leann has partnered with EPA to celebrate Children’s Health Month by providing environmental health education to middle and high school students.



Gary Perlman,
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Captain Gary Perlman is an Environmental Health Officer with the U.S. Public Health Service currently working at ATSDR in Boston. Gary has been working in environmental health for 20 years. He provided environmental health support during the mustard agent incident in New Bedford, MA, and to residents of LA during the public health response shortly after Hurricane Katrina made landfall, focusing on the Murphy oil spill. He also has provided environmental health support on several occasions for large toxic fires or explosions. He provided the same support to the Group of 8 Summit in GA, the Democratic and Republican National Conventions, and several other National Special Security Events. He is currently working with the Penobscot Indian Nation to assess contaminant levels in food items in their traditional diet. He has assisted with developing several public health software tools to help first responders and other personnel assess chemical contamination throughout the United States, Canada, France, and Romania. Gary shared these software tools with Tribal attendees at the National Tribal Science Council, and the Yukon River Inter-Tribal Watershed. He incorporated some of their suggestions to enhance the tools. Gary is also an EMT-B, a licensed amateur radio operator, and a Registered Sanitarian (M.A.).

ATSDR Division of Community Health Investigations



Michelle Watters,
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Dr. Michelle Watters is a Medical Officer for ATSDR's Division of Community Health Investigations. Dr. Watters provides medical expertise in public health issues related to exposure to biological, chemical, and radiological agents for the regional offices, state and local public health and environmental agencies, and community members. Dr. Watters received an M.D. degree and residency training in Occupational and Environmental Medicine from the University of IL. She is board certified by the American College of Preventive Medicine. She also holds a Ph.D. degree in Civil Engineering from Northwestern University and an M.P.H. degree from the University of IL.

ATSDR Liaison Office to EPA Headquarters



Steven L. Jones,
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Steven L. Jones is Regional Director, ATSDR Liaison Office to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Headquarters, Division of Community Health Investigations, Washington, D.C. Steve coordinates liaison activities between ATSDR and EPA Headquarters. These activities involve programmatic and policy discussions, including developing guidance and regulations, and coordinating national precedent-setting issues related to hazardous waste sites. Much of this interaction includes coordinating with EPA on community engagement, risk communication, and public health issues. Accomplishing these duties is especially important for land revitalization and brownfields, and helps integrate public health into redevelopment activities that improve the quality of life for communities. Steve has been with ATSDR for 20 years. Before assuming his current position, he was in the ATSDR Region 2 Office in New York City (1992–1996); he also worked for the EPA Superfund Program in the Region 7 Kansas City

Office as a remedial project manager (1987–1992). He has a B.S. degree in Chemical Engineering and a M.S. degree in Environmental Engineering, and a total of 27 years in the environmental field.

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Ana Pomales Schickli,
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Ana Pomales joined the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry in Philadelphia in 2006 as an environmental health scientist. She works with state and federal agencies to evaluate environmental health issues or other environmental hazards associated with hazardous waste sites and facilities. She is responsible for communicating the findings of these evaluations to various stakeholders including state agencies and communities. Ana attended University of Puerto Rico, where she received her B.S. in Interdisciplinary (Natural) Sciences and her M.S. in Environmental Health.

**ATSDR Region 4 Office,
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Sue Casteel has B.A. and M.S. degrees in Occupational and Environmental Health, and has worked at public health agencies as an environmental health scientist and environmental epidemiologist for 30 years. She is currently working as a Health Education and Community Involvement Coordinator for ATSDR. In this capacity, she works with communities and Tribes to answer environmental health questions and address their public health concerns. She helps empower communities by giving them the tools they need to make their communities healthier places to live. Sue has expertise in disaster preparedness and communication, and assists EPA, FEMA, state and local emergency personnel, and other partners during mercury emergency events by addressing health-related issues associated with the events.

**ATSDR Region 5 Office,
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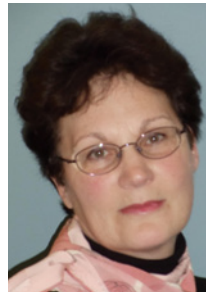
**ATSDR Region 9 Office,
Division of Community
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Ben Gerhardstein,
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Ben Gerhardstein is a Public Health Advisor and Regional Representative with ATSDR's Pacific Southwest (Region 9) Office, based in San Francisco, CA. He is new to the Region 9 team, having served most recently for 4 years in the National Center for Environmental Health/ATSDR Office of Program Development. There he helped lead the National Conversation on Public Health and Chemical Exposures, a major public involvement initiative that developed recommendations for better protecting the U.S. public from harmful chemical exposures. He also contributed to several transportation and health projects in that position. As a CDC Presidential Management Fellow, Ben completed a rotation focused on pedestrian-safety issues with the San Francisco Department of Public Health. Ben also holds an adjunct faculty position at Emory University's Rollins School of Public Health, where he has taught a course on public health and the built environment. Before coming into public health, he worked at the Environmental Law Institute in Washington, DC. Ben received a B.A. degree from Brown University and an M.P.H. degree from Emory University. An adventurous soul, Ben is an avid rock climber, wilderness trekker, and urban cyclist.

**ATSDR Region 10 Office,
Division of Community Health
Investigations, Seattle WA**



Karen Larson,
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Dr. Karen Larson works for CDC/ATSDR assessing community exposures to toxic substances in a four-state region (WA, OR, ID, AK). She works with the public to interpret health risks, and provides technical assistance to local and state agencies, Tribes, and communities. Her expertise includes public health emergency response. Karen studied at Mt. Holyoke College and at the University of Chicago, earning an A.B. degree in biology and a Ph.D. degree in molecular genetics and cellular biology. She completed a post-doctoral fellowship at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, and worked as a toxicologist at the WA Department of Health before joining the ATSDR regional office. Karen was a member of a National Academy of Sciences committee that evaluated research and development strategies to improve civilian medical response to chemical and biological terrorism. Emergency deployments have included Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, during which she was the Deputy Senior Management Official for CDC's response in LA.

EPA Steering Committee Members

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Ann Carroll,
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Ann Carroll has more than 25 years of experience working on environmental protection and health issues, including the last 10 years with the U.S. EPA's Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization. Ann has also worked with the National Governor's Association, the former Office of Technology Assessment, the U.S. Congress, and internationally with the New South Wales Environmental Protection Authority. Ann has a B.S. degree in biology and an M.P.H. degree in environmental health. She is working on her doctorate in Environmental Health Sciences and Policy at the Johns Hopkins University, Bloomberg School of Public Health, where she was a Center for a Livable Future Fellow in 2010 and 2011.



Steven D. McNeely,
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Steven D. McNeely is a Senior Environmental Protection Specialist with EPA's Office of Underground Storage Tanks (OUST). During his 26 years with EPA, he has served as liaison officer and coordinated efforts with various regional and state (UST/LUST) programs to improve the operation and performance of their corrective action and revitalization programs. From 1993 to 1998, he served as project officer and managed EPA's petroleum risk-based corrective action (RBCA) training cooperative agreement with the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM). In 1996, Steve received an individual gold medal for managing the ASTM RBCA Partnership for RBCA Implementation that facilitated the delivery of RBCA training. As OUST's petroleum revitalization team leader he works with various public and private entities to help streamline the assessment, cleanup, and subsequent reuse of sites affected by petroleum. He also serves as a technical advisor to a cooperative agreement awarded to Smart Growth America, which is part of an educational campaign designed to help educate and inform various stakeholders of the opportunities and challenges associated with "the difficult business

of building on old gas stations.” (See <http://www.smartgrowthamerica.org/2012/07/12/the-difficult-business-of-building-on-old-gas-stations/> for more information about this campaign.)



Suzi Ruhl,
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B. Suzi Ruhl is a Senior Attorney Advisor for the U.S. EPA's Office of Environmental Justice. She works to ensure that environmental justice is integrated into the EPA National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) as well as EPA permitting and rulemaking. In this position, she supports community-based action and fosters administration-wide action that promotes healthy and sustainable communities for environmentally burdened and medically underserved populations. Suzi co-chairs NEPA's Committee of the Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice, and co-chairs Team-EJ of the HUD-DOT-EPA Partnership for Sustainable Communities. Before coming to EPA, Suzi was the Director of the Public Health and Law Program for the Environmental Law Institute. She is also the founder and former President of the Legal Environmental Assistance Foundation, Inc. (LEAF). Suzi has been an Assistant Clinical Professor of Epidemiology and Public Health at the NY State University School of Optometry, and has had a Courtesy Faculty Appointment to the

Institute of Public Health at FL A&M University. In addition to her law degree, Suzi has an M.P.H. degree in Epidemiology. She is admitted to the bars of the Northern District of Florida and the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals.

EPA Region 5, Chicago Office



Yolanda Bouchee,
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Yolanda Bouchee is the Chief of Community Involvement and Outreach for the EPA Region 5 Superfund Division. She supervises a staff of Community Involvement Coordinators (CICs) that work with neighborhoods affected by Superfund cleanup sites. Yolanda and her CICs work to insure the public understands and is involved in the cleanup work happening in their communities.

In addition to this position, Yolanda is EPA's only Green Historic Preservation Specialist. She has led a national initiative to encourage the integration of preservation, smart growth, and green building principles to reinvigorate older buildings and communities.

Prior to these positions, Yolanda was a Brownfields Project Manager for Native American Tribes, helping them to develop and manage environmental response programs within

their governments. She has also served as a Public Affairs Specialist and an Emergency Response Coordinator at EPA. She has also worked as a Marketing Specialist for the US Treasury. Yolanda has a BA in Journalism and a MBA degree in Program Management as well as post-graduate certifications in both Historic Preservation and Interior Design.



Deborah Orr,
Advisor to Steering Committee,
Retired EPA Region 5

Deborah Orr was the Brownfields Coordinator for U.S. EPA's Region 5 in Chicago, IL. She helped manage one of the largest regional brownfields program in the nation, assuming these duties in April 2000. She joined EPA in 1980 as an Environmental Engineer, and held a variety of technical and management positions. Her former positions include a senior level position with the IN Board of Health in the construction grants program; Chief, Program Management and Information Section; Region 5 Information Management Coordinator for WasteLan; and Remedial Project Manager. She received her engineering degree from IL Institute of Technology. Deborah is married and lives with her family in the south suburbs where she served for many years as an officer on the library board, and is a member of the Information Technology Commission.

National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences Committee Members



Heather Henry,

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Heather Henry, Ph.D., is a health science administrator for the NIEHS and oversees Superfund Research Program (SRP) grants that span human health toxicology, risk assessment, detection technologies, and remediation approaches. She provides guidance to potential applicants for SRP's Multiproject Center Grants (P42s), Individual Research Grants (R01s), Small Business/Technology Transfer Grants (R41-44; SBIR/STTR), and Conference Grants (R13). Heather studied plant-based environmental remediation (phytoremediation) and ecological restoration as part of her doctoral work at the University of Cincinnati and as a Fulbright Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Melbourne and University of Adelaide in Australia. She has been with NIEHS since 2006.



Michelle Heacock,

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Michelle Heacock, Ph.D., is a member of the Superfund Research Program at the NIEHS, in Research Triangle Park, NC, and participates in programmatic activities and building partnerships to enhance the use of SRP research findings. She received her doctorate from TX A & M University in College Station, TX, for her work on the interplay between DNA repair proteins and telomeres. She conducted her postdoctoral work at in the DNA repair pathway, Base Excision Repair, at NIEHS. Her research focused on understanding the causes of DNA cellular toxicity caused by exposure to damaging agents.

National Center for Environmental Health Steering Committee Members



Chris Kochtitzky,

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Chris Kochtitzky is the Associate Director for Program Development in NCEH's Division of Emergency and Environmental Health Services (DEEHS) that houses CDC's Healthy Community Design Initiative, the Healthy Homes Program, and the Environmental Health Services Program. Chris also holds an adjunct faculty position in Emory University's Rollins School of Public Health. Chris is a member of the American Public Health Association and the American Planning Association. During his career, his personal areas of research interest have included health policy analysis, environmental public health law, environmental health services, emergency preparedness for vulnerable populations, and health issues within global megacities. Most recently, he has focused on analyzing the impacts of local community design and built environment choices on public health areas such as environmental health, healthy and

safe indoor environments, disability-related accessibility, physical activity, aging-in-place, and injury and violence prevention. He has authored book chapters (e.g., Environmental Health and Protection in Law in Public Health Practice and Universal Design: Community Design, Public Health, and People with Disabilities in Integrating Planning and Public Health: Tools and Strategies to Create Healthy Places, and Vulnerable Populations in Making Healthy Places: Designing and Building for Health, Well-Being, and Sustainability) and journal articles in the Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, American Journal of Public Health, Journal of Aging Research, Journal of Public Health Management & Practice, Journal of Environmental Health, and others. Chris received an M.S. degree from FL State University (FSU) in 1992, specializing in Environmental Planning. Before completing his degree, he worked for the U.S. Census Bureau, the state of FL, and as a Research Assistant at FSU. Upon completing his degree, he came to ATSDR's Office of Policy and External Affairs as a Presidential Management Fellow.

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Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Steering Committee Members



Charles Green,
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Charles Green joined the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in 1999 where he is health communications specialist for their Healthy Community Design Initiative (www.cdc.gov/healthyplaces). Charles has worked with American Planning Association's Planning and Community Health Research Center to develop and disseminate an online Healthy Community Design Checklist Toolkit. A member of the Congress for the New Urbanism, Charles was the first person to receive CNU-A designation from the University of Miami School Of Architecture's online accreditation course; he is currently helping integrate healthy community design principles into the course. Charles has received honors from the Public Relations Society of America and CDC for his health communication efforts.



Candace Rutt,
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Dr. Candace Rutt works at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in the Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity. She focuses on the built environment and Health Impact Assessment (HIA) research. She was awarded a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and conducted over 40 HIA trainings. Dr. Rutt has also been involved in working with the Health Economic Assessment Tool with the World Health Organization, VOLPE - the John A. Volpe National Transportation Systems Center, and the U.S. Department of Transportation. Recently she completed an analysis of the \$100 million dollar Non-Motorized Transportation Plan. In addition, Dr. Rutt recently received funding with Georgia State University to study the Beltline redevelopment project in Atlanta.

U.S. Department of Agriculture Steering Committee Members



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Dr. Rufus L. Chaney is a Senior Research Agronomist in the Environmental Management and By-Product Utilization Laboratory at the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Agricultural Research Service at Beltsville, MD, where he conducts research on the fate, food-chain transfer, and potential effects of soil microelements. The research includes studies on 1) plant uptake of metals and translocation to edible plant tissues; considers plant-soil interactions in microelement

phytoavailability; 2) speciation of metals in plants and bioavailability to animals; 3) development of hyperaccumulator crops to phytoextract and recycle metals in contaminated soils; 4) bioavailability of lead and other metals in soils, biosolids, and composts directly ingested by animals; 5) development of "Tailor-Made Composts and Biosolids" to remediate Pb, Zn, Cd, Ni and other element contaminated soils including urban gardens; and 6) potential methods to reduce food-chain transfer or toxicity of metals in organic resources and potential regulatory approaches to protect food safety and soil fertility. Since beginning his career in 1969, Dr. Chaney has 438 published papers and 275 published abstracts on these topics. He has helped the U.S. EPA, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, the Office of Management and Budget, and many states prepare advice and regulations for using biosolids and remediating metal-contaminated soils.

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Steering Committee Members

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Kenny Foscue has worked for the CT Department of Public Health in the Environmental and Occupational Health Assessment Program for more than 20 years. He coordinates health education, risk communication, and community involvement programs for the Program as part of

the Cooperative Agreement Program with ATSDR. He has been a member of the ATSDR Brownfields Workgroup since its inception. Kenny has an M.P.H. degree from the University of CT, and a B.A. degree in Sociology from the University of NC.

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Catherine Bullwinkle, Project Coordinator

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Catherine Bullwinkle is a Project Coordinator in the New York State Health Department's

Center for Environmental Health, Outreach and Education sector. Ms. Bullwinkle is currently the Project Coordinator for the ATSDR Brownfields Grant Projects in Albany and Utica, NY. She is responsible for project management including community assessment, developing community engagement to identify and prioritize land reuse projects, and for the development of survey instruments, tool kits and videos related to the design and implementation of community gardens. Her work has included the development of seven community garden projects in Utica, NY, the development of a Children's Garden Project, a Horticulture Training Project for newly-arrived refugees offered in six languages, and a micro-greens training project. Prior to joining the department, for seven years she was the Project Manager for the Oneida County Health Department's Lead Primary Prevention Program. In this position, Ms. Bullwinkle was responsible for developing the county's strategic plan for eliminating childhood lead poisoning, and for the design and implementation of its successful lead primary prevention program. Ms. Bullwinkle is a registered nurse and has worked in the field of public health for the past 35e years. In 2014, she was the recipient of the EPA Environmental Quality Award for her work in brownfield/land reuse and lead hazard reduction projects in Utica, NY.



Melissa Frisbie,
Research Scientist and
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Melissa Frisbie is a research scientist and communications coordinator for New York State's Center for Environmental Health, in the Bureau of Environmental and Occupational Epidemiology. Ms. Frisbie is a member of New York State's Environmental Public Health Tracking Program as its communications coordinator. She works to develop communications, health messaging, health education materials and completes outreach activities for EPHT. Ms. Frisbie also serves as a member of several ATSDR sponsored brownfields projects throughout New York State, using her skills in community engagement to help prioritize community health in brownfield/land reuse projects. Ms. Frisbie has developed special interest and experience in community engagement tools for these projects, she has worked with communities in New York State to complete several Photovoice projects, public participatory GIS, and walkability assessments. Ms. Frisbie attended Siena College and received her M.P.H. from the State University of New York at Albany's School of Public Health.

Oregon Health Authority, Public Health Division, Portland, OR



Kari Christensen,
Public Health Educator

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Kari Christensen coordinates the Brownfield Initiative at OR's State Public Health Division. In this role, Kari develops health education, facilitates community involvement, and represents public health interests with stakeholders working to assess, clean up, or redevelop brownfield sites. Her career in health spans multiple sectors including healthcare, through her work as a nurse at Mayo Clinic's Methodist and Saint Mary's Hospitals in Rochester, MN; industry, in employee health and productivity management for BP in Anchorage and Prudhoe Bay, AK; and academia, in toxicology and risk communication at the National Pesticide Information Center at OR State University (OSU) in Corvallis, OR. Kari received an M.P.H. degree with an environmental focus from OSU and a B.S. degree in Health Promotion and Wellness from the University of WI. She is a certified master gardener who enjoys tending to her urban farm, hiking, mushroom hunting, fly fishing, yoga, and urban commuting on foot or by bike.

Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Bureau of Environmental and Occupational Health, Division of Public Health, Madison, WI



Elizabeth Truslow-Evans,
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Elizabeth Truslow-Evans holds an M.P.H. degree and is an epidemiologist and Program Manager of the WI APPLETREE cooperative agreement program funded through ATSDR. She conducts public health assessments of human exposures to environmental contamination associated with chemical emergencies and spills, contaminated properties, and Superfund and other hazardous waste sites throughout WI. As part of these efforts, she collaborates with citizens, city and county public health departments, other state agencies, and U.S. EPA. Prior to her position as an epidemiologist, she was a health educator for more than 8 years with the state's Superfund cooperative agreement program, designing and delivering appropriate and targeted health education to the general public and public health and medical professionals on site-related issues and concerns.

Local Health Agency Steering Committee Members

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Monica Robinson is the Environmental Planner coordinating the Environmental Justice Program in the Fulton County Department of Health

and Wellness. She has 16 years of public health experience and has coordinated the Environmental Justice Program since its initiation in April 2010. The Environmental Justice Program recommends policy changes for the Fulton County government. In her role, Ms. Robinson provides public health input to policy, pre-development, and planning proposals while educating residential and business communities and promoting environmental justice. She has served and currently participates on various work groups, steering committees, and advisory committees related to Health Impact Assessments, redevelopment, equity, and brownfields. She began her public health career in Environmental Health Services with the Fulton County Department of Health and Wellness. While in Environmental Health Services, her areas of expertise were in food service, solid waste, commercial and residential development, onsite sewage management systems, onsite water supply systems, swimming pools, and tourist accommodations. Monica Robinson earned a B.S. degree and an M.B.A. degree from Mercer University in Macon, GA, and Atlanta, GA, respectively.

National Association of County and City Health Officials Steering Committee Members

National Association of County and City Health Officials, Washington, D.C.



Jessica Solomon Fisher, MCP,
Senior Director of Public Health Programs
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Jessica Solomon Fisher joined the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) staff in January 2003 and serves as the Senior Director of Public Health Programs, which include the Accreditation Preparation and Quality Improvement portfolio and efforts related to Health Impact Assessment and Health in All Policies. The portfolio includes several projects through grants from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Pew Charitable Trust and cooperative agreements with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Ms. Fisher also serves as the Interim Senior Advisor and Chief of Public Health Programs and has served previously as the interim communications director for the Public Health Accreditation Board, during their developmental period.

Ms. Fisher has also retained various positions at NACCHO, including Senior Analyst and Program Associate for a number of projects including the Land Use Planning/Community Design Partnership Project and several other projects related to environmental health.

Ms. Fisher received a Master of Community Planning with a specialization in Planning Policy from the University of Maryland School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation. She also holds a B.S. Degree in Geography from Ohio University, with a major in Urban/Regional Planning.



Sandra Whitehead,
PhD, Director of Healthy Community Design
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Sandra Whitehead is the Director of Healthy Community Design at the National Association of County and City Health Officials where she oversees a portfolio that includes: health impact assessment; Health in All Policies; health and the built environment; community redevelopment and the intersection of planning and public health. Sandra came to NACCHO from the state health

office in Florida where she worked for seven years acting as a resource of education, training and tools for the 67 local health departments in these areas. She is a member of the Florida Brownfield Association and sits on their Environmental Justice

committee. In 2014, Sandra co-authored a health impact assessment on a brownfield redevelopment project in Pasco County in conjunction with Premier HealthCare Group and Cardno, Inc.

Non-Agency, Tribal, and Municipal Government Steering Committee Members



Miles Ballogg,
Brownfields and Economic Development
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Miles is the Brownfields and Economic Development Director for Cardno TBE Group in Clearwater, FL. Miles helps both public and private sector clients redevelop environmentally impaired and challenged properties. Miles has been involved with developing, managing, and implementing both federal and state brownfields programs for the past sixteen years. Miles believes that brownfields projects should be community driven with a focus to benefit the community by improving overall economic

and public health conditions of the residents of the community. He is a leading advocate and promotes environmental justice and public health through brownfields redevelopment.

Miles has an extensive public health background gained while serving in Environmental Health and Environmental Health Engineering positions with the Pinellas County Health Department for more than 6 years. Miles was the City Brownfields and Redevelopment Manager for the Willa Carson Health Resource Center in Clearwater, FL, and served on their Board of Directors for more than 9 years. The Willa Carson Health Resource Center is a former abandoned gas station that was transformed into a free clinic that treats more than 3,500 patients a year and a national model for brownfields to public health. Miles has served as past co-chair of the FL Brownfields Environmental Justice and Public Health Committee, and is leading a national Improving Access to Health and Health Care through Brownfields Redevelopment ("Healthfields") Initiative.



Colleen Cain,
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Colleen Cain is a Senior Policy Analyst at the Northeast-Midwest Institute, a non-profit, non-partisan policy and research organization based in Washington, DC. Her work covers a variety of issues, including regional demographic trends, the revitalization of older cities, sustainable communities, and federal funding. Dr. Cain received a B.A. degree in sociology from John Carroll University, and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in sociology from the University of FL. Dr. Cain's primary areas of interest and research are urban studies and inequality as it relates to race, income, gender, and environment. For her doctoral dissertation, she conducted research in her hometown of Pittsburgh, focusing on the city's first Community Benefits Agreement.



Simone Charles,
Community Engagement and Outreach Core
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Dr. Charles is an Environmental Health Scientist with expertise in children's health, community-based participatory research (CBPR), health equity, and environmental justice. She is focused on building a research protocol that uses CBPR principles to advance the health of rural children. In collaboration with cross-disciplinary teams, her research has included leading the development of a community-based, community-led strategic plan for addressing tobacco-related health disparities in a rural southeastern community in GA; evaluating initiatives to address African-American health and healthcare disparities; developing and testing efficacy of community-based healthy household hazard exposure prevention initiatives; evaluating childhood asthma management and intervention; behavioral change interventions related to obesity and healthy eating; system level initiatives to increase rural healthcare access; assessing migrant health disparities; health impact assessments; implementing and evaluating interventions and community building initiatives aimed at increasing awareness and addressing social factors associated with health disparities; and various other community participatory research initiatives. Dr.

Charles has built strong community collaborations with state department members (e.g., Georgia Healthy Homes and Lead Poisoning Prevention Program), local health departments, children's medical services, local school nurses, local schools, local churches, and other key community stakeholders. She is currently the Community Engagement and Outreach Core Director (Co-Investigator) of the recently funded Center of Excellence for Eliminating Health Disparities at GA Southern University. Dr. Charles also established GA Southern University as a Healthy Housing training partner (one of only two such sites in GA) under National Center for Healthy Housing (NCHH).



Mary Dereski,
Associate Professor, Oakland University
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Dr. Dereski is a trained Experimental Pathologist and has extensive background in basic science research and teaching medical sciences. Dr. Dereski received a Ph.D. degree in biomedical sciences, and previously directed the community outreach and engagement programs of the Institute of Environmental Health Sciences at Wayne State University for more than 12 years. She is currently an associate professor at William Beaumont School of Medicine, Department of Biomedical

Sciences. One of her special projects there is to develop four-year capstone programs to enable medical students to work with communities to address environmental health. Dr. Dereski stands as a professional resource for stakeholders who are interested in environmental health toxicants and their effects. Dr. Dereski has strong ties with many community groups and is instrumental in recruitment, retention, and translational research associated with many research projects.



Christopher A. De Sousa,
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Christopher De Sousa, MCIP, RPP, is an Associate Professor and Director of the School of Urban and Regional Planning at Ryerson University in Toronto, Canada. Prior to joining Ryerson in 2011, he was the Chair of Urban Planning at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, as well as a member of the Geography and Urban Studies faculty. He received his BA in Environment and Resource Management in 1994, his M. Sc. in Planning in 1996, and his Ph. D. in Geography in 2000 all from the University of Toronto. He is a Registered Professional Planner and a member of the Ontario Professional Planners Institute and the Canadian Institute of Planners.

Professor De Sousa's research activities focus on various aspects of brownfield redevelopment, urban environmental management, parks planning, and sustainability reporting in Canada and the United States. He recently started a three-year research project examining brownfields redevelopment in Ontario funded by SSHRC, and another project on private sector barriers to redevelopment funded by Ryerson's Center for Urban Research and Land Development. He also recently completed a collaborative research project examining best management practices in sustainable brownfields redevelopment funded by the US EPA. His earlier research has been funded by the USDA Forest Service, National Academies (HUD Urban Scholars Postdoctoral Fellowship), US Trade and Development Agency, Consul General of Canada, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, as well as by UW-Milwaukee and private foundations. Professor De Sousa's work has appeared in prominent journals in planning, geography, and urban studies such as *Economic Development Quarterly*, *Landscape and Urban Planning*, *Environment and Planning B*, the *Professional Geographer*, the *Journal of Environmental Planning and Management*, and *Urban Studies*.

Professor De Sousa has been actively involved with government agencies and nonprofits in Canada and the United States that are addressing urban issues such as brownfield

policy, sustainability, comprehensive planning, and city building. He is currently on the Board of Directors of the Canadian Brownfields Network, and on the Advisory/Executive Committees for Ryerson's City Building Institute and Center for Urban Research and Land Development.



Christa Essig,
Public Health Analyst, San Francisco, CA

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Christa Essig, M.P.H., is a food systems, environmental, and public health analyst. Previously with CDC and ATSDR, her work includes examining co-benefits of systems and innovative strategies for environmental, nutritional, public, and social health. She led cross-disciplinary collaboration, policy and program analysis, research development, and communications within the Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity and Obesity, National Center for Environmental Health. She also served as liaison to the USDA, and with partner organizations in public health, agriculture, environment, nutrition, community design, and economic development. Her international public health work includes experience in Africa, Asia, and Central America. Christa's graduate degree was concentrated in Global Environmental Health and her undergraduate degree in Dietetics.



Edward A. Johnson,
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Edward A. Johnson began his 42 year professional career in 1963 by joining the U. S. Air Force. Prior to his retirement from the Air Force as a Master Sergeant in 1983, his 20 year military career included tours of duty in TX, MS, NY, FL, HI, and Thailand and Guam. During his military career, he earned numerous awards and medals for meritorious service, including service in the Viet Nam campaign. Following his retirement, Mr. Johnson attended the University of Tampa and graduated with a B.S. degree in Business Management in 1987. In 1990, he launched a career in banking. His hard work and commitment to community service were rewarded with the 1995 NationsBank Corporate Leadership Excellence in Neighborhood Development (LEND) Award for his efforts in East Tampa.

Mr. Johnson has been employed as the City of Tampa, Urban Development Manager for East Tampa, since 2003. He is a past chairman of the Board of Commissioners for the City of Tampa Housing Authority; an advisory board member of Community Housing Solutions, Inc., of St. Petersburg, FL; a board member of the Catholic Charities Diocese of St. Petersburg, FL; a

board member of Hillsborough Rural Community Development Corporation; a lifetime board member of the FL Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (FAHRO); a member of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO); a member of the National Organization of African-Americans in Housing (NOAAH); and a member of the Air Force Sergeants Association.



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Art Jones is a veteran filmmaker and heads Great Jones Productions in New York, focusing for 21 years on making films that move people and make change. Art and his team create strategic, documentary-based films for corporate clients at IBM, BASF, Transamerica, Tyco, and Merck, helping to fuel culture change, innovation, and growth. Through this work, Great Jones generates a funding engine to develop independent documentaries and films. Art's "not a movie, but a movement" approach fuses filmmaking with community building to spark deeper discussion and social action. His films include "Dodgeball" (1995), "Going Nomad" (1998), and "Lustre" (2004), all of which have played on HBO and PBS

and in theaters across America. Jones' current documentary, "The Blood in this Town", explores a struggling small town (Rutland, VT) and its drive to revitalize itself in the midst of the nation's economic turmoil. Striving to share Rutland's revitalization know-how with other hard-hit communities, Art launched a national Outreach Program with the film to help a range of advocates and leaders host their own community-building forums. Art holds a B.A. degree in American Civilization from Brown University, and serves as Adjunct Professor of Film at Hunter College in NY city. He has been recently nominated for the 2012 Independent Spirit/John Cassavetes Award as producer of the feature, "The Dynamiter."



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Dr. Martin is the president of CTOR Solutions, a Woman Based Enterprise with the mission to assist communities with site redevelopment issues by offering services such as strategic planning, visioning, training workshops, grant writing, and project/grant management. In addition, Dr. Martin is associated with the Department of Agronomy at Kansas State University, where she is a Principal Investigator for an EPA grant related to urban agriculture. Until the end of May 2012, Dr. Martin

was the Coordinator of the Technical Assistance to the Brownfields (TAB) Communities Program at the Center for Hazardous Substance Research at KS State University, assisting communities in EPA Regions 5 and 7 (a 10-state area) with brownfields revitalization issues. Before joining the Center for Hazardous Substance Research in 2002, Dr. Martin worked as a consultant in the environmental industry. Dr. Martin earned an M.S. degree in geology and a Ph.D. degree in hydrogeology from Justus-Liebig-University in Germany.



Ken Meter, MPA,
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Ken Meter is one of the most experienced food system analysts in the United States, integrating market analysis, business development, systems thinking, and social concerns. As president of Crossroads Resource Center in Minneapolis, Meter has 41 years of experience in inner-city and rural community capacity building. His "Finding Food in Farm Country" studies have promoted local food networks in 85 regions in 30 states and One Canadian province. As coordinator of public process for the City of Minneapolis Sustainability Initiative, he guided more than 85 residents in creating a 50-year vision for the city, including sustainability measures. He served as an advisor for

the USDA Community Food Projects, in addition to managing the proposal review panel and serving as a contributing editor to the Journal of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Community Development. He is convenor and co-chair of the Community Economic Development Committee for the Community Food Security Coalition. Meter taught economics at the University of MN and at the Harvard Kennedy School.



Eric Neagu, P.E., LEED AP,
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Eric Neagu is a Project Director at Weaver Boos Consultants in Chicago, IL. Mr. Neagu's work focuses on the integration of water resources, transportation, public facilities, community development, economic development, and environmental planning. Mr. Neagu has a particular interest in strategies that explore alternatives to traditional land uses and design approaches. Eric's 15 years of experience span public, private and institutional clients. Redevelopment of challenged communities is a particular focus. Mr. Neagu serves on the Grand Calumet Area of Concern Committee, the Alliance for Regional Development Green Growth Team, the Chicago Wilderness Green Infrastructure Vision and Sustainability Teams, the board of the Chicago Southland Economic Development

Corporation. He is a past board member of Save the Dunes and the Center for Rural Outreach and Public Services. Mr. Neagu is a member of Lambda Alpha International land economics honor society, the Urban Land Institute, the American Planning Association, the American Society of Civil Engineers, and the Sustainable Indiana Honor Roll for his organization of the Calumet Outdoors Series and the Calumet Botanist Series. He holds a degree in civil and environmental engineering from Purdue University and a master's degree from The University of Chicago. In addition to being a licensed professional engineer he is a LEED AP.



Gita Rampersad, JD, MHA,
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Gita Rampersad is a healthcare consultant who oversees population health improvement efforts for local governments, health systems, and communities using policy, systems, and environmental change strategies. A native of Chicago, Gita has served as Director of Health Promotion for the Westside Health Authority and Manager of Community Health for the City of Blue Island. She is the founder of the Blue Island Community Health Coalition. Gita works closely with key stakeholders to take a multidisciplinary approach to capacity building, policy adoption, and program development. Her focus areas include obesity, chronic disease, environmental

health, and cancer. Gita received the Excellence in Health Equity Award at the 3rd Annual Minority Health in the Midwest conference and completed the inaugural National Leadership Academy for the Public's Health, a competitive applied leadership development program offered by CDC. She holds a J.D. degree from Loyola University Chicago School of Law and an M.S. degree in Healthcare Administration from the University of IL at Chicago School of Public Health.



Gabriel Zawadzki,
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Gabriel Zawadzki researches grant resources, matches county projects with grant funding opportunities, and provides grant writing and grant management services for the Michigan Association of Counties (MAC) Service Corporation Grant Services Program. He specializes in web-based Geographic Information System mapping solutions for county grants and MAC Government Affairs legislative priority projects. Gabriel has a B.S. in Environmental Science and Planning from the University of Michigan Flint.

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For more information please contact:

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Division of Community Health Investigations

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