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Lead New Jersey Class of 2019 Biographies



Adriana Abizadeh has served as the Executive Director at the Latin American Legal Defense and Education Fund (LALDEF) for two years. LALDEF's mission is to defend the rights of the Latin American community, facilitate its access to health care and education, and advance cross-cultural understanding within the Mercer County region. She is currently serving on the board of the Trenton Health Team and is a co-chair on the executive committee of the New Jersey Alliance for Immigrant Justice. She previously served on the board of the Princeton YWCA and has remained on their Missions Committee. All of Adriana's professional working experience has been in the nonprofit sector and she is passionate about serving others. Adriana has a BA from Rutgers University in Political Science and a MS in Public Policy from Drexel University. She is

extremely interested in the idea of second class citizenry in countries across the globe, particularly as it relates to social services, rights, and basic needs.



Justine L. Abrams is an attorney with the law firm Genova Burns LLC, in the Employment Law & Litigation Defense Practice Group, the Employment Law Counseling & Compliance Practice Group, and the Cannabis Industry Group. She graduated from Rutgers University, where she was an Eagleton Institute of Politics Undergraduate Associate, and she earned her law degree from Seton Hall Law. Prior to joining Genova Burns, Justine interned with the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and clerked for Hon. Joseph Paone, J.S.C.



Sue Altman is the Program Leader and Expert Advisor of the Next Generation Community Leaders Program at the Rutgers University Institute for Effective Education. She also serves on the leadership board of South Jersey Women for Progressive Change and writes frequently on political issues. Before her tenure at Rutgers, Sue started a nonprofit consultancy based in Camden, NJ, where she focused on program evaluation and organizational strategy. Prior to her time in Camden, Sue taught and coached in independent schools. Originally from Clinton, NJ, Sue holds an MBA and a MSc in International and Comparative Education from University of Oxford, UK, and a BA from Columbia University.



Jill Barry is the Executive Director of Morven Museum & Garden in Princeton, New Jersey. In her two year tenure at Morven, we have built a new \$6.5M education center and completely renovated the permanent collection history galleries. The site now represents everyone who lived and worked in the house, including three generations of enslaved people, leading the interpretation trend in historic sites. With 22 years of cultural experience, Jill is an advocate for the transformational power of the arts.



Linda Bazemore is a resident of Atlantic County and holds a MBA from Rutgers University and a BA in Accounting from Stockton University. Linda is a CPA and CMFO in the State of NJ. Linda is currently the VP of Administration and Finance/CFO at the Atlantic County Utilities Authority and is Chair of Women United of Atlantic, Cape May and Cumberland Counties. In addition, Linda is a member of the Highland Academy Board and serves on her church's Women's Shelter Ministry.



Kaitlin Bundy is Manager of the Somerset County Cultural & Heritage Commission where she advances local arts and history programs and services to benefit Somerset County residents, local cultural organizations, and tourism. Kaitlin earned an MPS in Arts and Cultural Management from Pratt Institute and a BA in Visual Arts from Ramapo College. She is currently completing her certification in Creative Placemaking from NJIT. In addition to her professional career, Kaitlin continues to volunteer as a scenic artist for non-profit theaters in New Jersey.



Paul Ceppi is the Managing Director of Business Development at the NJ Economic Development Authority (EDA). In this role, Paul oversees the Small Business Services and Regional Business Development teams, which focus on assisting companies in obtaining the resources and capital needed to expand and succeed in NJ. Prior to joining the EDA in 2007, Paul was employed by the NJ Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency. Paul sits on the Fort Monmouth Economic Revitalization Authority Housing Committee and the Board of the NJ Redevelopment Authority.



Dolores "Dee" Colello is the Deputy Director of Operations, Leadership for Better Health, at the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The Foundation is dedicated to building a Culture of Health that offers everyone in America a fair and just opportunity for health and well-being. Working at the Foundation for over 30 years, Dee focuses on identifying and implementing policies and procedures to enhance applicant and grantee relationships with the Foundation. She also supports critical infrastructure that develops, connects, and uplifts diverse leaders to advance a Culture of Health.



Linda L. Coles is a dynamic public speaker and a seasoned media executive. Since 2016, she has served as media relations manager for NJM Insurance Group, one of the largest property casualty insurers in the Mid Atlantic. In that position, she provides counsel in the development and oversight for the Company’s public relations strategy. Coles’ expertise in media engagement was cultivated during her extensive career as a broadcast journalist with New Jersey Public Television. While at New Jersey Public Television, she was Executive Producer of “Another View”, an award-winning public affairs series that explored the richness and complexity of the African American experience. Coles’ resume includes more than 20 years in television production management as well as media relations

experience working within state government, non-profit and corporate sectors. A native of New Jersey, she earned a B.A. in Journalism from Rutgers University and serves on the New Jersey Martin Luther King Jr. Commemorative Commission.



Danielle Corradino is the Director of Human Resources at The Corradino Group, Inc., a national multimillion dollar mid-sized engineering and planning firm. She is an accomplished human resource professional with over 15 years of experience in the private sector, and a primary focus on small business growth and risk management. She is also responsible for HR Strategy, benefit management, HRIS, employment law, and other business support services, as well as organizational development, attracting and developing talent and building a culture of engagement. She is highly skilled in compliance, leadership and management coaching. Danielle was a part of Women Leading Broward, a leadership initiative focused on women in Broward County, Florida for three years, 2016 class, 2017 and 2018 facilitator. Danielle also served on the Board of Directors for the Human Resources Association of Broward County (HRABC) since where she held the role of Communications Director. Danielle holds a JD from Widener University School of Law and a BA from Villanova University.



Kathy Cullen joined Cooper’s Ferry Partnership in January 2012, as manager of a residential home improvement program for Camden residents. She has managed the design and construction of several projects in Camden, including park rehabilitation, multi-purpose trails, gateway enhancements, neighborhood planning, historic property stabilization, streetscape improvements and road reconstruction. She has a Master of Public Administration degree with a Certificate in Non-Profit Management from Villanova University and a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from Boston College. Kathy is a resident of Cherry Hill, NJ.



Joseph D’Amore joined New Jersey Resources in May 2015 where he manages the Risk Controls for Finance and Trading Operations. Prior to joining the NJR family, Joseph has worked in a variety of roles within the Natural Gas Commodities businesses including the Open Outcry trading pit at the New York Mercantile Exchange.



Anthony “Andy” Fraizer is the Executive Director of the Community Foundation of South Jersey. CFSJ helps South Jersey residents harness the power of philanthropy to transform their community and the issues they care about most. Fraizer is responsible for leadership and execution of the Foundation’s mission delivered via three lines of business: donor services, impactful grantmaking working with donors, and community leadership to support an equitable and prosperous South Jersey. Fraizer relocated to New Jersey from Indiana where he served as the Executive Director of Prosperity Indiana. Fraizer is also a board member of the National Alliance of Community Economic Development Associations (NACEDA). He serves as the treasurer of the NACEDA board, where he works with community development associations and intermediaries across the nation.



Deborah Frazier is the Executive Director of National Junior Tennis & Learning of Trenton (NJTLT). Previously, Deborah was a Wealth Manager and international team coach in financial services. She holds a B.S. in Marketing from Indiana University and an EMBA from Columbia University. She sits on the Board for the PRCC Foundation, is a mentor for the RWLC, and is a member of the 2019-2020 USTA New Jersey District Council and USTA Middle States Section Board of Directors.



Kathryn Gazda is the Assistant Director of Programs at NJ SHARES, a non-profit organization dedicated to connecting low-and-moderate income households who are not eligible for other forms of assistance with available resources to meet their ongoing needs. Kathryn is a member of The Women’s Political Caucus of New Jersey, where she currently serves as Treasurer for the Middlesex County Chapter. Kathryn graduated from Rutgers New Brunswick, where she majored in political science, while minoring in women and gender studies.



Simone Gore is the Senior Research and Forecasting Analyst for NJ TRANSIT’s Capital Planning Department. She produces and analyzes ridership forecasts, studies and visualizes long-range sociodemographic trends. Her work is used for scenario and contingency planning, fare and revenue analysis. Previously, Simone worked as a Facilities Planner advancing transit-oriented development for NJ TRANSIT. She earned an M.C.R.P. from the Bloustein School at Rutgers and B.A.s. from Barnard College and List College.



Cathleen Hamilton is a Legal Program Manager in the Real Estate Division at the New Jersey Economic Development Authority. Cathleen manages the legal procedures and requirements for the Division, including overseeing the public procurement process, handling the disposition of real property and supervising the lease administration of EDA properties. In this role, Cathleen has coordinated large scale real estate development transactions for high level public and private entities. Cathleen's more than 30 years' experience as a paralegal is concentrated in transactional real estate.



Nicole Harris is the Executive Director for After-School All-Stars' New Jersey chapter. With over twenty years of experience in the fundraising, youth development, and non-profit management, Nicole Harris leads a team dedicated to developing, expanding, and funding high-quality after-school programs that serve students throughout New Jersey. Previously Nicole served as the founding Community Engagement Manager at Uncommon Schools – North Star Academy (NSA) where she led the advocacy and fundraising efforts to grow the network from seven to fourteen schools. While at NSA, she founded Community Academy – a school for adults offering free GED training and testing support in addition to college and job readiness support.



Natasha L. Hemmings, MPA, is the Chief Executive Officer for the Girl Scouts Heart of New Jersey. She is a long-time advocate of girl empowerment and leadership, as she is a Lifetime Member of the Girl Scouts of the USA and has served Girl Scouts of Central Southern New Jersey as Chief Marketing and Communications Officer for the past 17 years. Natasha holds a senior leadership role with significant strategic and managerial responsibilities for the second largest Girl Scout Council in the state, with an annual budget of well over \$6.5M. Natasha has a Master's Degree in Public Administration with a concentration in Non-Profit Leadership from Rutgers University, and a Bachelor's Degree in Communications & Theater from the College of New Jersey. She also holds an Executive Non-Profit Leadership Certificate from Fairleigh Dickinson University. Natasha has been selected to serve on Girl Scouts of the USA's National Convention Action Team for the last 4 National Council Sessions with increasing roles and responsibilities over a 12-year span.



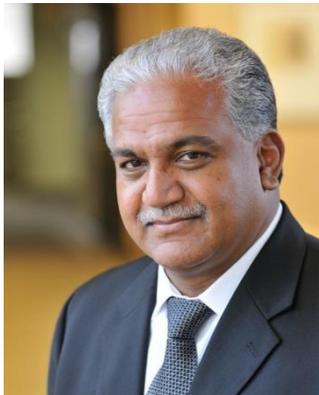
Sarah Hetznecker is a Director of Development for Renewables with PSEG Solar Source LLC, a subsidiary of PSEG Power. At PSEG Sarah is responsible for the acquisition of renewable assets for the company. Sarah joined PSEG in 2015 as a manager, and was promoted to Director in 2016. Sarah led the successful development and acquisition of numerous solar projects and brought in new development partnerships to Solar Source. During Sarah's tenure at PSEG Solar Source, the assets grew from 125MW to 400MW. Prior to joining PSEG, Sarah was a successful entrepreneur. She co-founded and grew a solar energy company, scaling the company from start-up to sale in 2007 to a global renewable energy company Conergy.



Sakinah Hoyte is repaving the road to home for New Jersey's homeless. Currently acting as Director of Bridges Outreach Newark and Greater Essex County efforts, Ms. Hoyte, develops partnerships with city, state and national community providers and stakeholders to provide quality services to the homeless throughout Essex County. She has recently been appointed by the City of Newark to Chair the City of Newark's Homeless Coalition along with Mayor Ras Baraka's Homelessness Commission to address homelessness. As a result of her leadership, the Bridges Outreach Project Connect program, in partnership with onsite providers, has provided a myriad of services and outreach to over 7,500 adults and children both homeless and at-imminent risk of homelessness since 2014. Under her direct leadership, the City of Newark Homeless Coalition, comprised of more than 100 plus agencies and community stakeholders, underwent restructuring and has successfully become a prominent, respectable and functioning organization within the community.



Rhaman R. Johnson is the Confidential Aide/Regulatory Advisor to Commissioner Upendra J. Chivukula at the NJ Board of Public Utilities (BPU), the state agency responsible for controlling the costs of all electric, gas, water, and telecom utilities paid by NJ residential and commercial ratepayers. Rhaman has been in this role for the past four years researching and coordinating information pertinent to Commissioner Chivukula's quasi-judiciary position. Prior to this, Rhaman worked in the corporate world as a Communications Specialist and Accountant. He earned his B.S. in Accounting from North Carolina A&T State University and a B.A. in Communications and Information Studies from Rutgers University. He is a married father of twins and a volunteer boxing coach in New Brunswick.



Ananada Kanapathy has a proven record of achievement in the management of gas and electric utility operations, including cost reduction, improving profitability and safety, and innovative solutions to meet changing industry needs. He has special expertise in infrastructure upgrades, program management, emergency response, business development, and expense control. Ananda excels at building and leading top-performing teams, enhancing customer satisfaction, and resolving complex issues. He also has strong technical and business skills.



Having grown up in poverty in New Jersey, **Renee Koubiadis** is deeply committed to identifying and breaking down barriers that prevent many people and families from meeting their basic needs. Renee has been an advocate and community organizer helping disempowered populations use their voices towards social change throughout New Jersey and Pennsylvania for over 16 years. Renee currently serves as the Executive Director of the Anti-Poverty Network of NJ. In her various roles over the last 16 years, Renee has educated thousands of people on issues of poverty, leadership, and civic engagement. She served as Co-chair of New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy's Transition Team Housing Committee. Renee also serves on the Board of Trustees of the Media Mobilizing Project and the NJ Coalition to End Homelessness and serves on the Steering Committees of the Latino Action Network. Renee is a Licensed Social Worker in New Jersey and holds an MSW from Temple University and a BASW from Rutgers University.



Pankaj Lal, PhD, is the founding director of Montclair State University's Clean Energy and Sustainability Analytics Center (CESAC) where he integrates research and advisory activities to find economic and policy solutions. He was awarded the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers by President Obama and CAREER Award from National Science Foundation. His research explores interconnections among energy, environment, and the society. Pankaj earned his bachelors in economics, masters in geography, and MBA from India and PhD in resource economics from University of Florida.



Stephen Lyman is the Director of the Seamen's Church Institute's International Seafarer Center in Port Newark, NJ. Stephen joined SCI in 2011 and his current role includes port relations, outreach, engagement, and managing the operation of the historical seafarer welfare mission of SCI in the New York and New Jersey metro area. Stephen has nearly two decades of experience in different operational roles in the non-profit sector. He holds dual Bachelor degrees in Operations Management and Sociology from Montclair State University and a Master's degree in Public Administration with a concentration in Non-Profit Management from Rutgers University. Stephen is a Leadership Newark Fellow class of 2018, a Board Member and Treasurer of the Young Shipping Professionals of New York, and Chair of the Workforce Development Implementation Team's Marketing and Awareness Subcommittee of the Council on Port Performance.



Linda Malave is a Director for Operations Risk Management Organization of The Prudential Financial. She is accountable for supporting the continued management, implementation, and oversight of the risk management framework across Prudential's business lines. Linda has a Master of Science, Health Services Management & Policy Analysis from the New School University and Bachelor of Business Administration, from Baruch College, City University of New York. She also completed a PMI Project Management Certificate from Teachers College of Columbia University. Linda serves as the Vice President and National Co-Chair for the Juntos, Latinos & Allies, Business Resource Group (BRG) at Prudential.



Matt Marinello is the Manager of Government Relations and Public Affairs at Atlantic Health System. In this role, Matt advocates on behalf of the system on state and federal legislative and regulatory matters. Matt has over a decade of experience in politics. He previously served as Deputy Chief of Staff for Senator Bob Gordon. In his free time, Matt volunteers as a 7th and 8th grade basketball coach. He received his B.A in Political Science from The College of New Jersey and his MPA from Rutgers University.



John Meehan is an External Affairs Manager for Jersey Central Power and Light. He serves as the direct contact for county and municipal officials, legislative offices as well being responsible for community involvement activities within his region. Before joining JCP&L he worked in the New Jersey governor's office, serving as senior policy advisor for the lieutenant governor and senior government relations advisor in the Department of Labor and Workforce Development. Prior to working for the state, John was a union tradesman where he spent over twenty years as a Steamfitter in Local Union 475. John is an active member of his community and an advocate for youth sports and recreation programs.



Shiv Patel. Born and raised and breathes New Jersey. Shiv grew up in North Jersey in Bergen County and reside in South Jersey in Atlantic County. He works as a Business Analyst for Enrollment Management at Stockton University. He oversees the Customer Relationship Management software while assisting and improving processes and procedures. For 10+ years, he has always been tied to helping Stockton grow. With that, he remains active in volunteering outreach opportunities and helping organizations like Habitat for Humanity and foodbanks help communities.



Robert Pohlman joined New Jersey Resources in 2011 and is currently Director of Business Development and M&A for NJR Clean Energy Ventures. Robert is responsible for renewable energy deal origination and structuring. NJR Clean Energy Ventures was incorporated in 2010 and since then has invested over \$900 million dollars in renewable assets. Prior to joining NJR, Robert worked for various financial institutions including Citadel Asset Management, Credit Suisse, and Lehman Brothers. Robert holds a Bachelor's of Science degree with high honors from Marist College.



Brian Quinn is the Senior Manager for Legislative and Government Affairs at Audible. Brian started his legal career as a judicial law clerk to the Assignment Judge in Middlesex County, New Jersey Superior Court. Prior to joining Audible, Brian spent seven years working as counsel on the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform where he conducted investigations into a wide range of domestic policy issues and counseled Members at congressional hearings. At Audible, Brian focuses on state and federal public policy issues that could impact Audible and engaging state and local policymakers on policies to cultivate a strong technology ecosystem in the state. Brian received a B.A. in Business Administration from Morehouse College and a J.D. from Rutgers School of Law-Newark.



Michael Rasmussen is a non-profit professional serving as the founding Program Director of the New Jersey region at NPower since 2015. Michael oversees a free training program preparing military veterans and young adults from underserved communities to launch careers in technology. Prior, Michael worked as a Juvenile Correctional Officer at a Minnesota state-licensed residential treatment center for juveniles committed by the court. Michael holds a B.A. in Criminology from the University of Minnesota-Duluth and a M.A. in Counseling from New York University.



Molly Debevoise Rennie is a life-long resident of New Jersey. She has been with United Way of Northern New Jersey since 2003. Currently she is Director of Strategic Partnerships for The ALICE® Project, a national data and research study which redefines, beyond the Federal Poverty Statistics, how much it costs to live in New Jersey and in every state in the US. Prior to Molly's career in non-profit she worked in the private sector at Banker's Trust in New York City as an Assistant Vice President in Account Services. Molly holds a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from Kenyon College and a Master's in Public Administration from Seton Hall University.



Holly Rotkowitz has over 20 years of human resources experience. Prior to joining American Water in 2012, she worked in the hospitality industry leading human resources for a restaurant and hotel franchisee. In her current role at American Water, she oversees human resources for New Jersey, New York, Virginia and Maryland American Water. She holds a bachelor's degree from The College of New Jersey and a master's degree from Montclair State University. She holds two senior professional HR certifications and is a member of the Human Capital & Workforce Development Committee of the New Jersey Utilities Association.



Richard Simon is a Senior Program Associate for the Arts and Education programs at the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, a private foundation based in Morristown that envisions an equitable New Jersey through creative, engaged, and sustainable communities. Specifically, the Foundation supports nonprofits working to connect communities and influence social change through the arts, education, the environment and informed communities. The Foundation is also home to the Dodge Poetry Program. Working closely with the Dodge grantmaking team and its nonprofit partners, Richard plays a key role in ensuring a smooth, responsive and effective funding process, from proposal to award. He also manages special initiatives and events to advance the Foundation's goals and strategies.



Marisa Slaten is the Director of Regulatory Strategy and Services for Pepco Holdings (PHI), an Exelon company. Marisa joined PHI in 2017 and is responsible for leading the utility's regulatory activity and stakeholder engagement in New Jersey and Delaware. Prior to joining PHI, Marisa was the Director of the Division of Clean Energy at the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities. Marisa is a graduate of Rutgers University Law School and is licensed to practice in New York and New Jersey.



Jennifer Phillips Smith, an attorney, is a Director in the Real Property Department at Gibbons P.C. Ms. Smith counsels clients on real estate matters, with a specific focus on complex redevelopment projects, liquor licensing, and related litigation. She has worked on projects in Atlantic City, Asbury Park, Sayreville, Newark, and many other municipalities. Ms. Smith is a graduate of Seton Hall University School of Law and Georgetown University. She currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Monmouth County.



Lydia Smith is employed by the Union County Division of Social Services for 16 years as the Field Office Supervisor. Ms. Smith is also the co-founder/business administrator of the New Jersey Knights Football Inc.; a non-profit organization that targets "at risk" inner city minority males ages 18-24 to improve their overall quality of life through the sport of football. Ms. Smith also finds time to volunteer her time and resources to many community based organizations in her community of Hillside, NJ. Ms. Smith has volunteered for the Hillside Girl Scouts, Veterans' Memorial committee, and as a consultant to the National Night Out event. Ms. Smith attended Rutgers University where she earned her B.S. and M.P. A. degrees. She also has attended Kean University where she earned her Masters of Education-School Business Administration Certification. Ms. Smith is also a proud member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.



Sarah Snell, CPA, PSA, PAFM, is the Chief Operating Officer of Holman Frenia Allison, P.C. She oversees day-to-day operations in administration, human capital, finance, technology, facilities, and marketing. She is an active member of the New Jersey State Society of CPAs and the CPA Firm Management Association where she graduated from the CPAFMA Leadership Institute in 2017. She serves on the Community Impact Council of the Junior League of Monmouth County and is also a Troop Leader and Regional Delegate to the Board of Directors for the Girl Scouts of the Jersey Shore. In 2018, Sarah was honored as one of GSJS's Phenomenal Woman Under 40. Sarah is a graduate of Stockton University and resides with her family in Toms River.



Angela Speakman is the Director of Development and Communications at the New Jersey Council for the Humanities, the nonprofit state partner of the NEH. Based in Trenton, NJCH ensures access to public humanities programming for all NJ citizens. Before joining the Council, she held various communications positions, including the role of Director of Communications at WheatonArts. Angela has two degrees from Rowan University, a B.A. in Communications and a M.A. in Writing Arts. She is an adjunct faculty member at Rowan University in the Communications department.



Wayne M. Staub was appointed as the Vice President of Member Services for New Jersey Business and Industry Association in June 2015. Since that time he has been promoted to his current title of Chief Business Relations Officer. Wayne is part of executive team and works with the other Officers on short term and long term strategic planning. Wayne leads the Recruitment efforts and works closely in helping in the development of Member Only Exclusive Benefits Programs and Partnerships. Wayne has a BS in Marketing from Seton Hall University and a Master Degree in Management and Leadership from Thomas Edison University. Wayne lives in Ewing Township and is very active in many nonprofits, including the Ewing Public Education Foundation, where he has served as a past President and is the current Treasurer.



Tom Wighard, Vice President of LAN Associates, a full-service architecture and engineering firm, is responsible for the management of the mechanical engineering department as well as strategic planning for the company. He brings over seventeen years of experience in the industry, having worked with LAN his entire career. He oversees development and design for mechanical engineering and plumbing projects for public and private clients and is heavily involved in the company's business development initiatives, where he routinely attends events and establishes new client relationships.



Zoubir Yazid Ph.D., MBA, PMP, is the Chief Operating Officer of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Mercer County, a not-for-profit organization whose mission is "To enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, and responsible citizens". Prior to joining the BGC MC, he was Managing Director of ETS Global (the global subsidiary of the not-for-profit organization Educational Testing Service) and was a Senior Consultant at Accenture. In his current role he oversees operations, the HR function, and is also acting as the Club's HIPAA & Learning Officer. Yazid earned a B.A. in international relations, an M.A. in strategic studies, an MBA in organizational behavior and international management, and a Ph.D. in political science.