Forward Together

Forward Together

Esusu's 3rd Annual Conference

March 18 – 20 | Montage Laguna Beach

To Our Sponsors

We extend our deepest gratitude to the Clark McKinney Group at Morgan Stanley for your generous support of Forward Together. Your commitment has been instrumental in making this event a success. Thank you for helping us turn this vision into reality.

Morgan Stanley

THE CLARK MCKINNEY GROUP
AT MORGAN STANLEY

Quantum Democracy

We gather at a moment when the seams of our democracy feel most visible. Having this assembly of thinkers, creators, and disruptors in one space is a powerful testament to our shared commitment to what comes next.

Our focus this year is a radical shift in perspective: Quantum Democracy. We are moving away from the traditional hunt for a single, harmonized narrative and toward an orchestra that soars on the productive tension between competing ideas. Like the particles of quantum physics, we believe our contradictions can coexist to create a more resilient and adaptive whole.

The work ahead is not to eliminate our divisions, but to design for them. Over the next few days, let's prove that our plurality is not a defect to be mended, but our greatest source of power. Thank you for being the architects of this necessary work.

Forward together,
Wemimo Abbey & Samir Goel
Co-Founders & Co-CEOs, Esusu



Schedule

Day 1

Wednesday, March 18

4:00 PM	Hotel Check-In
5:30 PM	**Welcome Reception** Gallery Foyer
6:30 PM	**Purposeful Leadership** John W. Rogers, Jr. in conversation with Wemimo Abbey Gallery Ballroom
7:30 PM	**Cocktail Reception** Gallery Foyer

Day 2

Thursday, March 19

7:30 AM	Breakfast Ocean Lawn
9:00 AM	**Conference Kick-Off** Please be seated by 9:00 a.m. Gallery Ballroom
9:15 AM	**Quantum Asset Framing** Trabian Shorters Gallery Ballroom
9:50 AM	**Quantum Philanthropy** Janiece Evans-Page and Kwame Owusu-Kesse Moderated by Sean Mendy Gallery Ballroom

Thursday, March 19

10:30 AM	**Quantum Longevity** Dr. Andrew Charles Moderated by Nicole Valentine Gallery Ballroom
11:15 AM	**Morning Plenary Adjourns** Experience portrait sessions Gallery Foyer
11:45 AM	**Lunch** Pacific Lawn
1:15 PM	**The American Blueprint** Charles Young and Jeff Brodsky Moderated by Wemimo Abbey Gallery Ballroom
1:50 PM	**Oversight in the Age of Disruption** Jim Shelton and Patrick Jones Moderated by Nicole Valentine Gallery Ballroom
2:30 PM	Break for networking and relaxation Enjoy all the Montage has to offer
	Afternoon Plenary Adjourns Experience portrait sessions Gallery Foyer
6:00 PM	**Cocktail reception** Gallery Foyer
6:30 PM	**Dinner** Gallery Ballroom
7:45 PM	Fireside Chat Jonathan Rose Moderated by Samir Goel Gallery Ballroom
8:30 PM	Closing remarks Gallery Ballroom
	Optional networking Lobby Bar

WEMIMO **ABBEY**



Esusu Inc.
Co-Founder and Co-CEO

Wemimo Abbey grew up in the slums of Lagos, Nigeria, and came to Minneapolis, Minnesota, for college at the age of 17. Struggling to secure a loan without a credit score, his mother borrowed money from a predatory lender at an exorbitant 400% interest rate. These challenges inspired Wemimo and his Co-Founder to launch Esusu, driven by the belief that no matter where you come from, the color of your skin, or your financial identity, it should not determine where you end up in life. Esusu's platform empowers renters to build credit through rent payments, offers property management analytics, and provides rental assistance for financial stability. Recently valued at $1 billion in a $130 million Series B fundraising round, Esusu has earned a spot on the Forbes Fintech 50 Most Innovative Companies List for three consecutive years. Wemimo currently serves on The SEC Small Business Capital Formation Advisory Committee, Fannie Mae Affordable Housing Advisory Council, a Commissioner and Executive Member on the Board of The Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery, Board of Trustees at the University of Minnesota Crookston, a board member at the Leadership Enterprise for a Diverse America (LEDA), and Co-Chairs The Los Angeles County Museum (LACMA) Director Circle.

Before Esusu, Wemimo founded Clean Water for Everyone, delivering affordable clean water access to 250,000+ people in six countries. He also founded a data analytics company focused on gathering machine-readable data on NGOs in Africa, which was successfully acquired in 2014. Wemimo's earlier career involved being a mergers and acquisitions consultant at PwC, working on deals valued at over $50 billion, and gaining experience with Accenture, the European Commission, and Goldman Sachs. Wemimo's work has been featured in major publications, including Bloomberg, CNBC, Financial Times, Fortune, Inc. Magazine, New York Times, Quartz, The Atlantic, USA Today, Vice, Wall Street Journal, and Yahoo! Finance. He was named to the 2020 Forbes 30 Under 30 list, TIME100 NEXT List in 2023, and awarded EY Entrepreneur of the Year Nationally. In 2021 and 2022, Goldman Sachs recognized him as one of the "100 Most Intriguing Entrepreneurs." He graduated Magna Cum Laude from the University of Minnesota with a B.S. in Business Management and earned his M.P.A. from New York University's Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service.

JEFF **BRODSKY**



Related Companies
Vice Chairman

Jeffrey I. Brodsky is Vice Chairman of Related Companies where he works closely with Related's executive team to optimize business development and drive improved performance and results across the platform and internationally. Mr. Brodsky joined Related's affordable housing development group in 1982, has been an Executive Vice President of Related Affordable for 18 years, and served as President of Related Management from 1997 through 2015. He also leads Related Companies' efforts to increase opportunities in the real estate industry for traditionally underserved and disadvantaged communities.

Mr. Brodsky is a member of the Real Estate Board of New York Residential Management Council and the recipient of its 2006 George M. Brooker Management Executive of the Year award, the Board of Directors of the Corporation for Supportive Housing, the National Leased Housing Association, the Realty Advisory Board of N.Y., and served a 4 year role as the Chairman of the Property Management committee of the National Multi□Housing Council. He is the 2009 recipient of the Institute for Real Estate Management (IREM) NY Chapter Certified Property Manager of the Year Award.

He has also been the past Chairman of Urban Green, the US Green Building Council chapter in New York, is a member of FNMA's Green Housing Task Force, and is the current Chairman of the New York City Energy Efficiency Corporation. In 2009, Mr. Brodsky initiated Related's National Smoke Free Housing program across all asset classes, the first such program in the U.S. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and a Master's degree in Business Administration from New York University.

ANDREW **CHARLES**, M.D.



UCLA School of Medicine
Professor Emeritus

Andrew Charles, MD, is Professor and Director of the Headache Research and Treatment Program in the Department of Neurology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). He has recently been named the Meyer and Renee Luskin Chair in Migraine and Headache Studies at UCLA. Dr. Charles received his medical degree from UCLA in 1986 and completed a residency and a research fellowship in neurology before becoming a professor at this institution. Now, as Director of the Headache Research and Treatment Program, Dr. Charles oversees a comprehensive effort toward advancing headache medicine that includes basic and clinical research, education, and patient care. His laboratory uses advanced imaging and electrophysiological techniques to investigate basic mechanisms of neuronal, glial, and vascular signaling related to migraine and other brain disorders. Dr. Charles has been an associate editor of the journal Cephalalgia since 2009. He also serves on the board of directors of the American Headache Society, and the board of trustees of the International Headache Society. He is Co-Chair of the NINDS Common Data Elements Project Group for Headache.

JANIECE **EVANS-PAGE**



Tides
CEO

Janiece Evans-Page is the chief executive officer of Tides, a nonprofit and philanthropic organization dedicated to advancing social justice. She leads Tides' work with doers and donors to center the leadership of changemakers from communities historically denied power, connecting them to operational and advisory services, capacity building, and resources to amplify their impact. Prior to joining Tides in 2021, Janiece served as the inaugural Chief Sustainability and Diversity Officer at Fossil Group and Head of Fossil Foundation. Previously, Janiece spent more than 20 years at Hewlett-Packard, serving as vice president and general manager of HP's Imaging and Printing Attach Organization, which she launched and grew into a $600M+ global enterprise. Janiece serves on the boards of Tides, Tides Advocacy (a 501(c)(4)), Beneficial State Foundation, and Echoing Green, the board of trustees of both Southern New Hampshire University and St. Mary's College, as well as numerous advisory councils. In 2024, Janiece received an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from Golden Gate University. In 2021, she was honored at the 12th Annual Powerful Women of The Bay Awards luncheon and was selected as one of the San Francisco Business Times' 2021 Most Influential Women in Business. In 2018, she was honored by Ebony Magazine as one of its Power 100 awardees.

SAMIR **GOEL**



Esusu Inc.
Co-Founder and Co-CEO

Samir grew up in an immigrant family from New Delhi, India and witnessed the financial barriers and struggles his family faced as new residents in America. These experiences later inspired Samir and his Co-Founder, Wemimo Abbey, to start Esusu under the premise that no matter where you come from, the color of your skin, or your financial identity it should not determine where you end up in life. Esusu's platform provides renters the ability to build credit by paying rent, property management analytics, and rental assistance to unlock financial stability for renters and property owners. Most recently, Esusu was valued at $1 billion in their $130 million Series B round of fundraising. Esusu has been named to the Forbes Fintech 50 Most Innovative Companies List the past three years. Samir currently serves on the Board of Directors at MoMA PS1, the NYU Stern Center for Sustainable Business and SaverLife.

Prior to Esusu, Samir Co-Founded Transfernation, a nationally recognized non-profit that used technology to direct excess food to underserved communities across New York City. Transfernation rescued over 5 million pounds of food and impacted nearly 2.5 million lives. Previously, Samir worked at LinkedIn across multiple divisions ultimately driving Sales Strategy & Operations for a $500m business unit across Europe, the Middle East, and Africa (EMEA). Samir also worked at The United Nations and Venture for America. Samir's work has been featured in the Wall Street Journal, New York Times, Financial Times, Bloomberg, CNBC, USA Today, CNBC, Quartz, Fortune, Vice, Inc Magazine, Yahoo! Finance, Cheddar, and he was named to the 2020 Forbes 30 Under 30 list. In 2023, he was named to the TIME100 NEXT List and awarded EY Entrepreneur of the Year Nationally. In 2022, he was selected by Goldman Sachs as one of the "100 Most Intriguing Entrepreneurs." He received his Bachelor of Science from New York University's Stern School of Business.

PATRICK **JONES**



LACERA
Trustee, Board of Investments

Mr. Jones was appointed to the LACERA Board of Investments in 2021. He is an entrepreneur and management consultant specializing in new media, technology, and software industry projects; an award-winning executive producer with expertise in development, distribution, and content strategy; and a prolific keynote speaker and workshop presenter. Mr. Jones also brings extensive experience in board leadership, public policy, and political campaigns.

A passionate advocate of liberal arts, conscious capitalism, and social entrepreneurship, he works to address some of the world's most complex challenges. He is a recognized voice for youth empowerment and community engagement. Mr. Jones resides in Palos Verdes Estates with his wife and daughter.

Mr. Jones is the founder and CEO of Vocatio, a media network and talent marketplace helping high school and college students navigate their education and career paths. He also serves as Chief Engagement Officer at Creative Jones Collective, a brand experience agency. He is a member of the American Enterprise Institute Leadership Network and participated in the Leadership Atlanta Program, Class of 2013.

He has held board positions with the Atlanta Community Food Bank, the Georgia Public Policy Foundation Advisory Board (Strategic Communications and Engagement), the Miami University College of Arts & Sciences Alumni Advisory Board, The Edge Connection, a nonprofit supporting micro-enterprises and small businesses, and the Conservative Policy Leadership Institute. He also serves as Commissioner of the Georgia Film, Music, and Digital Entertainment Advisory Commission. Previously, he was Executive Vice President and Executive Producer at Journey Productions, Inc.

Mr. Jones holds an MBA in Management and Entrepreneurship from the Duke University Fuqua School of Business and a BA in Economics and Political Science from Miami University.

SEAN **MENDY**



Westbound Equity Partners
Co-Founding Partner

Sean Mendy is a Co-Founding Partner of Westbound Equity Partners, a Palo Alto-based investment firm backing exceptional talent, organizations, and ideas with financial and social capital. A Bay Area native, Sean has dedicated his career to closing opportunity gaps in Silicon Valley. Prior to Westbound, he was an executive at the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Peninsula, a Venture Partner at Next Play Ventures, and an Entrepreneur in Residence at Sixth Street.

Sean works closely with entrepreneurs to achieve their goals and realize their vision. He is an early investor in Esusu, a leading fintech company helping renters build credit and access financial opportunities and Sierra, the conversational AI agent platform serving the enterprise. Sean's broader portfolio includes The Browser Company, Notion, Syndio, LaborUp, Figma (FIG), and other category-defining companies. Sean is also an investor and Board Member of Bay FC, the Bay Area's National Women's Soccer League team.

Sean earned his BA from Cornell University, where he played soccer, and holds advanced degrees in business and policy from Stanford and USC.

KWAME **OWUSU-KESSE**



Harlem Children's Zone
CEO

Recognized on TIME's list of the 100 Next Most Influential People in the World, Kwame OwusuKesse is a cross-sector leader driving change at the nexus of culture, innovation, and social impact. He serves as Chief Executive Officer of Harlem Children's Zone (HCZ), the globally acclaimed anti-poverty organization that pioneered comprehensive, place-based services and reshaped how communities invest in children and families. Before HCZ, Owusu-Kesse worked on Wall Street as an investment banker at Morgan Stanley, an experience that informs his approach to scaling impact, building institutions, and advancing economic mobility. Across his career, he has served as a business leader, board member, advisor, investor, and entrepreneur —including as a professional DJ—bringing analytical rigor, creativity, and cultural fluency to leadership. Owusu-Kesse is the protagonist of a Harvard Business School case on leadership, required for all first-year MBA students, exploring decision-making, values, and leading complex organizations. A thought leader on education, finance, health, and culture, he emphasizes how interconnected systems shape opportunity and outcomes. His work has been featured in The New York Times, CNN, CNBC, MSNBC, and more. He holds a BA in Economics from Harvard University, an MBA from Harvard Business School, and an MPP from Harvard Kennedy School.

JOHN W. **ROGERS**, JR.



Ariel Investments
Chairman, Co-CEO,
Chief Investment Officer

John's passion for investing began at age 12 when his father began buying him stocks as Christmas and birthday gifts. His interest in equities grew while in college and over the two-plus years he worked as a stockbroker for William Blair & Company. In 1983, John founded Ariel at age 24 to focus on patient, value investing within small- and medium-sized companies. While Ariel's research capabilities have expanded across the globe, patience is still the disciplined approach that drives the firm today. Early in his career, John's investment acumen brought him to the forefront of media attention and culminated in him being selected as co-mutual fund manager of the year by Sylvia Porter's Personal Finance magazine as well as an all-star mutual fund manager by USA Today. Furthermore, John has been highlighted alongside legendary investors Warren Buffett, Sir John Templeton and Ben Graham in the distinguished book: The World's 99 Greatest Investors by Magnus Angenfelt.

His professional accomplishments extend to the boardroom where he is a member of the board of directors of Nike, The New York Times Company and Ryan Specialty. He also serves on the board of trustees of the University of Chicago and the Obama Foundation. In 2008, John was awarded Princeton University's highest honor, the Woodrow Wilson Award, presented each year to the alumnus or alumna whose career embodies a commitment to national service. He served as co-chair of President Obama's Presidential Inaugural Committee in 2009, and in 2023, John received the Order of Lincoln, the highest honor for professional achievement and public service in Illinois. John received an AB in economics from Princeton University, where he was also captain of the varsity basketball team.

JONATHAN **ROSE**



Jonathan Rose Companies
CEO

Jonathan F.P. Rose's business, public policy, teaching, research, writing and not-for-profit work focuses on creating more environmentally, socially and economically resilient cities.

In 1989, Mr. Rose founded and is President of Jonathan Rose Companies LLC, a real estate development and investment firm, that addresses the challenges of the poor distribution of opportunity through the development of affordable and mixed-income housing. Jonathan has led the firm's vision, strategy and growth, developing award winning new projects, investment funds and city plans that model solutions to address the issues of community development, opportunity, inequality and the environment. The firm is one of the largest acquirers of affordable and mixed income housing in the nation.

Mr. Rose received the Enterprise Community Partners, James W. Rouse Civic Medal of Honor in 2012, and the 2021 ULI Prize for Visionaries in Urban Development (Click to View Video). In 2023, Mr. Rose was awarded The Order of the Beloved of the Thunder Dragon by His Majesty, The King of Bhutan.

Mr. Rose's book on how to create resilient cities, The Well-Tempered City: What Modern Science, Ancient Civilizations and Human Nature Teach Us About the Future of Urban Life, was published by Harper Wave in 2016, and won the 2017 PROSE Award for Outstanding Scholarly Work by a Trade Publisher.

Mr. Rose and his wife Diana Calthorpe Rose are the co-founders of the Garrison Institute. He serves as Chair on its Board and of the Bhutan Urban and Regional Planning Global Advisory Committee. He is a trustee of Enterprise Community Partners.

Mr. Rose graduated from Yale University in 1974 with a B.A. in Psychology and Philosophy, and received a Master's in Regional Planning from the University of Pennsylvania in 1980. Jonathan was appointed an Executive in Residence at the Saïd Business School 2021-2022, focusing on his work on regenerative business and regenerative economies.

JIM **SHELTON**



Blue Meridian Partners
CEO

Jim Shelton is the Chief Executive Officer of Blue Meridian Partners and a member of its Board of Directors. Jim leads Blue Meridian's efforts to connect investors and visionary leaders to utilize transformative capital to scale solutions that enable all Americans to achieve economic and social mobility and escape the persistent and powerful gravitational pull of poverty.

Prior to becoming CEO in March 2025, Jim served as President and Chief Investment and Impact Officer, overseeing Blue Meridian's day-to-day operations and its efforts to continuously increase the impact, reach, and influence of social sector leaders and their organizations. During this period, Blue Meridian redoubled its nationwide efforts to expand effective solutions and deepened its support of regional and local strategies to break the predictive power of who one's parents are and where one grows up on life chances through the compounding benefits of proven and promising solutions from cradle to career. Jim also led Blue Meridian's pursuit of new approaches to improving economic and social mobility, including extending the organization's work to explore the roles of for-profits, policy, and advocacy.

Jim's early career spanned software development and impact-focused entrepreneurship, investing, and philanthropy. He served as the Deputy Secretary of the US Department of Education and was the founding Executive Director of My Brother's Keeper. Subsequently, he was President and Chief Impact Officer at 2U, Inc. partnering with colleges and universities to increase access to and affordability of top degree programs. He later served as the founding President of Education for the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative. Immediately before joining Blue Meridian, Jim founded Amandla Enterprises, an impact investment and advisory firm.

Jim serves on the boards of several non-profit and for-profit impact-focused organizations and is a Senior Social Impact Advisor to KKR.

Jim holds a bachelor's degree in computer science from Morehouse College and master's degrees in business administration and education from Stanford University.

TRABIAN **SHORTERS**



BMe Community
Founder and CEO

Trabian Shorters is the pioneering architect of Asset-Framing®, a revolutionary approach that defines people by their aspirations before acknowledging their challenges. As the founder of TrabianShorters.com and BMe Community, he's transforming how organizations approach social change and equity across sectors. A New York Times bestselling author and former vice president of the Knight Foundation, Shorters has built his expertise at the intersection of narrative change, leadership development, and social innovation. Through his boutique consulting firm, he guides Fortune 500 companies, major nonprofits, and government agencies in leveraging AssetFraming® to enhance fundraising, audience engagement, and systemic change. His creation of BMe Community—a network of over four hundred Black leaders and allies— demonstrates Asset-Framing® in action, showcasing how focusing on assets rather than deficits can catalyze meaningful social impact. As the world's leading authority on asset-based approaches to social change, Shorters represents a paradigm shift in how we perceive and nurture human potential.administration and education from Stanford University.

NICOLE **VALENTINE**



Milken Institute
Senior Director, FinTech

Nicole Valentine is the FinTech Senior Director of the Milken Institute's Finance pillar with over a decade of financial services, international Mergers & Acquisitions, technology, and innovation experience. As the FinTech Director, Nicole explores market innovation and developments, analyzes alternative regulatory approaches, and offers policy recommendations to facilitate FinTech's responsible development. Her work engages and educates policymakers and stakeholders to improve access to capital, financial inclusion, transparency, and compliance. In 2023, Nicole was appointed to become a member of the CFTC GMAC (Global Markets Advisory Committee) Digital Assets Market Subcommittee. Nicole is also a member of the Goldman Sachs Sustainable Investing Group Inclusive Growth Corporate Network.

Nicole's thought leadership on digital assets, Web3, FinTech, AI, the metaverse, and the future of finance is also frequently featured in news publications, including CNBC, Forbes, USA Today, Worth, FinTech Times, Fox Business, Yahoo Finance, CQ Roll Call, E-Crypto News, Miami Herald, and Protocol Braintrust (Politico). She weighs in on topics that include Digital Assets legislation and regulation, innovative technologies, financial inclusion and fluency, and crypto's cultural relevance in society.

An attorney by background, Nicole practiced Mergers and Acquisitions and Securities at Wall Street law firm, Debevoise & Plimpton and then served as Assistant General Counsel and Vice President at global financial services firm, Cantor Fitzgerald. Nicole founded Synergy Business Development where she served as business strategist, advisor, and consultant to CEOs and Innovation Leads at Fortune 500 companies, innovative startups, non-profits, and government agencies. Nicole Valentine earned her JD from the University of Virginia School of Law and her BA from American University in Political Science. She is a member of the NY Bar.

CHARLES **YOUNG**



Sun Communities
CEO

Charles Young has served as our Chief Executive Officer and a director since October 2025. He is a seasoned senior real estate and investment executive with over 25 years of leadership experience spanning real estate operations, development, and investment management. From March 2023 to September 2025, Mr. Young was President of Invitation Homes Inc., a publicly-traded single-family home leasing and management company, and he previously served as Chief Operating Officer of Invitation Homes. His earlier roles include senior positions at Starwood Waypoint Homes and Mesa Development, as well as work in real estate principal investment and M&A at Goldman Sachs.

Mr. Young also serves as a Director of Floor & Décor (NYSE: FND) and as a Trustee of Stanford University. He holds a BA in Economics and an MBA from Stanford University's Graduate School of Business, bringing extensive expertise across both public and private real estate sectors in operating, investment, and development capacities.

JAMAR **ADAMS**



Essence
Founder & Managing Principal

Jamar is the Founder and Managing Principal of Essence Development, a minority-owned real estate investment and development firm focused on creating high-quality, socially impactful, and sustainable communities. Founded in 2020, Essence Development is dedicated to delivering affordable and workforce housing, mixed-use developments, and community-centered infrastructure that integrates health and nutrition services, nonprofit partnerships, and workforce development opportunities. The firm is built on the principle that equitable housing and holistic community investment are essential drivers of meaningful and lasting change. Under Jamar's leadership, their current portfolio includes over $6 billion in development, encompassing more than 3,800 affordable and workforce housing units, 3,000 market-rate units, and nearly 500,000 square feet of life science and research space across the Northeast corridor.

Prior to founding Essence Development, Jamar served as Vice President of New York Development at Related Companies, where he was instrumental in the redevelopment and preservation of affordable multifamily housing nationwide. He oversaw over $800 million in transactions and more than $1.5 billion in development, including the construction and rehabilitation of nearly 5,000 affordable and workforce housing units in New York City. Notable projects under his leadership included Riverwalk Park on Roosevelt Island, Marine Terrace in Astoria, Willets Point Phase 1 in Queens, and Rockaway South in Far Rockaway.

Jamar played in the NFL with the Seattle Seahawks and the Philadelphia Eagles. He is a graduate of the University of Michigan, where he currently serves on the board of the Alumni Association and the LEAD Scholars Program.

Jamar is involved with 100 Black Men of America and the Business of Sports School in New York City. He also serves on the Advisory Council for the Fund for Public Housing.

DUBI **AJUKWU**



VANA Partners
Co-Managing Partner

Dubi Ajukwu is Co-Managing Partner of VANA Partners, a real estate investment platform focused on hospitality. Starwood Capital Group is a strategic investor in the VANA platform.

Prior to founding VANA Partners, Dubi served as Vice President of New York Development at Related Companies. Earlier in his career, he worked on Wall Street as a private equity investor at Global Infrastructure Partners and as an investment banker at Morgan Stanley.

Dubi graduated with honors from Dartmouth College and holds a J.D. from Harvard Law School.

SHAH **ALAM**



Pratum Companies
CEO

Shah Alam is the Owner and Chief Executive Officer of Pratum Companies, a national real estate services firm headquartered in the Washington, DC region with operations across 15 states and Washington, DC. Under his leadership, Pratum provides integrated property management and operational services for affordable, mixed-income, senior, and market-rate housing communities.

With nearly 30 years of multifamily leadership experience, Shah is recognized for building and scaling high-performing organizations while delivering strong results for owners and investors. Over the course of his career, he has overseen portfolios exceeding 80,000 apartment homes and more than $10 billion in assets, spanning deeply subsidized housing, luxury high-rise communities, mixed-use developments, and large-scale renovation initiatives.

Shah began his career as a leasing professional and advanced through operational leadership roles, giving him a rare ground-up perspective on property operations, resident experience, and asset performance. He has built and led high-performing teams across more than 30 states, consistently focusing on operational discipline, talent development, and technology-driven innovation.

Previously, Shah served in senior leadership roles at nationally recognized real estate organizations, including Related Companies, Fairstead and Edgewood Management, where he led large-scale portfolios and implemented operational, compliance, and training programs that strengthened performance and client satisfaction.

Through Pratum Companies, Shah continues to advance a forward-thinking vision for property management—one focused on operational excellence, strategic growth, and long-term value creation for owners, residents, and communities nationwide.

AMON **ANDERSON**



Acumen America
Managing Partner

Amon Anderson is co-founder and Managing Partner at Acumen America, a venture fund backing entrepreneurs building innovative solutions to poverty in America across the sectors of health, wealth and work. A leader in impact investing with over two decades of experience, Amon has built a portfolio of 45 game-changing investments that leverage the power of entrepreneurship to shift systems and tackle poverty at a national scale. At Acumen America, Amon launched the Medicaid Innovation Collaborative, which has worked across 9 states to bring together policy leaders, health plans, and entrepreneurs to leverage tech-enabled innovation that addresses core challenges of health equity. At Acumen America, Amon is working to build the home for poverty-tackling innovation in U.S.

Prior to founding Acumen America, Amon worked in impact investing roles in New York, Nairobi, and Addis Ababa. Amon holds a bachelor's with Highest Honors from the UNC Chapel Hill, where he was a Morehead-Cain Scholar, and an MBA from the Stanford GSB, where he received the Frances & Arjay Miller Fellowship in Social Innovation and the Miller Social Change Leadership Award.

IAN **BEADLE**



Westbound Equity Partners
Partner

Ian Beadle is a Co-Founding Partner of Westbound Equity Partners, where, along with his investing expertise, he has built the scaffolding that's taken the firm from vision to reality.

Ian brings more than a decade of investment experience, most recently as a Principal at Littlebanc Advisors, where he led growth and control investments across fintech, e-commerce, logistics, and consumer sectors. He was also the first employee at GrizzlyRock Capital, a long/short hedge fund focused on small and mid-cap equities, and held operations and finance roles at Goodrich Aerospace (now Raytheon).

Ian holds a B.A. in Business Finance from San Diego State University, an MBA from the University of Southern California, and is a CFA charterholder. He is also a Kauffman Fellow (Class 28).

In addition to investing, his primary focus at the firm is leading on strategy and operations, including running the operations of the investing team.

IAN **BEL**



Olive Tree Holdings
Managing Principal and
Chief Executive Officer

At Olive Tree, Ian oversees the company and all affiliate platforms – including Olive Tree Affordable Housing and Olive Tree Ventures, the PropTech venture investment arm of Olive Tree Holdings. Under Ian's leadership, Olive Tree has acquired and transformed over 16,000 units of workforce and affordable housing communities across 9 states and has deployed over $250 Million in capital expenditures to enhance the lifestyles of its residents. Prior to forming Olive Tree, Ian was a principal at One Wall Partners. At One Wall Partners, Ian spearheaded the partnership's multifamily acquisitions and capital raising. Prior to joining One Wall Partners, Ian was an associate at Duval and Stachenfeld, one of the leading real estate law firms in the world. Prior to Duval and Stachenfeld, Ian was an associate at Intersection Partners, a private investment firm based in Westport, Connecticut, focused on developing highly scalable strategies for aggressive growth industries including health care, renewable energy, education and infrastructure. In addition to Ian's professional responsibilities, Ian is a co-founder and board member for Pay Away The Layaway, a nationally recognized non-profit corporation committed to serving low income families across the United States. Ian also serves as a Strategic Advisor to Stake, the first fintech platform built to create tenant wealth through cash back rewards, and a Board Observer to Moved, a disruptive logistics platform and marketplace. Ian holds the CCIM designation and earned his JD from the Hofstra School of Law and BA and MBA from Binghamton University. Ian is also a member of YPO and was featured by the New York Real Estate Journal in 2022 as a Notable Leader in Real Estate.

ALLEN **BLUE**



LinkedIn
Co-Founder

Allen Blue is a co-founder of LinkedIn, the world's largest professional network, and currently serves as Vice President of Product Management, where he directs overall product strategy. His areas of focus include Equity Products, Climate Products, and LinkedIn's Economic Graph, working with governments and institutions in the United States and worldwide to share economic data and improve education and workforce policy.

Allen is also engaged in policy advocacy around economic opportunity, the future of work, and climate change. He's been featured at Chatham House, the Aspen Institute, and the Council on Foreign Relations, where he's collaborated with advocates and issue experts on some of the world's most pressing problems.

Allen chairs the board of the Hope Street Group, a non-profit that brings economic opportunity to Americans through a combination of policy and practice, and sits on several other non-profit boards. Previously, Allen served as a member of the U.S. Commerce Department's Data Advisory Council under President Barack Obama.

Before LinkedIn, Allen co-founded SocialNet.com, an online dating service. He is a graduate of Stanford University where he majored in drama and English.

KWAME **BRATHWAITE**



TAVO
Managing Director, Portfolio Development

Kwame brings over 20 years of experience in strategic partnerships, real estate development, and investment management to his role as Managing Director, Portfolio Development at TAVO. His expertise in driving expansion and innovation strategies in high-growth environments makes him an asset to the company's leadership team.

Throughout his career, Kwame has demonstrated a consistent ability to scale operations, forge high-value partnerships, and grow asset portfolios across finance, real estate, and technology sectors — delivering measurable results at every stage.

Kwame's career includes notable achievements in portfolio management, investor engagement, and real estate strategy across a range of high-growth ventures, including a Google Ventures-backed startup where he led initiatives resulting in 500% site growth.

As part of TAVO's executive team, Kwame's multifaceted background in high-growth environments, coupled with his expertise in opportunity identification, scaling operations, and fostering partnerships, uniquely positions him to provide invaluable guidance for the company's growth initiatives and strategic direction.

A founder and speaker, Kwame Samori Brathwaite, son of photographer Kwame Brathwaite, is the Director of the Kwame Brathwaite Archive. He manages the archive as well as collaborative projects that are concordant with the themes in his father's work, namely activism, politics, fashion and music.

Kwame is also a committed community and industry leader, as is evident in his board service. He serves as a Trustee for both the Aperture Foundation in New York, NY and the Polytechnic School in Pasadena, CA.

Kwame received an Executive MBA from USC Marshall School of Business and a B.A. in Law, Jurisprudence and Social Thought from Amherst College.

RHONDA **BROWN**



Pratum Companies
Senior Vice President, Accounting

With more than 30 years of experience in commercial, residential and office property management, Rhonda has built her career with a strong focus on third party management. She has held executive leadership roles with several major developers in the Washington D.C. and Baltimore metropolitan areas, including JBG Smith, Rosenthal Properties, Halle Enterprises, and Questar Properties. Rhonda is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) and an active member of both the Maryland Association of CPAs (MACPA) and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA).

ERIN **CARPENTER**



Nude Barre
CEO / Founder

Erin Carpenter was born and raised in the Washington DC area. A classically trained ballet dancer, Erin graduated from Marymount Manhattan College with a BFA in dance and a minor in business in 2007.

Erin spent her years after college working as a professional dancer and commercial actress. She was signed by Bloc and MSA by day, and by night, dreamed up a product she'd spent years searching for.

Erin founded Nude Barre - a line of intimates and hosiery designed to reflect the diverse world we live in. Nude Barre carries the widest shade range on the market, leading the conversation around inclusivity and authentic representation in fashion today, and was born from the firsthand frustrations and colorism she experienced. As a Black woman, Erin recognized an immense need in the market for products that both matched her skin tone and were durable enough for everyday use.

After bootstrapping the business with $3000 of her own savings, Erin has grown Nude Barre from the ground up. From 2019 to 2021, she raised $3.5 million in seed funding from various investors including Serena Ventures, The Bumble Fund, Freestyle Capital, Katrina Lake, and Jason Calacanis. Erin is one of the Inc Magazine 2022 Top 100 Female Founders. And is a proud mom of two little girls.

JUSTIN **HOLLAND**



AE Five Enterprises
Founder and CEO

Justin Holland is a dedicated professional with a lifelong passion for basketball, which began in his youth and evolved through years of commitment and skill development. His exceptional talent and relentless work ethic earned him a full athletic scholarship to Liberty University, where he excelled at the collegiate level.

Upon completing his college career, Justin returned to his hometown of College Park, Georgia, driven by a strong commitment to give back to the community that shaped his journey. In his role as Recreation Coordinator, he showcased strategic leadership by managing over 300 participants and 30 coaches. His responsibilities included overseeing operations and logistics, organizing events, facilitating basketball training programs, and cultivating strong relationships within the community.

Seeking to expand his influence, Justin co-founded AE Five Enterprises, where he spearheads business initiatives for Olympic Gold Medalist and NBA All-Star Anthony Edwards. He is also a founding member of Three Fifths Media and a co-founder of the Don't Follow the Wave Foundation, which highlights his dedication to making a significant impact across various sectors.

Additionally, Justin also owns Respect The Process LLC, a management company specializing in marketing and NIL for two-time NCAA champion Raven Johnson. Recently, he has expanded into the entertainment industry, managing Crystal Renee Hayslett, star of BET's "Sistas" and "Zatima," showcasing his versatility and dedication to excellence.

COSETTE **CHAPUT**



Always Alpha
CEO and Founder

Cosette Chaput is the CEO and founder of Always Alpha, the first sports agency built exclusively for women's sports. Her career began at the center of sport's biggest stages, when she made history as the digital marketing lead behind the winning bid to bring the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games to Los Angeles. She later became the first female VP at her major sports agency, representing the world's top golf talent including the No. 1 player in the world. Known for award-winning work with brands like CoverGirl and Beats by Dre and for crafting record-setting endorsements, Chaput is shaping the future of women's sports.

LISA **CLARK**



Morgan Stanley
Family Wealth Director

Lisa Clark is a Financial Advisor for The Clark McKinney Group at Morgan Stanley based in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Lisa and her team work with multi-generational families and institutions across the United States, striving to help them connect financial decisions to the goals, transitions, and responsibilities that matter most.

With more than 30 years of experience, she leads the team's planning and wealth management efforts through a relationship-driven, collaborative approach built on ongoing guidance. The work typically starts with a clear plan and strategy, then continues with regular monitoring and thoughtful adjustments as life evolves so priorities stay aligned and decisions stay organized.

Her experience is complemented by professional credentials and industry recognition. Lisa holds the CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER® (CFP®) certification and Morgan Stanley's Family Wealth Director designation. In addition, she was named one of Forbes Top Women Wealth Advisors Best-In-State in 2020 -2026, and Forbes Best-In-State Wealth Advisors in 2021-2025. The Clark McKinney Group at Morgan Stanley has been named to Forbes' list of Best-In-State Wealth Management Teams in 2023-2026. She has also been recognized by Barron's and Working Mother's Magazine as a Top Financial Advisor.

Before her professional career, Lisa earned a Bachelor of Science in Finance from Oklahoma State University and remains committed to community leadership and service through the Morningcrest Healthcare Foundation, The Booker T. Washington Foundation for Excellence, Oklahoma Conference for Community and Justice, National Charity League Tulsa Midtown Chapter, Young Men's Service League, The Hispanic American Foundation, and Leadership Tulsa.

STEPHEN **DEBERRY**



BRONZE
Managing Parnter

Stephen DeBerry uses culture and the economy to build a more just and joyful society. He is the Founder of BRONZE, a leading US venture capital fund that invests to move social, economic, and environmental disparity to prosperity, profitably.

Before becoming an investor, Stephen was a champion athlete. He is a former USA national track and field champion (400 meter hurdles) and a member of the first African-American mountaineering team to ascend Denali, the highest mountain in North America.

Stephen has served the broader community through local grassroots organizations to boards of multibillion dollar foundations and corporations. He earned a Bachelor's degree in Anthropology with highest honors from UCLA as well as Master's in Social Anthropology and MBA degrees from The University of Oxford. Stephen is a British Marshall Scholar and Henry Crown Fellow at the Aspen Institute and has been recognized for his community engagement by the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts. He is currently a visiting scholar at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. Both Ebony magazine and The Root/Washington Post have called him one of the 100 most powerful African-Americans in the United States.

GABRIELLE **DUVAL0L**



Southern Management Companies President

Gabrielle Duvall has served as Southern Management's president since 2023. Southern Management Companies is one of the largest privately owned residential property management companies in the U.S. The company owns and manages 78 apartment home communities comprising of more than 25,000 apartment homes throughout the Baltimore-Washington region. In addition to residential and commercial property ownership and management, Southern Management owns three hotels and conference centers in Maryland, and owns, manages and operates a ski resort and conference center in Pennsylvania.

Gabrielle has been actively involved with Southern Management since 2006, when she began serving as outside counsel and strategic advisor. In 2017, Gabrielle joined Southern Management as its general counsel and was promoted to executive vice president in 2018.

Gabrielle has been instrumental in several of Southern Management's most important initiatives for more than a decade. She was part of the leadership team that structured, negotiated and closed successful portfolio refinancings in 2012, 2016, 2020 and 2025. She led the successful relocation of Southern Management's corporate headquarters to McLean, Virginia in 2023 and continues to lead Southern Management's Legislative Affairs initiatives.

Gabrielle currently serves as Chairperson of the Board of the Center Plaza Foundation, is a board member of the Downtown Partnership of Baltimore, the Downtown Management Authority, and the Southern Management Leadership Program at the University of Maryland at College Park. She is a founding member of the Montgomery County Business Roundtable and is an active volunteer with the Sandy Spring Athletic Association.

Gabrielle holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Maryland and a Juris Doctorate from the George Washington University Law School. She resides with her husband, two children and two dogs in Olney, Maryland.

LISA **GOODMAN**



Benaroya Capital Company
Executive Team

Lisa Goodman is a highly successful corporate executive, tech and social entrepreneur and board director. With over 30 years of history in complex, capital intensive sectors, her industry experience spans technology, data centers, digital infrastructure, financial services, retail, health care, commercial real estate, and hospitality industries with the consistent theme of rapid change and growth. Ms. Goodman is currently on the Executive Team of Benaroya Capital Company, a prominent commercial real estate company and its data center company Centeris. She founded, scaled and sold Service Intelligence Inc., a profitable customer experience management technology company, with a stable of Fortune 100 clients including Starbucks, Expedia, Bank of America, Verizon, Wells Fargo, Marriott, Office Depot, Microsoft and GE to name a few.

Ms. Goodman currently sits of the boards of Women in Cloud, Pierce County Economic Development Board, Illumyn Impact, Hammer Museum and board advisor for AI startups.

Ms. Goodman brings an unyielding commitment to social impact and promoting equity through her professional and philanthropic work, and involvement in the arts. She is a respected arts advocate and activist collector of African Diaspora and Latinx artwork for three decades with a focus on social justice and gender. Along with her husband Josef, Lisa is recognized as one of ArtNews Top 200 Art Collectors worldwide. Their Collection loans and donates countless works annually to support museums throughout the globe.

She earned her Bachelor of Science degree from Rutgers University and has completed executive social impact and corporate governance programs at Harvard University's T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Evans School of Public Policy and Governance at University of Washington, and OnBoarding Women. She is co-author of recently published *Living With Purpose* book.

LEONARD **HAMMONDS**



BMe Community
Leadership Communities Director

Leonard Hammonds II serves as BMe's Leadership Communities Director and plays a major role in overseeing their network of 700+ trusted leaders across the nation. Leonard, a U.S. Marine Corps veteran, has worked in the Non-Profit industry for 20+ years, with experience in Leadership Development, Crisis Management, Conflict Resolution, and Strategic Innovation. From public service, as the former District Office Director for the 19th Legislative District of Western Pennsylvania, to nonprofit leadership, Leonard carries forward a deep commitment to community and progress.

He has spent the last 7 years developing and building BMe's various leadership communities. In his current role at BMe, Leonard helps leaders expand upon their knowledge, influence, and networks to maximize their full potential in striving towards their aspirations.

A doyen of building meaningful bonds, Leonard is committed to making certain all vanguards upon inception feel seen, heard, valued, and loved. Cultivating and building diverse and thriving leadership communities of trusted leaders is the most rewarding part of his current role.

JUSTIN **HARMON**



Truist
Vice President

Justin Harmon is a Senior Wealth Advisor with Truist Private Wealth Management, where he advises ultra high net worth individuals and multigenerational families on complex wealth planning needs. Justin serves as a trusted partner to his clients, helping them preserve, grow, and transition wealth across generations while aligning financial strategies with family values and long term objectives.

Justin leads an integrated advisory team that includes specialists in financial planning, investments, credit and lending, estate and tax planning, philanthropy, and family governance. This collaborative, team based approach allows him to deliver highly customized solutions and provide clients with seamless access to the full breadth of Truist's capabilities. His practice is built on thoughtful planning, disciplined execution, and enduring client relationships grounded in trust and discretion.

Prior to joining Truist, Justin held senior operational leadership roles at Lyft and Uber, where he managed large scale vehicle leasing and rental platforms across major metropolitan markets. These experiences strengthened his strategic perspective, financial acumen, and ability to navigate complex operating environments. He began his career at J.P. Morgan Private Bank as an analyst supporting bankers who advised high net worth families and business owners.

Justin earned a Bachelor of Science in Finance from The Pennsylvania State University, where he was a member of the Men's Basketball team and a co founder of the Campus Climate and Diversity Committee. He is an advanced Spanish speaker, an accomplished salsa dancer, and a native of Trenton, New Jersey.

ROBIN **HUGHES**



Housing Partnership Network (HPN)
President and CEO

Robin is president and CEO of the Housing Partnership Network, a national collaborative of the nation's top mission-driven, nonprofit housing developers, community lenders, and advocates. She helps fuel the work of more than 100 urban and rural housing and community development organizations, nine HPN-supported social enterprises, practitioner-led learning and data-sharing strategies, and critical advocacy on state and federal policy priorities to drive systems change.

Prior to taking the helm at HPN, Robin spent 26 years as president and CEO of Abode Communities, growing the organization into one of the top nonprofit developers in the country and premier provider of environmentally sustainable affordable housing.

Robin has shared her expertise on a variety of boards, task forces and advisory bodies, including six years as HPN board chair before taking over as CEO. She currently serves on the boards of the Justice Climate Fund, Community Development Trust (CDT), and the California Community Reinvestment Corporation – all significant investors in affordable housing and other community-focused assets and programs – and on the advisory bodies for Morgan Stanley, National Housing Conference, and UCLA Ziman Center. Robin was recently appointed to the Altadena Builds Back Foundation, a newly formed support organization for the Pasadena Community Foundation, which focuses on the long-term recovery and rebuilding of Altadena in the aftermath of the devastating Eaton Fire. She will lend her personal perspective and lived experience as a fire survivor along with her extensive professional expertise as a houser and community builder to support the restoration and rebuilding of her hometown.

Robin earned her master's degree in public administration from the University of Southern California and certification from the executive program in Achieving Excellence in Community Development at the Harvard Kennedy School.

GEORGE **JAMES**



George Talks
Founder, CEO

George James, Psy.D., LMFT, MBA is the author of *I Give Myself Permission: Take Risks, Be Imperfect, Live Boldly,* and the CEO of George Talks, a consulting and communication firm at the intersection of leadership, relationships, and mental health. With more than two decades of experience, Dr. George helps audiences give themselves permission to be greater. He works with executives, educators, entrepreneurs, corporations, family foundations and family-owned businesses to navigate the complex realities of leadership, legacy, and life at home. He is especially known for his work helping multigenerational families manage conflict, improve communication, and build healthier dynamics that support both personal and professional growth.

A licensed therapist, international speaker, executive coach and author, Dr. George brings a grounded, insightful approach to his work—whether supporting high-performing professionals or guiding families through transitions. He has worked extensively in the corporate and education space, partnering with schools, companies, universities, and organizations to help leaders and communities prioritize mental health, strengthen relationships, and cultivate environments of belonging. Dr. George lives in Philadelphia with his wife and children and believes deeply in the power of permission to help people show up better for themselves, their families, and their communities.

LELEAH **JAMES**



Related Affordable
Vice President,
Community Engagement

Leleah James is Vice President of Community Engagement at Related Affordable. She is responsible for establishing strategic vision and meaningful outcomes that improve the quality of life of affordable housing residents. Ms. James' team drives resident-centered initiatives that prioritize health and wellness, increase resident engagement and minimize barriers to housing stability. Ms. James also oversees Related Affordable philanthropic efforts, including Related Affordable Foundation, a 501 (c)(3) organization committed to enriching the lives of affordable housing residents and breaking the generational cycle of poverty.

Ms. James serves on the Board of Directors of the Related Affordable Foundation and New York Restoration Project Chairman Councilmember. Ms. James was Rainbow Housing 2025 Advocate of the Year honoree. Ms. James was a 2023 Real Estate Board of New York (REBNY) FellFellow and a member of REBNY's Social Impact Committee. Ms. James was included in City and State New York 2023 Real Estate Power 100 list. Ms. James is also a Chief member, a professional network dedicated to women executives.

Prior to joining Related, Ms. James managed multimillion-dollar grants for the City of New York at district attorney offices overseeing municipal, state, and federal funding for law enforcement programs addressing crime prevention and victim services. Ms. James holds a Master's in Public Administration from the Marxe School of Public and International Affairs at Baruch College and a Bachelor's in Journalism from the University of Georgia.

CHANNING **JOHNSON**



Loeb & Loeb Diversity Committee Co-Chair

Channing Johnson is a corporate and securities lawyer, with a concentration in the media, technology, entertainment and hospitality sectors. He has extensive experience advising public and private companies in a variety of industries, including music, film and television production, financing and distribution, manufacturing, retail, online commerce, software and venture capital and private equity.

His entertainment and media clients are involved with all means of content distribution and financing, and seek his legal advice in connection with securities issuances, mergers and acquisitions, joint venture and financing agreements, production agreements, publishing and co-publishing agreements, co-branding and sponsorship deals, and high-end talent contracts, among others.

Aside from his client practice, Channing is a member of the Loeb & Loeb's governing body, its Board of Partners, and is co-chair of the firm's Partnership Admissions Committee and its Diversity Committee. In this role, he collaborates with firm leadership and dedicated Affinity Groups to establish strategies aimed at advancing diversity and inclusion within the firm, ultimately bolstering the firm's inclusive culture. Outside of Loeb, Channing serves as Chairman of 1Community, an entertainment production and co-finance company using the power of storytelling to drive real-world social impact, and as Chairman of Burrell Communications Group (the oldest black-owned advertising agency).

SEKOU **KAALUND**



U.S. Bank
Senior Executive Vice President, Head of Branch & Small Business Banking, Managing Committee Member

Sekou Kaalund is a senior executive vice president and the head of Branch and Small Business Banking, overseeing the organization's more than 2,000 branches across 26 states.

Prior to joining U.S. Bank in 2022, he spent 15 years at JPMorgan Chase in a variety of staff and line leadership roles across institutional and retail businesses, most recently as the head of Chase Consumer Banking for the Northeast Division. Kaalund previously held roles at Citi and at the Federal Reserve Bank of New Yok, where he was a commissioned bank examiner.

At JPMorgan Chase, Kaalund was involved in launching Advancing Black Pathways, the first global corporate initiative that leveraged a data-driven strategic framework to develop scalable programs to reduce the racial wealth gap.

Kaalund serves on the board of directors for the Center of the Study of the Presidency and Congress and previously served on the boards for the Duke University School of Public Policy and

Inroads. He is a member of The Executive Leadership Council, Young Presidents' Organization, Sigma Pi Phi (The Boulé), and Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. Kaalund earned a bachelor's degree with a concentration in public service, classical studies and Spanish at Hampden-Sydney College, and a master of public policy degree at Duke University.

SEAN **LEGISTER**



BDT & MSD Partners
Chief of Staff, Managing Director

Sean Legister is a Managing Director & Chief of Staff at BDT & MSD Partners. Prior to joining BDT & MSD Partners in 2022, he worked at Goldman Sachs for over 11 years (Global Markets and the Merchant Bank) with his most recent position being Managing Director, Alternatives Product Specialist. Sean earned a Bachelor's degree in English & Black Studies from Amherst College. He currently sits on the Board of Brooklyn Jesuit Prep & The Rockhouse Foundation. Sean is the Founder and curator of the Monday Morning Lift (MML) and Breakfast Bites. The MML is an email subscription aimed to inspire, challenge, and motivate readers of all ages. Breakfast Bites was a grassroots initiative he created at Goldman Sachs to help Black professionals have more exposure at the firm, as well as build the culture within the Black community (2018-2022).

DESMOND **MEADE**



State of Florida
Independent

Desmond Meade is a transformational leader whose commitment to justice has impacted millions. Meade is the president of the Florida Rights Restoration Coalition and chair of Floridians for a Fair Democracy. His efforts to uplift humanity has earned him national and international acclaim. Meade is a Ford Global Fellow, a 2021 MacArthur "Genius" Fellow, and was recognized in 2019 as one of Time Magazine 100 Most Influential People in the World, and published author.

As President and Executive Director of the FRRC, Meade led the successful passage of Amendment 4, a grassroots citizen's initiative which restored voting rights to over 1.4 million Floridians with past felony convictions. Amendment 4 represented the single largest expansion of voting rights in the United States in half a century and brought an end to 150 years of a Jim Crow-era law in Florida. Under his leadership FRRC was distinguished in 2023 by being nominated for the 2023 Nobel Peace Prize.

A graduate of Florida International University College of Law, Meade holds Honorary Doctorate Degrees from Bard College and Duke University. He presently leads efforts to empower and civically re-engage local communities across the nation in a way that promotes love and empathy. Using his inspiring journey of overcoming incarceration, homelessness, and substance abuse, he works tirelessly to reshape local, state, and national criminal justice policies and create a more vibrant democracy for all. Desmond's earned the distinction in 2019 as Floridian and Central Floridian of the Year, and being recognized as a Hero by CNN, and as one of the 40 most influential people in politics by Politico.

A well sought after speaker, Desmond has appeared on CNN, MSNBC, 60 Minutes, and Fox TV.

SHEENA **MEADE**



The Clean Slate Initiative
CEO

As CEO of The Clean Slate Initiative, Dr. Sheena Meade leads a national bipartisan effort to advance policy that automatically clears all eligible arrest and conviction records across the United States.

With Sheena at the helm, CSI has helped pass legislation across several states that provide a path for 15 million people to receive full or partial record clearance. Under her leadership, CSI was recognized as one of the Top 10 Female-Led Companies in SUCCESS magazine and received a $75 million commitment from The Audacious Project in 2023 to support the CSI's six-year strategy to pass Clean Slate legislation to unlock opportunities for up to 14 million additional people in America.

Sheena presented at the TED2023 Conference in Vancouver, where she shared her own experience of living with a record, discussed CSI's mission with a global audience, and notably garnered over 1 million views. Sheena served as commencement speaker at Cheyney University, where she was also bestowed her first Honorary Doctorate of Public Service degree. She has graced the stages of The 2026 Aspen Institute Forum on Children and Families, Milken Institute Global Conference 2023, SXSW 2022, The Legal Tech Fund, and Concordia Summit. Acknowledged as a symbol of empowerment, Sheena is a recent recipient of the 2024 BMe Vanguard Award.

Before joining CSI, Sheena was a big part of building and scaling the Nobel Peace Prize-nominated Florida Rights Restoration Coalition (FRRC) as its first Organizing Director and simultaneously took on the role of Senior Advisor to Second Chances for the Amendment 4 Florida Campaign.

Sheena currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Public Welfare Foundation and sits on the boards of Live Free USA, the Florida Coalition on Black Civic Engagement, and The Policing Project at NYU School of Law.

SHARIF **MITCHELL**



M&S Holdings
Managing Partner

Sharif T. Mitchell is an accomplished real estate owner, operator, and strategist who invests in creating communities for market-rate returns. He is the Managing Partner of M&S Holdings, a vertically integrated real estate investment firm focused on the acquisition and asset management of workforce housing. Sharif brings extensive investment, asset management, and strategic leadership experience to M&S Holdings, where he leads portfolio growth, acquisition strategy, and long-term value creation across the firm's workforce housing platform. Over the last 10 years as an entrepreneur, Sharif has led investments totaling more than $500 million and 2,700+ units across multiple metro areas.

Sharif's expertise spans deal sourcing, underwriting, capital raising, and asset optimization. Previously, he served as an Executive Director at JPMorgan Chase and co-founded Northern Liberties, an investment manager focused on acquiring workforce housing.

His career also includes leadership roles in real property tax consulting and advisory, serving clients such as Blackstone, Starwood, Capital One, and Clarion Partners. He holds a bachelor's degree in economics from Morehouse College, a master's degree in real estate finance from Georgetown University, and a Hotel Investments and Asset Management certificate from Cornell University.

Sharif is a proud member of REEC, ULI, NYC Housing Council, NMHC, and is an active supporter of Project REAP.

ELEFTHERIOS **MONIS**



ICG Advisors LLC
Managing Director and
Co-Chief Investment Officer

Terry Monis is a Managing Director and Co-Chief Investment Officer. Mr. Monis is also a voting member of the Investment Committee as well as the head of research and manager due diligence. Prior to joining ICG in 2010, Mr. Monis was a Vice President at Ivy Asset Management where he focused on portfolio management and oversight of the firm's event driven and distressed debt research team. Mr. Monis is a graduate of Long Island University, C.W. Post (B.S., Business Administration, Finance, Management Information Systems).

NA'ILAH **NASIR**



Spencer Foundation
President

Na'ilah Suad Nasir is the sixth President of the Spencer Foundation, which funds education research nationally that seeks to make education systems better for all learners. Prior to joining Spencer, she held a faculty appointment in Education and African American Studies at the University of California, Berkeley where she also served as the chair of African American Studies, then later as a Vice Chancellor. She is a learning scientist whose scholarship focuses on theorizing the nature of learning, and how what we know about learning has implications for designing schools. In her foundation work, she has worked to bring an equity lens to grantmaking, and has spearheaded innovative funding opportunities rooted in the promise of research to support higher quality and more equitable education systems.

She co-chairs the board of the Advanced Education Research and Development Fund (AERDF). She is a member of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences and the National Academy of Education, and is a Fellow of the American Educational Research Association. She is a Past President of the American Educational Research Association and serves on the board of Sage Publications, the National Equity Project, and the UC Berkeley Board of Visitors.

MATTHEW **NICHOLSON**



The Clear Blue Company
President

Matt leads strategic initiatives for CBC, including oversight of business performance and growth, as well as sourcing affordable and workforce housing development and preservation opportunities. With over 20 years of experience, Matt's expertise in leading high-performing, revenue generating teams and building strong external relationships help drive CBC's growing presence in the affordable and workforce housing space.

Matt is an alumnus of Leadership Nashville and was a Nashville Business Journal 40 Under 40 award recipient. An active member of the community, Matt is heavily involved in the Urban Land Institute and is a board member for Habitat for Humanity and Valor Collegiate Academies. He also serves on the board of Catholic Charities where he and his family actively volunteer.

JOHNBULL **OKPARA**



Bank of America
Chief Accounting Officer

Johnbull Okpara is the Chief Accounting Officer for Bank of America, where he leads the Global Financial Control team responsible for a variety of functions, including managing and executing consolidated financial reporting and legal entity, regulatory and statutory reporting; interpreting and applying accounting policy and standards; overseeing financial controls and operational risk assessments; managing and maintaining financial data and systems; managing general ledger and sub-ledger accounting; and overseeing tax planning, compliance, accounting and reporting globally.

Prior to joining Bank of America, Johnbull was an executive officer and core financial expert at Citigroup where, as Chief Accounting Officer & Controller, he oversaw all of Citi's Financial

Reporting, Financial Governance & Internal Controls, Regulatory and Capital Reporting, all Asset & Liability Valuation and Finance Operations Transformation. He has more than 30 years of experience in the banking, diversified financial services and professional services industries, including Morgan Stanley, Capital One, American Express, EY, Arthur Andersen and Citi. His experience at these firms spans Corporate Governance, Strategic & Financial planning and analysis, and Regulatory management.

Johnbull is a member of the Financial Accounting Foundation (FAF) Board of Trustees. He is a member of the Executive Leadership Council (ELC) and the Board of the Nigerian Higher Education Foundation. Previously, he was a member of the Board of the Alvin Ailey Dance Theater and the Financial Accounting Standards Advisory Council (FASAC). He was named to Savoy's Most Influential Black Executives in Corporate America and is a recipient of the Council of Urban Professionals Finance Catalyst Award and The Greater Hudson Valley Links Corporate Leadership Award.

Johnbull is a CPA and holds a master's degree in business administration, Finance & Management from NYU Stern School of Business.

PASH **PASHKOW**



The Pash Co
Principal / Creative Director

Pash is an ex-Apple, ex-Disney executive creative director and brand strategist. He currently works independently, providing perspective and confidence to senior teams of world leading brands and creative companies, helping them use design thinking to guide better business decisions.

For six years he was Head of Brand & Design at Apple TV+, a foundational member of their award-winning marketing team. Building a team—and a streaming service—from scratch, Apple TV+ had the best series on television and won the Oscar for Best Picture less than three years after the service launched.

For eight years prior he was Vice President of Brand & Design at ABC. There he redesigned the ABC brand identity and oversaw the packaging and promotion of nearly 100 different entertainment properties each year.

Before that Pash's work spanned a wide variety of clients and industries and included dozens of global consumer brands. He designed the official logo for Miles Davis, brand extensions for Playboy, products for John Varvatos, retail product strategy for Motown Records, and advertising for Perrier among many others across nearly two decades of work.

Pash is a President Emeritus of AIGA Los Angeles and sits on their Advisory Board. He is also a design educator, author, and speaker. He has taught design at UCLA Extension since 2001 and frequently lectures elsewhere. If you have time, check out his TEDx talk about brand identity...and midlife crisis. Pash's book Inspirability features personal interviews with 40 of the world's most prominent and interesting graphic designers.

ARIK **PRAWER**



Inspire Communities, LLC
Chief Financial Officer

C-suite leader with strong track record of leading and building massive teams/platforms, driving strategy and outcomes in both public and private company formats. Mr. Prawer brings over 30 years of experience related to real estate, operating platforms, capital markets, prop-tech, and fin-tech. In short, Mr. Prawer has orchestrated over $40 billion on M&A and $25 billion of capital formation at the intersection of residential real estate and step-function change to industry/platform development.

Currently, Mr. Prawer serves as CFO of Apollo Global Management's affordable housing platform. Prior to this, he served as Co-President of Builders Capital, the nation's leading construction lender for homebuilders. Prior to that, Mr. Prawer led the Homes Division at Zillow Group where he led the build out of Zillow Offers and oversaw the mortgage business start-ups. Before joining Zillow in 2018, Mr. Prawer was a pioneer in the single-family rental sector, most recently as Chief Integration Officer of Invitation Homes, the largest single-family home retailer in the United States following its merger with Starwood Waypoint Homes. Prior to the merger, Mr. Prawer was CFO of its predecessor, Colony Homes, helping oversee the Company's rapid growth since its founding in 2012.

Mr. Prawer is a recovering real estate banker at DLJ/Credit Suisse.

Mr. Prawer received his BSE in economics, BA in history, and MBA from the University of Pennsylvania and the Wharton School.

DON **PREATE**



JLL
Executive Managing Director

Donald M. Preate is an Executive Managing Director in JLL's New York office. He currently focuses exclusively on Class A tenant representation in the New York Tri-State region but has fulfilled his client requirements in the United States and across the globe through a worldwide platform. Mr. Preate has represented high-profile clients in virtually every industry and takes great pride in his ability to develop and maintain long- term client relationships.

From 2016 to 2021, Mr. Preate represented Ankura Consulting on a global basis, which included strategic portfolio recommendations and transaction execution covering over fifty locations in every major office market in the United States as well as international locations,

Mr. Preate has been a real estate professional for more than 30 years where he has continually refined his tenant representation specialization. He has completed assignments for Adidas Group, American Equity Investment Life Holding Company, Ankura Consulting, The Atlantic Philanthropies, Boston Partners, Dell, Digitas, DNB Bank ASA, Dorsey & Whitney LLP, Ermenegildo Zegna, Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy LLP, Katz Media (Clear Chanel), Lacoste USA, MRY/Publicis, Nautica, New York Community Bancorp, Nippon Life Insurance, Northeast Series of Lockton Companies, The North Face, PR Newswire (Cision), Steinway & Sons, Swiss Re America Holding Corp, Tory Burch LLC, Timberland, Vans and VF Corp. In just his second year at JLL, Mr. Preate was recognized as a "Top Gun," the firm's highest revenue production award. Prior to joining JLL, Mr. Preate spent 22 years at Cushman & Wakefield where he started as an associate and was one of the youngest professionals to attain the title of Executive Vice President. Mr. Preate was recognized numerous times as a "Top 100" national brokerage professional.

HARRISON **RAYFORD**



HallKeen
Partner & Chairman

Douglass Park Asset Management
Managing Member and Co-Founder

Harrison Rayford, II is the Managing Member and Co-Founder of Douglass Park Asset Management. He co-founded the firm in 2020 with the goal of expanding the availability of quality workforce and affordable housing. He is involved in equity raising, deal sourcing, investment decisions and crafting the vision of Douglass Park.

Prior to co-founding Douglass Park, Mr. Rayford played an integral role — along with his partner Kenneth Morrison — in the 2014 establishment of Lemor Development Group LLC, a vertically integrated real estate development firm. As a key driver in Lemor's growth, Mr. Rayford has been the team lead on more than $700 million in development and acquisition rehab projects.

Prior to Lemor, Mr. Rayford spent two years with Time Square Development Group as a development associate. He was also a partner in the development of residential subdivisions in Atlanta, Georgia.

Mr. Rayford serves on the Board of Trustees of the Abyssinian Baptist Church, Island Inn Trust, and the Harlem Restoration Project. He is also a member of the Real Estate Executive Council. He has been a presenter at New York University's Schack Institute of Real Estate.

Mr. Rayford holds a Master of Science in Real Estate Development from New York University's Schack Institute of Real Estate and a Bachelor of Science in Biology from Morehouse College.

LATA **REDDY**



Prudential Financial
Senior Vice President

Lata N. Reddy is senior vice president of Inclusive Solutions at Prudential Financial and chair of The Prudential Foundation, where she leads the company's strategy to advance inclusive economic opportunity while driving business growth. In this role, she deploys philanthropic and investment capital, and corporate capabilities to deliver measurable financial and social outcomes at scale.

Reddy oversees an integrated platform that brings together impact investing, philanthropic grantmaking, corporate contributions, and community engagement. Under her leadership, Prudential became one of the first institutional investors to build and actively manage a $1 billion impact investing portfolio, demonstrating that market-rate returns and positive social outcomes can be achieved simultaneously. She also oversees The Prudential Foundation's $40 million in annual grantmaking and $13 million in corporate contributions.

Her leadership approach is informed by a career spanning the private, public, and nonprofit sectors, grounded in a longstanding commitment to equity and inclusion. Prior to joining Prudential, Reddy served as a civil rights attorney with the U.S. Department of Education—an experience that continues to shape her focus on inclusive growth and systems-level change.

Beyond Prudential, Reddy is widely recognized for her civic and nonprofit leadership. She serves as chair of the Newark Alliance and the Newark Downtown District, and sits on the boards of several national organizations, including the Alvin Ailey Dance Foundation and UNICEF USA. She also serves on the Advisory Council for the My Brother's Keeper Alliance, an initiative of the Obama Foundation, and is a fellow of the Aspen Global Leaders Network. In 2020, she was appointed to Mayor Ras J. Baraka's Newark Reopening and Recovery Strikeforce, where she led the Economic Recovery Committee.

MATTHEW **REILEIN**



National Equity Fund, Inc.
President and CEO

Matt Reilein is the President and CEO of National Equity Fund, Inc. (NEF). NEF is the leading non-profit, multi-family, affordable, real estate investment manager with a mission to create and deliver innovative, collaborative financial solutions to expand the creation and preservation of affordable housing. Through its Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) syndication platform and its lending and investing platforms, NEF generates opportunities rooted in its vision that all individuals and families across the country have access to stable, safe, and affordable homes. He leads a team of 220 industry experts that manage over 130,000 units of affordable housing, $22.1 billion of assets, and raise and deploy over $2.5 billion of capital to support NEF's mission. Previously, Matt was Managing Director of Community Development Banking at JPMorgan Chase.

Matt serves on the Boards the Affordable Housing Tax Credit Coalition, the National Association of Affordable Housing Lenders, Chicago Community Loan Fund, Raza Development Fund, and the Metropolitan Planning Council. He is a graduate of Georgetown University and the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University.

JASMINE **RICHARDS**



Cambridge Associates
Managing Director

Jasmine joined Cambridge Associates in 2018 as Head of Diverse Manager Investing to lead the firm's ongoing initiative to identify and research investment managers in all public and private asset classes that have underrepresented owners or leaders, including women and people of color. She has over fifteen years of both buy and sell side experience. Prior to joining Cambridge Associates, Ms. Richards worked at Xponance (formerly FIS Group) where she was responsible for identifying and managing investment strategies, with an emphasis on diverse-owned asset managers.

Jasmine is a frequent speaker at client and industry events, including The Investment Diversity Exchange (TIDE), National Association for Security Professionals (NASP), New America Alliance (NAA) and National Association of Investment Companies (NAIC). She also regularly contributes to thought leadership in the diverse manager space partnering with industry organization such as the Intentional Endowments Network and Confluence Philanthropy. Jasmine holds an MBA from University of Chicago Booth School of Business where she concentrated in Finance, Accounting and Strategic Management. While at University of Chicago, she also studied Emerging Markets at the University of Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa. She also attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the New York Institute of Technology for her undergraduate education. She is a member of the CFA Institute and the CFA Society of Boston. In addition to her professional responsibilities, Jasmine also serves on the Board of Trustees for Middlesex School, the Investment Committee for Rosie's Place and the Advisory Board for the Boston Youth Symphony.

EVERETT **SANDS**



Lendistry
CEO

Everett K. Sands leverages his 25+ years of experience in banking to change the game for small business owners who need access to responsible capital to reach the next level. For his leadership at Lendistry, Mr. Sands has shared his recommendations before Congressional committees and was named an Entrepreneur Of The Year® Greater Los Angeles award winner and national finalist in 2024. He has appeared as a subject matter expert on national business media, including CNBC, the Wall Street Journal, and Bloomberg. When Mr. Sands saw the accelerating trend of capital becoming less accessible and more expensive for small businesses owned by minorities, women, veterans and rural-dwellers, he recruited an experienced team of fellow banking professionals and founded Lendistry. A graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, Mr. Sands is an Advisory Board member of The Penn Institute for Urban Research (Penn IUR), and a Board member of Goodwill of Orange County, and the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce.

MINDY **SILVERSTEIN**



Silverstein Group
Advisor

Mindy Silverstein is a leader in the finance industry and trusted advisor to global executives, investors and institutions. Partnering with family offices, founders and fund managers, she creatively drives strategy, talent, capital and ideas to grow exceptional companies and projects.

Before assuming formal advisory roles and focusing on her own investment portfolio from 2023, Mindy served as Managing Director and Senior Advisor to the Group CEO of Credit Suisse. During her tenure she served on the Sustainability, Research & Investment Solutions Management Committee and led the Client Strategy and Partnerships team.

Mindy worked at the Milken Institute from 2005-2016 and remains an active ambassador and partner engaged in the Economic Mobility Alliance and various other initiatives. From early days, she was formative in driving the organization's international growth, revenue, partnerships, people and programming.

Mindy is an "experiential investor" with a diverse investment portfolio reflecting her intrinsic curiosity and focus on quality people. Spanning geographies, sectors and asset classes, it includes real estate, GP stakes, structured secondaries (Ion Pacific), fintech (Esusu, Moove, Pave Financial), venture (Cyan Ventures and Trenches Capital), sports adjacent tech (Amaze, CheckN, FUZE, Shake/Rival), sustainable tourism (Few & Far) and even award-winning gin, The Old G.

She and her family are based in Zurich, maintain roots in Los Angeles, love to travel and bring friends and community together. Mindy serves as chairman of the Room to Read Switzerland regional board. She and husband Adam were recognized with the One Love Philanthropy Award by The Hip Hop Museum in 2025. Mindy has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Indiana University and a Masters in Business Administration from Pepperdine University.

BOB **SIMPSON**



Simpson Impact Strategies
CEO

Bob Simpson is a nationally recognized expert in affordable, green and healthy housing with more than 25 years of experience working at the highest levels of housing finance and public policy. He is the Founder and CEO of the Multifamily Impact Council, a national non-profit organization responsible for establishing the first common framework of impact principles and reporting metrics for the multifamily industry.

Previously, Bob served as Vice President and Head of the Multifamily Green and Affordable Housing Business at Fannie Mae where he helped develop innovative new approaches to financing that enabled Fannie Mae to become the leading provider of affordable multifamily debt in the country and the largest issuer of green bonds in the world.

Prior to joining Fannie Mae, he worked for six and a half years as a Special Assistant and Senior Legislative Aide to Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle.

With over 30 years of experience working at the highest levels of housing finance and public policy, Bob is a nationally recognized expert on affordable housing issues. He is a frequent speaker at housing industry conferences and regularly quoted in national media and trade magazines. He is also the editor of The Affordable Housing Handbook – a weekly newsletter on affordable and sustainable housing issues.

Bob is the former national chairperson of the Urban Land Institute's Affordable Workforce Housing Council. Currently, he serves as a coach for the Housing Innovation Lab at the University of California-Berkeley and is a senior advisor to a select number of early-stage housing technology firms, including Esusu, Pronto Housing, Viva, and Infilla.

ERIC **SOMERVILLE**



HallKeen
Partner & Chief Executive Officer

Douglass Park Asset Management
Fractional COO

Eric Somerville is the Interim Chief Operating Officer at Douglass Park Asset Management, where he plays a pivotal role in supporting the firm's next chapter of growth. His work focuses on enhancing organizational processes, fostering team culture, and maximizing impact. With a primary emphasis on back-office and middle-office functions, including investor relations and operational support, he collaborates closely with the Managing Member to realize Douglass Park's strategic vision.

Before joining Douglass Park, Mr. Somerville served as Chief Executive Officer at Venture for America, a national nonprofit dedicated to fostering pathways to entrepreneurship. During his tenure, he successfully led the organization's return to in-person programming post-COVID, launched its second strategic plan, and introduced a refreshed vision and mission. He also expanded support for alumni engagement, venture growth, and strategic partnerships. With over a decade of experience in the social impact space, Mr. Somerville has developed a strong track record of delivering resources and programs that empower individuals, families, and seniors to thrive. His expertise includes deep community engagement and leadership development.

In addition to his professional endeavors, Mr. Somerville is an active member of the community, serving on the Board of Directors for Business Volunteers Maryland and the Samaritan Community in Baltimore, Maryland.

Mr. Somerville earned a Master of Arts in Transformational Leadership and Social Change from the Maryland University of Integrative Health and a Bachelor's degree in Communication Studies from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

MARC **SPENCER**



LegacyFirst
General Partner

Dr. Marc Spencer stands as a preeminent executive, visionary strategist, and highly regarded investor, renowned for his unwavering commitment to aligning capital with purpose. As General Partner at LegacyFirst Catalyst Ventures, Dr. Spencer collaborates with leading mission-driven institutions including major universities, municipalities, faith-based organizations, and national nonprofits to transform underutilized real estate into enduring engines of generational wealth and prosperity.

An accomplished C-suite leader, Dr. Spencer has secured more than $200 million in capital to propel transformative initiatives and previously served as CEO for nationally acclaimed nonprofits including Summer Search and Juma Ventures. He was also the inaugural Chief Talent Officer at OneTen, and has advised distinguished institutions such as the University of California where he played a pivotal role in diversifying UC's $10 billion supply chain and MacFarlane Partners, where he structured $7 million in funding for the entitlement phase of an ambitious $2.3 billion revitalization endeavor.

Dr. Spencer is the visionary Founder of The Recharge Group, an exclusive network of more than 1,600 executives, and holds equity and board positions across premier ventures in hospitality, technology, and social impact. He is an alumnus of UCLA (BA), earned both Masters and Doctorate degrees from the University of San Francisco, and possesses executive credentials from Harvard and Stanford further highlighting his stature and commitment to excellence.

AARON **THOMAS**



Quarter Communities
Founder

Aaron Thomas is the Founding Principal of Quarter Communities, a housing investment and development business that seeks to combine private capital and public partnerships to bring about economic mobility for low-income Americans while delivering compelling returns to capital partners. Prior to founding QC, Aaron was a Senior Managing Director at Standard Communities, the nation's sixth-largest affordable housing developer, where he led the sourcing and execution of affordable housing transactions in partnership with cities nationwide. Before joining Standard, Aaron was President and CEO of Accelerator for America, a national nonprofit that partners with mayors to structure and deploy capital to advance economic mobility in their cities. Appointed by LA Mayor Karen Bass to the Board of the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles (HACLA) and by Utah Governor Spencer Cox to the National Housing Crisis Task Force, Aaron is a graduate of Harvard College and Stanford's Graduate School of Business.

GARRET **VAN PARYS**



Invitation Homes
Senior Vice President

Garret Van Parys is the Senior Vice President of Enterprise Analytics & Revenue Management at Invitation Homes (NYSE: INVH). Headquartered in Dallas, Invitation Homes is a leading owner and operator of single-family homes for lease with 85,000+ homes in 16 markets across the United States.

In 2012, Garret joined Invitation Homes, helping the firm scale through the three largest M&A events in SFR history, as well as an IPO. He spent time in operations, technology, and finance departments before leading the company's analytics, planning, and revenue functions for the past several years. He also serves as an advisory board member for select companies in the technology space that hope to improve customer experience and efficiency of operations in the real estate industry.

Garret holds an M.B.A. from the University of Arizona Eller College of Management with a focus on Management Information Systems (MIS) and an M.S. in Quantitative Management from the Fuqua School of Business at Duke University.

KERONE **VATEL**



Capital One
Head of Community Finance, Impact & Investment

Kerone Vatel joined Capital One with extensive business, operational, and strategic expertise to drive and scale critical community and philanthropic initiatives as Head of Community Finance, Impact & Investment. Prior to Capital One, Kerone served as Senior Advisor to the Head of Corporate Responsibility at JP Morgan Chase. Prior to that, Kerone was the Global Head of Business Resiliency at JP Morgan Chase and held several operational roles in technology transformation, analytics, risk management, and strategy at Goldman Sachs.

Kerone's career has brought her full circle, having started as a Business Analyst in Capital One's Card division in 2000. Her return was prompted by her search for a leadership position that could bring her closer to her commitment to community and philanthropy work. As Head of Community Finance, Impact & Investment she leads efforts that focus on building thriving, inclusive communities by driving over $1 billion annually in lending for affordable housing, alongside equity, philanthropy, research and partnerships. Kerone worked with leaders across the company to develop Capital One's ambitious $265 billion dollar Community Benefits Plan, which was announced as a part of the Discover acquisition. The CBP will expand economic opportunity for underserved consumers, increase access to high-quality financial products, and unlock capital for borrowers across the credit spectrum.

Kerone holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. She serves on the boards of the Breast Cancer Research Foundation, City Harvest, and Halcyon House. She has two children, Taylor and Jackson, who attend 1 Choate Rosemary Hall and the Berkeley Carroll School respectively, and resides in Brooklyn.

ALEX **WILLIAMS**



The Clean Slate Initiative
Chief of Staff

Alexandra (Alex) Williams-Moran is the Chief of Staff at The Clean Slate Initiative. In this role, she leads a wide array of strategic initiatives across the organization, collaborates closely with CSI team members and external partners to advance CSI's mission, and acts as a top advisor to CEO, Sheena Meade. Alex brings years of experience as a social impact strategist and advisor. Most recently, she was at The Bridgespan Group where she worked with a range of clients, including large-scale philanthropic platforms, advocacy and criminal justice organizations — helping them develop strategies to grow, scale, and sustain their impact. During her time at Bridgespan, Alex co-led the organization's Advocacy Area of Expertise and initiated original research. Her publications include: Making the Case: Philanthropy's Role in the Movement to Reimagine Criminal Justice, Philanthropy's Role in Reparations and Building a Culture of Racial Repair. Her work has been featured in Inside Philanthropy, Chronicle of Philanthropy, and the Stanford Social Innovation Review.

Alex holds a BA with distinction from Yale University in Political Science. She is on the Board of The Steve Fund, a national mental health nonprofit. She is based in Brooklyn, New York.

ANGELA **WILLIAMS**



United Way Worldwide
Immediate Past President and CEO

Angela F. Williams is the Immediate Past President and CEO of United Way Worldwide, leading a global network serving 48 million people across 1,100 communities in 36 countries. Angela's family, culture, and early life experiences culminated in her role at United Way and have influenced her entire career. Growing up as the child of civil rights activists, Angela learned early on the power of community, the importance of resilience, and the impact that individuals can make by standing up for justice. Angela is bi-vocational, serving as an ordained minister, attorney, and civil society executive. With over 30 years of leadership experience across nonprofit, public, and private sectors, Angela has held key roles at Easterseals; YMCA of the USA; Sears, Roebuck & Co.; the U.S. Department of Justice;and the U.S. Air Force. Angela's leadership is grounded in serviceand community-driven solutions. She is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, OpenAI's Ethics Council, and the *Wall Street Journal's* CEO Council. Angela holds degrees from the University of Virginia, University of Texas School of Law, and Virginia Union University's School of Theology.

TODD **WILSON**



PNC Bank
Regional President

Todd Wilson is the Regional President for PNC Bank in the Greater Los Angeles Metropolitan Area, a role he has held since joining the bank in October 2021. In this capacity, he oversees business development and client relationships across every line of business, while also leading the delivery of PNC's community commitment values and philanthropic focus in Los Angeles. Over the last four years, Wilson has been instrumental in building out PNC's local team and securing key strategic partnerships, including a notable alliance with TCW Group, a downtown-based global asset management firm, to service private credit deals. He is also recognized for establishing PNC as The Official Women's Business Champion of Angel City FC, advancing gender financial equity in the region.

With nearly 30 years of financial sector leadership experience, Wilson brings a diverse background spanning private equity, leverage lending, specialty finance, and general corporate finance. Most recently he served as President at a Los Angeles based Specialty Financing company. In addition to this experience, Wilson served as Managing Director for the City of Los Angeles where he developed and led the city's strategy to support small and mid-sized businesses. He has also served as the Managing Partner of a middle market private equity firm and has deployed over $2 billion of capital.

Wilson has lived in Los Angeles for almost two decades and has been active in a number of community and philanthropic activities. Wilson received an MBA from Fuqua School of Business, Duke University and a BS in economics from Wharton School of Business, University of Pennsylvania. He also was awarded Private Equity Fellowship by the Kauffman Foundation for Entrepreneurial Leadership.

ANDREA **WISHOM**



Skywalker Holdings, LLC
President

Andrea serves as President of Skywalker Holdings, LLC. She is a closely held advisor responsible for the fiduciary, philanthropic, and creative entities of a diversified family office. Andrea is currently the lead independent director for Pinterest, and on the boards of Nextdoor and Tory Burch, LLC.

An award-winning veteran content creator and media executive, Andrea spent over two decades launching and developing some of the most successful programming in television history, first for The Oprah Winfrey Show, and later for OWN: Oprah Winfrey Network. During her 22-year career, she produced some of Oprah's most memorable and highest rated programs. When the Oprah Winfrey Show ended, Andrea helped transition the company into a start-up production company that would develop, create, and program for OWN, a new cable network. As Executive Vice President of Programming, Production and Development she developed unscripted programs. She would later become Executive Producer of Super Soul Sunday, winning a GLAAD award. Because of that strategic programming, OWN would become a top 30 network in its first year and the #1 Cable Network among African American Women.

Committed to helping diverse leaders build strategic organizations, strong cultures, and transformative narratives she serves on many nonprofit boards as well, including The Tory Burch Foundation, The Lucas Museum of Narrative Art, CASEL, Black Women Animate, and the UC Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism.

Andrea grew up in San Francisco and earned her B.A. degree in English from The University of California, Berkeley.

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We hope you're leaving today feeling inspired and energized. To keep the momentum going, we'd love to hear about your experience. Your insights will be deeply valuable for curating future experiences that challenge, connect, and move us all forward.

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