Community Advisory Council

Keith Burwell
President and Chief Executive Officer | Toledo Community Foundation | Toledo, Ohio

Keith Burwell is president and chief executive officer of the Toledo Community Foundation, a community foundation serving northwestern Ohio and southeastern Michigan, with an emphasis on the Greater Toledo area. Since assuming his role in February 2004, he has led his staff in a variety of roles—including responsive grant maker, educator, catalyst, and convener for key community issues—that have contributed to the foundation’s success as the largest philanthropic organization in northwestern Ohio.

He has also served in leadership roles and is collaborating with partners on several initiatives, including the Overland Industrial Park project, a human trafficking initiative, a low-birth-weight reduction project, and several education initiatives.

Keith holds a BA from Campbell University and an MDiv in philosophy and religion from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Robert Cherry
Chief Executive Officer | Partner4Work | Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Robert Cherry is chief executive officer of Partner4Work, the leader of the public workforce system for Pittsburgh and Allegheny County. In his role, he drives Partner4Work’s workforce development activities, a vital component of the region’s overall economic vitality. Robert builds successful partnerships, offers new and innovative ideas, and pilots strategic solutions to grow and connect the workforce with the jobs of today and in the future.

Prior to his position with Partner4Work, Robert managed six internal bureaus as the appointed deputy secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development and served in several roles with Employ Milwaukee, the workforce development board serving Milwaukee County.

Robert holds a BS in criminal justice from the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee. He is an elected board trustee of the Village of Brown Deer.

Kim Frazier
Director of Growth Initiatives | Entrepreneurs’ Center | Dayton, Ohio

Kim Frazier is the director of growth initiatives at the Entrepreneurs’ Center (EC), a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting regional entrepreneurs. In this role, she identifies gaps in the entrepreneurial ecosystem and develops initiatives to address them. Her current focus is strengthening capital access, which includes building an angel investor network and developing new investment tools. She is also working to enhance diversity and inclusion across the entrepreneurial community.

Kim has spent her professional career focused on economic development, from international organizations based in Washington DC to her hometown in Springfield, Ohio, where she opened a restaurant.

She holds a BA from the University of Cincinnati and a MA from Boston University.
Presley L. Gillespie  
President | Neighborhood Allies | Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Presley Gillespie is the inaugural president of Neighborhood Allies, a community development intermediary that supports the people, organizations, and partnerships committed to creating and maintaining thriving neighborhoods in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He is responsible for working collaboratively with the organization’s board of directors, the community, key funders, and staff to launch this new entity, and he has ultimate responsibility for the overall management of the organization.

Most recently, Presley served as the founding executive director of the Youngstown Neighborhood Development Corporation (YNDC), the first citywide community development corporation in Youngstown, Ohio. He came to the nonprofit sector after a successful 18-year banking career, primarily focused on community development lending and community revitalization.

Presley holds a BA in organizational communication and management from Youngstown State University.

Chris Groner  
Vice President of Capital Finance and Lending | Erie County Redevelopment Authority | Erie, Pennsylvania

Chris Groner is the vice president of capital finance and lending of the Erie County Redevelopment Authority (ECRDA), a one-stop shop for public finance that includes a county revolving loan fund and enterprise zone fund, township business and industrial development funds, USDA financing, a CDFI that serves multiple counties in the region, and the City of Erie’s enterprise zone. In his role, Chris manages the authority’s economic development financing programs. In addition to assisting businesses with their financing needs, he is responsible for identifying gaps in the system and finding solutions to meet the needs of the business community.

Prior to his current position, Chris served as director of the Department of Economic and Community Development for the City of Erie. His duties included managing city economic and infrastructure development funds, administering the city’s LERTA tax abatement program, and overseeing the city’s annual Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) allocation.

Chris holds a BS in finance from Penn State Behrend.

Ernest E. Hogan  
Executive Director | Pittsburgh Community Reinvestment Group | Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Ernie Hogan is the executive director for the Pittsburgh Community Reinvestment Group (PCRG), for which he uses his more than 30 years of experience as a community development practitioner to advance a neighborhood-driven agenda of economic growth. Organized in 1988, PCRG originally formed to provide a coordinated response to financial institutions’ practice of redlining and to be an “on the ground” watchdog for the Community Reinvestment Act. Now 60 members strong, PCRG focuses on mobility, land, and capital in western Pennsylvania’s communities.

Ernie is an integral part of Pittsburgh’s community development system, and his work has made an impressive impact on the communities he has served. Utilizing commercial financing, government development programs, tax credits, and private grants to improve housing, retail space, and jobs, he has been a part of some of the city’s most dramatic neighborhood transformations.

Ernie holds a BA in organizational communication and management from Youngstown State University.
Joyce Pan Huang
Director of City Planning | City of Cleveland | Cleveland, Ohio

Joyce Pan Huang is the director of city planning for the city of Cleveland, Ohio. In her role, she facilitates the development of the city’s long-range comprehensive plan, community-based neighborhood planning efforts, urban design and architectural review, and regulatory practices such as zoning.

Prior to her current position, she served as the vice president of community development at MidTown Cleveland, Inc., an economic and community development organization for the MidTown and AsiaTown neighborhoods.

Joyce holds a BS in sociology from the University of Michigan and a master of urban planning, design, and development from Cleveland State University.

Tawana S. Jones
Community and Economic Development Operations Manager | Montgomery County Development Services | Dayton, Ohio

Tawana Jones is the community and economic development operations manager for Montgomery County Development Services in Dayton, Ohio. She has been employed by Montgomery County for more than 20 years and has held a number of positions during this period.

Prior to working for Montgomery County, Tawana was employed by the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government in Lexington, Kentucky, and by the Cumberland Valley Area Development District in London, Kentucky.

Tawana holds a BS in psychology and sociology from Union College and an MPA from Eastern Kentucky University.

Lark T. Mallory, Esq.
President and Chief Executive Officer | Affordable Housing Trust for Columbus and Franklin County | Columbus, Ohio

Lark Mallory is the president and chief executive officer of the Affordable Housing Trust for Columbus and Franklin County, an organization that provides low-interest-rate loans to developers of affordable housing. In her role, Lark is responsible for all aspects of the organization’s mission, including its private investment fund and its real estate loan portfolio.

Prior to joining Affordable Housing Trust, Lark was a law partner who served the needs of businesses, individuals, and business owners, with regard to transactions involving corporate and business law, taxation, financing, and commercial real estate.

Lark is a CPA (inactive) and holds a BSBA in accounting and a JD from the Ohio State University and an LLM in taxation from the University of Florida. She serves on the board of the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium, cochairing its Community Engagement Committee.
Natoya Walker Minor
Deputy General Manager | Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority | Cleveland, Ohio

Natoya Walker Minor is the deputy general manager of administration and external affairs for the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority. In her role, she is responsible for government relations; implementing diversity, equity, and inclusion; driving the organization’s brand; and leveraging relationships to connect the community.

Natoya is an executive leader with a history of leading community-wide collaborations. She is accomplished at leading public–private philanthropic partnerships for social impact.

Natoya holds a BA in political science and government from the University of Toledo, a Master of Public Administration from Barusch College, and a Doctor of Executive Leadership from the University of Charleston.

Kenneth Oehlers
Executive Director | Habitat for Humanity of Southeast Ohio | Athens, Ohio

Kenneth Oehlers is the executive director at Habitat for Humanity of Southeast Ohio, where he has spent the last 12 years helping families in Appalachia Ohio build strength, stability, and self-reliance through shelter. In his role, Ken has grown the organization’s programs to include homeownership, critical home repair, and microloan programs. During his tenure, the organization also created a construction social enterprise and job training program that provides construction services to low- and moderate-income families and local housing nonprofits.

Active in the Southeast Ohio region, Ken serves on many local boards and advisory committees that focus on housing, nonprofit management, fundraising, substance use disorders, and economic development. He is vice chair of the board of directors at Habitat for Humanity Ohio, an organization that provides training, support, and advocacy for all Habitat for Humanity affiliates throughout the state of Ohio.

Ken holds a BA in business administration from Ohio University. He is a graduate of Leadership Athens County and the New Strategies program at Georgetown University.

Amy Riegel
Executive Director | Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio | Dayton, Ohio

Amy Riegel has served as executive director of the Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio since June 2022. Prior to her current role, she was the senior director of housing for managed care organization CareSource, for which she initiated and led the deployment of $50 million in strategic investments in affordable housing across multiple states and helped to launch and replicate Healthy Beginnings at Home, a nationally recognized research study on the relationship between housing stability and healthy birth outcomes.

Amy is an accomplished housing advocate with more than 15 years of experience working with nonprofits and government entities, including the City of Dayton, for which she provided policy leadership and designed programs in the areas of housing development, asset-based community development, community engagement, education, and homelessness.

Amy holds a BA in political science from Wright State University. She serves on numerous boards in Ohio and nationally that are focused on poverty elimination, affordable housing, and neighborhood revitalization.
Lisa Kay Schweyer is program manager for Traffic21, a transportation research institute at Carnegie Mellon University. She is also a member of the Transportation Research Board Standing Committee on Transportation Demand Management.

Prior to her current role, Lisa Kay was a program manager at Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission’s CommuteInfo program, for which she was responsible for operations of the ridesharing program, increasing participation, and helping commuters and employers find solutions to commuting challenges.

Lisa holds a BA in political science from Indiana University of Pennsylvania and Masters of Public Management from Carnegie Mellon University. She is an Association for Commuter Transportation (ACT) Transportation Demand Management Certified Planner.

Robie Suggs is the chief lending officer at the Cincinnati Development Fund, a nonprofit lending institution that provides funding for real estate development in underserved markets in the Greater Cincinnati area. The Fund also offers facilities and equipment funding for nonprofit organizations in the region. In her role, Robie is responsible for all lending-related activity, including loan processing, underwriting, construction management, and credit risk and asset management.

Prior to her current role, Robie served as vice president of strategic partnerships, economic development, and community outreach at First Financial Bank. Before joining First Financial Bank, she served as vice president of community development, Southwest Ohio/northern Kentucky, at PNC Bank.

Robie holds a business coaching and mentorship certificate from the University of Cincinnati and was trained in Enneagram at the Conscious Living Center. She is a member of several boards, including LISC of Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky, United Way of Greater Cincinnati, and Homebase Cincinnati.

Jeff Whitehead is executive director of the Eastern Kentucky Concentrated Employment Program, Inc. (EKCEP) and its local workforce investment board (WIB), which together provide workforce and employer services to 23 rural counties in Appalachian Kentucky. Jeff is dedicated to the mission of preparing, advancing, and expanding the workforce of eastern Kentucky, and he believes this mission is best accomplished by embracing partnerships and service strategies that expand opportunities for workers while being responsive to industry needs. He is working to ensure that eastern Kentucky and its workforce are discovered as a solution to industry needs statewide and beyond and that they are well equipped to compete in a global and digital economy.

Jeff is a member of the Advisory Council for Shaping Our Appalachian Region (SOAR), serves as chair of the Education and Retraining Roundtable, provides leadership to the National Economic Council’s Tech Hire Initiative in Eastern Kentucky, and serves on the board of directors for the Bluegrass State Skills Corporation and the FAHE Recovery Task Force.

He holds a BS in psychology from Morehead State University.