



## Faculty and Presenters

**Heather Benham** received her joint degree from the University of Georgia in 2003 with a masters in historic preservation and her juris doctorate. Since that time she has worked in the field of affordable housing. She has worked with nonprofits, local governments, and state government to explore and implement tools available to communities looking to improve quality of life for their citizens. Most of her work has been focused on issues of blight and affordable housing through her work as housing director at the Athens Land Trust.

**Maria Hardy Benjamin** has designed and implemented housing programs in the non-profit sector for over twenty years. She established Community Housing Development Corporation's First Time Homebuyer Program in 2002. Under her leadership, CHDC has become a HUD approved homeownership center serving over 1500 clients annually. She is a leader in foreclosure and predatory lending prevention activities throughout the Bay Area. Additionally, she was instrumental in the implementation of CC – MATCH - (Contra Costa – Moving Assets Toward Community Hands) a financial education and Individual Development Account program. Prior to joining CHDC, Ms. Benjamin served as Program Director for East Bay Housing Organizations, a regional affordable housing advocacy organization. She has worked as a consultant to both East Bay and Peninsula Habitat for Humanity and the City of Alameda Housing Authority. For almost 10 years, Ms. Benjamin assisted hundreds of homeowners as Program Director for the Northern California Land Trust where she designed and implemented a cooperative housing and homeownership program and provided training on the land trust model to community organizations and faith based groups on a national level. She currently sits on the Steering Committee for the Northern California HUD Housing Counseling Network and is a member of the Board of Directors of two local homeownership programs. Ms. Benjamin holds a Professional Certificate in Homeownership and Community Lending from NeighborWorks America, and is a certified Credit and Reversed Mortgage Counselor. She earned her bachelors degree from New College of San Francisco. Maria and her husband of 25+ years have raised three children and live in Richmond.

**Colin Bloch** is Principal of BlochWorks LLC and has worked in the area of shared equity housing for 12 years. As principal of BlochWorks, Colin leads a team with over 25 years combined experience to promote innovative, best practices that encourage replication and scalable implementation of owner occupied, community focused housing models. Colin brings a dedication and commitment to sustainable business practices and social equity as fundamental principles of policy design and program implementation, resulting in permanently affordable solutions to local housing needs.

Colin has focused on housing for his entire working life, beginning as a carpenter apprentice in high school and earning a living in the trades for the next 20 years. Starting over in 1998 as new apprentice with the Burlington Community Land Trust doing a year of Americorps service, Colin made the transition to non-profit housing practitioner. After 9 years and a variety of positions supporting, then leading the HomeOwnership program in Burlington, BlochWorks was formed to assist others building shared equity housing models and taking programs to scale.

Colin lives in Burlington with his wife Vivian Esparza and their 3 daughters.



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**Michael Brown** is a Partner in Burlington Associates in Community Development, a national consulting cooperative providing a broad range of community development and economic development assistance to municipalities, state governments and housing organizations across the country. Mike has been involved in nonprofit housing development and community development work for nearly 30 years – in Minnesota, Massachusetts and Tennessee, in addition to the national work in which he is currently involved. Mike served as the first executive director of one of the first community land trusts in the country in eastern Tennessee in the early 1980's and has been involved with CLTs ever since. In the past twelve years, Mike has provided technical assistance to help create and build the capacity of over fifty community land trusts, as well as consulting with municipalities, county governments, state agencies, statewide housing intermediaries and faith-based organizations interested in permanently affordable housing.

He lives with his life partner in rural Collegeville Township in Minnesota, just down the road from Lake Wobegon.

**Julie Bruner** has been the Housing Manager for OPAL Community Land Trust since 2002. In that capacity, Julie manages resident/homebuyer policies, project financing, resident applications, mortgage financing and homebuyer education instruction. In addition to working for OPAL, Julie works as a consultant for Common Ground, a Washington based non-profit housing consulting firm where she specializes in community land trusts and homeownership programs. Julie has been teaching courses for the National Community Land Trust Academy since 2006. Julie has worked in the field of affordable housing since 1995 and prior to that in social service and international economic development. She has a B.A. from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and a Master of City and Regional Planning from Rutgers University. Julie lives with her husband and two daughters on Orcas Island in Washington.

**Faye Bush** is a native of Martin, Georgia (Franklin County) and is considered one of the South's most dedicated and committed woman civil rights activists of this day. In the late 50's Ms. Bush joined a neighborhood club named the "The Newtown Florist Club," which is where she began to work to improve conditions in her neighborhood, in the city of Gainesville and throughout the state. During this time, Ms. Bush led the Newtown Florist Club in the publishing of The Newtown Story: One Community's Fight Against Environmental Justice; conducting the first survey of environmentally-related diseases in Newtown; the initiation of Toxic Tours in Newtown to educate the Gainesville community; the renaming of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.; the Newtown Florist Club Summer Enrichment Program for 9 years; the creation of the Northeast Georgia Black Leadership Council; establishment of a strong relationship with the local Hispanic community including participation in two Annual Peace Marches; and Environmental Justice and Anti-Racism education. Ms. Bush has spoken at Duke University, U.N.C., Emory University, Spelman College, Brenau University, and the WAND National Convention in Wash. D. C., churches, and schools. She has been interviewed by Channel WSB 2, and collaborated with CNN for a documentary on Newtown and environmental medicine. She was a plaintiff in Voting Rights Lawsuit against the City of Gainesville.



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**Dev Goetschius** is Executive Director of Housing Land Trust of Sonoma County (HLTSC), a non-profit corporation established in 2002; she has served as ED since 2003. The organization's mission is to create permanently affordable housing for families who are working in the community but are priced out of the housing market. HLTSC partners include for profits and non-profits such as Habitat for Humanity of Sonoma County, The Housing Company, Delco Builders, Centex Homes and Basin Street Properties.

She has over 19 years of professional experience in managing non-profits. She licensed two after school programs in San Francisco in her role as Executive Director developing year round programs for school aged children. She also served as Director of Operations and then Vice President of the Boys and Girls Club of Petaluma in a similar role. Her passion lies in working with families and children as she is a credentialed special education teacher specializing in working with Severely Emotionally Disturbed and Neurologically Impaired kids, and was also a former Head Start teacher.

Ms. Goetschius is involved in her community of Petaluma, CA, currently serving on the Board of Directors of Committee on the Shelterless (COTS) and serves as Treasurer on the Board of Directors of the National Community Land Trust Network. She is a Girl Scout Leader, participated in Hate Free, graduated from the Petaluma Chamber of Commerce program Leadership Petaluma and served as co-chair for the class project.

She has a Bachelors degree from Drew University in Psychology and Spanish Literature, and is a credentialed Teacher of the Handicapped. She is fluent in Spanish, Hindi and Sindhi.

**Joe Gray** is an internationally recognized expert in the art of community building. He has extensive experience creating and implementing innovative community planning and redevelopment strategies. He has over thirty years experience in leadership roles in public service, including government, non-profit, and private sector management positions. Joe was the Assistant Director of the Delray Beach, FL Community Redevelopment Agency (one of the most successful CRA's in the State of Florida). In addition, he was the Principle of a successful urban planning firm- developed over 30 Regional, City, and Neighborhood Master Plans. Joe led Orange County Community Action Agency, which received National Public Service Award as the "best run County Government agency in the nation". He is a widely recognized national and international speaker on "participatory governance". Joe is also a contributing author for two books and numerous national publications on the subject of community building.



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**Allison Handler**, consulting since 2007, Allison has more than a decade of experience in community development, affordable housing, land-use planning and land conservation. She has worked with nonprofit organizations and local governments on strategic planning and organizational assessment, and business development and financial feasibility. She is currently an associate with the Portland-based consulting firm Decisions Decisions.

From June 2008 to July 2009, Allison was the principal of Heron River Group consulting. Formerly the Executive Director of Portland Community Land Trust in Portland, Oregon, Allison also founded the Land Stewardship Program, a housing land trust program of the North-Missoula Community Development Corporation in Missoula, Montana. Her work with land trusts of all stripes has been a happy marriage between her Masters of Science in Environmental Studies (University of Montana - thesis on urban redevelopment) and her Bachelors in Philosophy (Williams College). Allison serves on the boards of the National Community Land Trust Network, Housing Land Advocates and DemocracyLab.org.

Allison is an avid gardener who believes in growing and putting up her own food (she makes killer pumpkin marmalade), and keeps chickens for eggs and slug control. She loves her bicycle and is fascinated by everything volcanic; someday she hopes to combine those interests via a cycling trip in Iceland. She is an unapologetic banjo player in an American roots-music band called Succotash. She has also dabbled in water colors and chalk pastels, and swears that she will someday re-learn how to use the four-harness floor loom that's gathering dust in her basement.

**Sarah Hannigan** is the Housing Development Director with Northern Communities Land Trust in Duluth, Minnesota. Since 2006, she has overseen the organization's single-family housing development, including the redevelopment of over 20 foreclosed properties and the completion of 25 scattered-site Green Communities homes.

Sarah began working with community land trusts in 2002. As Housing Director at Rondo CLT in Saint Paul, she was responsible for the launch and implementation of its Homebuyer Initiated Program. She also served as Project Director with City of Lakes CLT in Minneapolis, overseeing the organization's housing development activities. Sarah was the Institute for Community Economic's Board of Directors' and CLT Network Steering Committee's Midwest Representative from 2003 - 2006. She co-chaired the CLT Network Steering Committee in 2005 - 2006, and also served on the National CLT Network's Interim Board of Directors in 2006.

Sarah's educational background is in environmental studies and sustainable development; she earned a BA from Middlebury College and studied at the Center for Sustainable Development Studies in Costa Rica. Prior to her involvement with sustainable housing development, she was a Research Associate with the Institute for Local Self-Reliance, where her research and writings focused on policies and programs that foster vibrant communities.



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**Rick Jacobus** is a Visiting Fellow at the Lincoln Institute for Land Policy and a Partner in Burlington Associates in Community Development. His work focuses on strengthening low and moderate-income communities through the creation of permanently affordable homeownership opportunities and neighborhood retail development. He has also served as a Lecturer in the Department of City and Regional Planning at UC Berkeley.

Rick is one of California's leading experts in permanently affordable homeownership and the Community Land Trust Model. His paper, Recent publications include *Affordable By Choice, Trends in California Inclusionary Housing Programs*; Published by the Nonprofit Housing Association of Northern California; *Delivering on the Promise of Inclusionary Housing Best Practices in Administration and Monitoring* Published by PolicyLink; and *Shared Equity, Transformative Wealth* published by the Center for Housing Policy.

He has a Bachelors degree from Oberlin College and a Masters of City Planning degree from the University of California at Berkeley.

**Patricia Jones** is the Executive Director for Lower 9<sup>th</sup> Ward Neighborhood Empowerment Network Association (NENA). Ms. Jones has a Bachelor's of Science in Business Administration and a Paralegal Certificate. Patricia presently directs NENA which is a community development organization in the Lower 9<sup>th</sup> Ward. NENA has adopted the community land trust model as a strategy for both neighborhood stabilization and land stewardship.

Patricia has more than 15 years experience in business management in both the for-profit and not-for-profit sector services. Her focus is to build the organization's capacity. Prior to Katrina, she ran her own business specializing in bookkeeping and tax preparation. Since Katrina, Patricia has partnered with many to navigate a strong comeback for Lower 9. She can be reached at [pajones@9thwardnena.org](mailto:pajones@9thwardnena.org) or 504.373.6483

**Ellen (Ellie) Kastanopolous** is President of the Equity Trust, Inc., a non-profit organization with a mission to change the way people think about and hold property. Equity Trust is currently working to promote the preservation of small farms using the community land trust approach. Ellie has been involved with Equity Trust since its beginnings in '91, first as a technical assistance client, then as a board member (since '94) and finally joining the staff in '97.

From 1991-1997, Ellie served as the founding Executive Director of Maine Homestead Land Trust Alliance, which provided technical assistance and services to a coalition of community land trusts in Maine. During her tenure, the number of community land trusts increased from two to more than a dozen, creating more than a hundred-twenty units of permanently affordable housing in communities around the state of Maine. Ellie raised four children in a community land trust house in Maine. These experiences were a significant factor in directing her efforts toward community economic development.



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**Barbara Lighty** was hired as the City of Lakes Community Land Trust (CLCLT) Outreach Coordinator in April of 2007. Prior to joining the CLCLT staff, Barbara was on the CLCLT Board as a homeowner representative. She was the first CLCLT Homebuyer Initiated Program (HIP) participant who purchased in North Minneapolis in the summer of 2006. Before she started working for the CLCLT, Barbara was retired, worked for numerous public schools and non-profit human service organizations in Minnesota and California. Barbara has a distinguished community service record that spans decades. She has a degree from the University of Minnesota in Social Welfare and has numerous non-profit and social volunteer experiences – most recently serving on the Board of NorthPoint in North Minneapolis. Barbara lives in Minneapolis and can be reached at 612-721-7556 Ext. 20 or [barbara@clclt.org](mailto:barbara@clclt.org)

**Rose Johnson-Mackey** grew up in the Newtown community at the height of school desegregation. At the age of twelve she was raised up as a community organizer by the leadership of the Newtown Florist Club. She has more than 30 years experience in multi-issue community organizing in the Gainesville community and throughout the state around issues including voting rights, environmental injustice, public education reform and housing and employment discrimination. In the 1990's she served as lead plaintiff in a legal challenge against the City of Gainesville's at large voting process. She currently serves as executive director of the National Coalition for Burned Churches and is former national program director of the Center for Democratic Renewal (CDR), an Atlanta-based national hate crimes research/advocacy organization. She is a recipient of the Jane Bagley Lehman Award for Excellence in Public Advocacy awarded by the Tides Foundation. Johnson-Mackey received a Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies from the College of Charleston, and an Associate in Public Service-Paralegal degree from Trident Technical College also located in Charleston, South Carolina. Johnson-Mackey is a member of the NFC Board of Directors. She lives in the Newtown community with her husband the Reverend Terrance Mackey, Sr. They have four children and nine grandchildren.

**Erika Malone** is currently both the Executive Director of the Northwest Community Land Trust Coalition, serving CLTs in Washington, Oregon and Idaho, and the Programs Director at Kulshan CLT serving Whatcom County. She has worked with numerous CLTs in the northwest since 1999. Prior to moving to Bellingham in 2001 she developed community food security programs in Southern Oregon, worked as a VISTA member and a Housing Specialist at the Washington Field office of the Rural Community Assistance Corporation and as a farm worker at Independence Valley Farm in southwest Washington. She has degrees in Philosophy from Willamette University in Salem, Oregon and in Ecological Agriculture from the Evergreen State College in Olympia, Washington.



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**Kwabena Nkromo** began his interest in agriculture through the work of social justice and change, particularly as it relates to the food needs of the African continent. His conventional studies were in Plant & Soil Sciences and Agricultural Economics at both Tuskegee and Clemson Universities, before discovering the alternative path of urban agriculture and organic farming in 1997. As Director of the Urban Agriculture Program for the neighborhood based non-profit Creating Vibrant Communities Inc, he founded CVC Urban Farms that is working to develop 10 acres of land under intensive food production in the West End area of Southwest Atlanta.

Kwabena also served two years as the Chair of Neighborhood Planning Unit T (NPU-T), a citizen advisory council in Southwest Atlanta that makes recommendations to the Mayor and City Council on zoning, land use, and other planning issues. His civic leadership has included the establishing the NPU-T Community Food Project, which envisions a fully integrated local food system that would provide healthy, natural food and economic development for the residents of NPU-T's neighborhoods and beyond. He currently works with Georgia State University's Office of Civic Engagement and is the proud father of his two children Kwesi and Issata.

**Greg Rosenberg** has been the executive director of the Madison Area Community Land Trust since 2001. As executive director, he manages all housing development projects, including the MACLT's latest development project, Troy Gardens. Greg has been involved in the areas of affordable housing and fair housing for over 20 years. He has a law degree from the University of Wisconsin, and a Masters in Social Work from Boston University. He is a founding board member of the National Community Land Trust Network, and is a past chair of the Best Practices Department of the Community Land Trust Academy.

Greg's particular passions as a developer include universal design, green building/energy efficiency, and urban agriculture.



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**Jamie Baker Roskie** joined the University of Georgia in the fall of 2002 as managing attorney of the Land Use Clinic. She supervises students in a variety of projects assisting local governments and other stakeholders with regulatory solutions to help preserve the environment while promoting quality growth. Roskie provides expertise to state and local agencies and nonprofits on a variety of land use related topics, including transferable development rights, and is a policy and legal analyst for the UGA River Basin Center (RBC), which integrates science and policymaking to protect water resources and habitat. She is also currently working with an interdisciplinary team of UGA faculty and other professionals on addressing environmental justice issues related to how local governments deal with polluting industries. Previously, she served on the RBC's Etowah Habitat Conservation Plan Development Team, which won a Regional Director's Conservation Award from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for its innovative work. Roskie is a graduate of the university's Institute for Georgia Environmental Leadership (IGEL), a training program for environmental leaders in Georgia, and she is the co-author of "Adequate Public Facilities Ordinances: A Comparison of Their Use in Georgia and North Carolina," 15 *Southeastern Env'tl. L.J.* 345 (2007) (with J. Blasingame Custer).

Before joining the university, Roskie worked as an associate in the law firm of Shaw Pittman in Washington, D.C., where she represented clients in various land use and immigration matters. Roskie obtained a Bachelor of Arts in international affairs from Lewis & Clark College in 1989. She worked as a freelance writer/editor and ran an immigration law clinic for a refugee services agency before attending law school. In 2001, she graduated *magna cum laude* from the University of Georgia School of Law, where she was inducted into the Order of the Coif.

**Jodi Slick** has served as Executive Director of Common Ground Construction since its inception as a social enterprise of the Northern Communities Land Trust in 2004. Common Ground has taken a national leadership role in single family affordable green development through Green Communities Demonstration Projects and a national solar project. Common Ground has completed new units, deconstruction/reconstruction projects, and acquisition-rehab (mainly condemned and/or foreclosed properties). Current activities include rehab of 23 single family homes per year, rehab work of two multifamily structures for veterans, development of a community-scale weatherization program, and facilitation of a Green Jobs Action Planning process for the City of Duluth. Common Ground employs 13 and has a training partnership with the MN Department of Corrections, which trains 10 inmates in construction per year.

Jodi's additional experience includes developing an internationally recognized community recycling program, working on regional hazardous waste collection programs, creating a brown fields development conference, community organizing with the Homeless Organizing Project, and serving as a school board president and housing authority commissioner. She holds a masters degree in administration from the University of Wisconsin-Superior.



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**Nancy Stangle** is currently the Executive Director of the Athens Land Trust, which she helped to establish in 1994. Located in Athens, Georgia, the Athens Land Trust (ALT) is one of only a few land trusts that focus on both land conservation and affordable housing. To date, ALT has protected 814 acres of forest, farmland, wetlands, and open space, and provided over 100 permanently affordable homes and apartments. Nancy worked as a school teacher, counselor and international student advisor for many years before she became the developer of her own neighborhood, the 150-acre Kenney Ridge Community. This experience showed her that land is a community resource and stewardship of land needs to include both conservation and affordable housing. ALT's dual mission addresses her personal commitment to protecting the environment and increasing social equity through access to land. Nancy also helped to establish a small conservation community in Gustavus, Alaska.

**Van Temple** has been Executive Director of the Diamond State Community Land Trust (DSCLT), the first statewide community land trust - serving Delaware since 2006. DSCLT partners with non-profit and for-profit housing developers, housing counseling agencies, counties, cities and others working for affordable, balanced housing. Van's experience includes consulting in affordable housing and community development in northeast, mid-atlantic and midwestern states, CDC director, manager of social justice non-profits, and a 13-year career in city management with the City of Dallas. Van is on the Board of the National CLT Network - active in foreclosure solutions, the national effort to take shared equity to scale, and other public policy initiatives. Van can be contacted at [van@diamondstateclt.org](mailto:van@diamondstateclt.org)

**Alfred Vick** is assistant professor of landscape architecture at the University of Georgia. He is a licensed landscape architect in Georgia and a LEED Accredited Professional. His work focuses on preserving and enhancing the functioning of natural systems while effectively and attractively integrating human use. At the University of Georgia he teaches landscape ecology and sustainable landscape design. He continues to practice professionally, and his work has included three LEED-certified buildings for the Woodward Academy, and the new Southface Eco-office, which is anticipating a LEED platinum rating. He has presented numerous professional lectures on water conservation, storm water management, and invasive exotic plants. He earned the BS in Engineering Psychology from the University of Illinois and the Master of Landscape Architecture degree from the University of Georgia. Alfred serves on the Sustainable Sites Technical Advisory Group for the US Green Building Council and is on the Board of Directors of the Athens Land Trust.

**Jeffrey A. Washburn** has served as the Director of the City of Lakes Community Land Trust (Minneapolis) since November 2002. He previously worked at Twin Cities Neighborhood Housing Services from 1997 - 2000 and 2001 - 2002, serving as the Executive Director the latter 2 years. Prior to his nonprofit housing experience, Jeff worked as a construction supervisor and trainer for a residential construction firm in South Korea, a YMCA Program Manager in New Mexico, and served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Honduras. He holds a M.A. in Public Administration from Hamline University and a B.A. from DePauw University. Jeff serves on the boards of several public advisory and nonprofit organizations, including: the MN CLT Coalition, the Metropolitan Consortium of Community Developers, and Community Shares MN.



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**Christine Westfall** has been the Project Manager at Orange Community Housing and Land Trust in Carrboro, NC since 2000. In this role she developed land trust programming for an existing housing non-profit that chose to adopt the community land trust model. Her experience includes establishing and modifying the organization's ground lease, cultivating lending partners, and developing land trust-based marketing and buyer education programs. Currently she coordinates manages housing development and partnerships with private sector developers.

**Valarie Wilson** serves as Executive Director of the BeltLine Partnership, a private, non-profit organization dedicated to fostering support for Atlanta's BeltLine, the largest urban revitalization project in America. As executive director, Ms. Wilson is responsible for a capital campaign to raise \$60 million in private funds to meet critical BeltLine needs, and she oversees an extensive program of public education and community outreach initiatives. In her role, she also leads BeltLine Partnership staff in the convening of partners to help address social issues raised by the implementation of the BeltLine.

**Mtamanika Youngblood** is a nationally recognized leader in community building and urban revitalization. Her work as an advocate for mixed-income housing development, historic preservation, and sustainable practices are distinguished by an emphasis on human development, economic diversity, and non-displacement of existing residents. Ms. Youngblood is currently the President & CEO of Sustainable Neighborhood Development Strategies, Inc. (SNDSI), a non-profit development corporation that emerged from her leadership of neighborhood transformation efforts at the Annie E. Casey Foundation's Atlanta Civic Site. She has an extensive record of service with community-serving institutions, including founding and serving as immediate past president of the Center for Working Families, Inc; Senior Vice President for Community Impact at United Way of Metropolitan Atlanta; and Chair of the Board and past President of the Historic District Development Corporation. Additionally, Ms. Youngblood is Vice Chair of the Board for Community Outreach for the BeltLine Partnership and Vice Chair of the Board of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Ms. Youngblood has been widely acknowledged for her work, including awards from the National Neighborhood Coalition, The Atlanta Urban Design Commission, and the Georgia Association of the American Institute of Architects. She earned a BA from New York University and an MBA from Atlanta University and has won fellowships from Harvard University, the Urban Land Institute and the Fannie Mae Foundation.