

OCL Board of Directors 2011-2012

Rev. Kevin Agee pastor of Hopps Memorial CME Church, is a native of Washington D.C. and came to Syracuse in 2007. He is chairman of the Committee on Ministerial Examination of the NY-Wash Region of the CME Church and is also co-president of the Alliance of Communities Transforming Syracuse (ACTS), Chairman of the Racial and Social Justice Committee of Interfaith Works, a member of the Community Peacemakers Trauma Response Team and the City of Syracuse Living Wage Advisory Committee.

Jason Allers CNY native is an independent agent and broker, and Vice President of Commercial Lines with Agency Specialists Insurance. Jason is also very active in the community, serving as a director on the board of many non-profits. Past and current involvement includes the downtown YMCA, Vera House, SCORE, Syracuse Chargers Rugby Club, Strathmore Men's Athletic Club, and the Greater Strathmore Neighborhood Association. Jason and his wife, Brea Allers, have three young children.

Barbara Carranti is a Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Nursing at Le Moyne College. She previously taught at Syracuse University and SUNY Morrisville and held various nursing positions at Crouse Hospital. Barbara is a volunteer nurse at the Amaus Health Services at Cathedral, a Sharing Your Wishes Facilitator providing instruction to community groups on advance care planning, and serves on the American Heart Association Go Red for Women Luncheon Committee.

Elizabeth Dailey has been Executive Director of the Onondaga County Public Library since February 2009 and has worked in the OCPL system since 1980, spending 10 years at the Liverpool Public Library. Elizabeth is active in the American Library Association and serves on the board of the OCPL Foundation, the Friends of the Central Library and is a past member of the board of the Literacy Volunteers of Greater Syracuse.

Lisa Daly is a program manager and internet consultant for ITX Corporation in Syracuse. In 2007-2008, she was the grassroots central NY coordinator for the Obama campaign, and was an elected delegate to the 2008 Democratic National Convention. Lisa also serves on the executive committee of the local Sierra Club, and has a PhD in American history, from the Maxwell School at Syracuse University.

Betty DeFazio has been with Planned Parenthood of the Syracuse/Rochester Region since 2001. Her other community roles include serving on the Human Services Leadership Council of CNY, the Onondaga Community Sexual Trauma Task Force, the East Genesee Regent Association, the University Hill Corporation, and Housing Visions Consultants. Betty is past president of the boards of REACH CNY and the CNY chapter of NOW. Formerly she was Director of Communications and Development at Enable.

Donna DeSiato, PhD serves as superintendent of the East Syracuse Minoa Central School District. Dr. DeSiato received an Associate of Arts degree from Onondaga Community College, a Bachelor's of Education Degree from the University of Miami, a Master's Degree from SUNY Cortland, a Certificate of Advanced Study from SUNY Oswego, and a Doctorate in Educational Leadership from Syracuse University. She has received many honors for her commitment to education including being named Outstanding Educator for NYS *by the School Administrators Association of New York State*.

Bill Emm is the Chief Financial Officer at Onondaga Community College and previously served as manager of Student Accounts at Syracuse University. He serves as the President of the OCC Housing Development Corporation, Treasurer of the OCC Association and is a member of the Foundation Board.

Marion Ervin a Syracuse native, is a retired executive of New Process Gear. He served in the Army and is a Vietnam veteran. Marion has served the Syracuse community in many capacities and serves on the boards of the United Way, HOME, Inc., 314 Hudson Street Board, Hiawatha Boy Scout Council, 100 Black Men of Syracuse, Faith and Hope Community Center among others. He is a member of the Town of Dewitt Democratic Committee.

Michael Feng served in the U.S. Air Force from 1999 – 2003. Since 2003 he has worked for Progressive Expert Consulting, Inc. where he is currently the VP of System Integration. He is active in the community as a supporter of CenterState CEO in areas relating to emerging technologies and legislative affairs. He is a member of Innovation and Entrepreneurship Advisory Board, is a member of 40 Below and participates in F.O.C.U.S. Greater Syracuse. He participates as a contributing member of the city's Living Wage Committee as a Mayor's appointee and works closely with County Executive Mahoney's office. He also serves as the Communications Director for CNY Crossroads, a local, non-denominational Christian group focused on serving young adults in the area.

Karen Hanford works for Hanford Pharmaceuticals and is currently charged with Community Outreach. She serves on the OCC Foundation Board, the Community General Hospital Foundation Board, and is a past member of the Marcellus School Board, the MOST, the St. Camillus Foundation and a former Trustee of Cazenovia College. She manages Sycamore Hill Gardens as a free venue for not-for-profit fundraisers. Karen has been a candidate for County Legislator and volunteered with ESGR, Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, and the Veterans community. She is a proud graduate of the Citizens Academy.

David Holder did not grow up in Central New York, as you'll recognize from his slight southern drawl and love of cheese grits! He may not be a native but he is definitely one of our area's greatest cheerleaders. A love of our area's outdoors, weather (yes, you heard correctly), great food, and overall quality of life drive David's passion for the Syracuse area. It is a good thing he loves our area as he is responsible for leading the team at the Syracuse Convention and Visitors Bureau that works daily to promote and sell Syracuse to convention planners, sporting event organizers and leisure visitors from around the world.

Heidi Holtz Heidi Holtz is Director of Research and Projects at the Gifford Foundation and previously worked at Syracuse Stage in communications and educational outreach. Among her many duties at the Foundation is program design and execution of Phase 1 of the IDEAS Collaborative. Heidi is on the Boards of Y-Arts and the Onondaga Citizens League; she also has served on the boards of ThINC, Stone Quarry Art Park, A Better Chance of Manlius, and the Fayetteville Playhouse. Heidi has worked for several arts organizations, taught drama courses at SU and Ithaca College and has adapted, directed or performed in radio plays and staged readings.

Virgil Hutchinson is the owner of BD Trauma Scene Clean, an environmental cleanup company, and is a veteran Syracuse police officer. He serves on the boards of the Syracuse Model Neighborhood Corporation, and Boy Scouts of America outreach program, and is active in the Southside business community.

Karen Kitney is former director of the Syracuse-Onondaga County Planning Agency.

Ben Lockwood director of development at Housing Visions, previously worked with the City of Syracuse Department of Community Development.

Anthony "Tony" Malavenda is a partner in the Duke-Malavenda Group, a Central New York business that serves municipal public works agencies throughout the United States. Tony attended Onondaga Community College and holds a Bachelors degree in International Relations and Economics from Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service. He serves on various local Boards including the Hiscock Legal Aid Society, The Redhouse Performing Arts Center, and Syracuse 20/20.

Kristen Mucitelli-Heath is Director of State, Federal Relations and Community Initiatives at St Joseph's Hospital and Health Center. Kristen was previously Executive Director of the Upstate Senate Democratic Caucus. Prior to that, she held the position of Vice President of Strategy and Planning and Senior Advisor to the Upstate President at the NYS Economic Development Corporation (ESDC). Kristen was the CNY Regional Director for Governor Eliot Spitzer, and from 2004-2007 was Director of Government Relations and Communications for the Manufacturers Association of Central New York. She currently serves on the boards of Syracuse 20/20 and Parks and Trails New York.

Paul Predmore is a member of the Green Seifter law firm, and a former trial attorney with the US Department of Justice, Tax Division. Paul is Legal Counsel to Housing Visions Unlimited, is a Board member of Visions for Change, Inc., is a member of the Loretto Foundation Board of Trustees, and past chair of the Board of Leadership Greater Syracuse. He also serves on the Onondaga County Bar Association Volunteer Lawyer Project and on the Advisory Board of the STOP DWI Program.

Grant Reeher is a professor of political science at Syracuse University's Maxwell School and Director of the Campbell Public Affairs Institute, teaching and promoting civic engagement. Grant has a weekly interview show, "The Campbell Conversations," on WRVO radio.

Wendy Riccelli is a tax department manager at Testone, Marshall & Discenza. She is a member of New York State Society of Certified Public Accountants, American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and National Association of Certified Valuation Analysts. She serves on various boards and volunteers for the Rescue Mission.

Peter Sarver is an Adjunct Faculty member at numerous local colleges/universities. He is the Executive Director at Welch Terrace which is supportive housing for persons disabled with HIV, Board Chair for the Institute for Ethics in Health Care, is a Management and Education Consultant to Health & Human Service Programs, and former President/CEO of Hospice & Palliative Care Associates. He has served, and continues to serve on various local and global boards and volunteers at numerous local organizations.

Addie Silvia has served on many human service and arts boards over the years. Addie is currently involved in the Women's Fund of CNY, the OCPL Foundation Board, and Solvay Tigers Youth Center.

Cynthia Stevenson is director of Caregiver Services with the Onondaga County Department of Aging and Youth and a past Executive Director of the Alzheimer's Association of CNY.

Albert Stirpe, Jr. was a financial analyst with General Electric in Syracuse and with four partners spun-off GE's Electronic Camera Operation to form CID Technologies. Following the sale of CIDTEC in 1994, Al formed a new venture, Qube Software, Inc., offering enterprise resource planning (ERP) systems and services to small and mid-sized manufacturing companies. From 2007-2010 Al served as the representative for the 121st Assembly District of New York. Al has served on the Board of Directors of Familycapped. He also serves on the Boards of Friends of the North Syracuse Early Education Program and CNY Bounty.

Merike Treier is Executive Director of the Downtown Committee of Syracuse, Inc. Merike is a 40 Below Steering Committee member, a member of the Gifford Foundation Board, and Secretary of the Board of Adapt CNY. She shares her equestrian skills in therapeutic riding activities for children with developmental disabilities.