

# Jillian Johnson: About Me

I am the Mayor Pro Tempore of the city of Durham, a long-time community organizer and activist, and a mother of two. I was elected in 2015 on a [platform](#) of racial, economic, and environmental justice, police accountability, equitable development, broadening democracy, and centering the voices of those who are most impacted by the issues facing our city. In 2017, I was unanimously elected Mayor Pro Tempore by my council colleagues.

Originally from Virginia, I moved to Durham in 1999 to attend Duke University and graduated in 2003 with a B.A. in public policy and a minor in women's studies. I have been working in the non-profit sector since 2004 with experience in administration, community organizing, mobilization, communications, social media, and information technology. I am a co-founder of [Durham for All](#), an organization working to build a multi-racial, cross-class, political vehicle in Durham.

I am active in the labor movement, the Black Lives Matter movement, and the LGBTQ movement, and was one of nearly 1,000 people arrested in 2013 as part of North Carolina's Moral Monday movement. I serve on several boards and city committees independently and through my work on city council.

The City Boards and Commissions that I serve on include Bicycle & Pedestrian Commission, Joint City/County Planning Committee, Museum of Life and Science, Audit Services, Council Procedures, DHA Liaison, Leadership Committee, Youth Commission Liaison, Women's Commission Liaison, Joint City/County, Cultural Affairs Board, Participatory Budgeting Steering Committee.

I am also a board game designer working on my first project, a cooperative game that imagines the development of a future communitarian society in Appalachia after over 100 years of climate change. I live in Durham's West End neighborhood with my partner and two sons.

I post regular updates on Facebook & Twitter:

[Personal Twitter:](#)

[City Council Facebook:](#)

[City Council Twitter:](#)

# Jillian Johnson

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## Skills

Nonprofit organization management  
Student and community organizing  
Writing and research  
Financial management and bookkeeping  
Tech support and software management  
Web design and basic coding  
Event planning and management

## Education

Duke University (B.A. cum laude, 2003, major Public Policy, minor Women's Studies)

## Experience

### City of Durham

*Council Member (2015–present)*

*Mayor Pro Tempore (2017–present)*

Served as a city council member and as Mayor Pro Tempore for the City of Durham.

### Durham for All

*Co-Founder and Coordinator (2015–present)*

Co-founded independent political organization working to mobilize Durham residents to participate in state and local governance and resistance.

### Southern Vision Alliance

*Co-founder and Operations Manager (2014–2017)*

Ran operations and administration for statewide non-profit youth organization.

### Progress North Carolina/ Progress North Carolina Action

*Web Developer (2012–2013)*

Created and managed websites and social media for state-level educational & political campaigns.

### Vision 2.0 Technology

*Co-founder & Technology Consultant (2011–2014)*

Provided technical support, web development, training workshops, financial management, marketing, fundraising, and general administration.

### Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions-USA

*Media & Web Coordinator/Administrative Assistant (2011–2013)*

Managed websites, social media presence, and email marketing program and provided administrative support.

### **Action for Community in Raleigh**

*Media, Marketing, and Financial Consultant (2011)*

Created a website, social media marketing plan, and bookkeeping system for a nonprofit summer youth program.

### **Southern Coalition for Social Justice**

*Office Manager (2008-2010)*

Provided general administrative support, tech support, bookkeeping, budgeting, financial reporting, event planning, fundraising, human resources, and front-desk reception.

### **SURGE Network**

*Co-Director (2006-2008)*

Bookkeeping, general operations, tech support, fundraising, events, membership coordination, student organizing, supervision of volunteers, fellows, and interns.

### **Service Workers United**

*Campus Organizer (2005)*

Coordinated student solidarity efforts as part of a national campaign to organize service workers into a new labor union.

### **Duke University Medical Center**

*Program Coordinator (2003-2005)*

Provided administrative services to the Pediatric and Internal Medicine/Pediatric Residency Programs including scheduling and managing interviews, database updates, event planning, and IT consulting.

### **United Students against Sweatshops**

*Regional Organizer (2002-2003)*

Coordinated labor solidarity efforts of students on 15 college campus in the Southeast.

### **Sanford Institute of Public Policy**

*Researcher (2002-2003)*

Designed and managed an interactive website to share the working papers of institute faculty.

### **The Common Sense Foundation**

*Researcher (2002)*

Researched, authored, and edited reports on education, labor issues, legal inequality, and economic policy.

### **Community Board Service**

Local Progress (2018 - present)

Local Progress NC Organizing Committee (2018 - present)

Southern Vision Alliance (2017 - 2019)

Outside In 180 (2013 - 2019)

Durham Solidarity Center (2010 - 2019)

Triangle Jobs with Justice Organizing Committee (2013-2015)

Occupy Durham (2012-2013)

Independent Voices (2009-2010)

NC Nonprofit Workers Union (2007-2010)

Common Sense Foundation (2007-2009)