

Thursday, June 27th: Intensive Seminars

Attendance will be capped at 20 participants per seminar unless otherwise noted.

Building Community Economy with Community Engagement

Led by Andy Toy and Somaly Osteen, SEAMAAC

Take a tour of the South 7th Street commercial corridor and adjacent Mifflin Square Park to hear about the challenges and successes of working in a very diverse community. The SEAMAAC team and other stakeholders will share some of their strategies to reach a broad range of stakeholders in the planning work and how they've been able to build key support for the major Rebuilding of Mifflin Square Park. In addition, see the diverse South 7th Street commercial corridor up close, where every business but one is run by immigrants from at least 10 different countries and languages. And see and hear about current plans to better organize around cleaning and safety, design improvements (from a recent Community Design Collaborative set of recommendations), events and promotions, and programming, including the SoPhiE Food Truck. We will be sampling some of the delicious ethnic cuisine on South 7th Street as well!

Building our Clout through Community Organizing— When We Fight We Win

Led by nationally recognized organizer and educator David Hunt & Christi Clark and Nora Lichtash of Women's Community Revitalization Project

This will be an interactive session focusing on working at a community level to support people in bringing about meaningful change in their neighborhood or city-wide. The session will cover identifying common concerns, developing an analysis and empowering people who are affected by that issue to come together and build their power. Participants can be new to community organizing or come to this session to sharpen their skills.

Conducting Walk Audits

Led by Dr. Jeffrey Doshna and Dr. Lynn Mandarano, Tyler School of Art, Temple University

Wednesday's session documented two successful examples of using walk audits by local community development corporations. In this Thursday field learning, participants will be trained on the use of the tool. The training will start with a brief overview at Jefferson. The group will then travel to an intersection in a nearby neighborhood, where the facilitators will demonstrate how to do an audit. Teams will then disperse to other nearby intersections, and conduct their own mock audit, each under the supervision of a facilitator. All teams will then return to Jefferson to share lessons learned. Accessibility note: The training will require participants to traverse approximately 5-7 blocks from the conference (1001 Locust Street) to the field location. Philadelphia streets in this area do meet ADA requirements. The majority of the training will be conducted outdoors, without the benefit of amplification. Limit 16 participants

Introduction to Healing Centered Engagement: What It Means for You and Your Communities

Led by Tess Donie, Philadelphia Parks & Recreation and Rodney Mobley, New Kensington CDC

This will be an interactive discussion-based workshop introducing concepts related to the impacts of trauma, stress, and oppression. The session will provide new tools for individuals, organizations, and communities to promote healing and empowerment. It will bring a new lens to explore the concepts of safety and power in our communities.

Neighborhood Planning... A Case Discussion

Led by Lamar Wilson of V. Lamar Wilson Associates with support from Kimberly Allen, Wells Fargo Regional Foundation; Rose Gray, Asociación Puertorriqueños En Marcha; and Ben Bryant, Interface Design

Join in an interactive conversation examining the envisioning, development and implementation of a multi-year revitalization plan by an Eastern North Philadelphia community. The team of Wilson Associates, Interface Studio, APM and the Wells Fargo Regional Foundation will walk through key components to prepare for, take on, and carry out action plans. Bring your experiences, questions and ideas to learn from one another and help inform the neighborhood planning process and the products envisioned by residents and other community stakeholders who helped shape them.

Seminar Facilitator Bios

Kimberly Allen

Senior Vice President/ Senior Program Officer, Wells Fargo Regional Foundation/CDC

Kimberly Allen was the founding staff member of the Well Fargo Regional Foundation and CDC and continues to oversee more than \$6 million in annual grants and investments for long-term community revitalization in low-income communities across the region. Kimberly holds a BA from University of Maryland in organizational psychology and dynamics, is a 2006 graduate of Leadership Philadelphia, and serves on several boards and committees.

Ben Bryant

Director of Special Projects, Interface Studio, LLC

Ben Bryant is the Director of Special Projects with Interface Studio, LLC, a planning and design firm with extensive experience helping cities understand how public spaces can be catalysts for city-wide and neighborhood-level change. Ben is a two-time winner of the Knight Cities Challenge and creator of the Swim Philly initiative, which reimagined 5 public pools in Philadelphia as vibrant public spaces where neighbors of different backgrounds can connect and cool-off in the summer. Swim Philly has since been replicated in Camden, NJ and in New York City at 5 city pools in low-income neighborhoods in summer 2018. Since 2016, Ben has been leading a team at Interface Studio to develop and deploy a measurement framework to understand the social impact of public space investments for the Reimagining the Civic Commons initiative.

Christi Clark

Organizing Director, Women's Community Revitalization Project

The Women's Community Revitalization Project (WCRP) is a Philadelphia-based grassroots community development corporation committed to social and economic equity for low-income women and their families. Christi oversees WCRP's policy and community engagement work. She staffs the Philadelphia Coalition for Affordable Communities, a coalition of faith, labor, disability, community and urban agriculture organizations that is working to win more resources for affordable, accessible housing and green space. Christi also supports WCRP's community land trust, dedicated to creating permanently affordable housing. She has an 18 year history as a labor and community organizer and oversees WCRP's organizing and outreach staff who implements both neighborhood and city-wide campaigns.

Tess Donie

Community Engagement Manager, Philadelphia Parks and Recreation

Tess Donie is the Community Engagement Manager for Philadelphia Parks and Recreation (PPR). In her new role, she will work with PPR and Recreation Advisory Councils to build and strengthen their connection, and to manage a sustainable network of recreation volunteers. She will also support staff and community members around training/capacity building in best practices, PPR standards, processes, and sustainability for recreation centers.

Tess previously served as the Associate Director of Community Engagement for New Kensington CDC where she oversaw the organization's outreach and organizing strategies in Kensington. There she facilitated the formalization and leadership development of community-based organizations, created

programs for community building and organizing, and co-developed a curriculum for trauma-informed community leadership development.

Prior to working in Kensington, Tess worked in community-based programming in Guatemala and West Philadelphia. She is an experienced facilitator in community leadership, equity/restorative justice, and trauma-informed care. Tess is a graduate of Trinity College with BA's in International Studies: Latin American Studies and Hispanic Studies, where she also played basketball.

Jeffrey Doshna, PhD, AICP

Department Chair, Department of Planning and Community Development, Tyler School of Art, Temple University

Jeffrey P. Doshna is a professional planner, economist and community leader. He teaches courses in community and economic development, quantitative and qualitative research methods and supervises the graduate planning studio. He currently is the Chair of the Department of Planning and Community Development at Temple University, and since January 2019 he has served as a Councilman in Flemington, New Jersey.

His primary research area is community economic development with a focus on community development finance. His current work explores the influences of neoliberalism on the practice of community development through programs like the Federal Healthy Food Financing Initiative. He has previously conducted research on microenterprise development, state economic development policy and efforts to promote entrepreneurship in low-income neighborhoods.

Doshna is actively engaged in practice as an American Institute of Certified Planner (AICP). He has served on the Flemington Planning Board since 2006, supporting the creation of its affordable housing element, its sustainability element, as well as the latest revision to the Borough's Master Plan in 2010. He was Chair of the Flemington Environmental Commission in 2008, authored Flemington's Natural Resource Inventory in 2010 and led the effort for Flemington's initial Bronze-level certification within the Sustainable Jersey Program in 2011. He regularly volunteers his time and expertise to other local planning initiatives, and serves on the boards of a number of community non-profits.

Dr. Doshna holds Bachelor's degrees in Economic and in Geography from The Johns Hopkins University, a Master of City and Regional Planning from Rutgers University, and a Doctorate in Planning and Public Policy from Rutgers University.

Rose Gray

Senior Vice President of Community & Economic Development, Asociación Puertorriqueños En Marcha

Rose V. Gray is the Senior Vice President of Community and Economic Development at Asociación Puertorriqueños En Marcha (APM), a non-profit community development corporation in North Philadelphia. Since joining the organization in 1990, Ms. Gray has been actively engaged in the revitalization of eastern North Philadelphia, a diverse community that has historically been comprised by Latinos and African Americans. She is responsible for overseeing all aspects of APM's community-based revitalization plan, from community organizing to planning and development. In addition to the physical redevelopment work, Ms. Gray manages APM's rental and commercial portfolio, in addition to a housing counseling program which provides budgeting, pre- and post-mortgage counseling, credit repair, weatherization and basic system repair programs to persons of low and moderate income.

During her tenure at APM, Ms. Gray has successfully leveraged over \$200 million in investments to implement a comprehensive neighborhood revitalization strategy. She has developed over 350 units of affordable housing, which include low-income housing tax credit projects and the successful Pradera home development, a 153-unit homeownership zone within walking distance of Borinquen Plaza, a 44,000 square foot retail center (also developed by APM) that includes a supermarket, Laundromat and a credit union. In addition, Ms. Rose was responsible for the Paseo Verde Transit Oriented Development mixed-use development, which houses 120 units of market/affordable rental units and 30,000 square feet of retail/office space that consist of a Federally Qualified Health Center, a pharmacy, fitness gym, community center, and APM headquarters. The Paseo Verde TOD received triple LEED Platinum status in 2014 and is the first LEED Platinum Neighborhood Development in the Nation and second in the World.

Ms. Gray is a civic leader. She was one of seven delegates appointed by Governor Ridge to the “Summit for America’s Future.” She is a member of the Governor’s Advisory Board on Community and Economic Development, and serves on various boards and committees, TRF New Market Advisory Board, the Urban Land Institute, the Design Collaborative and was a past Board President for the Philadelphia Association of Community Development Corporations. Ms. Gray was appointed to the Commission on Aging by Mayor Michael Nutter in 2011 and was re-appointed in 2016 by Mayor Jim Kenny. Ms. Gray is a Guest Lecturer at Temple University, the University of Pennsylvania, Haverford College and Rutgers New Brunswick Campus

David Hunt

Founder, Hunt & Associates

David is a nationally recognized teacher and leader in organizing for social change. He has been trained in many small and large group facilitation methods which serve him well as a nationally sought after speaker, facilitator, trainer, planner, thinker, community and organization builder.

In 1996, David Hunt & Associates was founded to serve as an institution dedicated to citizen empowerment and community development. Much of his research, training and methodology were born during his three-year W.K. Kellogg Foundation National Leadership Fellowship. David uses a wide variety of techniques and tools including storytelling to create sacred space where the voices and visions of all that are gathered can be shared and heard.

Prior to starting David Hunt & Associates, David served for eight years, 1988 -1995, as the Executive Director of the Chicago Rehab Network, a 25-year-old coalition organization of Chicago’s community development corporations dedicated to Community Development without Displacement. Along the journey David has won many awards in addition to his W.K. Kellogg National Leadership Fellowship: Crain’s Chicago Business “People under 40 to watch”, The Chicago Organizers of the Year Award from the John D. and Catherine T. McArthur Foundation and the Woods and Weiboldt Foundations. From 1998 to 2012, David served as one of four principal trainers of the Midwest Academy, one of the nation’s oldest and most prestigious organizing for social change training institutions.

Nora Lichtash

Executive Director, Women's Community Revitalization Project

Nora has worked with the Women's Community Revitalization Project (WCRP), a multi-racial community development organization committed to social and economic equity for low income women and their families, since its founding in 1987. Working first as a volunteer, and then as its director. She has managed the organization's growth from an operating budget of \$50,000 to its current annual operating budget in excess of \$1.5 million.

WCRP is known for the quality, innovation and effectiveness of its affordable housing and community development strategies; and as an organization that involves low-income women in the process of community building, self-empowerment and change. Most recently the women of WCRP have been speaking out and organizing to make sure that long-term residents in North Philadelphia have the ability to remain in the community and not be pushed out due to high property values and rents. As part of this work they have created the Community Justice Land Trust. Nora has helped to create a group that builds power and honors leadership, dignity and justice in the community.

Lynn Mandarano, PhD

Professor, Temple University, Tyler School of Art, Department of Planning & Community Development

Dr. Mandarano holds a Ph.D. in City and Regional Planning from the University of Pennsylvania, MBA in Management Science from Iona College, and BS in Mechanical Engineering from Cornell University. For her dissertation research she developed a comprehensive framework for assessing outcomes of collaborative environmental planning programs and applied it to evaluate the effectiveness of habitat protection and restoration in the New York/New Jersey Harbor under the voluntary National Estuary Program.

Her research continues to explore how collaborative institutions, city agencies, communities and individuals develop human capital (i.e., knowledge and scientific information), social capital, political capital, and other capacities to address complex environmental and social concerns. Her work has been published in leading planning journals including the, Journal of Planning Literature, Journal of Environmental Planning and Management, Journal of Planning, Education and Research, Local Environment, Planning Practice and Research, and Society and Natural Resources among others.

Prior to becoming a professor, Dr. Mandarano worked for more than 20 years as a professional consultant in the fields of environmental engineering and environmental policy for US municipal, county and state governments, private business, and international clients. In 1998, Mandarano started her own consulting practice, The Natural Resource, which is certified as a woman-owned business enterprise in Pennsylvania and Philadelphia.

Rodney Mobley

Community Engagement Associate, New Kensington CDC

Rodney was born and raised in West Philadelphia in a single parent dwelling, with his mother and older sister. At the Age of 13, Rodney became Homeless by choice. The home he once knew became a hostile environment that pushed him to pack his things and move to the streets of Philadelphia. He has been through many trials and tribulations from being profiled and arrested in his own community, to becoming a global citizen, giving back to communities in need across the world.

He currently works in North Philadelphia for New Kensington Community Development Corporation (NKCDC) as a Community Engagement Associate as of November 2017. Prior to his first year at NKCDC, Rodney worked in West Philadelphia as a Community Connector Outreach & Engagement Coordinator with the People's Emergency Center Community Development Corporation since August 2013. As the former Coordinator of a group of 23 emerging and active community leaders between the ages of 13- 24, he has amplified his passion to tackle Urban Youth challenges that are current barriers in our modern time, and advocate for socioeconomic growth within our communities. He holds many accolades from having a Diploma in Wilderness Education and Medicine, to being certified in mental health and an expert in organizing Community Programming Curriculum.

Somaly Osteen

Community Engagement Specialist, SEAMAAC

Somaly Osteen has more than eight years of experience working for multiple local and international non-profit organizations. Somaly started her career in the country of Cambodia while taking part as a community advocate, community engagement, and development. Currently, Somaly serves as a Community Development Specialist with SEAMAAC where she works within a diverse community filled with immigrants and refugees located in South Philadelphia. While providing assistance to help strengthen local businesses around the community, Somaly is also responsible for building strong relationships with the community where trust has been broken. The focus within the community has been to partner with different resources to strategically cater to the community's needs. Somaly believes that sustainable development starts from each individual need and sustainable change through unity.

Andy Toy

Community Development and Development Director, SEAMAAC

Andrew (Andy) Toy is the Community Development and Development Director for SEAMAAC whose mission is "to support and serve immigrants and refugees and other politically, socially and economically marginalized communities as they seek to advance the condition of their lives in the United States." Among other duties, Andy has successfully led the Conceptual Plan for Mifflin Square Park moving towards implementing a \$5.3 million improvement. Andy and the team also manage the SoPhiE (South Philly East) Food Truck project. Previously, Andy was the Managing Director of the Eastern Tower/Chinatown Community Center project, a \$77+ Million mixed-use community development. Andy is recognized as a thought leader and innovator when it comes to community and economic development, building a successful Commercial Corridor Initiative at the Local Initiatives Support Corporation and before that building Philadelphia's Brownfields Program.

Andy is currently the Treasurer of The Merchants Fund, Board Member of The Public School Notebook, and is a founder of the Philadelphia Public School Giving Circle as well as United Voices for Philadelphia and was an appointee on the Philadelphia Zoning Code Commission. In 2006 Andy was selected as one of the top 101 Connectors in Philadelphia.

Andy holds a B.A. in Economics and a Master's Degree in Public and Urban Policy, both from the University of Pennsylvania. In his spare time he likes to listen to and create music and eat and cook a variety of cuisines.

Lamar Wilson

Principal, Wilson Associates, Inc.

Lamar has been engaged in the work of community economic development spanning forty years. He provides advisory services to entities engaged in community economic development, with a focus on affordable housing, neighborhood strategic planning and organizational strategic planning. Clients have worked with him to assess the feasibility of affordable housing projects and help secure equity and debt financing to support them. In addition, Lamar has assisted CDCs, philanthropic organizations, and financial institutions in crafting business plans to help guide their work activities and identify investment opportunities in their respective market areas. He has an undergraduate degree in Economics from Boston College (1974) and a Master of Urban Planning degree from the University of Michigan (1976).