OFA State and Tribal Technical Assistance and Resources
Engaging TANF Participants in the Green Economy

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Reginald Black, *Workforce Development Specialist, D.C. Infrastructure Academy (DCIA), District of Columbia's Department of Employment Services*

Reginald Black is a Marine Scientist and Social Entrepreneur dedicated to using innovative ways to solve complex problems in our educational system and community. His energy and enthusiasm as an educator/motivator and passion for cultivating the minds of our youth has brought him a tremendous number of opportunities in various professional settings. Reginald has served as a STEM teacher and adjunct Professor in Environmental Science and Oceanography at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES) Maryland Coastal Bays Program, and in the Prince George's County Public Schools as well as a Career/College success navigator for an Adult Public Charter School in the District of Columbia. Reginald received both his Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science and a Master of Science in Natural Resource Management with a concentration in Marine Estuary Environmental Science at UMES.

Bridget Brown, *Director of Workforce Innovations, ICF*

Bridget Brown serves as ICF's Director of Workforce Innovations and has over 28 years of experience in workforce development, work-based learning, program improvement, and capacity building at the local, state, and national levels. Prior to ICF, Bridget was the Executive Director of the National Association of Workforce Development Professionals where she oversaw its significant expansion of training and technical assistance. She had the privilege of serving two presidents in her role as National Skill Standards Board's Director of Program Development at the U.S. Department of Labor and was the co-director of the Manufacturing Skills Standards Council where she worked directly with unions and manufacturers to improve the skills of front-line workers. She has served on several advisory boards related to improving employment outcomes and ensuring equity for individuals in non-traditional occupations.

Elizabeth (Liza) Ehrlich, *Chief of Workforce Development, NYC Department of Parks and Recreation*

Elizabeth (Liza) Ehrlich is the Chief of Workforce Development for NYC Parks. She joined the agency in 2002 and has dedicated her career there to administering workforce development services and transitional employment programs with a variety of NYC agencies. The largest program and inter-agency partnership is the Parks Opportunity Program (POP), which is jointly administered with the NYC Human Resources Administration/ Department of Social Services and is one of the nation's longest running and largest programs of its kind. In her current role as Chief, Liza designs, implements, and improves upon innovative programming which allows trainees of all ages and backgrounds to perform valuable work for NYC Parks, increasing civic pride and greening city neighborhoods, while pursuing sustainable employment and financial self-sufficiency. Liza has presented on POP and other programs at national and international conferences and is always proud to share strategies to support partner organizations'

efforts in transitioning their clients to self-sufficiency. Liza holds a bachelor's degree in American History and Government from the University of Delaware, and lives in Manhattan.

Channing Shepherd, *National Competition Lead, Brownfields Job Training Grants, Environmental Protection Agency*

Channing Shepherd is the National Competition Lead for the Brownfields Job Training Grant Program in EPA's Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization (OBLR). In this capacity, Channing is responsible for coordinating the Job Training grant competition and providing guidance and support to EPA regional brownfields offices. Prior to joining EPA, Channing worked as a GIS Analyst in the private sector.

Dr. Carol Zabin, *Director of Green Economy Program, University of California, Berkeley*

Carol Zabin (Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley) directs the Labor Center's Green Economy program. She is a labor economist whose research has addressed low-wage labor markets, labor standards, workforce development, and other economic development and labor issues in the United States. Dr. Zabin has consulted with numerous unions and nonprofits on strategies and policies to improve jobs in human services and the green economy. Her current research focuses on the impact of climate and clean energy policy on California's economy, workers, and labor unions. Recent publications include Putting California on the High Road: A Jobs and Climate Action Plan for 2030, Diversity in California's Clean Energy Workforce, Advancing Equity in California Climate Policy, and Workforce Issues and Energy Efficiency Programs. Appointed by Governor Brown, Dr. Zabin sits on the executive council of the California Workforce Development Board. Before joining the Labor Center, Dr. Zabin was on the faculty at Tulane University and UCLA.