



Presbyterian Mission
**Self-Development
of People**



Community Engagement Days

9/19 - 9/21

SDOP in Partnership with Presbytery of Greater Atlanta Presenters/Panelists

David Roth comes to Memorial Drive Ministries with extensive experience in both churches and nonprofits. He has been involved with refugee services across the Southeast and is a graduate of Emory University's Candler School of Theology. As Executive Director, David is responsible for vision and mission, collaborative partnerships, and day-to-day management. He is passionate about seeing the Memorial Drive campus filled with dynamic worship, transformational relationships, and innovative community services. David is from South Carolina and is married to Kathleen.

Doris Mukangu came to the United States from her native Kenya in 1996 to study Medical Technology. After graduating from Auburn University, Alabama, with a B.S. degree in Biology, she worked in the area of preventative medicine for six years. While volunteering at the DeKalb County Board of Health, she came across an opportunity to work with refugees from Burundi and Congo helping with language translation, health promotion and education. With her extensive work experience in preventative medicine and health promotion, she co-founded Amani Women Center (AWC) in 2006.

As the Executive Director of Amani Women Center, Doris has an MPH from Emory, Rollins School of Public Health and a graduate of Harvard Kennedy School of Non-Profit Management. Doris has over twelve years management experience working with non-profit organizations on refugee affairs. She has a sterling background in initiating and implementing culturally appropriate methods of training, program planning, evaluation, conference planning, and has a strong commitment to promoting well-being, advocacy and social upliftment to the most vulnerable populations.

Doris initiated Johari Africa; a social enterprise program working with refugee women in Clarkston, Georgia and parts of Africa to make beautiful handicrafts that are showcased at the Amani Women Center and now featured in various boutiques.

Doris is a board member of Friends of Refugees (FOR) whose mission is to empower refugees through opportunities that provide for their well-being, education and employment.

Doris is a former vice president of the board of Tapestri Inc. whose mission is dedicated to ending violence and oppression in refugee and immigrant communities, using culturally competent and appropriate methods.

Leah Lonsbury is the founder and Executive Director of Just Bakery of Atlanta, a ministry partner on Memorial Drive Ministries' campus. Just Bakery is a non-profit that provides paid job training, professional certification, and living wage work in partnership with our neighbors who were resettled as refugees. Leah was raised in Kansas City and has lived in the Atlanta metro area twice, drawn here the first time by Candler School of Theology and the second time by community, church, and climate. Leah taught high school English; wrote professionally; served churches; and provided credentialing and pastoral care for pastors for her denominational home, the Alliance of Baptists, before starting Just Bakery in 2017. Justin (her spouse and champion of 16 yrs.) and their kids Aiden (14 yrs.) and Mara (10 yrs.) keep Leah busy and buoyed at home.

Jennifer Green directs the Refugee Family Literacy Program for over 300 refugee mothers and children each year at 2 campuses in the Clarkston area. This program offers instruction in English and citizenship to refugee parents, an onsite early childhood

development program for their children, daily Parent and Child Together classes, and nutrition/parenting/cultural navigation workshops for students who speak over 30 different languages. The program employs and provides training for more than 35 refugee/immigrant teachers. Jennifer has her M.Div. from Princeton Theological Seminary and formerly taught Old Testament and languages at Columbia Theological Seminary, Candler School of Theology, and Mercer School of Theology. She has four children and is married to Clifton who teaches at Emory. She and her family are members at Oakhurst Presbyterian Church, one of several Presbyterian churches in Atlanta that have partnered with Refugee Family Literacy Program in significant ways during the past five years.

Terence Courtney was born and raised in Atlanta Georgia and been an advocate for equity for twenty years. He began this work with the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) where he brought together African American, Latino, and Asian workers to improve wages and working conditions in Atlanta, Los Angeles, and San Francisco. Terence led union campaigns in the public and private sectors and later was appointed to be the union's State-wide Representative in Georgia.

Terence increased the scope of his organizing work when he became one of the founding members and first director of a coalition of labor unions, student groups, community groups and faith organizations called Atlanta Jobs with Justice (AJWJ). Later, he co-founded a community organization to meet the needs of an evolving human rights campaign in Atlanta's public sector. Called the Atlanta Public Sector Alliance (APSA), significant victories were won in the struggle against neoliberal attacks on public life.

Expanding his movement-building work still further, the focus of his leadership grew from City-wide to Southern Region-wide. Terence became the Southeastern Regional Organizer for the Black Alliance for Just Immigration (BAJI). Creating committees and coalitions with US born and foreign born (immigrants) of African descent in the South, Terence facilitated a process whereby everyday working people were able to educate themselves and address pivotal issues concerning the intersections between immigrant rights and mass incarceration from a Black perspective. This experience refined his strategy for economic justice even further. His new theory of change came to not only include workplace-based & community-based fights, but also struggles to democratize the economy *itself* - through Cooperatives Development.

Terence next developed human rights and cooperative development exploratory committees. One of which led to the formation of an organization called the Organization for Human Rights and Democracy (OHRD), where he served as a Founder and the Director of Organizing overseeing campaigns against school takeover and privatization. The other project became Cooperative Atlanta; a committee of diverse Atlantans assembled to study the Cooperative Development movement and strategize on how cooperatives may better serve grassroots communities. From this collective research, study and dialogue, Terence and the team began to grasp the real potential that Cooperatives had to offer. This work brought Terence and his colleagues into closer contact with the rich history and practical experiences of organizations like the Federation of Southern Cooperatives.

The outstanding and socially transformative role that the Federation of Southern Cooperatives has played in struggling for Cooperative Economic Development, Land Retention and Advocacy inspired Terence to continue his commitment to advancing economic justice by joining the ranks of the Federation. Currently Terence serves as the Director of Cooperative Development & Strategic Initiatives, where he supports the cooperative economic development of newly emerging cooperatives, while organizing with members to strengthen existing cooperatives. He is fortunate to work with staff from across the US South to accomplish the goals and objectives of Federation members and the Cooperative movement at large.

Phil Tom is on the SDOP National Committee and is also the Executive Director of the International Council of Community Churches.

David Lewicki is Co-Pastor at North Decatur Presbyterian Church in Decatur, GA. David and his congregation are active members with an IAF organization in Metro Atlanta - Atlantans Building Leadership for Empowerment (ABLE).

Janelle Williams is Senior Associate at the Atlanta Civic Site for the Annie E. Casey Foundation. She oversees economic opportunity initiatives for the Annie E. Casey Foundation's Atlanta Civic Site. One of the nation's philanthropic leaders in community change, the Annie E. Casey Foundation has a \$2.6 billion endowment that is committed to supporting brighter futures for children across the country and the Atlanta Civic Site is one of the most important places for the Foundation's body of work. Janelle develops collaborative partnerships to advance strategies and goals that help residents develop their skills and access family-supporting career opportunities that enable them to build wealth.

Janelle is leading several efforts to create more inclusive economies, including the Atlanta Wealth Building Initiative, a diverse partnership of stakeholders seeking to grow African-American entrepreneurship and close the racial wealth gap. She served as the lead author of Casey's *Changing the Odds: The Race for Results in Atlanta* report and editor of the Partnership for Southern Equity's *Growing the Future: The Case for Economic Inclusion in Atlanta*. Her work has served as a national model to other grant makers looking to operationalize racial equity.

Janelle Williams has extensive research experience in an array of socioeconomic and international issues. Prior to the Casey Foundation, she led efforts to incorporate data analysis and evaluation into program design and implementation for more than four years at the Center for Working Families Inc. Before that, she helped assess the statewide implementation of the Reading First curriculum in kindergarten through third grade at the University of Georgia. She also has served as a congressional fellow in the U.S. House of Representatives, conducting policy research and analysis on issues tied to education, health, workforce development and immigration. She also served as a congressional fellow in the U.S. House of Representatives, conducting policy research and analysis on issues tied to education, health, workforce development and immigration.

As a fellow, she was part of a team that drafted federal legislation to promote a community-centered approach to deterring gang violence and reducing recidivism rates among juveniles that was unanimously adopted as an amendment to the College Opportunity and Affordability Act. She has also conducted a range of research around several international policy issues including the implementation of economic sanctions, ethnic-based conflict and the Caribbean Single Market Economy. She served as a youth organizer in her native homeland, Trinidad and Tobago, before immigrating to the United States.

Janelle holds a doctorate in international family and community studies from Clemson University, a master's degree in public administration from the University of Georgia and bachelor's degrees in psychology and sociology from Florida Memorial University. She is a fellow for the Association of Black Foundation Executives' Connecting Leaders program and an alumnus of the Atlanta Leaders for Results and LEAD Atlanta programs. She is an active community volunteer and currently serves on the board of Grantmakers for Southern Progress, WorkSource Atlanta, the Atlanta Wealth Building Initiative and the Atlanta CareerRise Leadership Council. She also participates in the For Her campaign, an effort led by black women to end commercial sexual exploitation of other black girls and children.

Tanya Washington is with Atlanta based Community Benefits Coalition.

Cliff Albright is with Black Voters Matter in Atlanta.

David Barnhart is Associate for Story Ministry with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) and a producer and director for PDA's Story Ministry. He produces, directs, and promotes documentaries for PDA for the purpose of tracking and sharing stories of disaster relief and recovery. He also develops and facilitates PDA Story Ministry initiatives with survivors and their communities that educate the public about the continuum of disaster preparedness, disaster, and disaster recovery.

Deborah Scott, Executive Director of Georgia Stand-UP and founder of "It's time to TRADE-UP", is a 2012 "White House Champion of Change," honoree and is a dynamic leader in national and local community empowerment initiatives. Deborah is a founding member and Executive Board Member of the TransFormation Alliance, the Atlanta SPARCC team that is focused on Equitable Transit Oriented Development. Deborah also serves a founding board member and current vice-chair of the National Board of Directors of the Partnership for Working Families (PWF). Driven by principles of social justice, economic and racial equity, and community inclusion, for more than a dozen years, Ms. Scott has served as the inaugural Executive Director and a co-founder of the non-profit (Georgia) STAND-UP, a "Think and Act Tank for Working Communities," and founder of TRADE-UP, a DOL national model for skills training and workforce development. Deborah has innovated workforce development models with the Build-UP Program, and WE SHOW UP, an entry-level prep-work force infrastructure program from film and television. Deborah has worked in State and City Government and with organized labor, community based and national civic engagement organizations, and has helped to build and sustain coalitions among neighborhood groups, labor, academic institutions, business, environmentalists, and government. Deborah has had significant success in community quality of life public policies, workforce advances, and training that enables workers and their families to advance. STAND-UP is based in Atlanta, GA and is active in the southeast region, providing technical assistance to support collaborative partnerships, leadership, community benefit strategies, and basic organizing techniques. Stand-Up established a signature civic leadership training program in 2005 and has since graduated over 300 community leaders and over 250 interns. Deborah is a trainer, and expert implementer of complex, mission-driven initiatives and widely recognized as a visionary thought leader and "doer". She is an active organizer, community engagement facilitator and has a heart and history of providing public service and community capacity building for marginalized communities in the South. Ms. Scott a graduate of Clark (College) Atlanta University, has lived and worked in the Atlanta and the southern region for more than 35 years, grew up in Oberlin, Ohio and Boston, MA. A nationally recognized leader, Deborah received numerous awards including the 2015 Rainbow Push Innovation Award and the National Black Women's Roundtable "SiStar" Award in 2016, and Labor Leader of the Year in 2013.

Rev. Dr. Alonzo Johnson is the Coordinator for the Self-Development of People Program (SDOP). He has 25 years of experience in urban, youth, education, creative arts, peacemaking, anti-poverty and social justice ministries. Rev. Dr. Johnson served an urban congregation in Philadelphia, PA and has worked as a volunteer chaplain in prison ministry for 9 years. He has a BA from Bloomfield College, NJ, and an MDiv and DMin from Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary.

Margaret Mwale is Associate for Community Development & Constituent Relations for SDOP. She provides leadership and guidance for the program in working with disadvantaged communities in developing partnerships; interprets the SDOP ministry to Mid Councils and congregations and oversees the Mid Council grant process. Margaret has a bachelor's degree in economics from Bluffton University, OH and a master's degree in economics from Eastern Illinois University and has completed certification training at the Chalmers Center for economic and community development at Covenant College. She has 19 years of experience working with economically disadvantaged communities including as Neighborhood Ministries Coordinator and Director of a Community Ministries Urban Youth program with PC (USA) congregations in Mobile, AL and Indianapolis, IN. Margaret is a native of Zambia.

Nina Lewis joined the SDOP staff in December 2018. In her role as administrative assistant for SDOP, she provides invaluable administrative support and works with prospective SDOP community partners, Mid Councils, SDOP National and local committee members and current community partners. Nina also works with both the National and Mid Council grant process. She has a background in accounting and an MBA in Economics and Management from the Far Eastern State Transport University in Khabarovsk, Russia. Nina is originally from Russia. She enjoys being part of the SDOP team and being a part of helping people who want to change their lives.

Clara Nunez is SDOP's Associate for Programs. Clara is originally from Ecuador and speaks fluent Spanish and English. She has a degree in Electrical Engineering and completed a master's degree in Business Administration from the University Carlos III de Madrid in Madrid, Spain. Clara manages and coordinates the day to day work of SDOP and the National Committee. She implements the program policies and facilitates the grant process of establishing domestic partnerships. She interprets the ministry of the Self-Development of People to potential partners, congregations, committee members and community partners. She also develops direction and content for the SDOP website and other social media. Clara has over 18 years of experience working with low income communities.

Teresa Bidart is SDOP's Mission Specialist/bilingual. She provides support to the International SDOP program. She facilitates the work of the International Task Force by coordinating meetings with their members in US and overseas. She reviews and recommend payments of funding decisions from international partners. Teresa develops and maintain relationship with ecumenical partners. She advises international partners on the applications process. She translates correspondence from Spanish to English and vice versa. Teresa has been working with SDOP for over 16 years specifically with overseas low-income communities. Teresa is originally from Cuba. She has a degree in Mathematical Cybernetics from Havana University.

Self-Development of People Committee Members

Rev. Rebecca Reyes, Chair of National Self-Development of People, South Task Force

Rev. Gail Porter Nelson, South Task Force

Rev. Rebecca Davis, South Task Force

Rev. Wesley Woo, West Task Force member and Chair

Rev. Larry Low, West Task Force

Pat Osoinach, West Task Force

Susan Dobkins, West Task Force

Rev. Laura Krauss, West Task Force

Mandy Adams-Henderson, Midwest Task Force member & Chair

Elizabeth Swee, Midwest Task Force

Phyllis Edwards, Midwest Task Force

Tracy Dace, Midwest Task Force

Rev. Phil Tom, Northeast Task Force

Rick Morrow, Northeast Task Force