



## 2010–2011 Cohort



**Tonya Allen** is vice president of Programs at The Skillman Foundation, a private foundation whose mission is to improve the lives of children in Southeast Michigan. Allen oversees all the Foundation’s grantmaking investments and change-making strategies to improve schools and neighborhoods, and to address persistent urban issues.

Allen joined Skillman’s staff in 2004 as a program director and has also worked as a program officer for the C.S. Mott Foundation and Thompson-McCully Foundation. She was the founder and executive director of Detroit Parent Network, a parent membership organization dedicated to improving educational options for children. Allen’s first foray into philanthropy and community change work began as a division director at Warren/Conner Development Coalition, where she managed the Annie E. Casey Foundation’s Rebuilding Communities Initiative.

Allen was named to Crain’s Detroit Business 40 under 40 list, received the national Brick Award given to young activists under 30 by Rolling Stone Magazine, and has been honored with several other awards locally. She attended the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, where she completed her BA, MPH and MSW.



**Fatima Angeles**, director of Evaluation and Organizational Learning for The California Wellness Foundation (TCWF), joined the Foundation in February 1998 as a program director, where she managed the Foundation’s Children and Youth Community Health Initiative (CYCHI) and oversaw grantmaking for two issues: environmental health and work and health.

Before joining TCWF, Angeles was a program associate at The Hasbro Children’s Foundation in New York City and an advisory committee member for CYCHI. Angeles’ other philanthropic experience includes work with The Commonwealth Fund and the corporate philanthropy program of Pfizer Inc. She also served as a senior research assistant for a one-year evaluation of the National/Regional Minority Organization initiative of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Angeles has

experience working with adolescents in San Francisco, serving as director of the South of Market Teen Center and project coordinator for Asian American Communities Against AIDS.

Angeles is a 1992 graduate of the University of California, Berkeley, and received her Master's degree in public health from Columbia University in 1997. She is a board member of Grantmakers In Health, Northern California Grantmakers, and the Asian and Pacific Islander Health Forum, a national nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the health and well-being of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. Angeles also serves on the funding board of the Northern California Environmental Grassroots Fund, which works to support and build the capacity of small, grassroots environmental groups. She has also served as a board member of the Asian & Pacific Islander Wellness Center and Funders Concerned About AIDS.



**Dale Robinson Anglin** is currently a program officer with the Victoria Foundation. Founded in 1924, Victoria is one of the oldest private foundations in the U.S. Today, the foundation's mission is two-fold: to improve the lives of children and families in Newark, New Jersey, and to protect water resources and preserve precious open space statewide. The foundation annually awards about \$10 million in these two areas. In Newark, it focuses specifically on economic and neighborhood development, education, and youth and families. Anglin is a generalist working in all of the foundation's grant making areas. She recently helped launch a new education research collaborative for the Newark public school district, and a new professional learning community for summer and afterschool programs.

Anglin previously served as the director of Development and director of Special Initiatives at New Community Corporation (NCC) in Newark, the largest community development corporation in the U.S., with over 1,000 employees and an annual budget of over \$125 million. While at NCC, she created and opened two elementary charter schools, taught courses on community development at Columbia and Rutgers Universities, and worked with dozens of representatives of NGOs from Ireland, South Africa, and other countries who sought to replicate NCC's programs. Prior to NCC, Anglin was executive director of the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM), the trade association for the public policy graduate schools, U.S. think tanks, and public policy professionals. Anglin also served as an analyst at the Congressional Research Service in D.C. for seven years working on issues such as child abuse, family violence, and national service.

Originally from Chicago, Illinois, Anglin is a graduate of Smith College and the Goldman School of Public Policy at the University of California at Berkeley. As a volunteer, she helped launch one of the most successful charter high schools in Washington, D.C., the Cesar Chavez High School for Public Policy. She currently serves on the boards of the Community Foundation of New Jersey and the Greater Newark Local Initiative Support Corporation (LISC) Advisory Board, and chairs the board of Bethany Cares Incorporated, a faith-based community development organization that works with adjudicated youth and administers a summer academic program (a CDF Freedom School) for 120 low-income children. She is married to Dr. Roland Anglin and has two children.



**E. Thomas Brewer**, director of Programs, Archstone Foundation, brings over a decade of human and health services experience to the field of philanthropy. Since 2002, he has been employed by the Archstone Foundation, a private foundation dedicated to improving the health and well-being of older adults through grantmaking. In his role, Brewer is responsible for implementing the foundation's programs and activities, and provides oversight to staff managing the foundation's grant portfolio.

Prior to joining the Archstone Foundation, Brewer resided in San Diego, California, where he developed and managed infectious disease prevention and control programs for Alliance Healthcare Foundation, supported the collaborative efforts of the Community Health Improvement Partners (CHIP) at the Healthcare Association of San Diego and Imperial Counties, and practiced clinical social work at Scripps Hospital–Chula Vista and at Children's Hospital in San Diego. Brewer spent four months as a fellow at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Injury Center assisting with the codification of the Center's grantmaking program. Earlier, he worked as a social worker with incarcerated youth at King County Juvenile Detention Facility and Echo Glen Children's Center, the Washington State institution for incarcerated youth, providing case management and mental and behavioral health counseling services.

Brewer is a graduate of the University of Washington, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in Social Welfare. He also received a Master in Social Work and a Master in Public Health from San Diego State University, College of Health & Human Services. Brewer has since obtained a Master of Business Administration at the University of California, Irvine. He is active in the community of Long Beach and currently serves on the board of directors of New City Public Schools, a K-12 dual-language immersion charter school.



**Craig Drinkard** joined the Victoria Foundation as a program officer in 2006 and oversees most of the foundation's grantmaking related to foreclosure, organizational leadership, and capacity building.

Previously, Drinkard joined the team at the Community Foundation of New Jersey as the program officer responsible for Parents Organizing Parents Strategy (POPS) and to assist in the development and facilitation of the NLI program. After approximately one year, Drinkard assumed full responsibility of the NLI program. During his tenure, he continued the history of the NLI program by introducing the latest information surrounding emerging community issues, as well as the latest community innovations identified to the NLI Fellows. The program continues to stress the importance of strategic planning, building strong collaborations with other local stakeholders, and program evaluation.

Earlier, Drinkard was accepted to be part of Project Leadership, sponsored by the United Way of Essex and West Hudson County. The program was facilitated by nationally renowned Dr. Gloria Santiago, Professor of Public Policy at Rutgers University and director of the Center for Strategic Urban Community Leadership. Upon completion, Drinkard was then accepted into the

Neighborhood Leadership Initiative (NLI) program sponsored by the Community Foundation of New Jersey. He graduated from the NLI program in June, 2000.

Throughout his professional career, Drinkard always found time to volunteer in his community, starting as a little league coach, umpire, and league board member. The call to find out how he could better serve his community as a volunteer led to an exciting career change and path. He attended a community building workshop sponsored by Babyland Family Services and was introduced to the concepts of neighborhood development. Afterward, he joined Babyland Family Services in the newly formed Community Building Department and became responsible for developing neighborhood assessment reports, which highlighted the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats the community was facing. He established local teams comprised of community residents, business leaders, faith institutions, and other local stakeholders to develop a plan of action to address those identified concerns, as well as to explore the opportunities for development.

Drinkard has a Bachelor's Degree in Business Finance from Bloomfield College and received his MBA from Fairleigh Dickinson University.

Drinkard currently lives in West Orange, New Jersey, with his wife and two daughters.



**Jeffrey P. Malloy** was appointed director of Finance and Administration of The James Irvine Foundation, San Francisco, in July, 2007. His duties include oversight of accounting and budgetary processes, grants administration, human resources, information technology, and operations. Malloy came to Irvine with more than 24 years of business leadership and finance experience.

Malloy most recently served as general manager at the American Conservatory Theater (A.C.T.) in San Francisco, where he worked since 1996. He began his tenure at A.C.T. as director of Finance, where he handled all aspects of financial operations for the organization. His role grew to assume additional oversight for human resources, information technology, publications, and operations and facilities in the ensuing years.

Prior to his work at A.C.T., Malloy served in senior finance roles with both Fireman's Fund Insurance Co., Examen, a legal services company, and Price Waterhouse.

Malloy is a graduate of Rider University in Lawrenceville, New Jersey and also a certified public accountant.



**Jason McGill, Ph.D.**, is vice president of Member Services at Philanthropy New York, the principal membership association for New York City’s organized philanthropy sector. He joined Philanthropy New York—then called the New York Regional Association of Grantmakers in 2004 and plays a leadership role in designing and implementing the organization’s core projects, funder networks, philanthropic research, and public policy collaboratives that collectively strengthen the work of its 275 member foundations. Philanthropy New York’s member organizations annually award an aggregated total of approximately \$4 billion (U.S.) in grants around the world.

From 2000 to 2004, McGill worked as the director of Alumni and Philanthropic Programs at Sponsors for Educational Opportunity (SEO), where he led the development of an innovative project that engaged young professionals of color in collaborative philanthropy. He also created a volunteerism program that leveraged the leadership potential of these same professionals in cities across the United States.

McGill spent his early career in academia, including work as an admission dean at Pomona College and, later, teaching posts at Michigan, Swarthmore, and Rutgers. He earned a Ph.D. and A.M. degrees in History at the University of Michigan and A.B. and B.S. degrees at Cornell.

McGill currently serves as president of the board of One Stop Senior Services, a senior service agency in New York City. He has also served on the board of directors of the New York Quarterly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers). His leadership as a Cornell alumnus includes membership on the Cornell University Council, the steering committee for the Gay and Lesbian Alumni Association, and the board of the Cornell Association of Class Officers. He is currently a vice president of his class, a former chair of the Cornell Alumni Trustee Nominating Committee, and a former secretary of the Cornell Black Alumni Association.

Jason and his partner, Paul Howard, live in Brooklyn.



**Caroline Jonah Merenda** joined CFLeads as program director in February 2011. As program director, Merenda works to fulfill the organization’s mission of helping community foundations advance the practice of community leadership to build thriving communities by strengthening individual community foundation leaders, building the organizational community leadership capacity of community foundations, increasing understanding of issues that are ripe for community foundation leadership, and enabling community foundations to engage citizens and promote community philanthropy.

Prior to joining CFLeads, Merenda was senior program officer at Rochester Area Community Foundation (Rochester, NY). In this role, she managed a portfolio of grants that furthered the vision of the foundation to serve as a catalyst for community change. Merenda primarily focused on the issues of early childhood education and improving the quality of after-school programming.

In addition to her grantmaking responsibilities, Merenda convened and staffed the Greater Rochester After-School Alliance (GRASA), a strategic community initiative to increase the quality, quantity, and accessibility of after-school programming in the Rochester area. In 2009 and 2010, she secured funding from The After-School Corporation (TASC) to conduct GRASA Advocacy Days in Albany, NY. In addition, Merenda provided research and advocacy tips sufficient to make increased after-school funding the top (and only) human services goal of the Rochester Business Alliance's Community Agenda for advocacy in Albany in 2010 and 2011.

In 2008, Merenda organized, secured funding, and recruited expert facilitators for a taskforce created by the Rochester mayor and school superintendent to plan a comprehensive after-school strategy to serve all youth in need of after-school programming. The model developed by the taskforce was adopted by Rochester Area Community Foundation and the United Way of Greater Rochester.

Merenda was named an "Afterschool Ambassador" in 2008 by the Afterschool Alliance, a nonprofit organization in Washington, D.C., working to raise awareness of the importance of after-school programs and advocating for quality, affordable programs for all children. She has participated in many boards and initiatives including Rochester's Child, Early Childhood Development Initiative, Community School Partnership Network, Healthi Kids Policy Team, Monroe County Daycare Advisory Committee, and the New York State After-School Network's Executive, Policy and Steering Committees, among others.

Merenda lives in Pittsford, New York, with her husband, Albert, and their son, Andrew. She graduated from Marist College (Poughkeepsie, NY) in 1994 with a B.A. in Communications.



**Debra Joy Pérez, Ph.D.**, senior program officer, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, is responsible for the foundation's research and evaluation work on the Public Health Team and leads programs that focus on increasing the diverse perspectives that inform the foundation's grant making. As senior program officer for *New Connections: Increasing Diversity of RWJF Programming*, Pérez works with historically under-represented investigators and identifies opportunities to link this new talent to the foundation's work across health and healthcare research areas. This expansion of diverse perspectives in programming includes oversight of the *RWJF Evaluation Fellows Program*. Pérez chairs the RWJF Diversity Committee working within the foundation and with other foundations to enhance the quality and impact of philanthropy by incorporating diverse perspectives. She is also the senior program officer responsible for managing the National Urban Fellows program at RWJF. To date, Pérez has mentored 14 National Urban Fellows. As the former program officer for the Disparities Team, she was responsible for developing major initiatives designed to find interventions that work to reduce racial/ethnic disparities in healthcare called *Finding Answers: Disparities Research for Change* and establish learning network of providers implementing strategies to serve the limited English proficient patient populations called *Speaking Together: National Language Services Network*.

Since joining the foundation in 2004, Pérez has also been responsible for program development in research and evaluation in the areas of racial/ethnic disparities, fellows and scholar's programs in evaluation and research, research in Latino and minority health and health care issues, and public health research. Her work with the Public Health Team at RWJF includes a focus on developing and building the field of public health services systems research (PHSSR). In collaboration with the Public Health Team, Pérez has worked to expand the growth of the PHSSR field from \$75K in 2004 to over \$40 million in 2010.

Pérez completed her interfaculty doctoral program at Harvard University in 2005, receiving her Ph.D. in health policy. While at Harvard, Pérez chaired the first and second university-wide symposium on racial and ethnic disparities in health/health care. She was awarded a five-year fellowship in health policy and research from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. Pérez graduated from Douglass College with a B.A. in communication. She received an M.A. in social science and women's studies from the University of Kent in Canterbury, England, in 1993. In 1997, Pérez received the National Urban and Rural Fellows award leading to her M.P.A. from Baruch College, City University of New York where she graduated with honors. She began her career in philanthropy in 1997, when she became deputy director for New Jersey Health Initiatives. Recent publications focus on discrimination and how socio-cultural factors such as acculturation impact immigrant and non-immigrant health and health care experiences. Perez is the 2009 recipient of the Women of Excellence Award from the New Jersey Woman and AIDS Network, as well as the 2009 Douglass Distinguished Alumnae Award from Douglass College in New Jersey. In 2010, Perez was awarded the Opening Doors Award by the Institute of Wonderful Working Women, a nonprofit which supports low-income African American women pursuing nursing careers. Recently, she was accepted into the Council on Foundations' Career Pathways, a leadership pipeline expansion program to prepare diverse candidates for executive leadership positions in philanthropy.



**Praveen Prasad** is a development specialist with TrustAfrica. TrustAfrica, a leading Pan-African foundation based out of Dakar, Senegal, with offices in New York and Washington DC, that focuses on democracy, governance, and gender equity and development. Prasad has over 10 years of experience working in international relief and development with a background in conflict/post conflict program management, micro-credit, gender equity, and philanthropy. Her field postings and experiences have included working in 17 countries in Africa.

Prasad's most recent position prior to TrustAfrica was as U.S. director at Orphan Support Africa. Before joining Orphan Support Africa in New York, Prasad was based in Sudan overseeing multiple large-scale relief and development programs for Darfur/South Sudan, Chad, Democratic Republic of Congo, and Uganda. She previously held positions with the World Health Organization and other International NGOs. Prasad holds a MA in International Relations and Political Science and is a candidate in the Masters of Public Administration class Of 2010 and also a fellow at the Hauser Center for Non-Profit Organizations at Harvard University.

In her spare time, Prasad enjoys photography and exploring history of world cultures.



**Valerie Raines** is vice president of Corporate Philanthropy for KeyBank Foundation. The foundation is funded by KeyBank to implement the company's charitable contribution strategy. She oversees grantmaking focused on education, and arts and culture in northeast Ohio.

Before joining KeyBank Foundation, Raines was program director for capacity building grants at United Way of Greater Cleveland. Prior to that, she served on the senior staff at the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland Foundation as vice president where she administered grantmaking programs including family foundations and donor-advised funds.

Before working in philanthropy, Raines worked as a college admission and financial aid professional at Laurel School, Oberlin College, and Connecticut College. She helped students successfully transition from high school to college. She was involved in advising, recruitment, and retention efforts. Also, she led and supported efforts to diversify and strengthen inclusion on these campuses.

Raines has a Bachelor's degree from Northwestern University and a Master's from Case Western Reserve University. She serves on the advisory board for the Foundation Center–Cleveland, the scholarship committee for the Harry R. Horvitz Foundation, the KeyBank Business Networking Group for African American Executives, and with Ohio Grantmakers Forum's Grantmakers in Education and the Arts.



**Latonya Slack**, senior program officer for California Democracy at The James Irvine Foundation, was appointed in April 2005. Prior to joining the foundation, she served as executive director of the California Black Women's Health Project, where she created a comprehensive policy advocacy program, a mental health initiative, and the Advocacy Training Program, which was designed to train lay community members as health policy advocates.

Before joining the California Black Women's Health Project in 1998, she worked for the Service Employees International Union, Local 399, engaging community, religious, labor, and health organizations on various health care issues. Slack has also worked with the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles as a consumer law advocate and, through AmeriCorps Legal Corps, on the Youth Empowerment Project, helped community groups establish nonprofit organizations.

Slack was a spring 2006 American Marshall Memorial Fellow of the German Marshall Fund, a transatlantic program promoting international relations between Europe and the United States. Slack serves as vice chair of the Southern California Grantmakers board and as a city commissioner for the El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument Authority. She holds a Bachelor's degree in biomedical ethics from Brown University and a law degree from the University of California–Los Angeles.



**La June Montgomery Tabron** is chief operating officer and treasurer of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation in Battle Creek, Michigan.

As part of the executive staff, she leads the foundation's operations for the office of the President. She also manages the organization's overall financial plans and policies along with its accounting practices. Tabron conducts relationships with financial institutions and the financial community, as well as coordinating the planning, review, and human and financial resources of the accounting/finance area. She provides direction for treasury, budgeting, accounting, audit, finance, human resources, technology, and organizational services.

Previously, Tabron worked as the foundation's senior vice president/CFO and treasurer, vice president – finance and treasurer, assistant vice president for finance and assistant treasurer, as well as the Foundation's controller, and had primary responsibility for the organization's financial accounting activities.

Before joining the foundation's staff in 1987, Tabron was senior auditor for Plante & Moran CPAs.

Tabron received a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and a master's degree in business administration from the Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois. She is a certified public accountant and a certified management accountant, licensed in the state of Michigan.

Tabron is a member of the Michigan Association of Certified Public Accountants, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the Institute of Management Accountants, and the Foundation Financial Officers Group. In addition, she serves as president of the Kalamazoo Chapter of the Links, Incorporated, and on the boards of the Western Michigan University Foundation, the Douglass Community Association, and Battle Creek Community Health Partners. Tabron recently completed a term as chair of the Battle Creek Health Systems Board. She also serves on the Kalamazoo Retirement Investment Committee and the Battle Creek Community Foundation Audit Committee. She has also served on the Council on Foundations' Public Policy Committee and the Independent Sector Board Development Committee.

The W.K. Kellogg Foundation, established in 1930, supports children, families and communities as they strengthen and create conditions that propel vulnerable children to achieve success as individuals and as contributors to the larger community and society. Grants are concentrated in the United States, southern Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean.



**Julie Walther** serves as a senior program officer with The Brinson Foundation, a family foundation in Chicago, Illinois. Her main focus areas are education and public health. She has been a program officer for over nine years and previously, served as a senior program officer for Girl's Best Friend Foundation, a progressive family foundation focused on the lives of girls and young people.

Before entering philanthropy Walther facilitated several youth leadership programs where young people from Chicago communities designed, implemented, and evaluated programs in which they participated. She has a Masters degree from DePaul University in Public Service (Nonprofit Management) and a Bachelor of Fine Arts (Jewelry and Metalsmithing) from Southern Illinois University. Walther is a mother of two young daughters and volunteers in the nonprofit and philanthropic community.



**Heidi Williamson**, vice president for Communications, joined Berks County Community Foundation in 2001 to raise awareness about the foundation and ways in which philanthropy and community leadership can have a lasting, positive impact on the quality of life for local residents.

Prior to joining the community foundation, Williamson was the manager of global communication at Exide Corporation, where she developed and implemented the organization's first international internal communication strategy.

Williamson earned a Master of Arts degree in Strategic Communication and Leadership from Seton Hall University and a Bachelor of Arts degree in English: Professional Writing from Kutztown University. She just completed a term as chair of CommA, an affinity group for communication professionals of the Council on Foundations, is a trustee for the Reading Public Library, and sits on the program committee for bctv.org.

Williamson lives near Kutztown, Pennsylvania, with her husband, Jim, and their three children.