

## Speaker and Panelist Biographies Greenville Out-of-School Time Leadership Forum

### **Meghan Barp** **President & CEO** **United Way of Greenville County**



**Meghan Barp** is a mission-driven strategist, community builder, advocate, and highly sought-after speaker. More importantly, she is the part-time mom to three girls (ages 6, 10 & 11) and full-time mom to an adorable Golden Retriever. She and her husband, Shane, spend their free time hiking, biking, traveling and enjoying the amazing restaurants throughout Greenville County.

She joined United Way of Greenville County as President & CEO in February; having previously served as senior vice president of community impact for Greater Twin Cities United Way in Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota.

Meghan is best known for collaborating with and on behalf of those in need to advance United Way's mission of bringing people and resources together to build a Cycle of Success. She presents nationally and internationally on philanthropy, volunteerism, and donor engagement; and often provides expert consultation to corporations, community leaders, and other nonprofit organizations. In 2014, Meghan was recognized as one of Minnesota Business Journal's "40 under 40".

Before joining United Way nearly a decade ago, Meghan was the Director of Teaching and Learning for a \$350 million nonprofit in New York City. She also served as Senior Director for the YWCA of the City of New York. Meghan graduated from the University of Nebraska and has a master's degree from Oregon State University.

### **Betsy Brand** **Executive Director** **American Youth Policy Forum**



**Betsy Brand** has served as the Executive Director of AYPF since 2004, and she served as Co-Director of the organization since 1998. Betsy has spent her career working on education, workforce, and youth policy and specializes in comprehensive approaches to helping young people be prepared for today's careers, lifelong learning, and civic engagement.

Betsy's education policy career started when she served as a Legislative Associate for the U.S. House Committee on Education and Labor from 1977 to 1983. She subsequently served with Senator Dan Quayle as a Professional Staff Member on the U.S. Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee from 1983 to 1989, where she handled all federal education and training legislation. In 1989, Betsy was appointed Assistant Secretary for Vocational and Adult Education at the U.S. Department of Education, under President George H.W. Bush, where she worked for four years. From 1993 to 1998, Betsy operated her own consulting firm, Workforce Futures, Inc., which focused on policy and best practices affecting education and workforce preparation. Betsy has a B.A. from Dickinson College, Carlisle, PA and serves on various boards, including the Latin American Youth Center and Diploma Plus.

## **Whitney Hanna**

### **Coordinator of Community Collaboration & Institutional Advancement Greenville County Schools**



Serving as the Coordinator of Community Collaboration & Institutional Advancement for Greenville County Schools, **Whitney Hanna** works with the school district's leadership team and 106 schools and centers to develop relationships and collaborate with community partners – including corporations, industry groups, non-profits and other community entities – to create effective partnerships that are in-line with the district's Graduation+ initiative and enhance students' educational experiences.

Prior to joining the school district, Whitney's background includes management of a corporate marketing account team for a Fortune 1000 company as well as work in account service and public relations with several communications agencies. Recognized as a Best & Brightest 35 and Under by Greenville Business Magazine, Whitney is a graduate of Leadership South Carolina Class of 2017, Leadership Greenville Class 41 and the Diversity Leaders Initiative Upstate Class 23. Serving on numerous boards and committees, Whitney is active with the Network for Southern Economic Mobility, the Greenville Chamber of Commerce, the Junior League of Greenville, the Upcountry History Museum, the United Way of Greenville County, and previously served as President of the American Advertising Federation of Greenville, where she was recognized as an AAF 2014 National President of the Year.

## **Suzette Harvey**

### **President/CEO**

### **Prime Time Palm Beach County**



**Suzette L. Harvey** is President/CEO of Prime Time Palm Beach County. Prior to joining Prime Time in 2006, Mr. Harvey spent eight years in the field of philanthropy at the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation in Miami. She worked briefly at Mount Sinai Medical Center as a public relations specialist after more than 11 years with the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts, directing its communications and public relations activities. Ms. Harvey was also a staff writer at the South Florida Business Journal, covering emerging technology throughout the South Florida region. A native of New York, she was employed at Scholastic Inc. to help launch a new family magazine in the early 1980s focusing on using personal computers in the home. Prior to joining Scholastic, Ms. Harvey was a vocational counselor for a youth employment program run by the New York City Mission Society.

Currently, she is a member of the Board of Directors for the National AfterSchool Association and member of the Florida Afterschool Network advisory board. Ms. Harvey was formerly a board member of the United Way of Palm Beach County, the Donors Forum of South Florida, the Center on Nonprofit Effectiveness and the Old Dillard Museum. Additionally, she has been a presenter at the National AfterSchool Association, Florida Afterschool Alliance, Every Hour Counts and Ready by 21 conferences, and has had her work featured in national publications. Recognized by Success South Florida magazine as one of South Florida's 50 Most Powerful Black Professionals of 2008, she is a graduate of Leadership Palm Beach County Focus 211; Nonprofits First's Go Lead Luminaries, Class of 2009 leadership development program; the University of Miami's 2007 Senior Executive Leadership Initiative; and Leadership Miami Class of 1989, and was a volunteer with Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Broward County for several years. Ms. Harvey graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in International Relations from Brown University and a Master of Science degree in Leadership from Nova Southeastern University.

**Cathy Hendrix**  
**Senior HR Manager, Metro Mid South**  
**TD Bank**



As the Senior HR Manager for Metro Mid South (Maryland, Delaware, DC, Virginia, N. Carolina and S. Carolina) **Cathy Hendrix** supports the business strategy and execution on key initiatives along with providing HR support to a portfolio of leaders. Kathy works in partnership with business leaders to develop HR strategies and to provide consultative HR support to assist in achieving business objectives.

2018 - Chair of the United Way Women's Leadership Board  
2017 – Co-Chair of the UW Women's Leadership Board  
2016 – Chair of the UW Women in Banking

**The Honorable Jil Littlejohn**  
**Mayor Pro Tem, City of Greenville**  
**President and CEO of the Urban League of the Upstate**



**Ms. Littlejohn** has been an Urban Leaguer for the past ten years, first, serving as the Urban League of the Upstate Young Professional Chapter President, Southern Region Vice President, Southern Region Treasurer and on the Board of Directors. She is the first female President and CEO of the Urban League of the Upstate. Her role allows her to combine her passion for people and community.

Born and raised in Atlanta her mother was her biggest cheerleader telling her “you can do anything you dream.” Her father believed in her and sacrificed so she could go to college. Ms. Littlejohn received undergraduate training in Cross Cultural Communications Studies in Seville, Spain and earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Intercultural Studies for Business from Wofford College and her MBA from Webster University. She is fluent in Spanish. She has been involved with the Greenville Chamber Affiliate PULSE, United Way, HOPE Worldwide, a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and she is the youngest member of Greenville City Council. Ms. Littlejohn is passionate about youth development.

She is the founder of the Talented Tenth Conference which connects young minority professionals from the Upstate with established business and civic leaders across the Southeast.

**Dr. Charlotte McDavid**  
**Executive Director for Academic Innovation and Technology**  
**Greenville County Schools**



As the Executive Director of Academic Innovation and Technology for Greenville County Schools, **Dr. Charlotte McDavid** supports personalized learning through instructional technology and media services, while overseeing programs designed to help build better graduates such as the Satellite Diploma Program, virtual high school, distance learning, extended day programs, and New Tech schools. Her role also promotes success for all students through Title I and Title III programs.

Dr. McDavid previously served as Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction for Anderson School District 4, where she was the Chief Academic Officer. An educator for 24 years, she has also been a classroom teacher, assistant principal, principal, and Title I director in K-12 schools, as well as an adjunct professor in

*(Dr. Charlotte McDavid continued)*

educational leadership at Clemson, Southern Wesleyan, and South Carolina State Universities. Dr. McDavid has overseen a successful 1:1 technology rollout, is experienced in using a team approach to coaching principals to achieve academic improvement. She earned a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and a Master's of Administration and Supervision from Clemson University. Dr. McDavid earned a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership from Clemson University.

## **Terry Peterson**

**National Board Chair, Afterschool Alliance**

**Senior Fellow at the Riley Institute and College of Charleston**



**Terry Peterson** develops strategies and partnerships for education reform and expanded learning opportunities and partnerships across America and in such developing countries as Argentina, Brazil, and Mongolia. While holding federal and state executive education positions, Terry helped develop numerous education policies. His federal level policy work encompasses policy related to 21st Century Community Learning Centers, E-rate, GEAR-UP, and teacher and technology quality grants. At the state level it includes early childhood education, teacher recruitment, performance pay programs, innovation funds, accountability systems, and the arts in the basic curriculum. Terry serves on ten different national, state,

and local education boards.

## **Dr. Ansel Sanders**

**President and CEO**

**Public Education Partners**



**Dr. Ansel Sanders** is the President and CEO Public Education Partners. Since 1985, Public Education Partners has served as Greenville County's only independent education fund dedicated to strengthening our community's schools, school system, and student achievement outcomes through fostering and engaging in strategic collaborations between our K-12 education sector and the larger community.

Prior to joining Public Ed Partners in June 2015, Ansel completed the Doctor of Education Leadership program at the Harvard Graduate School of Education in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

He subsequently moved to Greenville, where he became an administrator at Mauldin Middle School and earned a Masters in School Leadership from Furman University. He then served as the founding Program Director of A.J. Whittenberg Elementary School of Engineering in 2010, the first elementary school in the state with a school-wide engineering focus. Before moving to Cambridge in 2012, Ansel led the planning efforts for the Dr. Phinnize J. Fisher Middle School, which opened in 2014, and its school-wide STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) design.

## **JoKeitha Seabrook**

**Director of Community and Partner Relations**

**United Way of Greenville County**



**JoKeitha Seabrook** is the Director of Community and Partner Relations with United Way of Greenville County. She joined the United Way team in July 2011. Prior to the United Way JoKeitha worked for the City of Spartanburg as the Community Services Coordinator and was responsible for planning, developing, organizing and the administration of Community Relations programs. She is skilled in community outreach, team building, volunteer management and public speaking.

*(JoKeitha Seabrook Continued)*

JoKeitha leads a team that provides program funding and support for 70 agencies and 96 direct service programs in the areas of School Readiness, High School Graduation, Financial Stability and Life Essentials. Her team also manages partnerships and collaborations with the public, private and faith-based sectors.

JoKeitha holds a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Interdisciplinary Studies from the University of South Carolina Upstate Campus and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Phoenix. She is married to William U. Seabrook, Jr. (20 years).

## **Bela Shah Spooner**

**Manager, Expanded Learning**

**National League of Cities**



**Bela Shah Spooner** is the Manager for Expanded Learning in the Institute for Youth, Education, and Families at the National League of Cities (NLC). For over 13 years, she has worked at NLC supporting municipal officials' efforts to create citywide afterschool systems. From years of deep city-level technical assistance to over 50 cities, Bela speaks nationally about the importance of afterschool and summer learning opportunities, as well as the community schools, as equity strategies to address municipal concerns. She launched NLC's Afterschool Policy Advisors Network (APAN) in 2005, a national peer-learning network of

senior municipal leaders focusing on afterschool programs, which now has over 350 cities. Bela has authored various publications and briefs on municipal leadership for afterschool, convened three National City Afterschool Summits, and supported 26 statewide mayoral summits on afterschool and expanded learning. She is an integral member of the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation's Afterschool Technical Assistance Collaborative supporting the 50 statewide afterschool networks' efforts to impact state policy and funding for afterschool, a White-Riley-Peterson Fellows Advisory Group member, and on the National Afterschool Association's STEM Advisory Board. She previously worked for the Coalition for Community Schools at the Institute for Educational Leadership, the Center for Educational Opportunity & Innovation and the Institute for Education & Government at Teachers College, Columbia University.

Bela holds her Master's degree in Sociology and Education with a concentration in Education Policy from Teachers College, Columbia University and her Bachelor's in Psychology and Spanish from the University of Pennsylvania. She lives in Washington, DC with her husband and two sons.

## **Susi Smith**

**Executive Director**

**Communities in Schools of Greenville**



**Susi Smith** has served as the Executive Director of CIS of Greenville for the past 25 years. Prior to that, she was a Prevention Specialist for Piedmont Council for Prevention of Child Abuse. CIS Greenville has been providing free, school-based, after-school programs since 1998. In conjunction with the school, we identify students with the greatest needs and provide individualized and group interventions to help them be successful. Our mission is to surround students with a community of support empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life.

## **Cathy Stevens**

### **Program Director**

**White-Riley-Peterson Afterschool Policy Fellowship, Center for Education Policy and Leadership**

**The Richard W. Riley Institute at Furman**



**Cathy Stevens** is the Director of the White-Riley-Peterson Afterschool Policy Fellowship, focused on improving policy in support of afterschool and summer learning across the country. The White-Riley-Peterson Afterschool Policy Fellowship began in 2012, and works with the 50 statewide afterschool networks to help develop policy leaders at the state level. She also supported the development of a new teacher certification in project-based learning for South Carolina's teachers. Cathy assists in developing the overall strategic direction for the Center for Education Policy and Leadership (CEPL). She has a

B.A. from Furman and an M.Ed from Clemson University.

## **Zelda Waymer**

### **Executive Director**

**South Carolina Afterschool Alliance**



**Zelda Waymer** is the Executive Director of the South Carolina Afterschool Alliance, one of 50 afterschool networks and partnership states across the country. In this role, she leads the efforts of a team committed to transforming South Carolina by investing in children and youth beyond the school day. Zelda became the first executive director of the South Carolina Afterschool Alliance and is responsible for partnering with key decision-makers and local providers to develop, lead, coordinate, and drive the network's initiatives. She holds multiple state and national leadership positions including service on the Boards of the South Carolina Association of Non-Profit Organizations, Midlands Technical College Early Childhood Development and the National Advisory Committee of the White-Riley-Peterson Policy Fellowship at the Riley Institute at Furman

University. Zelda holds a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from the University of South Carolina and is a graduate of the Riley Institute's Diversity Leaders Initiative at Furman University. She is married to Wade A. Waymer and they have a fourteen year-old son, William Drake Waymer.