

Speaker, Panelist, & Participant Listing

---

## **2022 SHAW SYMPOSIUM ON URBAN COMMUNITY ISSUES**

Multigenerational Housing and Neighborhoods:  
Meeting the Evolving Needs of Families and Individuals

June 7, 2022 . Washington, DC

 **Urban Land Institute** Terwilliger Center  
for Housing

 **Urban Land Institute** Building Healthy  
Places Initiative

The AARP logo is centered at the bottom of the page. It features the word 'AARP' in a bold, sans-serif font, with a registered trademark symbol (®) to the upper right of the 'P'.

## Contents

### SPEAKERS & PANELISTS

Leon Caldwell, PhD.....	3
Scott Choppin.....	4
Stephanie Firestone.....	5
Helen Foster.....	7
Rose Gilroy.....	8
Rodney Harrell.....	9
Eric Kronberg.....	10
Diana Lind.....	11
Daniel Parolek.....	12
Ian Spero.....	13
Ron Terwilliger.....	14
Aakash Thakkar.....	16
Margaret Wylde.....	17

### FORUM PARTICIPANTS

David Alade.....	18
Karen Kubey.....	18
Amanda O'Rourke.....	18
Christopher Ptomey.....	19
Denise Resnik.....	19
Eli Spevak.....	19

## SPEAKERS & PANELISTS

### Leon Caldwell, PhD

Founder and CEO

Ujima Developers

Philadelphia, PA

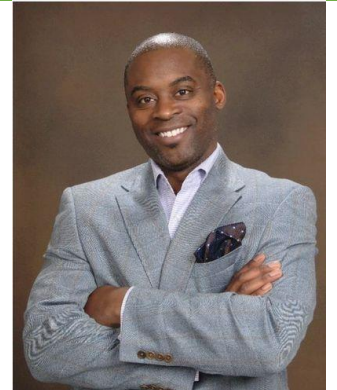
[leoncaldwell@ujimadevelopers.com](mailto:leoncaldwell@ujimadevelopers.com)

Dr. Leon D Caldwell is an award-winning community-based-researcher, social entrepreneur and transformational leader. Ujima Developers was founded on the premise that communities can be transformed with intentional investments to improve the life outcomes of residents. Leon has been involved in real estate as a developer, builder, investor, and property manager since 1999.

A West Philadelphia native, Leon graduated from Our Mother of Sorrows, the William Penn Charter School, then received a BA in Economics and M.Ed. in School Counseling from Lehigh University, and a Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology from Penn State. Following earning his doctorate, he was a staff psychologist at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln. He has held rank and tenure as an Associate Professor at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln; the University of Memphis and directed a community research center at Rhodes College. After a career as an Associate Professor, award-winning researcher, national thought leader on Black men and boys' health, social entrepreneur and Senior Leader in the philanthropic sector and author with over 50 national and international publications, he established Ujima Developers, LLC as a public health intervention for blighted neighborhoods. His recent work has been published by SAMHSA, the National League of Cities and the Association of Black Foundation Executives.

Excited to return to his home, Philadelphia, Leon seeks to contribute his unique approach to holistic development in re-designing neighborhoods for the optimal wellbeing of residents.

Housing is health! Leon understands the influence of real estate developers on the health and economic mobility of a zip code. Ujima Developers' approach to social innovation is re-designing neighborhoods for the optimal health of residents.



**Scott Choppin**

Founder  
Urban Pacific  
Long Beach, CA

[choppin@urbanpacific.com](mailto:choppin@urbanpacific.com)



Scott K. Choppin is the Founder of the Urban Pacific Group of Companies. Scott oversees all operations of the Urban Pacific family of companies, including business development, capital acquisition, and strategic planning. Scott created Urban Pacific’s new housing innovation called Urban Town House (UTH), which pairs private capital with middle income multi-generational rental housing. With over 35 years in the development business, Scott is a leader in the field, including a position on the Executive Committee of the USC Lusk Center for Real Estate. Scott is a regular contributor to major media outlets throughout the nation, and has been published in Forbes Magazine, GlobeSt.com, the Los Angeles Times, Builder Magazine, Affordable Housing Finance, Affordable Housing News, and Multi-Family Executive Magazine. Scott holds a degree in Business Administration with a specialization in Finance from California Polytechnic State University (Cal Poly), San Luis Obispo.

### Stephanie Firestone

Senior Strategy Policy Advisor, Health and Age-friendly Communities

AARP

Rockville, MD

[sfirestone@aarp.org](mailto:sfirestone@aarp.org)



Stephanie Firestone joined AARP International in January 2017 as a Senior Strategic Policy Advisor for Health and Age-friendly Communities. In this role she collaborates with international organizations such as the World Health Organization, where she is the liaison between the WHO Global Network of Age-friendly Cities and Communities and AARP’s Network of Age-friendly Communities. She also works with WHO colleagues in developing plans for the Decade of Healthy Ageing initiative (2020-2030), including ways that AARP’s experience with Disrupt Aging can inform planning for the Global Campaign to Combat Ageism. Stephanie also collaborates with organizations such as the American Planning Association (APA), the Global Planners Network, and the American Society on Aging (ASA) to advance the art of planning for aging in the U.S. and internationally. Stephanie shares and exchanges good practices with age-friendly colleagues around the world and provides consultation to cities seeking to become more age-friendly, such as the Hague in the Netherlands and Sharjah in the United Arab Emirates—the first Arab city in the world to join the global age-friendly network.

Before joining AARP, Stephanie was a 2015-2016 Health & Aging Policy Fellow, where she worked with the APA and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, helping local leaders think regionally about how to create more inclusive communities and to expand affordable housing opportunity for vulnerable residents in particular. Previously, as Director of Livable Communities at the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a), Stephanie worked with Area Agencies, cities and counties to create multi-stakeholder partnerships, develop action plans and enhance their capacity to create communities that are livable for all people of all ages and abilities. Tools she has developed for local change-makers include n4a’s 2015 publication, “Making Your Community Livable for All Ages: What’s Working!,” which was downloaded over 100,000 times in the first month after publication and has been used by thousands of communities around the country.

Stephanie has advanced social and environmental sustainability both in the U.S. and overseas. She was trained in cross-cultural environmental mediation with a group of Israeli and Palestinian environmental professionals, by international dispute resolution guru Lawrence Susskind from MIT. Stephanie founded Israel’s

first Jewish-Arab environmental nonprofit organization, LINK to the Environment, which brought together local and national authorities, civil society, businesses and other stakeholders to advance mutually beneficial environmental planning projects. She also coordinated the State of Israel's participation in the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development and presented at the United Nations General Assembly in New York.

Stephanie volunteers with a number of aging initiatives including the Dementia Friendly America National Council and the Advisory Council for the AgingWell Hub. She also served for a number of years in the capacities of hospice volunteer and volunteer birth doula. She holds a Master of Urban Planning from the University of Virginia and a BA in Communications from the State University of New York.

## Helen Foster

Principal

Foster Strategy, LLC

New Orleans, LA

[helen@fosterstrategy.com](mailto:helen@fosterstrategy.com)

Helen Foster is the Chair of ULI’s Lifestyle Residential Development Council (LRDC 55+) and the owner and principal of Foster Strategy, LLC, a nationally recognized real estate development consultancy specializing in multi-generational communities and “age qualified” (or “55+”) development. She is also Co-Chair of the Global Wellness Institute’s Wellness Communities & Real Estate Initiative. Before launching Foster Strategy in 2008, Helen co-managed the Boomer+ consumer division of the multinational communications firm, J. Walter Thompson. Her unique approach to development strategy originated there, steeped in consumer-mindedness and branding expertise. Now with over 25 years of real estate experience, she helps clients create and refine community development concepts, and solidify market positioning. She offers steady guidance on site selection, land planning, amenities/lifestyle programming, home product, brand positioning, and consumer relations. The communities she has touched have been successful by many measures, the most important to Helen being the delight of the residents who reside within them. Helen’s current/recent clients include Rancho Mission Viejo, David Weekley Homes, Willow Valley Communities, William Lyon Homes, Oread Capital, Greystar, Windsong Ranch (Dallas), Santa Rita Ranch (Austin), and Gables Residential. Helen is also VP of the Board of Directors for Willow Valley Communities – the nation’s most progressive “service-enriched” developer/operator – located in Lancaster, PA. Helen has been a speaker, judge, advisor and/or editorial contributor for the ULI, the Pacific Coast Builders Conference, National Association of Homebuilders, Leading Age, the National Multifamily Housing Conference, and U.C. Berkeley’s Fisher Panel for Real Estate and Urban Economics.



### Rose Gilroy

Professor of Ageing, Planning and Policy

Future Homes Alliance

Newcastle, EN

[r.c.gilroy@outlook.com](mailto:r.c.gilroy@outlook.com)

Rose Gilroy is Professor of Ageing, Planning and Policy in the School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape.

Her research is action oriented and she is proud to be leading the Future Homes Alliance that is working toward building exciting new dwellings in the centre of Newcastle. These will be sustainable, self-sufficient, resource-efficient, tenure and age neutral, intelligent, desirable dwellings.

Her research explores the impact of the ageing population, particularly in relation to planning and housing. She is focused on the home and the lines of attachment that radiate from it into neighbourhood, city, region. In the wider arena she explores how place supports everyday life in later life. As a planner she is interested in the transactional relationship between people and their environment that embraces how people individually and collectively may influence their environments.

Her research has taken her to urban China, rural Japan and India but includes more than 2 decades of involvement with older activists in Newcastle. She is a member of the Newcastle City Council's Age Friendly City group.





## Rodney Harrell, PhD

Vice President, Family, Home and Community

AARP

Washington, DC

[rharrell@aarp.org](mailto:rharrell@aarp.org)



Rodney Harrell is Vice President, Family Home and Community for AARP. In that role, he is the enterprise lead on housing issues, and leads AARP Public Policy Institute’s team of issue experts on long-term services, family caregiving and livable communities. Harrell’s research on housing preferences, neighborhood choice, and community livability are integral to the groundbreaking Livability Index, which measures the livability of every neighborhood and community in the United States.

Before joining AARP, Dr. Harrell was a Research and Evaluation Consultant working with a range of local and national clients, and an instructor at the University of Maryland. Prior to that, he was a Maryland Governor’s Policy Fellow leading programs in the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development / Maryland Heritage Areas Authority.

In addition, Dr. Harrell is a Champions Council member of the Coalition for Smarter Growth, and Vice Chair of the Board of Visitors for the University of Maryland School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation. He formerly served as the Vice Chair-Policy for the American Planning Association’s Planning and the Black Community Division, and sits on several community boards in Maryland. He is a member of the Phi Beta Kappa and Phi Kappa Phi honor societies, and was named to the initial class of Top Influencers in Aging for his work with AARP.

He holds a doctorate in urban planning and design from the University of Maryland, earned dual master’s degrees in public affairs and urban planning from the School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University, and graduated summa cum laude from the honors program at Howard University with a bachelor’s degree in political science.

## Eric Kronberg

Principle

Kronberg Urbanists + Architects

Atlanta, GA

[ekronberg@kronbergua.com](mailto:ekronberg@kronbergua.com)

Eric Kronberg is a zoning whisperer. He specializes in examining and demystifying zoning ordinances to find ways to make great projects possible and help others navigate through the zoning swamp. He uses his skills for the force of good as a principal at Kronberg Urbanists + Architects, leading the firm's pre-development efforts by combining skills in planning, development, architecture, and zoning. Eric leverages this potent cocktail to chart the course of best possibilities for each site's redevelopment. His work with KUA, the Incremental Development Alliance, the Congress for the New Urbanism, the Georgia Conservancy, and the National Town Builders Association has solidified his stance as an advocate for walkable and bikeable communities.



### Diana Lind

Author

Philadelphia, PA

[dianalindheller@gmail.com](mailto:dianalindheller@gmail.com)

Diana Lind is a writer and urban policy specialist. Her book, *BRAVE NEW HOME: OUR FUTURE IN SMARTER, SIMPLER, HAPPIER HOUSING* (Bold Type Books), was published on October 13, 2020.

Diana currently leads the Arts + Business Council for Greater Philadelphia, where her work fosters an exchange between the creative and business communities. She also serves on the management team of the Chamber of Commerce for Greater Philadelphia.

In 2008, Diana moved to Philadelphia to become the editor in chief of Next City, a leading urbanist website and nonprofit. Diana later also became the organization's executive director. She also served as a founding adviser to the New Cities Foundation and received a fellowship from the Van Alen Institute. Through these experiences, she became known nationally as an expert on cities.

A graduate of Cornell University (B.A., English) and Columbia University (M.F.A. in Creative Writing), Diana has held positions at Architectural Record magazine, Rizzoli International Publications, The Philadelphia Inquirer and the University of Pennsylvania. She is also the author of *Brooklyn Modern: Architecture, Interiors & Design* (Rizzoli, 2008).

She is a regular op-ed contributor to the Philadelphia Inquirer and The Philadelphia Citizen, and in addition to an extensive number of articles for Architectural Record and Next City, Diana's writing has been published in The New York Times and The Hill, among other venues. She is a frequent public speaker and has given keynotes or participated in panels at more than 100 events, including major conventions like the World Urban Forum and Smart City Expo. She has received honors such as the TED City 2.0 prize, the ACLU Stand Up for Freedom award, and a funded residency at Blue Mountain Center. She serves on the board of Next City and The Philadelphia Citizen.

Born and raised in Manhattan, she currently lives in Philadelphia with her husband and their children.



## Daniel Parolek

Founding Principle

Opticos Design, Inc.

Berkeley, CA

[daniel.parolek@opticosdesign.com](mailto:daniel.parolek@opticosdesign.com)

Daniel Parolek is an architect and urban designer who founded Opticos Design in 1998 and has grown it into a nationally sought-after firm for their expertise in urban placemaking, innovative housing design, and zoning reform to enable 21<sup>st</sup> century towns and cities to thrive. Daniel is a frequent speaker at conferences and events across the country, most recently the Chicago Humanities Festival, and he has been covered in many high-profile publications including the New York Times, the Washington Post, Next City, Curbed Magazine, Urban Land, and Professional Builder Magazine. His knowledge and foresight makes him a valuable partner/advisory for cities and developers across the country who are striving to respond to the demand for vibrant urban living. In 2011, Daniel created the concept of Missing Middle Housing which started a movement which has achieved international recognition and application. He has written a book on the topic called, “Missing Middle Housing: Thinking Big and Building Small to Respond to the Housing Crisis,” that was released in July of 2020 from Island Press. He also created [missingmiddlehousing.com](http://missingmiddlehousing.com) which gets tens of thousands of visitors each month. Because of this expertise he has been hired by developers and builders to meet the growing demand for urban, non-single family living and attainability. Examples of this work include the country’s first Missing Middle Neighborhood in Omaha, NE, the Mews Homes in Daybreak, and the country’s largest car-free community, Culdesac Tempe. Due to this expertise and ability to clearly communicate complex concepts he was hired by AARP to educate their members about the value of walkable living and missing middle housing choices. He believes the current zoning system is broken and therefore has been at the forefront of zoning reform to enable walkable urban communities for the past 18 years. He co-authored the definitive book Form-Based Coding that Planetizen identified as one of the “Top 10 books in Planning in 2007,” he co-founded the Form-Based Code Institute, and he has worked on some of the most advanced applications of zoning reform at a corridor, neighborhood, city, and regional scales, including writing the country of Gabon, Africa’s first development code. Prior to joining Opticos, Daniel worked with Robert AM Stern in New York. Daniel has a Bachelor of Architecture from the University of Notre Dame, and a Master’s of Urban Design from University of California at Berkeley.



### Ian Spero

Founder

Agile Ageing Alliance

London, EN

[ian@agileageing.org](mailto:ian@agileageing.org)

An Honorary Professor at the UCL Bartlett School for Sustainable Construction, Ian is founder of the Agile Ageing Alliance (AAA), an international network of more than 2,000 cross-sector stakeholders, advocating for a future of inclusive, multigenerational neighbourhoods, designed to boost health and wellbeing, leading to a reduction in the financial burden on Citizens and State.

Ian is currently leading development of a new ISO standard for smart multigenerational neighbourhoods that foster healthy ageing and independent living, serving as a viable alternative to age-specific care in institutional settings.

Operating at the cutting edge of R&D, Ian also serves as a Monitoring Officer for Innovate UK, the government's innovation agency, where he has worked with numerous highly innovative companies developing game-changing solutions, invariably resulting in successful commercialisation, significant return on investment and positive impact on the UK's economy.

A regular contributor to conferences, seminars, anthology and academic papers, Ian has received commendations that include New York Festivals for film and video; International Public Relations Golden World Award; IPR Sword of Excellence; PR Week Sponsorship Award; Revolution Magazine Innovation Award; BT Britain Award for Innovation; the Emerald Literati Network Award for Excellence; and IVCA (International Visual Communications Association) Awards for: Learning; Experiential Communication; and Entertainment.



## Ron Terwilliger

Chairman

ULI Terwilliger Center for Housing

Atlanta, GA

[ron@rterwilliger.com](mailto:ron@rterwilliger.com)

Ron Terwilliger is Chairman Emeritus of Trammell Crow Residential Company, a national residential real estate company and the largest developer of multifamily housing in the U.S. during his tenure as CEO.

Ron is an honor graduate of the United States Naval Academy. After serving five years in the Navy, he received his MBA degree with High Distinction from the Harvard Graduate School of Business where he was elected a Baker Scholar.

Ron is past Chairman of ULI and currently serves as a Trustee. He is also Chairman Emeritus of the Wharton Real Estate Center. Ron is additionally past Chairman of the International Board of Directors of Habitat for Humanity and currently chairs Habitat's Global Development Council. Ron currently serves as Chairman of the Enterprise Community Partners Board of Trustees. He also serves as Chairman of the Board of the U.S. Naval Academy Foundation and is a member of the Boards of the "I Have a Dream" Foundation and the Bipartisan Policy Center, where he chairs the J. Ronald Terwilliger Center for Housing Policy.

Ron's philanthropic contributions include a \$100 million legacy gift to Habitat for Humanity International. He is prepaying \$30 million of that gift to create the Terwilliger Center for Innovation and Shelter to bring market-based solutions to low-income families worldwide to improve their housing conditions. He has also pledged and contributed more than \$50 million to the U.S. Naval Academy. Ron's \$5 million gift to the Enterprise Foundation created the Enterprise Terwilliger Fund – targeted to create 2,000 affordable homes annually. He also made a \$3 million gift to Enterprise to provide resident services to low-income families. Ron established the ULI Terwilliger Center for Housing with his \$5 million gift to ULI

Ron was inducted into the National Association of Home Builders Hall of Fame in 2008. In 2009, he was honored by the National Housing Conference with the Housing Leader of the Year Award. Ron was also honored in 2009 by the United States Naval Academy as a Distinguished Graduate for his lifetime commitment to service, personal character, and distinguished contributions to our nation. In 2021, Ron received the National Patriotism Award by the National Foundation of Patriotism. Ron was the recipient of the 2013 ULI J.C. Nichols Prize for Visionaries in Urban Development.



Ron was selected for the Prestigious Horatio Alger Award – Class of 2014, bestowed upon individuals who have succeeded in spite of adversity and who are committed to supporting young people in pursuit of increased opportunities through higher education. He received the 2017 Edward W. Brooke Housing Leadership Award for his outstanding contributions to elevating the national discussion on rebalancing federal housing policy to better serve the needs of low-income households. Ron was honored in 2021 by the Navy Supply Corps Foundation as a Distinguished Alumnus.

### Aakash Thakkar

Senior Vice President, Land Acquisition & Development

EYA

Washington, DC

[athakkar@eya.com](mailto:athakkar@eya.com)

Aakash Thakkar joined EYA, one of the region's premiere urban-infill real estate developers, in 2004 as a Development Executive and now serves as a Senior Vice-President for Acquisition and Development. His responsibilities overall project stewardship and include new deal sourcing and acquisition, site selections, financing, and project development through the design and governmental and community approval process. He focuses on public-private partnerships, private ventures, and mixed-income communities. He led EYA's efforts to be selected as the developer for the 25-acre McMillan Sand Filtration Site in Washington, DC, one of the largest and most unique development sites in the region. He was responsible for the public approval for portions of EYA's development at the Arthur Capper/Carrollsborg HOPE VI redevelopment in Washington DC. He was the project executive for EYA's Arts District Hyattsville, a 25-acre mixed-use revitalization project, with a development program of over 600 residential units and an eclectic retail mix including Busboys & Poets and Tara Thai, as well as three new projects in downtown Silver Spring and Bethesda. He spends a significant amount of time and resources focusing on business development and new project sourcing. Prior to joining EYA, Mr. Thakkar was a Senior Development Manager at the National Capital Revitalization Corporation (NCRC). Mr. Thakkar has completed the Presidential Management Fellowship, a 2-year Federal Government appointed Fellowship during which he served at the Department of Housing and Urban Development and on the House of Representatives Housing Sub-Committee. Mr. Thakkar is a member of and guest speaker for the Urban Land Institute and a District of Columbia Building Industry Association. He is on board of the Smart Growth Alliance and Co-Chair of the DC Building Industry Association Housing Committee. He is a member of the Obama for American Mid-Atlantic Finance Committee and a co-founder (along with his wife) of the Thakkar/Giallourakis Scholarship Fund for St. John's College High School, his alma mater. He is also a guest lecturer for Georgetown University's Masters in Real Estate Program. In 2008, he was included on Bisnow's "35 under 35" in real estate. Mr. Thakkar has a BS in Accounting and Political Science from LaSalle University and holds both an MBA and a Masters in City and Regional Planning from Rutgers University. Mr. Thakkar is active in civic and professional life in the City, is native Washingtonian, and currently resides in Washington, DC.





### Margaret Wylde

CEO

ProMatura

Oxford, MS

[mawylde@promatura.com](mailto:mawylde@promatura.com)

ProMatura Group, LLC and ProMature International are divisions of a research and advisory company founded by Wylde. Clients include investors, developers, for-profit and not-for-profit owners, operators, cities, counties, and states; and industry associations in the Americas and Europe. ProMatura has offices in Oxford, MS and London, UK and has provided services for companies in Mexico, the UK, Portugal, Canada, Dominican Republic, Australia, Japan, Spain and the US. Wylde was one of three individuals to be inducted into the American Senior Housing Association’s Senior Living Hall of Fame in January 2020. Wylde is also a member of the Urban Land Institute serving as a Trustee, Governor, a member of the Advisory Board of the Terwilliger Center for Housing, former Chair of the Lifestyle Residential Development Council and Senior Housing Council and Building Healthy Places. Wylde served on the Americas Executive Committee of ULI and serves on the Executive Board of the American Seniors Housing Association. Wylde is Vice President of the Board of Directors of Memory Makers, a not-for-profit provider of respite day care services for individuals with memory impairment. Wylde received the Icon of the Industry Award from the 50+ Housing Council of NAHB for her “substantial and lasting impact on the seniors housing industry.” She was the first woman to receive this honor. The author of five books and scores of technical papers and articles, Wylde is also a contributor to trade and business publications and scholarly journals. Her publications include Right House, Right Place, Right Time: The Community and Lifestyle Preferences of the 45+ Housing Market (BuilderBooks, 2008); Boomers on the Horizon: Housing Preferences of the 55+ Home Buyer (BuilderBooks, 2002); and Building for a Lifetime: The Design and Construction of Fully Accessible Homes (The Taunton Press, 1994).



# 2022 SHAW SYMPOSIUM ON URBAN COMMUNITY ISSUES

---

## FORUM PARTICIPANTS

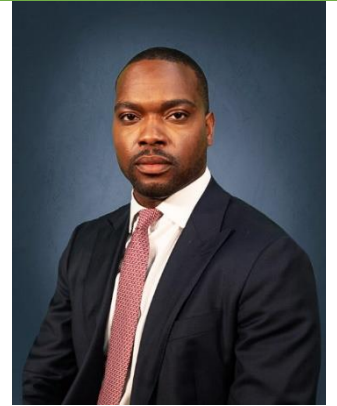
### David Alade

Co-Founder and Managing Partner

Century Partners

Detroit, MI

[david@centurypartners.org](mailto:david@centurypartners.org)



### Karen Kubey

Visiting Associate Professor

Pratt Institute

Brooklyn, NY

[karen@karenkubey.net](mailto:karen@karenkubey.net)



### Amanda O'Rourke

Executive Director

8/80 Cities

Toronto, ON

[aorourke@880cities.org](mailto:aorourke@880cities.org)



## 2022 SHAW SYMPOSIUM ON URBAN COMMUNITY ISSUES

---

### Christopher Ptomey

Executive Director

ULI Terwilliger Center for Housing

Washington, DC

[Christopher.Ptomey@uli.org](mailto:Christopher.Ptomey@uli.org)



### Denise Resnik

Founder, President, and CEO

FirstPlace

Phoenix, AZ

[denise@dracollective.com](mailto:denise@dracollective.com)



### Eli Spevak

Founder

Orange Splot LLC

Portland, OR

[eli@orangesplot.net](mailto:eli@orangesplot.net)

