

2012–13 Directory



LEADERSHIP
PIONEER VALLEY



Leadership Pioneer Valley challenges and engages emerging leaders from all sectors of the community—corporate, government, small business, non-profit, and academia—through civic leadership development for the benefit of the Pioneer Valley region. The nine-month program immerses participants in an inspiring and enlightening curriculum that examines critical issues that impact the region’s numerous and diverse areas. During the program, participants expand their leadership skills while gaining connections, greater commitment to community stewardship, and cultural competency.

Leadership Pioneer Valley is topically-relevant and ever-changing, and exposes participants to many community-minded perspectives, resources and mentors through an open and transformative process.

Each year, Leadership Pioneer Valley selects 40-50 emerging leaders from the private, public, and non-profit sectors of the region to participate. The nine-month program provides those selected with a curriculum designed to raise awareness of the needs and challenges that affect the region, and enhance individual leadership skills with a focus on cultural competency.

Each annual class runs from September until a commencement ceremony in June.

Additional Questions: For more information about Leadership Pioneer Valley, visit www.leadershippv.org, Facebook, or contact:

Lora Wondolowski, Director 413/737.3876 or lwondolowski@leadershippv.org

Lynn Shell, Administrative Assistant 413/737.3876 or lshell@leadershippv.org

Leadership Pioneer Valley
 60 Congress St, Floor 2
 Springfield, MA 01104
 413.737.3876
www.leadershippv.org

Leadership Pioneer Valley Steering Committee

David Woods, Chair	Woods Financial Group
Ron Ancrum	Learning Center at Bromley-Heath
Suzanne Beck	Northampton Chamber of Commerce
Allan Blair	Economic Development Council of Western MA
Alan Bloomgarden	Mount Holyoke College
Steven Bradley	Baystate Health Systems
Tim Brennan	Pioneer Valley Planning Commission
Linda Dunlavy	Franklin Regional Council of Governments
Lee Erdmann	City of Springfield, (<i>retired</i>)
Zaida Govan, LCSW	LPV '12
Al Griggs	Past Chair, EDC and CFWM
Ronn Johnson	RDJ Consultants
Madeline Landrau	MassMutual Financial Group, LPV '12
Waleska Lugo-DeJesus	Westfield State University
Rev. J.P Morgan	Holy Trinity Church
Marla Michel	University of Massachusetts, STCC Enterprise Center
Julia Ortiz	State of Massachusetts
Karen Phelan	Phelan Consulting
Dora Robinson	United Way of Pioneer Valley
Idelia Smith	Holyoke Community College
Rev. Talbert Swan II	Spring of Hope Church of God in Christ
Lori Tanner	Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, LPV '12
Hector Toledo	Hampden Bank
Kimberly Williams	Baystate Health, LPV '12

Jessica Atwood*Senior Economic Development
Planner*

Franklin Regional Council of
Governments
12 Olive St.
Greenfield, MA 01301
413.774.3167 x 123
jatwood@frcog.org



Jessica Atwood is the Senior Economic Development Planner for the Franklin Regional Council of Governments, the regional planning agency and municipal services organization serving rural Franklin County. She has extensive experience with broadband access issues, brownfields redevelopment, and other areas of economic development. Jessica is on the Board of the Franklin County Community Development Corporation and serves in a gubernatorial appointment to the Franklin County Regional Housing & Redevelopment Authority's Board of Commissioners. Jessica earned a Bachelor's Degree and a Professional Master's in Business Administration from UMASS at Amherst, and lives in Greenfield.

Jeff Bagg*Senior Planner Town of Amherst*

4 Boltwood Avenue
413.259.3040
Amherst, MA 01002
baggj@amherstma.gov



Jeff Bagg is a Senior Planner in the Town of Amherst Planning Department. After graduating from UMass Amherst with a BS in Natural Resource Conservation, Jeff held various jobs in the environmental field before pursuing a career in planning. From 2005 to 2008, he was an Environmental Planner for a private consulting firm in Eastern Long Island. Since 2008, Jeff's primary task for the Town of Amherst has been managing the heavy workload of the Zoning Board of Appeals. His work in Amherst highlights his ability to facilitate and guide a wide range of stakeholders, from homeowners to attorneys, through the often challenging and contentious public permitting process. Jeff's organizational and people skills have allowed him to embrace the dynamic and unique Amherst community.

Currently Jeff and his wife, Megan, live in Easthampton with their one year old daughter, Layla, and enjoy time outside hiking, kayaking, and gardening.

Krista Benoit

Job Captain

Dietz & Company Architects, Inc.
17 Hampden Street
Springfield, MA 01103
413.733.6798
kristab@dietzarch.com



Krista Benoit is a Job Captain for Dietz & Company Architects, a woman-owned architecture firm established in 1985. It is one of the largest full-service architecture firms in western Massachusetts. Krista is also an artist whose work was included in the Travelling Scholars Show at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston. She is a graduate of Tufts University and the School of the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston. Krista participated in the AIA Sustainable Development Assessment Team Program (SDAT) for the city of Northampton and the town of South Hadley.

Suzanne Bowles

Director of PR and Fund Development

Gandara Center
147 Norman Street
West Springfield, MA 01089
413.732.8329, Ext. 269
smbowles33@gmail.com



Suzanne Bowles is the director of public relations and fund development for the Gandara Center. In this capacity, she strives to help the organization expand its ability to provide residential, mental health, substance abuse and preventive services to individuals in Springfield and the Pioneer Valley. Before joining the Gandara Center, she worked as development director for the Alliance to Develop Power, grant writer, and development consultant for various environmental, social, and economic justice organizations. She was born in central Massachusetts, moved to the Pioneer Valley to attend Mount Holyoke College in 2004, and has made the Valley her home ever since.

Nancy Buffone*Executive Director*

External Relations and
University Events,
University of Massachusetts
Amherst
181 Presidents Drive
305 Whitmore Administration
Amherst MA 01003
413.577.1101
buffone@admin.umass.edu



Nancy Buffone is Executive Director of External Relations and University Events at UMass Amherst, a position she has held for the past four years. Prior to that, she held various positions in the Provost's Office at UMass. Active in the community, Nancy serves on the Board of Directors of the Amherst Area Chamber of Commerce and the Amherst Education Foundation. In 2011, she was named one of BusinessWest's "40 Under Forty." She has three degrees from UMass, including a doctorate in Educational Policy and Leadership. Nancy and her husband, Mark, have two children, Jack and Ben, and live in Amherst.

Nicolle Cestero*Vice President for Human Resources*

American International College
Lee Hall
1000 State Street
Springfield, MA 01109
413.205.3800
nicolle.cestero@aic.edu



Nicolle Cestero currently serves as the head of Human Resources at American International College. Her human resources background includes all facets of HR and exposure to multiple industries including non-profit, private and higher education sectors. Nicolle received her Bachelor's degree from Mount Holyoke College, her Master's degree from the University of West Florida, and holds the Professional in Human Resources certificate.

Ayanna Crawford

Owner/President

AC Consulting Services
7 Schley Street
Springfield MA 01109
413.886.9089
Acrawford477@gmail.com



Ayanna C. Crawford is the Owner/ President of AC Consulting Services. She is also the host of the Ayanna C. Crawford Show in Excellence scheduled to be aired on Focus Springfield in February 2013. She has been a guest lecturer at Smith College on “Best Practices for Literacy Development in Urban Schools”. She is a former member of the AmeriCorp program.

Ayanna earned a B.A. from Westfield State University and M.Ed. from Springfield College. Currently Ayanna serves on the board of directors for the American Red Cross, Total Women Conference, Inc., and the Movement Project. She is the proud mother of two children including a freshmen in college.

Nicholas Criscitelli

USIG Compliance, Strategic Solutions and Shared Services

MassMutual Financial Group
1295 State Street; C420
Springfield, MA 01111
413.744.7662
ncriscitelli@massmutual.com



Nicholas Criscitelli has worked as a compliance consultant for MassMutual for two years. Previously, he worked for Lincoln Financial. He holds both general securities and securities principal licenses. Nicholas earned two bachelors’ degrees from Westfield State University in Economics and Business Management, and is working towards an MBA at the University of Massachusetts. Nicholas also serves on the scholarship committee at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving. He is the chair of the Young Professionals Employee Resource Group at MassMutual and is set to serve his second term as the leader of the organization.

Laurie Davison*Manager*

Westfield Bank
 141 Elm St.
 Westfield, MA 01085
 413.568.191
 ldavison@westfieldbank.com



Laurie Davison was born and raised in Westfield, Massachusetts. She began her career in banking with Westfield Bank in 1988. Currently, she serves as a Westfield Bank Area Manager. In this capacity, Laurie is responsible for working with Branch Managers from 6 local banks to enhance customer service and sales within all regulatory and compliance standards. Laurie continues to live in Westfield with her husband and daughter. She considers family and friends the foundation of her happiness and success and in her free time she can be found cooking and gardening.

Charity L. Day*Housing Consumer Education
Center Director*

Franklin County Regional Housing
 & Redevelopment Authority
 42 Canal Road
 Turners Falls, MA 01376
 413.863.9781 ext. 151
 cday@fcrhra.org



Charity Day is Director of the Housing Consumer Education Center at Franklin County Regional Housing & Redevelopment Authority. She began her career at HRA as Community Development Administrative Assistant in 2002. She completed her Associates Degree in Business at Mount Wachusett Community College, Gardner, MA. She earned her Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration at Southern New Hampshire University. Charity currently resides in Bernardston, with her husband, great daughter and two wonderful step-sons. She is actively involved in her community volunteering with non-profits.

Roshonda DeGraffenreid

21st Century BSEP Coordinator

Baystate Health

140 High Street, 1st fl
Springfield, MA 01105

413.794.2269

roshonda.degraffenreid@baystate
health.org



Roshonda DeGraffenreid is the 21st Century Baystate Springfield Educational Partnership Program Coordinator at Baystate Health. With 10+ years of varied public relations experience, her current role focuses on preparing young adults for STEM career pathways. She is actively involved in youth development and diversity initiatives, serves as a committee member of the 21st Century Regional Network of Western Massachusetts, and on the committee of Baystate Health's BE Connecting. Roshonda earned an Associate degree from Holyoke Community College and a B.S. in Psychology and Economics from Mount Holyoke College. She spends her free time with her family and traveling.

Kyle Kate Dudley

Managing Director

Drama Studio

41 Oakland St.
Springfield, MA 01109

413.739.1983

kylekate@dramastudio.org



Kyle Kate Dudley graduated from New York University with a BFA in Theatre and Anthropology. She has worked with Flying Kites, a community support organization for a town in Kenya, at Western Mass Legal Services, and for three non-profit theatre collectives. She ran workshops in the New York City public school system and at Johannesburg Women's Correctional Facility in Johannesburg, South Africa. Kyle Kate returned from a CELTA teaching program in Barcelona to take an apprenticeship at the Drama Studio as Assistant to the Executive Director in 2009. She has been the Managing Director of Drama Studio, Inc. since July 2011.

Julie Federman, RN

Health Director

Amherst Health Department
 Bangs Center
 70 Boltwood Walk
 Amherst, MA 01002
 413.259.3101
 federmanj@amherstma.gov



Julie Federman is Public Health Director for the Town of Amherst. She has a Bachelor's degree in Nursing from Boston University and previously served the town as a public health nurse since 1995. Julie has worked in community health for twenty five years with a focus on underserved populations. Her interests lie in cultural competence in the delivery of health care in the community and in the workplace. Julie lived in Boston until 1987, and moved to western MA with her husband where they raised their two children in Amherst. She enjoys hearing music locally, studying herbs, and spending time with her family.

Anthony R. Franco*Assistant Vice President*

United Bank
 95 Elm Street
 West Springfield, MA 01089
 413.788.3364
 tfranco@bankatunited.com



Anthony Franco has worked in the Banking Industry for the past twenty years, is currently a Commercial Loan Officer at United Bank where he is responsible for serving clients in Western Massachusetts and Northern Connecticut. He earned a BS from Westfield State University in Business Management and Finance.

Anthony has been actively involved in community service with many organizations including: The United Way of Pioneer Valley, The East Longmeadow and West Springfield Rotary Club, Springfield Chapter of UNICO National, and is a current member of the Springfield Symphony Hall/City Stage Board of Directors. Anthony enjoys his personal time with family and friends and also enjoys golfing and traveling.

Julie Gentile

Senior Clerk

Town of South Hadley
Treasurer's Office
116 Main Street
South Hadley, MA 01075
413.538-5017, Ext. 116



Julie Gentile works as the senior clerk for the Town of South Hadley. She earned her BS from Westfield State College. Prior to working for South Hadley, she gained customer service and financial expertise working for BayBank, BankBoston, and Woronoco Savings as customer service representative, within financial services, and as Branch Manager. Julie is a member of Greater Springfield Professional Women's Chamber and active in her local PTA.

Jeannette Gordon

MA Area Program Director

New England Farm Workers
Council
225 High St.
Holyoke, MA 01040
413.536.5403 x239
jgordon@partnersforcommunity.
org



Jeannette Gordon is a wife and proud mother of four children. She is Program Manager for New England Farm Workers' Council Employment & Training Division. Her varied career includes: Submarine Engineering Technician, Executive Administrative Support in the private sector, and event coordinating. Jeannette earned a Bachelor of Science from Walden University in Business Administration with a concentration in management, Associates Degree in Secretarial Science from Monroe College. She served on the Board of Directors for the YWCA and PTO President. As a strong advocate for youth in Springfield public schools, she volunteers for the Junior Achievement, Stand for Children, Booster Clubs (recreational sports for children), and for several Faith Based Organizations in the community.

Erica Johnson*Senior Planner*

Pioneer Valley
 Planning Commission
 60 Congress Street
 Springfield, MA 01104
 413.781.6045
 ejohnson@pvpc.org



Erica Johnson is a Senior Planner with the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission. As part of the Community Development section, her primary role is to write and administer grants for the region's smaller communities. Prior to PVPC, she worked with the Massachusetts Fair Housing Center coordinating the agency's community outreach and education programs. Originally from New York State, she relocated to attend UMass in Amherst where she received her MA in Regional Planning. Erica is a member of the Westfield Woman's Club and a mentor with Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Hampden County. She resides in Westfield with her husband.

Lori Kerwood*Director of Benefits,
 Compensation & HRIS*

Cooley Dickinson Hospital
 30 Locust St.
 Northampton, MA 01061
 413.582.2250
 Lori_Kerwood@cooley.dickinson.
 org



Lori Kerwood grew up in Pittsfield, MA, graduated from Taconic high school in 1989 and from Siena College in Loudonville, NY with a Bachelor of Arts in History in 1993. Lori began her career as a Benefits Assistant for Yankee Candle Co, Inc. (YCC). She grew steadily in her career at Yankee Candle and remained with the YCC for 13 years. In 2008, she joined Cooley Dickinson Hospital as the Director of Benefits, Compensation, and HRIS. Recently, Lori was promoted to Director of Human Resources. Lori lives in Northampton, MA with her husband and two children.

Dawn Koloszyc

Director of Operations

Cooley Dickinson Hospital
30 Locust St.
Northampton, MA 01061
413.582.2416
Dawn_Koloszyc@cooley.
dickinson.org



Dawn Koloszyc began her career in the healthcare field at the Hilltown Community Health Centers. She had moved to Worthington from Easthampton with her family in 1987 and worked in this capacity for 13 years. While there, she wore many different hats and was promoted into the position of Operations Director. In 1998, she began a new chapter of her life at Cooley Dickinson Hospital. Dawn is currently the Director of Operations for Cooley Dickinson Practice Associates and oversees the management of 26 medical practices across the Pioneer Valley. Dawn is passionate about traveling, loves to read, and spends as much time as she can with her two grandsons, Henry, 4, and Barnaby, 2.

Ljuba Marsh

Principal

Paulo Freire Social Justice Charter
School
206 Maple St.
Holyoke, MA 01009
413.575.0084
ljubamarsh@hotmail.com



Ljuba Marsh has been involved in K-12 education and higher education for over 40 years as an administrator, teacher, and trainer. She co-founded Pioneer Valley Performing Arts, an award-winning middle and high school college preparatory program. She served as the Board President for the school's first three years and continued on as the educational leader for twelve years. Ljuba co-founded Hampshire Shakespeare Company, Creative Vision, Creative Alternatives, Meetings with Remarkable People, and Professional Training Inc. Currently, Ljuba is the co-founder and Principal of the newly approved Paulo Freire Social Justice Charter School in Holyoke, Massachusetts. Ljuba serves as the Board Chair for Remineralize the Earth, a non-profit organization which supports better soil, better food, and a better planet.

Julio A. Martínez-Silvestrini, MD*Medical Director*

Baystate Physical Medicine and
Rehabilitation

294 North Main St. Suite 201,
East Longmeadow, MA 01085

413.794.1150

Julio.Martinez@baystatehealth.org



Dr. Julio Martinez-Silvestrini is the Medical Director for Baystate Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (PM&R) and has been at Baystate Medical Center since 2002. He was born and raised in Puerto Rico, where he completed his college and medical school studies, including his specialty in PM&R (also known as Physiatry). Subsequently, he finished his Sports Medicine Fellowship Program at Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN.

Julio is a member of the Board of Directors of Girls, Inc, Board of Advisors for the Physician Assistant Program at Bay Path College and a member of the Public Affairs Committee of the North American Spine Society.

Irma Medina*Senior Coordinator*

Holyoke Community College

303 Homestead Avenue

Holyoke, MA 01040

413.552.2857

imedina@hcc.edu



Irma has worked in the community of Holyoke for fourteen years. Over the past 8 years, she served as a Senior Coordinator of the Pathways Program at Holyoke Community College focused on academic achievement and transfer. She serves as the primary liaison for Mount Holyoke College and other selective liberal arts colleges, including Amherst and Smith. Irma has served for eight years as President of the Board of Directors on the Community Education Project, an adult basic education provider in Holyoke. She has also served on Governor Patrick's state-wide College Readiness Project. Irma is a life-long resident of Springfield and a Mount Holyoke graduate. Irma's daughter is currently a Holyoke Community College student.

Donald Mitchell

*Group Executive Director
of Operations*

YMCA of Greater Springfield
275 Chestnut Street
Springfield, MA 01104
413.739.6951 ext. 181
dmitchell@springfieldy.org



Donald Mitchell served as the Executive Director of WMDC, Inc before joining the YMCA of Greater Springfield as the Group Executive Director. Over the past 10 years, he has worked in both the public and private sectors at the City of Springfield's office of Community Development, the Springfield Chamber of Commerce., and as an entrepreneur with a commercial cleaning business.

Donald is a member of several community organizations that serve and support youth in including as a coach of a girl's basketball team. Donald was also a recipient of the 40 under 40 Class of 2012. He currently resides in Springfield with his three children, who all attend Sabis International Charter School.

Georgia Moore

Director of Leadership Gifts

Cooley Dickinson Hospital
P.O. Box 329
Northampton MA 01060
413.582.2464
georgia_moore@cooley.dickinson.
org



Georgia Moore grew up in Upstate New York, but has called the Pioneer Valley home for the past 30+ years. Since 2002, she has served as the Director of Leadership Gifts at Cooley Dickinson Hospital. Before joining the team at CDH, she worked in the Alumni Relations Office at Northfield Mount Hermon School. She is actively involved in the Rotary Club of Amherst, United Way of Hampshire County, and the Amherst Area Chamber of Commerce. She is the mother of three adult children, proud grandmother of three and resides in Greenfield with her husband, Tom, and their dog, Cale.

Ben Murphy*Community Investment
Coordinator*

United Way of Hampshire County
 71 King St.
 Northampton, MA 01060
 413.584.3962
 bmurphy@unitedwayhampshire
 county.org



Born and raised in Springfield, Ben attended Cathedral High School and Roger Williams University where he majored in Historic Preservation. For the past five years he has worked at the United Way of Hampshire County as Community Investment Manager, facilitating the allocation of funds to a network of area social service agencies. Ben is currently a commissioner on the Springfield Historical Commission, and is president of the Springfield Preservation Trust, the only non-profit organization in the city advocating for historic preservation. He resides with his partner Brian in the Atwater Park neighborhood of Springfield.

Glenn H. Posey*Assistant Manager, Customer
Operations*

Western Massachusetts
 Electric Company
 333 West Ave.
 Pittsfield MA, 01201
 413.449.9021
 glenn.posey@nu.com



Glenn was born in Gunnison Colorado, and grew up in Aztec, New Mexico. He currently lives in Pittsfield, Massachusetts. He graduated from Thomas Edison State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nuclear Technology in 2001. He earned a graduate degree from Webster University, conferred as a Master of Business Administration in 2004. After completing 25 years in the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program and Submarine Service, Glenn retired from the United States Navy in September 2011. In his off time you can find him hunting, fishing, or spending time with his bride of 23 years.

Jonathan Queenin

Chief Operating Officer

Specialty Bolt and Screw

235 Bowles Rd.

Agawam, MA, 01001

413.499.9021

jqueenin@specialtybolt.com



Jon Queenin is the Chief Operating Officer of SBS, INC, a distribution company based in Agawam, Massachusetts with locations in Canada, Mexico, Finland and Taiwan. Prior to his current position, Jon's work experience included time at Habitat for Humanity in Americus, Georgia as well as with a United States Congressman. A native of Westfield, he recently returned to the Pioneer Valley with his family.

Jason Randall

Director of Human Resources

Peter Pan Bus Lines, Inc.

1776 Main Street

Springfield, MA 01002

413.781.2900 ext. 1211

jrandall@peterpanbus.com



Jason Randall is the Director of Human Resources, Marketing & Customer Service for Peter Pan Bus Lines, headquartered in Springfield, MA. Jason has a strong history of leadership, organizational change, process improvement, and long-term organizational success. He carries strong influence on managing teams and providing focus towards meeting company goals and objectives. Jason is a proud father and sits on the Board of Directors for the Children's Study Home, an organization dedicated to caring for and improving the lives of at-risk children, youth and families through high quality educational, residential and family services.

Lidya Rivera*Grants Coordinator*

Springfield Housing Authority
 25 Saab Ct.
 Springfield, MA 01101
 413.785.1562
 lriviera@shamass.org



Lidya Rivera is a mother of three children. Her oldest daughter recently started as a college freshman; she lives in Springfield with her fiancé and two younger children. Lidya received her Masters in Organizational Management and Leadership from Springfield College. Currently, she supervises all Adult Educational programs operating out of the Neighborhood Network Center for the Springfield Housing Authority. Lidya joined the Housing Authority in 2007. She also served as a board member for several non-profit organizations within the Springfield Community. She is a member of the Puerto Rican/Latino Council Leadership group. She hopes to continue working with the community in order to identify and make accessible resources from non-profit organizations which promote growth and wealth within the Latino/Black community.

Debra Roussel*Assistant to the Town Manager*

Town of Amherst
 4 Boltwood Ave.
 Amherst, MA 01002
 413.259.3292
 rousseld@amherstma.gov



Debra Roussel gained over ten years of municipal management experience before arriving in Amherst. In 2011, she served as Assistant to the Town Manager. She continues to serve as an associate member of the Small Town Administrators of Massachusetts, a professional association for Town Administrators serving Towns with fewer than 5,000 people. A 2005 graduate of UMass Amherst, Debra transferred as a non-traditional student from Greenfield Community College to complete her BA through the University Without Walls program. Debra is a mother of two adult children and three grandsons, active in her church and community, and loves to kayak and bicycle.

Alfonso Santaniello

President/CEO

The Creative Strategy Agency, Inc.
One Financial Plaza
1350 Main Street Suite 1506
Springfield, MA 01103
413.455.2371
Alfonso@tCSAonline.com



Alfonso Santaniello graduated with a Bachelor's degree from the University of Hartford. As a first generation Italian-American, he became the first in his family to attend college. A lifelong resident of western Massachusetts, Santaniello comes from a family of entrepreneurs. Alfonso Santaniello founded his own company at the age of 24. Four years later, Santaniello is the President/CEO of the Creative Strategy Agency, a digital marketing and advertising agency located in Springfield, MA which services clients large and small. He considers it his "dream job".

Mark A. Sayre

Actuarial Consultant, Strategy and Corporate Development

MassMutual Financial Group
1295 State Street, MIP B415
Springfield, MA 01111
413.744.8488
marksayre@massmutual.com



Mark hails from Alpharetta, GA where he attended Milton High School. Upon graduating, he moved to New York City to pursue a Bachelor's in Economics with minors in Mathematics and French from New York University. After a year-long stint at a corporate litigation firm in Manhattan, he received a Master's of Economics and Management at Università Commerciale Luigi Bocconi in Milan, Italy. He interned at Americans for the Arts in Washington, D.C. focusing on cultural economics research. Mark pursued a career as an Actuary after his Master's program, ultimately joining the Actuarial rotation program at MassMutual Financial Group in the Fall of 2010. He has spent time in both Annuity Product Management and Strategy and Corporate Development. Mark serves on the Boards of the Springfield Symphony Orchestra and the Out&Equal Connecticut Affiliate.

Sarah M. Schatz*Owner*

Sarah's Pet Services
 12 Church Ave.
 Hatfield, MA 01088
 413.626.5406
 sarahpetservices@gmail.com



Sarah Schatz is the owner of Sarah's Pet Services, LLC. Since 2000, she has grown the business from a part-time college job to the largest dog walking business in the Pioneer Valley. Providing exercise, socialization, and fun for over 100 daily and vacation clients, Sarah's focus has always been on providing a service that can help people bring out the best in their pets. She lives in Hatfield, MA with her husband, two sons, two dogs, two turtles, and a fat orange cat named "Brown".

Maureen Trafford*Assistant Director of Gifts and Records*

Smith College
 33 Elm Street, Stoddard Annex
 Northampton, MA 01063
 413.585.2032
 mtrafford@smith.edu



Maureen Trafford serves as the assistant director for gifts and records at Smith College. Prior to holding this position, Maureen served as a Philanthropic Services Associate at the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts, where she worked for seven years. A lifelong resident of western Massachusetts, Maureen grew up in Belchertown, and graduated from UMass, Amherst with a degree in Animal Science. Before transitioning to the charitable sector, Maureen worked at Andrew's Greenhouse. Currently, Maureen resides in Granby with her husband, dog and occasional foster dog. She spends her spare time gardening and on DIY home improvement projects.

Emmanuel Vera

Disability Claim Examiner

MassMutual
1295 State St
Springfield, MA 01085
860.562.3974
Evera@massmutual.com



Emmanuel Vera is a Disability Claims Examiner at MassMutual and chair of the professional development committee for the Association of Latinos at MassMutual and Allies. Emmanuel grew up, and currently resides, in Westfield, Mass. He attended Westfield State University and graduated Suma Cum Laude with Bachelors in Economics and minors in Fine Arts and Spanish in 2008. Emmanuel worked fulltime in retail throughout college. In 2008, he began at MassMutual as a customer service representative. In June of 2011, Emmanuel began his current position as a disability claims examiner. In this capacity, Emmanuel takes pride in the amazing clients and coworkers. Amongst his many interests he is most passionate about the environment, culture, and fashion.

Janice Watson

*Executive Director of Dunbar
Community Center*

YMCA of Greater Springfield
33 Oak St.
Springfield, MA 01109
413.788.6143
jwatson@springfielddy.org



Janice Watson was born in Jamaica, and moved to the United States at age 19. She earned her BS at American International College in Marketing and Sports Management. For over five years, Janice has focused on youth development while working for the YMCA. Janice actively engages youth in the advancement of non-traditional sports and leadership growth, which she does by coaching the Y-Speed Track Team and the "Girls Who Aspire" group. Since January 2012, she serves as the Executive Director at Dunbar YMCA.. Janice resides in Springfield with her husband and two sons.

Tracye Whitfield*Management/Finance Analyst*

City of Springfield
 36 Court St
 Springfield MA 01103
 413.787.7818
 Twhitfield@springfieldcityhall.com



Tracye Whitfield is currently employed with the City of Springfield as a Management/Finance Analyst. Prior to her position with the City, she worked in various positions at MassMutual Financial Group. She is an active member of Zion Community Baptist Church and serves as the Vice President of the Adult Choir ministry. Tracye received a BA with a concentration in Finance and a Master of Science in Accounting & Taxation from American International College. She is currently working on her second Masters in Strategic Fundraising and Philanthropy at Bay Path College. Ms. Whitfield resides in Springfield, where she was born and raised, with her two beautiful children.

Danielle L. Williams*President*

GADA
 59 Main St, Suite 322
 West Orange, NJ 07052
 413.244.4926
 dwilliams@mightymajestics.com



Danielle L. Williams is the president of GADA, an entertainment company which develops Young Adult stories on multiple platforms. She is the co-creator of "The Mighty Magical Majestics," a super hero series based in Egyptian mythology. An attorney for ten years she has practiced in both the civil and criminal arenas. She received her B.A. from The College of William and Mary and her J. D. from Western New England University. She is an alum of The MacDuffie School and serves on the Advisory Board. She is also a member of The Links Incorporated. She resides in Wilbraham.

Anthony I. Wilson, Esq.
4th Associate City Solicitor

City of Springfield
Law Department
36 Court Street
Springfield, MA 01103
413.787.7670
awilson@springfieldcityhall.com



Anthony I. Wilson was born and raised in Springfield and works as the 4th Associate City Solicitor for the City of Springfield. He defends the city in state and federal court from civil claims. Previously he worked as a Victim/Witness Advocate for the Hampden County District Attorney in the Holyoke and Springfield offices. He has also worked for the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination, Suffolk County District Attorney, and Georgia State Assembly. He developed an interest in the law as a teenager when he joined the mock trial team.

He attended Clark Atlanta University, a historically black college, in Atlanta, Georgia. He received his J.D from Suffolk University Law School and returned to Springfield upon graduation.



Leadership Pioneer Valley Class of 2012-13

Notes

**LEADERSHIP
Pioneer Valley**



www.leadershippv.org



Printed on recycled paper