

# Oregon Council on Civil Rights (OCCR)

Co-Chair James Mason



Co-Chair Connie Ashbrook

## Council Membership

### **Connie Ashbrook, Co-Chair**

Connie Ashbrook is the executive director of Oregon Tradeswomen, Inc., a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting success for women in the trades through education, leadership and mentoring. Previous to her thirteen years with OTI, she worked in the trades for seventeen years as a dump truck driver, carpenter apprentice and elevator constructor. She was the first woman in Oregon to become licensed as an elevator mechanic. Connie served on the Oregon State Apprenticeship and Training Council for nine years and on the Mayor of Portland's Fair Contracting and Employment Forum for six years.

Under her leadership, thousands of women and girls have gained information about careers in the building, construction, mechanical and utility trades, and hundreds of women have moved into these high-wage, high-skilled trades careers.

### **James Mason, Co-Chair**

James Mason is the director of Diversity Education and Cultural Competence for Providence Health & Services in Oregon. In this role he develops and oversees Providence's diversity education and cultural competence curriculum and training for staff; develops and maintains their diversity website; and conducts strategic planning, community outreach, technical assistance and cultural consultation. He also consults with the Georgetown University Child Development Center and the Office of Multicultural Health within Oregon's Department of Human Services.

James has also previously been involved with Chemeketa Community College as a Multicultural Development Officer, with Oregon Health Sciences University, with Portland State University as an Assistant Professor in their Graduate School of Social Work and with their Multi-Cultural Initiative Project, and with the Urban League of Portland.

### **Lucy Baker**

Lucy Baker, M.S., has served since 2004 as the Executive Director of the Oregon Business Leadership Network (OBLN), a consortium of 40+ Oregon and Southern Washington employers committed to the hiring, retention, and recruitment of people with disabilities. The OBLN, and its business led Board of Directors, was honored in 2005 as the USBLN's Chapter of the Year for leadership. It has also worked with Oregon business to create the Business Case for Inclusion of People with Disabilities, a document that has been printed by Intel for the OBLN. In 2008 the OBLN was honored by the Portland Citizen's Disability Advisory Committee with its "Making a Difference" Award.

Ms. Baker came to the OBLN from a 25 year career in Aging and Disability Services. Her work includes developing the Planning and Special Projects Unit for Multnomah County Aging and Disability Services in Portland, and 17 years with the Area Agency on Aging in Madison, Wisconsin where she served as Administrator and Executive Director. She holds a Master's Degree in Urban and Regional Planning from UW Madison and has a passion for empowerment, community organizing, advocacy, and transformational change.

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## **Rick Bennett**

Rick Bennett is AARP Oregon's Director of Government Relations. In this position he serves the interests of Oregon's 530,000 AARP members on issues related to state government and leads the grassroots advocacy efforts related to federal issues.

Prior to his association with AARP, Rick Bennett served as Director of Government Relations at the University of Nevada Las Vegas (UNLV). In his eight years with UNLV, he developed and implemented legislative strategies that resulted in over \$200 million in capital construction and changes in higher education funding formulas that provided significant benefit to UNLV.

Rick Bennett is familiar with the legislative and political process having served four years in the Nevada Legislature. The former assemblyman was named Assistant Majority Leader in 1993; Vice Chairman, Government Affairs Committee in 1991 and 1993; and served on the Commerce, Taxation, and Health and Human Services Committees.

In addition to his current position and legislative experience, Bennett has 15 years experience in health care management, including serving as Executive Director of the Clark County (NV) Medical Society. He has worked with home health care agencies, hospices, long-term care facilities, physicians' practices, and hospitals.

## **Kendall Clawson**

Kendall Clawson is the Executive Director of Q Center, Portland's LGBTQ Community Center.

Kendall has a Bachelor's degree from the University of California, Santa Cruz and has been in the non profit arena for nearly 20 years, working primarily in capacity building, community development and non-profit management. Most recently, Kendall was Vice President of Planning and Community Services at the United Way of Pioneer Valley and the founder of Idea Box Consulting, a strategic planning and organizational development firm for non profit organizations. Kendall's professional focus includes helping community groups develop strategies for growth and sustainability and building strong community partnerships and coalitions.

Kendall lives in Portland.

## **Jeana Frazzini**

Jeana's work as a social justice advocate and community leader in Oregon dates back to the early 1990's. Over the last fifteen years, she has been the Oregon State Director for Death with Dignity, Field Director for a successful statewide ballot measure, Canvass Director of OSPIRG and even managed a radio station.

At Basic Rights Oregon, Jeana has done everything from knocking on doors to overseeing our field campaign to expanding our reach with businesses and elected officials. In 2007, she spearheaded the most successful fundraising campaign in BRO's history.

Jeana lives in North Portland with the love of her life, KD, and their two sons, Emmett and Griffin.

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## **Cal Henry**

Dr. Henry is founder and president of the Oregon Assembly for Black Affairs. Dr. Henry is an educational consultant as well as a staff development consultant. Also he is an Independent Associate with Pre-Paid Legal Services, Inc. Dr. Henry was member of the Governor's Taskforce on Equality in Oregon. He is the founder of the Salem and Eugene Branches of the NAACP and the founder and first president of the Corvallis Branch of the NAACP. Henry proposed and drafted the initial legislation giving statutory force to affirmative action in Oregon, and establishing the position of Director of Affirmative Action in the office of Oregon Governor.

He caused Oregon State University to develop its Affirmative Action Plan and to create its position of Director of Affirmative Action Position. As a member of Oregon State University's Board of Visitors for Minority Affairs, Dr. Henry worked with OSU Presidents to establish the Office of Multicultural Affairs at Oregon State University. He served as the first administrator of Oregon Appraiser Certification and Licensure Board, and worked in several positions in the office of Oregon Secretary of State. Dr. Henry is a veteran and he served as a Captain in the United States Air Forces and the Oregon Air National Guard.

## **Dawn Holt**

Dawn Holt has spent her professional career in community mental health. Dawn currently works for Lifeworks Northwest writing curriculum and training adult foster home providers on issues related to mental health and aging.

Dawn is the President of the Portland chapter of Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG), a national organization with a mission of support to individuals coping with an adverse society, education to enlighten the public, and advocacy to end discrimination and secure equal civil rights. She is a frequent speaker on the experience of families with LGBT youth.

Dawn is co-chair of the Board of Directors of the Equity Foundation, a community foundation working to eradicate prejudice and discrimination towards the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) community through grants and scholarships. She chairs Equity Foundation's Juvenile Justice Project, an initiative with the objective of ensuring the equal treatment of LGBT youth in the juvenile justice and related social service systems through a state-wide training program.

Dawn lives in Beaverton.

## **Tina Kotek**

Tina Kotek is an elected State Representative serving North and Northeast Portland.

Before her election to the Oregon House of Representatives in 2006, Representative Kotek worked as the policy director for the non-profit advocacy organization Children First for Oregon. Prior to joining Children First, Representative Kotek was a public policy advocate for the Oregon Food Bank. She served as the co-chair of the Governor's Medicaid Advisory Committee from late 2005 through 2006.

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During her first session in 2007, Representative Kotek was the only freshman legislator to chair a committee, the House Subcommittee on Health Policy. She championed a redesign of the state's welfare program, led the fight to establish statewide nutrition standards for food sold in schools, worked to pass legislation to provide health care to all children, and helped to pass landmark legislation that ended discrimination based on sexual orientation and created domestic partnerships for same-sex couples.

Tina lives in the Kenton neighborhood with her partner Aimee and their dogs Maya and Rudy.

## **Sarah Mensah**

Sarah Mensah is the Chief Marketing Officer for the Portland Trail Blazers. A Trail Blazers employee since 1993, Mensah has served as the organization's Senior Vice President, Sales and Marketing for the past two seasons. Sarah Mensah was promoted to the post of Vice President for Corporate Sales and Services in July of 2001. Most recently, Mensah assumed the additional responsibility for selling and managing all corporate suites in the Rose Garden arena. She joined the Trail Blazers' sales staff as a corporate sales manager in 1993 then was given responsibilities as director of sponsorship sales in 1997. In her current role, Mensah oversees all activities and personnel that generate, secure and fulfill sponsorship and suite contracts. Before joining the Trail Blazers organization, she worked in radio sales with Portland stations KINK and KUFO. She began her career in television production at KGW-TV.

A Portland native, she holds two degrees from the University of Oregon, one in journalism and one in telecommunications. Mensah is an active board member of the Urban League of Portland and takes an active role working in the Oregon autism community seeking treatment and cures for children diagnosed with autistic spectrum disorder.

## **Frank Morse**

State Senator Frank Morse was born and raised in Lebanon. He entered the Morse Bros. family business in 1972. He has been the Albany Division Manager, Vice President of Operations, Executive Vice President, President and then Chairman. When Morse Bros. merged with MDU Resources Group, Frank continued as President until he retired in 2000. After retiring from Morse Bros., Frank then focused his attention on a new business, Environ-Metal Inc. where he serves as Chairman of the Board.

For Frank community service is not only gratifying but an important value to him just as it was to his family business Morse Bros. Currently he serves as Chairman of Samaritan Albany General Hospital Board, Chairman of the Samaritan Health Services Board, Chairman of Northwest Christian College Trustees, Board member of Cockerline Foundation and Board member of Albany Boys and Girls Club Foundation.

Frank loves the outdoors and his passions are family, hunting, fly-fishing, nature photography and vocal music.

## **Marcus Mundy**

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Marcus Mundy is the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Urban League of Portland. He is a board member of the African American Health Coalition and former vice president at Kaiser Permanente, Northwest Region.

## **Celia Nunez**

Celia Núñez has held a variety of challenging and significant leadership positions in both the private sector and in state government. In state government, her experience has included service as the Executive Director for the Oregon Commission on Hispanic Affairs and as the highest-ranking Latina in the Oregon Legislative Assembly - Caucus Policy Coordinator for the Oregon Senate Majority Office. Prior to her public service she spent over a decade in the private sector as a banker, communications director and marketing officer.

Named by Hispanic Magazine as one of the top Latinas in government and politics, Celia is currently a City Councilor for the City of Wilsonville, Oregon and a member of the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO). She was a member of the Oregon Community Foundation's Northern Willamette Valley Advisory Council for a decade and a recent Fellow of the Portland Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce's Leadership Program. She currently serves as a board member of that organization.

## **Cynthia Pappas**

Cynthia Pappas was hired as CEO of Planned Parenthood of Southwestern Oregon in January, 2007. Prior to this position, she worked in local government in the Eugene/Springfield area for 23 years, most recently as Assistant City Manager at the City of Springfield.

Cynthia is deeply involved in the community as a volunteer. She has served on a wide-ranging number of non-profit boards: Sexual Assault Support Services, FOOD for Lane County, the UO Alumni Board, and the United Way Campaign Committee. She has served as a volunteer in the University of Oregon Mentor Program. Currently, Cynthia is a member of the Women in Philanthropy Committee of United Way, the Girls At Risk Coalition, and Planned Parenthood's Western Region Cultural Diversity Committee.

Cynthia received her Masters in Planning, Public Policy and Management from the University of Oregon in 1983 and a BA in Environmental Studies from the University of California at Santa Barbara in 1980.

## **Louie Pitt**

Louie Pitt is a tribal Member of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon. He attended Portland State University, serving the tribal government on the Recreation Committee, Timber Committee, Land-Use Committee, Tribal Appellate court. He also has served on Governor John Kitzhaber's Transition Team, as Columbia River Gorge Commissioner, with Natural Resources Fisheries, and presently serves the tribes as Director of Government Affairs and Planning.

Louie has helped with the Lower Deschutes River Management Plan, Upper Deschutes River Management Plan, Metolius River Management Plan, John Day River Management Plan, Columbia River Gorge Management Plan, and the Columbia River Treaty Inlieu.

## **Carol Suzuki**

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Carol Suzuki is the Operations Director in the Oregon State Senate Majority Office. She is also an orchardist and the owner of Suzuki-Tambara Orchards in Parkdale. She presently serves on the Oregon Commission on Asian Affairs.

Carol is extremely active as a volunteer and in civic involvement. She is a member of the Matu Kai Japanese Women's Group in Salem, the Salem City Club, and Salem's AAUW chapter. She is a booster for the Japanese American Citizens League. She also serves on the President's Community Leaders Group of Chemeketa Community College and on Oregon State University's Board of Visitors for Minority Affairs. She previously served as a board member on the Willamette University Alumni Board of Directors, and she is the 2004 recipient of the school's Young Alumni Leadership Award.

Carol lives in Salem.

## **Kilong Ung**

A Portland resident, Kilong Ung is a former Cambodian refugee. Kilong survived the Khmer Rouge genocide that claimed two million lives – including his grandmother, parents, three brother-in-laws and his youngest sister. After an incredible escape into Thailand, he came to the United States, learned English, graduated from Cleveland High School, graduated from Reed College with B.A. in mathematics, graduated from Bowling Green State University with M.S. in applied statistics and operations research, and went to work for Andersen Consulting.

He served as president of the Cambodian-American Community of Oregon for four years, and taught computer language classes at Portland Community College. He is now an online banking software engineer at Fiserv, a Royal Rosarian, a member of the Rotary Club of Portland, an Ambassador for Peace, a Boy Scoutmaster, a community volunteer, a speaker, and an author. His speaking venues include Royal Rosarians, Rotary, Wholistic Peace Institute, University of Oregon, Portland Community College, Clackamas High School, International School of Beaverton, First United Methodist Church, and Center for Intercultural Organizing. He is married and has two young children.

## **Carmin X. Urbina**

Carmen Xiomara Urbina is currently the Parent, Family and Community Coordinator for Eugene School District 4J and former Executive Director of Centro LatinoAmericano. She attended Oregon State University on a scholarship from the government of her native Honduras. She was awarded a B.S. in Agriculture and Resource Economics in 1989; she also holds an associate degree in business administration and accounting. After returning to Honduras, Ms. Urbina worked for several AID (Agency for International Development) programs; was the human resource manager for an international corporation; and trained Peace Corps volunteers. She eventually returned to the US where she has worked exclusively in human services since 1992, coming to CLA in 1996 where she was hired to manage the Medical Access Program before being hired as the Executive Director in 1997.

Currently she is the President of the City of Eugene City Club, Former Chair of the City of Eugene Human Rights Commission, Lane Community College Budget Committee Member, Past member of the Governor to the Medicaid Advisory Committee. She also served as a board member to the Governors Racial and Ethnic Health Task Force and served from 1999 to 2003

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and continues to be an active and vocal health care and human rights advocate. She has also served as a voting member of the Oregon HIV Care Coalition. She is Board Member of Educacion and Justicia para la Raza, the Diversity Action Committee for the University of Oregon and the Diversity Committee for the College of Education at the University of Oregon. Recently she joined the Oregon Community Foundation as a member of the Southern Willamette Valley Leadership Council.

## **John VanLandingham**

John VanLandingham brings a lifetime of experience working in fair housing, affordable housing advocacy, and in landlord/tenant law.

John serves on the Board of Directors for the Oregon Fair Housing Council, which promotes equal access to housing by providing education, outreach, technical assistance, and enforcement opportunities specifically related to federal, state, and local fair housing laws. He also is a Staff Attorney for the Lane County Legal Aid & Advocacy Center, specializing in landlord/tenant law, federal housing issues, and affordable housing advocacy. And he has served on the Oregon Land Conservation & Development Commission since 2000, and as Commission Chair since 2004.

John lives in Eugene.

## **Carl Wolfson**

Carl Wolfson is the host of Carl and Friends, which airs weekdays from 6 to 9 a.m. on AM 620 KPO, Portland, Oregon's progressive talk station.

Each day, Carl draws on his longtime comedy career, three decades of community activism and a master's degree in political science to provide illuminating interviews with the likes of Helen Thomas, Ralph Nader, Maya Angelou, Madeleine Albright, Alan Greenspan, Paul Krugman, Ken Burns, John Dean, Jim Hightower and Tim Robbins.

During the 1980s and 1990s, Carl was a frequent performer on national television, appearing on HBO, Showtime's Comedy Club Network, VH-1 Stand-Up Spotlight, An Evening at the Improv and The Joan Rivers Show.

Carl began his show-biz career at Hollywood's Comedy Store in 1980. He received his B.S. in Communications from The University of Tennessee and his M.A. in Political Science from UCLA.

## **Stephen Ying**

Stephen Ying is the Executive Director and Past President of the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association. He also serves as the President of the Chinese American Citizen Alliance, the Bing Kong Association, and the United Chinese Association.

Previously, Stephen has been involved with the Portland Kaohsiung Sister City Association, Portland Classical Chinese Garden, the Old Town China Town (OTCT) Neighborhood Association, the OTCT Business Association, the OTCT Vision committee. Moreover, he is a dedicated community and education activist, serving as the Chinese School Board Chair and

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working with the Coordination Service Advisory Committee, with the Portland Development Commission, and the River District Urban Renew Advisory Board.

Stephen has worked as a prolific fundraiser for several prominent Portland organizations and efforts, such as the CCBA Chinese School, the Legacy Fountain, the Oregon College of Oriental Medicine, China Earthquake, and the New Orleans Relief Fund.

Stephen lives in Portland.