



Solutions *for* Working Families

**2009 Learning Conference
on State and Local Housing Policy**
Chicago, Illinois · June 28–30, 2009

Presenter Biographies

Training Workshops



Training Workshops

Green Affordable Homes

Saturday, June 27, 2009, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Green Affordable Homes

Pre-conference, Saturday, June 27, 2009, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Yianice Hernandez is a Senior Program Director of Green Communities. She manages Enterprise's comprehensive evaluation efforts to assess the costs and benefits of green affordable housing. Through this effort, Enterprise seeks to demonstrate that, by improving the performance of existing properties through green methods and materials, it is possible to achieve lower operating costs due to energy and water conservation in addition to improvements in occupant health through the use of non-toxic materials and better ventilation.

Yianice also supports activities related to retrofits of existing homes and speaking to national, regional and local audiences about the Green Communities program. Prior to her time at Enterprise, Yianice was a member of the construction project management team of Common Ground Community, one of the largest nonprofit supportive housing development organizations in New York City.

Yianice has a bachelor's degree in Sociology from Pace University and a master's degree in nonprofit administration from the University of Notre Dame.

Emily Mitchell is a program director for Green Communities, an Enterprise Community Partners initiative that strives to transform the way communities design, build and maintain affordable homes. In her role at Enterprise, Emily provides technical assistance and training to developers and project team members incorporating the Green Communities criteria into affordable housing projects. Emily previously worked for three years as a program manager for the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED for Homes program, supporting the development of the technical criteria and delivery system as well as overseeing USGBC's affordable housing initiative. She holds a master's degree in global environmental science and policy from American University and is currently working on a master's in urban and regional planning at the Alexandria campus of Virginia Tech.

Tom Phillips has spent most of his career in the private sector as a consultant working on promoting new urbanists concepts, a home

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energy efficiency rating system, and affordable housing. He is currently a senior development manager for the Seattle Housing Authority. Since 2001, he has been leading the redevelopment of the “green” High Point master planned community, a 2007 winner of the ULI Global Award for Excellence. High Point is a 120 acre mixed-income, mixed-use new neighborhood with 1,700 housing units that includes 600 affordable “green” units. He is currently developing a new HOPE VI redevelopment in the north end of Seattle.



Jonathan Welty is Vice President at the Ohio Capital Corporation for Housing. He serves in several different capacities within OCCH. Mr. Welty serves as the Investor Relations contact for OCCH where he is responsible for establishing and closing the Ohio Equity Funds as well as assisting the investors in all aspects of the due diligence process. Additionally, he directs the activities of the Ohio Capital Finance Corporation, a certified CDFI entity, and was instrumental in the development and implementation of the \$17 million Ohio Affordable Housing Loan Fund which he continues to manage. OCCH, a non profit syndicator of Low Income Housing Tax Credits, that has raised over \$1.5B of investor capital and invested in 400 affordable housing developments representing over 20,000 units in Ohio.

Mr. Welty also directs the Year 15 disposition strategies for OCCH and provides technical assistance to various partners in understanding and developing disposition plans.

Mr. Welty previously consulted with for-profit and non-profit developers to assist them in all aspects of structuring, securing, and underwriting financing commitments for affordable housing. He now focuses specifically on OCCH’s green housing initiatives and the Ohio Green Communities.

Prior to joining Ohio Capital, he worked for the Banc One Community Development Corporation as an Assistant Vice President. He was actively involved in the marketing, originating, underwriting and closing of both equity and debt transactions as they relate to both Low Income and Historic Tax Credits in Ohio, Michigan, Arizona, and Utah. Prior to joining Banc One CDC, Mr. Welty worked for US Realty Consultants, a Columbus Ohio based real estate valuation and consulting firm as a Senior Housing Valuation Analyst, valuing over \$265 million of multifamily, senior housing, retail, and industrial real estate in the Midwest.

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Mr. Welty serves as the Secretary/Treasurer and Board Member for the Community Development Collaborative of Greater Columbus, is a member of the Community Shelter Board's Rebuilding Lives Funder Collaborative, the Home for Good Ohio Steering Committee and is a board member and Chair of the Grant Committee of the First Community Church Foundation. Mr. Welty is a 1999 Graduate of Leadership Columbus.

Training Workshops

Building Community Support for Housing

Post-conference, Tuesday, June 30, 2009, 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Building Community Support for Housing: Implementing and Integrating Traditional and Web 2.0 Communications Strategies

Post-conference, Tuesday, June 30, 2009, 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Michele Anapol serves as communications director for the National Housing Conference and its research affiliate the Center for Housing Policy. She was previously associate partner with The Aker Partners, Inc. public relations firm in Washington, DC. Prior to that, Anapol served in communications and media relations positions at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Anapol holds a Master's degree in Journalism and Public Affairs from The American University in Washington.

Roberta Rewers serves as the Public Affairs Associate at the American Planning Association, promoting the association and the planning profession through a variety of media outlets. She also manages the association's National Planning Awards program, which recognizes excellence in planning practice. She has received awards from the Publicity Club of Chicago and the International Association of Business Communicators/Chicago for her work. Ms. Rewers has more than a decade of nonprofit and corporate communication experience. Roberta has a B.A. from Eastern Illinois University where she graduated magna cum laude and a Masters in Integrated Marketing Communications from Loyola University Chicago.

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Isaac Salazar is Advocacy and New Media Coordinator for Enterprise Community Partners. In this position, Salazar maintains and helps build Enterprise's online grassroots and political networks while coordinating the implementation of effective offline and internet advocacy strategies to influence public policy on affordable housing and community development issues. Salazar also coordinates Enterprise's efforts to leverage new and social media for policy, marketing, communications and fundraising. Salazar joined Enterprise in 2007 as a Policy Associate.

Prior to joining Enterprise, Salazar served as a Legislative Correspondent and Special Assistant to U.S. Senator Ben Cardin focusing on budget, tax, financial services, transportation, and housing policy. He also worked as an Assistant Scheduler to U.S. Senator Paul Sarbanes and has experience working on several political campaigns. Salazar is a graduate of St. Mary's College of Maryland with a bachelor's degree in Political Science and a concentration in Economics.



Laura Woods is the communications and new media associate for the National Housing Conference and its research affiliate the Center for Housing Policy. Previously, she was an intern for Levick Strategic Communications, a public relations firm specializing in crisis communications and public affairs in Washington, DC. Prior to that, Woods held communications positions as the regional public affairs coordinator for the Muscular Dystrophy Association in Tampa, FL, and also as an intern for the Georgia Museum of Art in Athens, GA. Woods holds a Bachelor of Arts in Journalism from The University of Georgia's Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communication.