

Governor's Social Services Policy Council

Executive Order 15-01

Biographies of Council Members:

Chuck Allen:



Charles Allen is passionate about serving the youth of Wyandotte County. As founder and director of The Urban Scholastic Center (USC), he had made it his mission to develop socially responsible Christian leaders. The organization offers mentoring services, programs that support school athletics, internship opportunities, and much more.

Over the years, Allen's drive to serve youth has paired him with countless organizations, including the National Center for Fathering, Youthfront and the Hillview Church of God. Under his direction, the Urban Scholastic Center has earned the prestigious National Christian Foundation's Passion Award four times for the life-changing programs it provides.

Ward Cassidy:



Ward Cassidy, a St. Francis, Kan. resident, is an Assistant Vice President at Northwest Technical College and serves on the Dane G. Hansen Scholarship Committee. The former Kansas State Legislator served District 120 from 2010 to 2014.

Ward began his teaching career in St. Francis and serve as a teacher, coach, and a counselor. He continued to work in education as Jr. Sr. High Principal and a Counselor at Northwest Kansas Education Cooperative. Ward has honored with Principal of the Year, Area Chamber of Commerce Award, and the Distinguished Service Award. Ward has also served on the Board of Directors for the Kansas High School Actives Association and the Secondary Principal Board of Directors.

Ward graduated from Northwest Oklahoma State University in 1969 and continued his education by obtaining his Masters in Administration and Counseling in 1972. Ward has also a Specialist Degree in Education concentrated on School Finance.

David Crum:



David Crum, a retired Augusta optometrist and Kansas Representative graduated from Eureka High school in 1963 and has been married to his wife, Betty, for 46 years. David graduated from the University of Houston with a Doctorate of Optometry in 1969. He then practiced optometry in Augusta and Valley center from 1969 to his retirement in 2012. During this time, he served as the President of the Kansas Optometric Association and as the mayor of Augusta for eight years, starting in 1990. Crum served as a Kansas Representative for the 77th District for eight years, starting in 2007.

Bev Eversmeyer:



Bev was born in 1937, an only child of teacher and engineer on Rock Island railraod. She grew up in Kansas. She graduated from high school at the age of 16 and continued her education at KSUE, where she graduated at the age of 20 with a degree in technical journalism. Bev went back to school and received her teaching certificate from the Emporia State University. She taught school for USD #383 and was also elected to be on the school board for a total of 14 years. During this time, she received her master's degree and a doctorate. Bev retired at the age of 58, to travel with her husband.

Bev is active at her local church and has served on committees and boards, including the United Way, various chamber of commerce committees and the Salvation Army.



Barry Feaker:

Barry Feaker is a lifelong Topeka resident and a graduate of Washburn University. He has served as the Executive Director of the Topeka Rescue Mission since 1986. During this time, he has

successfully directed the expansion of the Mission from 50 to 286 beds through the development of two new shelter buildings and programs. Currently, Barry is overseeing a \$12 million expansion project to create additional shelter space for women, children and families. This expansion will also expand dining capacity for the hungry, provide educational space for adults and children, and include a new medical clinic.

Barry provides executive oversight to all areas of the Mission which presently includes the two shelters for homeless men, women and families; a kitchen which provides meals to Mission guests and individuals in need from the community; a Distribution Center which provides food, clothing, furniture and household items to people in need; an outreach program targeted at reaching individuals who are unsheltered and homeless; programs which establish community collaborations for health, mental health and educational opportunities for homeless individuals; and a Thrift Store. Newer Topeka Rescue Mission initiatives include: NET Reach (Neighborhood Empowerment and Transformation) which was developed to strengthen impoverished neighborhoods with the goal of helping to bring empowerment and transformation by addressing the issues of homelessness, hunger, poverty, community health and safety; and the Doxazo Missions Training Institute (currently under development) to help individuals and families gain necessary tools for missionary training locally, nationally and internationally.

In addition to his role at the Rescue Mission, Barry served as President of the Topeka/Shawnee County Safe Streets Coalition for seven years and remains active in other state and local organizations as well. He has also recently authored the book, *In Darkness, a Light Still Shines*, based on his experiences at the Mission. Through all areas of service, Barry is dedicated to advocating for the needs of the homeless and impoverished populations while working to continually better the overall Topeka/Shawnee County community.

Treatha Brown-Foster:



Treatha Brown-Foster, who retired from over 25 years as financial services representative and a bank examiner, is a community activist in Wichita. She serves on the Board of Directors of Northeast Millair Neighborhood Association; she is chair of The Community Unity Action Group in support of all law enforcement agencies; and has served on the Board of Directors for the Wichita Library. In addition, she chaired the Ashley N. Brown Sickle Cell Anemia Scholarship Fund in 2014. The mission for the scholarship fund was to provide assistance and scholarships to Kansas

Students with sickle cell disease. She has served on the Sedgwick County/Wichita Ex-Offender Re-entry Task Force just to name a few. Treatha continue to advocate for safer neighborhoods, better schools and other community improvements.

Joe Gardner:



Joe Gardner was born and raised in Kansas with the help of the SRS, now the Kansas Department of Children and Families. He was a victim of abuse and neglect in his biological parents' household and was in State custody for the majority of his childhood. Joe was lucky enough to eventually be placed in the loving care of a couple whom he is now proud to call his parents. He graduated high school in 2010, and began working. After two years, he realized that he would find the most purpose in life by helping children who are in similar situations to what he experienced.

Joe is currently in his junior year of college, working toward a bachelor's in elementary education. He attends Neosho County Community College full time as well as Kansas University. Joe currently works full-time as a detention officer at the Franklin County Juvenile Detention Center. He also works part-time at the Elizabeth Layton Center in Ottawa, and serves on the Kansas Advisory Group for Juvenile Justice and Delinquency as well as the Youth Committee.

Lorie Johnson:



Lorie Johnson, born and raised in Columbus, Kan., is a graduate of Columbus Unified High School and Pittsburg State University. After earning her bachelor of science in elementary education degree, Lorie decided to return to her family business where she works as a demolition contractor. Lorie and her husband, Jason, also own a small retail tire store in Columbus. Lorie has served on the Columbus Community Crusaders and Cherokee County Extension Council. She currently serves as the Chairman of the Cherokee County Republican Party. Lorie resides in rural Columbus with her husband and their three children.

Gina Meier Hummel:



Gina has worked in Health and Human Services for more than 20 years in Kansas. She has expertise in child welfare, mental health and substance abuse programming. She has worked both in the private and public sector. Gina has been married to her husband for 22 years and has three children. She currently resides in Lawrence. Gina is the Executive Director at The Shelter, Inc., a

private child placing agency, residential program, and provides an array of prevention services. Gina has a master's degree from the University of Kansas in both clinical and administrative social work.

Marcos Navarro:



Marcos Navarro resides in Johnson County with his wife. Marcos has four adult children and seven grandchildren. Marcos' two sons have both served in the military and both have been deployed. Marcos was originally a native of the Philippines and was sworn in as a naturalized U.S. citizen in September 1979.

His current pastoral assignment is to work in prison ministry, reaching out to the spiritual and practical need of those incarcerated. To this end, Marcos is serving as volunteer with the Mentoring for Success (M4S) program at the Lansing Correctional Facility (LCF) and as a volunteer to visit and provide for the spiritual needs at the Johnson County Juvenile Detention Center.

In the capacity of mentor, Marcos serves as one of the mentor leads for the Veterans Group of inmates at the Minimum Facility of LCF. This group capitalizes on the values and ethics instilled by military service and helps the inmate plan for transition back into society. As mentor, Marcos serves to counsel and help the inmates develop their plans for employment, leisure and relapse prevention. Marcos also serves as a one-to-one mentor. In addition, Marcos serves as a role model and provides positive reinforcement by supporting the job preparation "Offender Workforce Development" program at the minimum and maximum facilities and participates in Catholic religious services with the inmates at the maximum Facility.

Denise Rhoades:



Denise Rhoades has been a professional writer with the fundraising and management firm of Hartsook Companies for almost two decades. She works with nonprofit clients from all sectors in the U.S. and abroad. She is a board member with Health Ministries Community Clinic—a FQHC located in Newton, and has been active with social service and poverty issues for many years as a grassroots volunteer.

Pat Terick:



Patrick Terick is director of the Cerebral Palsy Research Foundation of Kansas Governmental Activities. During the 35-year history at CPRF, political advocacy has played a vital role in furthering CPRF's goal of providing people with disabilities opportunities to pursue their chosen economic and personal independence.

After graduating in 1976 from Bethany College, Pat worked for the State of Kansas at the Kansas Neurological Institute in Topeka, where he served as an administrative assistant and account clerk for the business managers. Later that year, he met CPRF Founder John F. "Jack" Jonas Jr. and became a member of the CPRF team. The following year, Pat became the Research Utilization Specialist for Rehabilitation Engineering, a national center that was funded by the U.S. Department of Education. In 1999 Pat became President of DCSS Ability, L.L.C., a partnership between CPRF and Digital Consulting and Software Services of Houston.

Pat currently serves as the Public Education Specialist for United Cerebral Palsy of Kansas, speaking to organizations across the state. He lives in Augusta with his wife, Judy, and their two children, Megan and Joey, and enjoys playing golf whenever the opportunity presents itself.