

Applying an Equitable Framework for Housing Policy Response during COVID-19 and Beyond

Speaker Biographies

Maeve Elise Brown is Executive Director and founder of Housing and Economic Rights Advocates (HERA), a unique, California statewide non-profit law office with a broad, economic justice/anti-discrimination mission. She applies her creative, outside-the-box thinking to her management and guidance of HERA's operations and growth. A graduate of UCLA Law School, Ms. Brown's experience as a public interest attorney includes litigation and administrative advocacy on behalf of tenants and homeowners, public benefits advocacy, community organizing, fair housing advocacy, community workshops, and trainings and technical assistance for professionals across a range of topics. Ms. Brown has organized and opened a community development credit union, and has designed and taught a course on mortgage lending and homeownership at UC Berkeley School of Law. For 5 years, she served on the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's Consumer Advisory Board (CAB) which she chaired in her final year. She has worked on local, state and federal policy initiatives and has driven critically important policy forward, including most recently, the Survivors' Bill of Rights legislation for which she was the primary drafter. She has published various articles on affordable housing issues, authored a chapter in the American Bar Association's Legal Guide to Affordable Housing Development (first edition and updated), is bilingual in Spanish and conversant in Japanese, Farsi, French, Italian and German.

Alexa Rosenberg is Senior Director of National Initiatives at Enterprise Community Partners. In this role, she co-leads Enterprise's economic mobility initiatives, focused on the nexus between housing and mobility from poverty. She brings 15 years of experience in urban planning, affordable housing, and comprehensive community development. With a dual focus on equity and impact, she promotes change through intentional, collaborative problem-solving and engagement. Prior to joining Enterprise in 2017, Alexa held a variety of positions at the US Department of Housing and Urban Development. As a Presidential Management Fellow, she helped create the Office of Strategic Planning and Management, and then spent four years in the Choice Neighborhoods program, supporting grantees, leading performance measurement and management, and driving internal and external collaboration. In her last role at HUD, she served as Senior Advisor to the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development, overseeing administration of federal block grant funding for community development, homelessness assistance, affordable housing, and disaster recovery. Alexa began her career in non-profit community development organizations in Senegal, Trenton, NJ, and Brooklyn, NY. She has a BA in Development Studies from Brown University and a Masters in City Planning (MCP) from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

Corianne Payton Scally is a principal research associate in the Metropolitan Housing and Communities Policy Center at the Urban Institute, where she explores the design, implementation, and outcomes of affordable housing and community development policy and programs for vulnerable populations across US communities. From evaluating federal programs to assessing philanthropic investments, Scally's research focuses on affordable rental housing—finance, construction, preservation, and community capacity and opposition—and the hardships and needs of vulnerable renters and the communities they live in. Seeing housing as a platform for health, Scally's work specifically explores health and housing sector partnerships and models including service-enriched housing. Her research on rural communities ranges from measuring assets and capacity to guiding investments in equitable solutions that boost services and infrastructure,

and improve health and economic mobility. To explore these issues, Scally leads mixed-method research projects, directing extensive primary data collection via site visits, interviews, focus groups, and surveys, and analysis of administrative data to evaluate program processes and outcomes. Scally is a former associate professor in urban planning and former affordable housing developer. From 2015 to 2016, she led data and research initiatives at the US Department of Agriculture's Rural Housing Service for the Urban Institute. She received her PhD in urban planning and policy development from Rutgers University.

Michelle Whetten is vice president and Gulf Coast director for Enterprise Community Partners. She is based in New Orleans, and leads Enterprise's programmatic work in Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas. This includes advancing effective policies and working with public and private sector partners to invest capital and design solutions to increase the supply of affordable housing and helping communities prepare for and respond to disasters. Michelle established Enterprise's Gulf Coast office shortly after Hurricane Katrina and has overseen Enterprise's investment of over \$500 million in loans, grants and equity towards the production of over 13,000 affordable homes by local partners in the 15 years since the storm. Michelle also advises other areas affected by disaster on effective disaster recovery policy and program design. Prior to her assignment in the Gulf Coast, Michelle was deputy director for Enterprise's New York office. Michelle graduated from the University of California at Davis with a Bachelor of Science in environmental policy analysis and planning and received a master's degree in urban and regional planning from the University of Illinois. Michelle serves on the Federal Home Loan Bank of Dallas Advisory Council and on the boards of several local nonprofits.

Paul A. Young currently serves as the Director of the City of Memphis Division of Housing and Community Development (HCD). HCD is responsible for coordinating community and economic development projects throughout the City. The agency has an annual budget of over \$16 million from both federal and local funding sources. With over 70 employees, Mr. Young helps to direct the programs and services of the agency and serves as the point person for major development initiatives for the City. Mr. Young holds a BS in Electrical Engineering from the University of Tennessee-Knoxville and a Masters of City and Regional Planning and Masters of Science in Business Administration from the University of Memphis. Previously, Mr. Young served as Director of Legislative Affairs in the Mayor's Office of Shelby County Government (TN). In this role, he was responsible for advocating the county's interest to Federal and State Legislative delegations as well as local entities. He also served as the Administrator for the Memphis and Shelby County Office of Sustainability, which is charged with the implementation of a strategic framework for action on green initiatives in the City of Memphis and Shelby County. Other positions that Mr. Young has held include: Legislative Liaison for the Shelby County Office of Legislative Affairs; Financial Analyst with Community Capital (Memphis, TN); Assistant Program Officer for Local Initiatives Support Corporation (New York, NY); and Associate Planner for the Memphis and Shelby County Division of Planning and Development.