

# Expanding Equitable Access to Green Jobs: A Framework for Collaborative Action

## Speaker Biographies

**Devin Hamilton** has dedicated his career to developing workforce strategies for communities that face systematic barriers to employment. Since joining PowerCorpsPHL in 2017, he has led the implementation of training programs for young adults that are pipelines to careers in energy, green infrastructure, and youth development. Devin believes community-based organizations like PowerCorpsPHL, play a key role in supporting underserved communities and create pathways to success and economic opportunity. Devin is from Philadelphia and holds MBA from La Salle University.

**Joseph Schilling** is a senior research associate in the Metropolitan Housing and Communities Policy Center and Research to Action Lab at the Urban Institute. He is also a fellow with the Interdisciplinary Research Leaders program, led by the University of Minnesota with support from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. As a strategic adviser and national expert on reclaiming vacant properties, urban sustainability, and municipal and civic capacity building, Schilling works with public officials and community leaders in designing and developing new models for urban regeneration and neighborhood revitalization. An accomplished public policy facilitator, he has led dozens of research, policy, and community forums. His field work is a living laboratory for applied research, policy storytelling, and technical assistance by extracting and disseminating innovative models through case studies, translation briefs, and roundtables. In 2010, Schilling founded the Vacant Properties Research Network, a dynamic hub for policy and research translation involved with regenerating legacy cities. More recently, Schilling helped Memphis, Tennessee, develop the nation's first neighborhood blight-elimination charter. In 2015, he led a comprehensive literature synthesis on blight for the national nonprofit Keep America Beautiful and finished an evaluation of the Strong Cities, Strong Communities urban fellowship program for the US Department of Housing and Urban Development. Before joining Urban, Schilling was associate director and senior fellow for Virginia Tech's Metropolitan Institute. He holds an LLM in environmental law from the George Washington University and a JD from Hastings College of the Law in San Francisco, California.

**Molly Scott** is a principal research associate in the Income and Benefits Policy Center at the Urban Institute. Her work centers around the systems changes needed to ensure that all people are valued for their skills and abilities, can signal them effectively in the labor market, and enjoy a good return on their investments in education and hard work. Recent research has focused on redesigning mainstream high school to be more supportive of young people with adult responsibilities, incentivizing postsecondary institutions to take more competency-based approaches to education, and evaluating initiatives to promote broad-based credential transparency. In addition, Scott has collaborated with employers to document forward-thinking practices in hiring and advancement for frontline workers that promise to be good for people and business.

**Shayne Spaulding** is a senior fellow in the Income and Benefits Policy Center at the Urban Institute, where her work focuses on workforce development, postsecondary education, and employment. She has spent more than 25 years in the workforce field as an evaluator, technical assistance provider, and program manager. Her research has examined the public workforce system; community college innovations; employer engagement in workforce programs; services to parents, youth, and noncustodial

fathers; people with criminal records; performance measurement in workforce programs; apprenticeships; and strategies for supporting workers in alternative work arrangements. Spaulding is the managing director for the CTE CoLab, a research-informed community of practice focused on building knowledge to advance racial equity in online career and technical education programs. Before joining Urban, Spaulding was the university director of workforce development for the City University of New York (CUNY), the nation's largest public urban university system, where she oversaw workforce and continuing education programs in CUNY's 24 colleges and professional schools. From 2001 to 2009, she worked for Public/Private Ventures, where she was a senior program director, leading evaluations of sectoral programs, social purpose staffing agencies, and services for noncustodial fathers. Spaulding holds a BA in American government from Wesleyan University and an MA in public policy from Johns Hopkins University. Spaulding serves on the advisory committee for the New Jersey Education and Employment Data System. She is also an elected Swampscott Town Meeting representative.

**Gus Williams** is the Climate & Workforce Development Advisor at the City of Seattle, Office of Sustainability and Environment. As a strategic advisor and thought leader, Gus plays a crucial role in shaping the build-out of the Climate & Equitable Economy & Workforce priority policy for the city. His focus is on driving positive change by fostering collaboration, developing policy, and supporting initiatives that lead the city toward a sustainable, resilient, and equitable future. In his role, Gus takes an equity-centered approach to minimize the impacts of climate policies on workers while creating pathways towards a more racially and gender-inclusive workforce equipped to transition Seattle to a thriving, low-emissions city. Previously, Gus served as the Workforce Development Manager at CleanTech Alliance, where he oversaw a diverse portfolio of state-wide industry and educational initiatives supporting climate solutions. His commitment to social justice and climate advocacy extends beyond his professional life, as he dedicates his time and energy to creating a better world for all through his work, personal pursuits, and active involvement in the community. Outside of his professional commitments, Gus treasures quality time with his family. He finds joy in cheering on his two children as they compete in sporting events, witnessing their growth and achievements firsthand. Additionally, he maintains an active lifestyle and nurtures his passion for fitness through his love for Peloton.

**Amanda Woodrum** is the Co-Director of ReImagine Appalachia, a four-state coalition of diverse stakeholder groups working together to find common ground and create a 21st century sustainable, equitable Appalachia. She has a master's degree in economics and law degree from the University of Akron in Ohio. Over the past 15 years or so, she has conducted research, advocacy and coalition building at the intersection of energy, transportation, health, labor and anti-poverty policy. After living in New York City and experiencing 9/11, she returned to Ohio determined to make the state and the region the kind of place she wanted to live.