

Directors' Days 2023 Speakers

Lesley Bennett

CFO Consultant

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Lesley is an accounting and finance professional with over twenty years of experience in public and non-profit sectors.

Prior to creating her CFO consulting business, Lesley was the Director of Operations and Finance at Latino Network. There she served as a member of the organization's Leadership Team. She brings a unique and dynamic perspective to her work, based on her diverse experiences throughout her career in organizations such as the U.S. House of Representatives, U.S. Department of Education, and various non-profits throughout Oregon such as Willamette Partnership, Oregon League of

Conservation Voters and Bicycle Transportation Alliance. She serves as The Rebuilding Center's Treasurer.

Lesley holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science with a minor in Sociology from Portland State University. Lesley enjoys hiking, camping, and traveling with her family. She can also be found perusing used bookstores and perfecting her focaccia bread recipe.

Benjamin Bradshaw

Fund Coordinator, CVSSD

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Benjamin Bradshaw has been a Fund Coordinator with CVSSD since 2019. Initially hired to focus on improving victim service equity, Benjamin coordinated and facilitated over fifty community outreach forums,

connecting with over a thousand Oregonians impacted by inequity. This work resulted in Benjamin coauthoring *Opening Pathways to Justice and Improving Support for Populations Impacted by Inequity* which was disseminated across the state to highlight existing barriers, bias and discrimination against Communities of Color, LGBTQIA2S(+) Communities, Disability Communities and other Communities Impacted by Inequity. In 2022, Benjamin transitioned into the role of Mass Violence Response Lead and continues to work on initiatives that support a comprehensive and coordinated victim advocate response to Mass Violence Incidents in Oregon.

Benjamin raised two amazing sons, along with multiple foster children in the small north coast community of Astoria, where he still resides today with his fiancé, elderly mother, and their two dogs and four cats. He enjoys working in his garden, tending to his back yard flock of ducks, and hiking the rainforest trails with his dog.

Erica Briggs

Nonprofit Education Specialist, Nonprofit Association of Oregon
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Erica Briggs is a facilitator of learning, DEIB consultant, community caretaker, and mixed media/ wordcraft artist. In each capacity she is a storyteller, sharing stories related to developing a more transparent and fluid identity, embracing culture, and aligning with nature to better heal, grow and sustain mental health and well-being.

A native Oregonian, Briggs has lived and worked across the country and overseas. Currently, she serves as a Nonprofit Education Specialist at NAO; Facilitator of Learning for the Anti-Defamation League; and is the founder and CEO of a small arts and nature nonprofit based in Troutdale.

As a single mother, she earned a BA in Communications at Mills College in Oakland, CA and a Master's in Africana Studies at Cornell University in Ithaca, NY where she studied the social construction of race in America.

For over 25 years, she has served various roles in asset-based community nonprofits, and both traditional and alternative learning environments from elementary through college. When she is at play you will likely find her wandering in her garden, making a mess in her art studio, or hiking with her children to the nearest body of water.

Beth Brownhill

Disability Rights Oregon
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Beth Brownhill is the Managing Attorney of Disability Rights Oregon's Crime Survivor Project. Beth leads a team that works to promote empowerment and justice for

people with disabilities who are survivors of crime. The Crime Survivor Project advocates and attorneys help to ensure crime survivors receive the information and support, advocacy, and legal services to move forward, find justice, and obtain safety and stability.

Prior to joining Disability Rights Oregon, Beth's professional experience serving clients with disabilities spanned both private legal practice and nonprofit law firms.

Lisa Brunner

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Lisa Brunner is a member of the White Earth Ojibwe Nation and is Wolf Clan. Currently, she is the Chairwoman of the White Earth Medicinal Cannabis Control Commission.

Lisa has worked in the domestic violence and sexual assault field for over 23 years addressing violence against Native American and Alaska Native women. Ms. Brunner has

advocated on the local, state, national, and international levels to bring about change to public policy to address violence against Native women, men, and children.

She has served at the United Nations, including five years at the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and participated in the Global Indigenous Women's Caucus and a panel on violence against Indigenous Women of North America. She was invited to Vienna, Austria to present on "Addressing Hate Crimes against Indigenous Peoples: Expert Meeting on the Situation in the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)," Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR).

She testified on "Violence Against Native Women in the United States" before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. Lisa has also testified before the U.S. Congress on "Combating Human Trafficking: Federal, State, and Local Perspectives" for the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Lisa is also a founding member of the National Congress of American Indians, Violence Against Women Task Force. Lisa has also been featured in publications such as *The Inter-American Human Rights System-Handbook*, and *National Museum of American Indians Magazine*, and is published in the journal, *Psychology of Violence*.

Marjorie Doran

Fund Coordinator, CVSSD

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Marjorie Doran joined CVSSD as a Fund Coordinator in 2016 holds the lead role for VOCA funds. Marjorie brings over 15 years of leadership experience in the non-profit sector working with organizations serving youth and families. She draws from that experience when working with subgrantees on grant management. The role of a Fund Coordinator has allowed her to stay connected to non-profit organizations and agencies supporting the community.

When not working, Marjorie spends time with her kids, grandkids, and the great outdoors. Always looking for an adventure and a challenge, most weekends you'll find her on a trail getting ready for summer climbs in the Oregon mountains and beyond.

Susana Escobedo

Fund Coordinator, CVSSD

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Susana Escobedo is a Grant Fund Coordinator with the Oregon Department of Justice, Crime Victims and Survivor Services Division where she partners with victims' services programs to ensure they're providing meaningful, equitable and accessible services to all Oregonians. She previously served as the Program Director for the Marion County Victim Assistance Division where she gained over 12 years of experience in providing direct services to victims of crime and working with community partners and stakeholders to promote a better community response for victims and survivors.

Her professional experience coupled with her lived experiences, as a woman of color and an immigrant to this country, all have given Susana an in-depth understanding and

awareness of the continued need for resource equity and inclusion of diversity in our systems and service programs. She is passionate about social justice work and advancing efforts to embrace the principles of diversity, inclusion, equity, accessibility, and meaningful justice for all communities.

Mark Kajitani

People & Culture Director, OPB

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Mark Kajitani is the People & Culture Director at OPB and is a HR consultant to a variety of nonprofits including the Nonprofit Association of Oregon, Oregon Humanities, Parenting with Intent, and the Division Midway Alliance.

For the last 15 years, Mark has been the Human Resources Director for IRCO, the Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization, a community based nonprofit social service provider. Prior to this, he was

the HR Director at Danville Services, a company that provides care for people with disabilities.

He graduated from the University of Oregon. Mark also facilitates a group made up of HR professionals that work for nonprofits in Oregon. He is professionally certified by the Society of Human Resources Management as a SHRM Senior Certified Professional (SHRM-SCP) and as a Senior Professional Human Resources (SPHR) from the Human Resources Credentialing Institute.

Recently Mark was featured on Mac's List Podcast where he spoke about [How to Know Where a Company is in its Equity Journey](#). Outside of work, Mark Kajitani plays the banjo, volunteers at his kids' school and is an avid birder.

Jess Aiden Li

Co-Founder & Principal Consultant
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Jess is a social justice activist, certified diversity coach, advocate, and consultant. She's worked for 15+ years in the social sector with non-profits. Her background is in working to end gender-based violence, creating long-lasting social impact, and working with communities of color.

She's previously served as the Executive Director of San Francisco SafeHouse as one of the few woman leaders of color in non-profits in San Francisco. She was also the Executive Director of the Asian/Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project in Washington, D.C. Jess has worked for the United Nations Mission in Sudan and the International Rescue Committee.

Jess has also served as the Director of Impact Initiatives at the LeaderSpring

Center in Oakland, CA where she focused on leadership development in the non-profit sector and training on diversity, equity, and inclusion. Currently, she serves on the Board of Directors of the Asian Women's Shelter in San Francisco and is also a facilitator for Women in Management groups at Stanford University's Graduate School of Business. She's a proud New Yorker who spends her free time with her rescue dogs, Hansyn and Kobe.

Fiona Oliphant, Esq.

Co-Founder & Principal Consultant
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Fiona's personal mission is to create a world that centers on those living on the margins of our society by valuing their lived experiences, amplifying their voices, and realigning current systems of power. She's primarily worked in the gender-based violence sector for almost two decades to

actualize that mission. Fiona has been an intern, legal advocate, program manager, staff attorney, trainer, public speaker, and director. Each position has been a fundamental building block priming her for sustained social impact work.

Prior to working independently, Fiona served as the Director of Strategic Partnerships and Community Engagement for the DC Coalition to End Sexual Violence. She was also the Director of the Asian/Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project as well as the Director of CONNECT's Legal Advocacy Program.

Fiona firmly believes that our identities, ALL of our identities, are sources of strength, ingenuity, and connection. Some of her most valued identities are mother; spouse; first-generation Jamaican-American; avid reader and perpetual globe trotter. Fiona is also an unwavering optimist who believes that collectively we can end violence and oppression.