**Public Health & Parks and Recreation Summit: For the Sake of Equity**

**February 24, 2017**

**Speaker Biographies**

**Kim Barret** is the Program Coordinator at cityWILD. Her background is in natural resource management and environmental studies. Her primary role at cityWILD is the planning and implementation of core programming from an inclusive and experiential perspective. [kim@citywild.org](mailto:kim@citywild.org)

**Julian Beltran** has participated in cityWILD for 4 years. He is currently a Crew Leader and specializes in providing emotional support to his peers during programming. He is a student at Colorado High School Charter and is a member of the Cole Neighborhood GOCO Youth Council.

**Emily Berger** is the Support Services Coordinator at cityWILD. Her background in social work focused on health and wellness and a trauma-informed approach. Her primary role at cityWILD is to provide holistic support to students, reducing barriers that prevent student participation, and ensuring cityWILD is operating in line with best practices in trauma informed approaches. [emily@citywild.org](mailto:emily@citywild.org)

**Laura Carrillo** has participated in cityWILD for 5 years. She is a Crew Leader and specializes in facilitating high quality experiential games and activities. She is a student at Colorado High School Charter and is a member of the Cole Neighborhood GOCO Youth Council.

**Rachel Cleaves** has been Executive Director of Westwood Unidos since 2008.  Her work focuses on fostering community leadership and engagement in built environment and public health initiatives at the community level.  In addition, she has broad experience facilitating coalitions supporting communities in policy and systems change for health. Cleaves earned her Master’s Degree in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Colorado Denver in 2007.   Prior to her work with Westwood Unidos, she served as the Director of the cultural and service exchange program, ProBelize, in Dangriga, Belize. She also worked as a wilderness guide for groups of adjudicated youth on sixty-day wilderness rehabilitation programs in southern Utah and southwest Colorado. She was born in Peru and raised in Mexico, Panama, Chicago, and Austin, Texas, and speaks Spanish. [rachelcleaves@westwoodunidos.com](mailto:rachelcleaves@westwoodunidos.com)

**Pita De la Rosa** has participated with cityWILD for 1.5 years. She is the youngest cityWILD student and supports cityWILD crew leaders in their duties. She is a 5th grade student at Wyatt Academy and is a member of the Cole Neighborhood GOCO Youth Council.

**Coby Gould** is a Denver native. Coby's background is in food systems, environmental education and permaculture. He is the Executive Director and co-founder of The GrowHaus, a nonprofit food access center whose mission is to create a community-driven, neighborhood-based food system by serving as a hub for food distribution, production, education, and economic opportunity. [coby@thegrowhaus.org](mailto:coby@thegrowhaus.org)

**Allegra “Happy” Haynes** is the Executive Director of Denver Parks and Recreation, a Mayoral appointment and was re-elected in November of 2015 to a second term on the Denver Public Schools Board of Education. Happy is a Denver native and attended Denver East High School. She received a BA degree in Political Science from Barnard College at Columbia University and an MPA from the University of Colorado at Denver. During a career in local government spanning 36 years, Happy served 13 years on the Denver City Council from 1990 – 2003 and was President from 1998 - 2000. She currently chairs the Colorado Advisory Board of the Trust for Public Land and serves on the boards of KUVO/Rocky Mountain PBS and Denver Museum of Nature and Science. She is single, an avid jazz fan and loves to participate in sports and outdoor activities. [happy.haynes@denvergov.org](mailto:happy.haynes@denvergov.org)

**Sarah Hernandez**, MPH, is a policy analyst in the Office of Health Equity at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. In this role, she implements a health in all policies approach to design and communicate strategies for addressing the complex social factors that influence equity and justice. In her previous role, Sarah was senior evaluator for the Colorado Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program and has worked on other state and community-level projects focused on program implementation, building cross-sector coalitions and policy change. Additionally, Sarah is actively involved in several equity initiatives related to policy, data, and workforce development. Sarah holds a Master’s of Public Health with a concentration in Community and Behavioral Health from the University of Colorado at Denver. [sarah.hernandez@state.co.us](mailto:sarah.hernandez@state.co.us)

**Vaishnavi Hariprasad**, MSW, is a Community Engagement Specialist in the Office of Health Equity at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. In this role, she provides technical assistance and coaching on strategies for effectively incorporating community wisdom and power into decision making processes to advance equity and justice. Previously, Vaishnavi worked as a community organizer for People’s Watch, a human rights organization in India, where she focused on leveraging community wisdom to create policy change. Before joining the Office of Health Equity, Vaishnavi worked in the Office of Policy & Research, in the Office of the Governor, providing guidance on addressing structural inequities that prevent marginalized communities from accessing behavioral and physical health services. Vaishnavi holds a Master of Social Work with a concentration in Policy and Administration from the University of Washington in Seattle. [vaishnavi.hariprasad@state.co.us](mailto:vaishnavi.hariprasad@state.co.us)

**Patience Kabwasa** is program director with Colorado Springs Food Rescue. CSFR volunteers sustainably recover an average of 30,000 pounds of food monthly each day of the week from donor businesses around the Pikes Peak region, where it is then delivered directly to local nonprofit partnership programs.  Food includes fresh produce, catered leftovers, and perishable items. [patience@coloradospringsfoodrescue.org](mailto:patience@coloradospringsfoodrescue.org)

**Neambe Leadon** is currently the Program Director with Denver Food Rescue for our 12 No Cost Grocery Programs.  I have also worked in Health Equity and Food Justice for the last 8 years, more in an education and community engagement capacity. [neambe@denverfoodrescue.org](mailto:neambe@denverfoodrescue.org)

**Bella Martinez** has participated in cityWILD for 5 years. She is a Crew Leader and specializes in leading discussions about inclusion, equity, and diversity throughout program. She is a member of Denver Public School’s Student Board of Education and is a member of the Cole Neighborhood GOCO Youth Council.

**Ben White** is a GIS Health Analyst for the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. His work includes infectious and chronic disease surveillance mapping, spatial-temporal cluster analyses, and mapping of community health resources. He previously worked at CDPHE as a waterborne and enteric disease epidemiologist. Mr. White received his Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology with a focus in bioarchaeology from Marquette University in 2007. He completed an Interdisciplinary Certificate in Geospatial Sciences from Colorado State University in tandem with a Master of Public Health Degree focused in Global Health from the Colorado School of Public Health in 2009. [benjamin.white@state.co.us](mailto:benjamin.white@state.co.us)

**Devon Williford** is a Health GIS Specialist at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment where he has been assisting the department in developing desktop GIS and web-mapping applications supporting data visualization, disease surveillance, mapping community health resources, environmental public health tracking, and emergency preparedness and response since 2004.   Mr. Williford received a Bachelor of Science degree in Geography and Certificate in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) from the University of Georgia in 1998, and a Master of Public Health degree with a focus in Epidemiology from the Colorado School of Public Health in 2011. Mr. Williford also teaches a graduate level course on GIS-Public Health Integration at the Colorado School of Public Health. [devon.williford@state.co.us](mailto:devon.williford@state.co.us)