



Gwendoline B. "Gwen" Angalet, PhD

Gwendoline B. "Gwen" Angalet, PhD, is the ACCEL Program Community Advisory Council Chairperson. And is the CEO of GBA Consulting, a management consulting firm providing professional services to clients in the public and not-for-profit sectors, helping them to lead and manage change and achieve improved results and lasting impact. Current projects include efforts to increase support to children, youth, and their families living in the city of Wilmington, to achieve academic success, promote positive development, and prevent violence. Gwen's career in public service spans over three decades, most of which was in leadership and management roles in the Delaware Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families and Nemours Children's Health and Prevention Services. Additionally, Gwen serves on the boards of community non-profit organizations, including the Wilmington Hope Commission.



Marlene A. Saunders, DSW, MSW, LMSW

Marlene A. Saunders, DSW, MSW, LMSW, She is a social worker, social work educator, administrator and an elected official. Her professional activities and endeavors as a citizen have focused on maximizing relationships to enable people from diverse backgrounds to work together to achieve social justice,

equity and equality for everyone. She has pursued these objectives as a former Executive Director of the National Association of Social Workers, Delaware Chapter and as the former chairperson for the Department of Social Work at Delaware State University. Currently, Dr. Saunders is a member of the steering committees for Women’s March, Sussex Delaware, and the Southern Delaware Alliance for Social Justice. In addition, she is a member of Delaware Concerned Residents for Environmental Justice and the Community Air Monitoring Network.



Octavia Dryden

Octavia Dryden, known by many as “Penny”, holds a Business Administration and Economics degree from Delaware State University. She has more than thirty years of experience in the social and environmental justice field and an extensive background in community engagement, partnership, and coalition building. She was a member of the development team to establish the nationally recognized New Castle County Community Partnership in 1991. She later served as its Executive Director and led the development of 10 Neighborhood coalitions, two county-level coalitions, Wilmington Prevention Coalition and New Castle Prevention Coalition. Octavia is currently the executive director of Community Housing & Empowerment Connections Inc. and chairperson for the Delaware EJ Community Partnership, and Delaware Concerned Residents for EJ@CHEC. In these capacities she oversees the development of the Community Air Monitoring Network 4 Delaware and the Connecting BIPOC to Clean Energy Opportunities Initiative. In 2017, Penny co- authored the Environmental Justice for Delaware, Mitigating Toxic Pollution in New Castle County Communities report, served as Co-Principal Investigator for a ACCEL Sponsored Retreat entitled: The Health Impacts of Toxic Pollution Research Retreat: Moving Collaboratively from Data to Action through Community Engaged Research.



Terry-Ann Richards

Terry-Ann Richards is an Administrative Assistant at UD with CRESP. Her work focuses on research, evaluation, and outreach activities. These include correspondence, scheduling, data organization, performing administrative duties while ensuring confidentiality. Terry-Ann studied at Medgar Evers College in Brooklyn New York, while becoming a member of the inaugural class of Public Allies where she had training on bringing communities together to work for a common good. She is a mother to two boys aged 13 and 21. Terry-Ann's passion and majority of her work experience has been in the nonprofit sector tying into her community interests and finding different ways to help low-income communities. She enjoys volunteering with her sons to show them the importance of being a part of a community changing process.



La Vaida Owens White MSN, RN, FCN

La Vaida Owens White MSN, RN, FCN has more than 40 years nursing experience in acute and long-term care, rehabilitation, home care and community health. She is currently working in the practice setting of Faith Community Nursing, and as Coordinator for the Delaware Region Health Ministries Network. Ms. Owens White is a faculty educator for the International Parish Nurse Resource Center and instructor for the Foundations of Faith Community Nursing core curriculum. As a community activist and life member of the NAACP, she is active in leadership positions in community-based associations. One of her current interests is in nursing research, exploring a collaborative partnership of community and faith-based organizations in addressing childhood obesity.



Sara M. Fuller

Sara M. Fuller is a Tribal Citizen of the Lenape Indian Tribe of Delaware. She has been involved with several Tribal activities and events over the years including environmental cleanup, Lenape Youth Camp, web and media development and outreach support, mobilizing the participation of Lenape Tribal Citizens in completing the US Federal Census. Sara recently retired from the Delaware Transit Corporation (DART) after completing 27 years of service to Public Transportation in the areas of Marketing, Communications and Outreach.

She has worked with diverse communities and organizations advocating for accessibility, inclusion, environmental justice and equity. In her free time, she enjoys the outdoors, organic gardening, genealogy and spending time with family. Sara earned a Bachelor of Arts in Communications and Public Relations from Rowan University.