



# RURAL CHILD HUNGER SUMMIT

2021

#ruralhunger @nokidhungry



## SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



### **Billy Shore, Founder and Executive Chair, Share Our Strength**

Billy Shore is the founder and executive chair of Share Our Strength, the parent organization for the No Kid Hungry campaign. Since founding Share Our Strength in 1984 with his sister Debbie, Billy has led the organization in raising more than \$700 million to fight hunger and poverty and has won the support of national leaders in business, government, health, education, sports and entertainment.

Billy is also the chair of Community Wealth Partners, Share Our Strength's for-profit consulting firm which provides strategic consulting to help leaders and communities solve social problems.

Before founding Share Our Strength, Billy served on the senatorial and presidential campaign staffs for former U.S. Senator Gary Hart and as chief of staff to former U.S. Senator Robert Kerrey. In 2014, congressional leaders appointed him to the National Commission on Hunger, tasked with finding innovative ways to end hunger in America.

In addition to his work with Share Our Strength, Billy is a leading voice in the national conversation on hunger and poverty. He is the author of four books focused on social change and hosts Add Passion and Stir, a weekly podcast that brings together high-profile chefs and change-makers to talk about the central role food plays in social justice.

A native of Pittsburgh, Penn., Billy earned a Bachelor of Arts at the University of Pennsylvania and his law degree from George Washington University in Washington, DC.



### **Tom Vilsack, United States Secretary of Agriculture**

Thomas J. Vilsack was confirmed as the 32nd United States Secretary of Agriculture on Feb. 23, 2021 by the U.S. Senate. He was nominated by President Joe Biden to return to a role where he served for eight years under President Barack Obama.

As leader of the U.S. Department of Agriculture as the 30th Secretary of Agriculture between 2009-2017, Vilsack worked hard to strengthen the American agricultural economy, build vibrant rural communities and create new markets for innovation in rural America. He fought to put Americans back to work by investing in rural infrastructure, renewable energy and large-scale conservation partnerships. Under his leadership, USDA supported America's farmers, ranchers and growers who drove the rural economy forward, set records for U.S. agricultural exports, provided food assistance to millions of Americans, and helped provide a safe, sufficient and nutritious food supply for the American people. USDA introduced healthier food choices in school meals to benefit 50 million children during Vilsack's tenure and expanded free and reduced-price lunches for millions of kids.

Vilsack was the longest-serving member of President Obama's original Cabinet. Prior to his appointment, he served two terms as the Governor of Iowa, served in the Iowa State Senate and as the mayor of Mt. Pleasant, Iowa. He received his bachelor's degree from Hamilton College and his law degree from Albany Law School in New York.

Prior to returning to USDA, he served as president and CEO of the U.S. Dairy Export Council (USDEC) from 2017 until February 2021. There, he provided strategic leadership and oversight of USDEC's global promotional and research activities, regulatory affairs and trade policy initiatives. In addition to his post at USDEC, he also served as a Strategic Advisor to Colorado State University's food and water initiatives.

A native of Pittsburgh, Penn., Vilsack was born into an orphanage and adopted in 1951. After graduating from law school, Vilsack moved to Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, his wife Christie's hometown, where he practiced law. The Vilsacks have two adult sons and two daughters-in-law—Doug, married to Janet; and Jess, married to Kate. They have five grandchildren.

### **Derrick Lambert, Senior Manager, Share Our Strength**



Derrick leads development of the No Kid Hungry campaign's work with rural communities and provides oversight for No Kid Hungry's summer meals portfolio. Prior to joining Share Our Strength in 2016, he worked as a Program Manager with Hunger Free Vermont, working closely with state agency staff, school districts and statewide partners to initiate and expand implementation of a range of federal child nutrition programs. Derrick is also a former educator, having spent four years in France teaching at public secondary and post-secondary institutions.



**Dr. Norman Wirzba, Gilbert T. Rowe Distinguished Professor of Theology and Senior Fellow at the Kenan Institute for Ethics, Duke University**

Raised on a farm in southern Alberta, Norman Wirzba now teaches theology, philosophy, and environmental studies courses at Duke University. He is the author of *Food and Faith: A Theology of Eating* along with other books relating to humanity's place in creation. *This Sacred Life: Humanity's Place in a Wounded World* will be published later this year. When not teaching and writing he likes to garden, bake, play guitar, and make things with wood.



**Monica Gonzales, Director, Federal Government Relations, Share Our Strength**

Monica Gonzales is the Director of Federal Government Relations for Share Our Strength where she leads the organization's strategy for federal advocacy pursuing policy solutions that strengthen and expand access to federal nutrition programs. She serves as the point person for Congressional offices, the Administration, and national stakeholders. She has over 15 years of experience in the public, non-profit and private sectors and has served as an advisor for senior leaders and executives, but advocating on behalf of kids is one of the best jobs she's ever had. Currently she serves on the boards of Hope and a Home and the Insight Center for Community and Economic Development to help low-income families and advance a mission focused on closing the racial wealth gap. She's originally from Santa Fe Springs, CA where she attended Pepperdine University.



**Stacy Dean, Deputy Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services, United States Department of Agriculture**

Stacy Dean was appointed by President Biden to serve as the Deputy Under Secretary for USDA's Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services where she will work to advance the President's agenda on increasing nutrition assistance for struggling families and individuals as well as tackling systemic racism and barriers to opportunity that have denied so many the chance to get ahead.

Prior to joining President Biden's Team at USDA, Dean served as the Vice President for Food Assistance Policy at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (CBPP). She directed CBPP's food assistance team, which published frequent reports on how federal nutrition programs affect families and communities and developed policies to improve them.

In addition to her work on federal nutrition programs, Dean directed CBPP efforts to integrate the delivery of health and human services programs at the state and local levels. Before joining CBPP, she worked as a budget analyst at the Office of Management and Budget.

Dean earned her B.A. and master's degree in public policy from the University of Michigan.



**Cheryl Johnson, MS, RD, LD, Director, Child Nutrition and Wellness, Kansas State Department of Education**

Cheryl Johnson is Director of Child Nutrition and Wellness for the Kansas State Department of Education. Cheryl and her team administer the USDA Child Nutrition Programs in Kansas and provide leadership, training and monitoring for 900+ local sponsors. Cheryl has a B.S. in Foods and Nutrition and a M.S. in Dietetics and Institutional Management from Kansas State University. She is a Registered and Licensed Dietitian, a Kansas Health Foundation Leadership Fellow and a Kansas State University Alumni Fellow. She has served on the School Nutrition Association's Governance Board and State Agency Advisory Council, and the Kansas State University College of Health and Human Sciences Alumni Board and Dietetics Advisory Board.



**Emily Chatelain, Executive Director, Three O'Clock Project**

Emily Chatelain brings many years of experience providing operations, financial, and human resource management to schools across the United States. Emily received her B.S. from Louisiana State University and M.B.A. from the University of New Orleans. She began working in the education reform industry in 2012 as an Operations Manager at a Charter High School. Emily now has a consulting team that works with over 300 K-12 schools across the US, managing the National School Lunch Program. In 2017, Emily saw the need for a more robust afterschool meals program. She started her non-profit, Three O'clock Project, and began providing healthy meals to after school and summer programs through the CACFP and SFSP federal child nutrition programs.



**Paola Babb, Community Engagement and Child Nutrition Manager, Hunger Free Colorado**

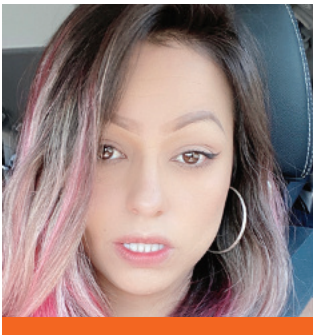
Paola Babb is the Community Engagement and Child Nutrition Manager at Hunger Free Colorado, where she supports communities to increase access and participation in child nutrition programs. Hunger Free Colorado, a statewide non-profit organization founded in 2009, connects families and individuals to food resources and fuels change in systems, policies and social views, so no Coloradan goes hungry. Paola has experience convening the voices of those most impacted and with lived experience. She has a Bachelor of Science in Human Nutrition and Dietetics, worked for WIC for several years, and most recently managed the food pantry at Growing Home, a non-profit in Westminster. She is a native Spanish speaker originally from Mexico but has lived in Colorado most of her life.





**Maria Judith Alvarez, Community Engagement Coordinator, S.A.N.A. Safe and Abundant Nutrition Alliance**

Maria Judith Alvarez is one of the community outreach coordinators at SANA (The Alliance for Safe and Abundant Nutrition), where she directs a working group (dissemination and education about child nutrition programs) where they have two objectives, one to increase the enrollment in child nutrition programs, and the other to expand access and participation in nutrition education programs. This is a way to connect families who may be at risk of hunger with resources that they may be eligible for.



**Carolina Guzmán, Neighborhood Navigator, Eagle County Community Navigators**

Carolina Guzmán was born in Guadalajara, Jalisco, México and has lived in Eagle County for 18 years. She works for the Eagle County Community Navigators non-profit organization, which is dedicated to connecting families to resources in the Eagle county area. She supports families with free activities such as art classes and helps the Latinx community to integrate more and have a better lifestyle. In the past Carolina was president of the Avon Elementary School PTA, helping Hispanic mothers become more involved in their children's education. She was also in the Parent Mentor program supporting children in the classroom and was also a preschool teacher.



**Melina Valsecia-Monreal, Executive Director, Eagle Valley Community Foundation, MIRA (Mobile Intercultural Resource Alliance) Bus Project**

Melina Valsecia-Monreal is Executive Director for Eagle Valley Community Foundation in Eagle County, Colorado after launching and managing the MIRA Bus Program - a mobile unit that visits neighborhoods in Eagle County, CO bringing free services and resources to residents with barriers to access- and being Executive Director for Neighborhood Navigators of Eagle County. Melina has lived in Eagle County for 18 years. She received a Health Education Specialist Certification after graduating with her master's degree in Public Health and B.S in Human Nutrition. Melina has worked in different roles in the community assisting families with young children from different backgrounds, immigrants, underserved and from minority groups. She had different leadership roles within her community and serves as a board member for different local organizations.



**Karen Wong, Senior Manager of Research and Evaluation, Share Our Strength**

Karen Wong, MHS, is a Senior Manager of Research and Evaluation for the No Kid Hungry campaign at Share Our Strength. She manages research initiatives to inform interventions and assess the impact of the No Kid Hungry campaign's efforts to increase food access. Prior to joining Share Our Strength, Karen conducted research and analysis of SNAP policy while at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities and evaluated universal school meals programming as an Emerson Fellow with the Congressional Hunger Center. She also worked on poverty reduction initiatives addressing food, health, and housing policy while at Catholic Charities USA.



**Dr. Alison Gustafson, Buster Endowed Professor, Dietetics and Human Nutrition, University of Kentucky**

Alison Gustafson, PhD, MPH, RD is an Associate Professor and Buster Endowed Professor at the University of Kentucky in the Department of Dietetics and Human Nutrition. Her research focuses on how various components of the food environment are on the pathway to poor dietary outcomes among rural and geographically isolated communities. Dr. Gustafson is the Principal Investigator on a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention High Obesity Program (HOP-1807) grant working to improve environmental infrastructure in Martin County, KY, as well as several USDA and NIH grants. She was most recently awarded a Share Our Strength grant testing the effectiveness of an online grocery shopping intervention among rural and urban residents. She will be part of a discussion focusing on the current Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) online grocery shopping efforts across the United States. Dr. Gustafson will also share how this work is framing future research related to online grocery shopping and policy relevance for hunger relief.



**Carolyn Wait Vega, MPH, RD, Senior Manager, Share Our Strength**

As a Senior Manager with Share Our Strength's No Kid Hungry campaign, Carolyn Wait Vega supports schools and non-profits nationwide in expanding access to nutritious afterschool meals and snacks. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, she has also taken an active role in Share Our Strength's advocacy work to ensure that organizations and families have the flexibilities and resources needed to feed children, and she has helped No Kid Hungry campaign partners, schools, and non-profits understand their options under current waivers. Before joining Share Our Strength in 2015, Carolyn was a Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Specialist for the District of Columbia state agency and a National Nutrition Policy Fellow at the Food Research & Action Center. Carolyn is a Registered Dietitian with a Bachelor's in Nutrition from Ohio State University and a Master of Public Health from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.



**Amy Schumacher, Senior Manager, Programs, Feeding America**

Amy Schumacher is the Senior Manager of Programs at Feeding America. Her work focuses on supporting the network to increase access to nutritious meals for all communities and populations, with a focus on children and families. Amy received an AM in Social Service Administration focused on non-profit management from the University of Chicago. She received her BA in Psychology from the College of William and Mary and started her non-profit career as an AmeriCorps volunteer in Chicago. Amy worked in the AfterCare department of a residential treatment facility for youth who experienced trauma. Amy is passionate about exploring the intersection of hunger and poverty, trauma, and other challenges faced by those the Feeding America network serves and is interested in learning more about how connections with nonprofit and other community partners can improve the work already being done in the network.



**Jeffrey Snyder, Chief Executive Officer, Osage Prairie YMCA**

Since 2012, Jeffrey Snyder has been the CEO of the Osage Prairie YMCA in Nevada, MO and also serves as a Food Service Delivery Facilitator for YMCA of the USA. He first got started in the Y movement in 2006 as a program director for the YMCA of Greater Kansas City. Throughout his 14-year career, Jeffrey has worn many hats and served in many roles; but it is programming for youth and anti-hunger efforts that he is most passionate about. Jeff has developed a sustainable food program in his rural community that had very few opportunities for youth to access meals. Today, the Osage Prairie YMCA program continues to evolve and grow through these uncertain times. Jeffrey, through collaborations with a local grocery store, USDA sponsorship, and countless volunteer groups, is offering 2,000 children 56,000 meals every week!



**Clarissa Hayes, Senior Child Nutrition Policy Analyst, Food Research & Action Center**

Clarissa Hayes joined FRAC in February 2015. As senior child nutrition policy analyst, she works with anti-hunger organizations as well as with local, state, and national groups to expand participation in the afterschool and summer nutrition programs. Before joining FRAC, Clarissa was an anti-hunger program associate at Maryland Hunger Solutions (an initiative of FRAC) and worked to increase participation in the child nutrition programs across the state. She has also completed two years of national community service through AmeriCorps NCCC and AmeriCorps VISTA.



**Stacey McDaniel, Anti-Hunger Initiatives Specialist,  
YMCA of the USA**

Stacey McDaniel is a nationally recognized non-profit leader and anti-hunger advocate currently serving at the YMCA of the USA. Under her leadership, the Y launched a peer mentor network to promote innovation and strategic planning, developed sustainability and fundraising resources to preserve food programs for years to come, collaborated with community partners to mold a flexible framework for food programs that uniquely builds upon each communities' strengths and resources, and scaled federally funded child nutrition programs to reach 5,200 sites nationwide - touching the lives of nearly a million kids last year alone. During her tenure, the Y has expanded its anti-hunger work, increasing service per year for the number of youth by 435% and meals by 386%.



**Mya Price, Manager, Commodity and Federal Nutrition Programs,  
Government Relations at Feeding America**

Mya has a deep passion for working with child nutrition and other federal nutrition programs, impacting millions of children and families across the nation. She serves as Manager, Commodity and Federal Nutrition Programs on the Government Relations team at Feeding America, in which she leads efforts around The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP), Farmers to Families Food Box Program (CFAP), and child nutrition programs such as the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP), Pandemic -EBT, and the Child and Adult Care Food Service Program (CACFP). Through these programs, she examines policy and programmatic impacts, works closely with other key national partners, and leverages Feeding America's networks' engagement. She is based in Washington, D.C., and is happy to bring her Kentucky roots, diverse expertise, and food bank experience toward combatting hunger across our nation.



**Haley Kottler, Campaign Director, Kansas Appleseed**

As Campaign Director, Haley engages with Kansans across the state in anti-hunger advocacy, conducting (and building!) grassroots campaigns, as well as making the case for change through policy and legislative action. Haley's fight for justice is rooted in a devotion to equity and fairness for all.





**Kathy Prince, Director of Administration and Agency Relations,  
Second Harvest Food Bank of East Tennessee**

Kathy Prince is the Director of Administration and Agency Relations at Second Harvest Food Bank of East Tennessee. She has more than 15 years of non-profit experience, with a previous background as a museum curator and educator. Kathy first realized the impact of food insecurity on children's ability to learn in her work as a Character Education instructor for K-3 in a Title I school. She has been with the food bank for more than eight years, having begun her food-banking career in development and grants, then moving into agency relations three years ago. Since then, she and her team have grown their School Pantry Program from three to fourteen sites, implemented clinical healthcare partnerships to distribute food, increased mobile pantry distributions in rural areas, established college campus pantries, and increased the use of available TEFAP products across Second Harvest's network of food pantries in 18 counties of East Tennessee.



**Briana Webster Campbell, Director, Education and Training,  
Share Our Strength**

Briana oversees the No Kid Hungry Center for Best Practices' initiatives related to training and technical assistance. She manages a team of child nutrition experts who support schools and organizations to expand access to federal nutrition programs. In addition, she co-chairs the organization's Program Team Diversity, Equity and Inclusion committee. Briana's nearly two-decade career has been spent working at mission-driven organizations that strive to make our nation a more equitable and just place for all. Prior to joining No Kid Hungry in 2016, Briana worked on school health initiatives at HealthCorps and the Alliance for a Healthier Generation. Before that, she spearheaded a diabetes and obesity prevention program for African-American men at Morehouse School of Medicine in Atlanta, GA and she also served as the first Wellstone Fellow for Social Justice at Families USA. Briana received her B.S. in Public Health from the Gillings School of Global Public Health at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.



**Jen Zuckerman, Director of Strategic Initiatives, Duke University's World Food Policy Center**

As Director of Strategic Initiatives at Duke University's World Food Policy Center, Jen Zuckerman focuses on people-first policy development for equitable food policy.

In addition to her position with the World Food Policy Center, Jen contracts with the Biwa-Emergent Equity, facilitating white caucuses in nonprofit and philanthropic organizations. She also contracts with DEI Works Collective, in the capacity of a racial equity facilitator. Jen concentrates specifically on the role of white women and their complicity in upholding white supremacy culture.

Prior to her current work, Jen spent twelve years at the Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina Foundation, serving as the Senior Program Officer for Healthy Living and the Director of Strategic Partnerships, focusing on increasing access to safe active environments and on providing sources for healthy, locally sourced food.

Jen currently serves as the Chair of the Board of the Sustainable Agriculture and Food System Funders Network, Chair of the Center for Environmental Farming Systems Advisory Board, Secretary of the Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation Board of Directors and on the Board of Communities in Partnership.



**Dr. Carolyn Barnes, Assistant Professor, Sanford School of Public Policy, Duke University**

Carolyn Barnes, PhD, is an assistant professor in the Sanford School of Public Policy at Duke University. Her research agenda broadly explores the social and political implications of social policy on low-income populations in the areas of childcare policy, family services and supports for young children. Her book, *State of Empowerment*, is an in-depth organizational ethnography that examines how publicly funded afterschool programs shape the political behavior of low-income parents. Barnes has initiated a new line of interdisciplinary research that examines how social policy implementation reproduces racial inequality in rural Southern communities. She completed a PhD in Political Science and Public Policy from the University of Michigan, where she worked as an affiliate of the National Poverty Center conducting research on the effects of nonprofit community-based service provision on parenting practices and the psycho-social well-being of families and children.



**Chelsea MacCormack Program Associate, Share Our Strength**

Raised in a small rural town in southwestern Virginia, Chelsea brings her experiences with rural communities to her work with Share Our Strength and the No Kid Hungry campaign. She holds a bachelor's degree in Agriculture and Applied Economics from Virginia Tech. Chelsea is also a Certified Interpretive Guide with the National Association for Interpretation and an Environmental Leadership Program Senior Fellow.



**Jodi Walker, Founder and Executive Director, Kids At Their Best**

Jodi has never been afraid to take on controversial issues and has frequently used unorthodox approaches to bridge the cultural, economic and generational challenges of her Eastern Plains community. Kids At Their Best, the agency that she founded, exemplifies the strength of her commitment to all children and all families. She has brought together immigrants from Mexico and South America, refugees from Africa and local children whose families have lived on the Eastern Plains for generations. Jodi's understanding of the complex interplay of major political, financial and distribution systems has allowed her to develop sustainable programs to serve not only local children but to inspire others. Jodi overcame a traumatic brain injury to pursue her soul work on behalf of children and families. She and her husband live on their family farm. They have six children, one granddaughter and a 140-pound Great Pyrenees, grand puppy. When she is not working, she loves exploring the Colorado mountains, reading and sewing.



**Elyse Kovalsky, Senior Manager for Program Innovation, Share Our Strength**

Elyse Kovalsky is Senior Manager for Program Innovation at Share Our Strength. As a sociologist focused on the drivers of inequality, Elyse has extensive experience designing and leading investigations at the intersection of health, housing, and economic security. Using the principles of human-centered design and qualitative research methodologies, she works closely with families and partner organizations to identify and test innovative models in key programmatic areas, including WIC and other programs reaching families with young children.



**Gay Anderson, SNS, Child Nutrition Supervisor,  
Sioux Falls Public Schools**

Gay Anderson is the Child Nutrition Supervisor for the Sioux Falls School District in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Anderson has been in school nutrition for 18 years and has found her passion in feeding the future one school meal at a time.

Anderson served as the President of the National School Nutrition Association in school year 2018-2019 and then again in 2019-2020. Helping others is very important to her, and with that she is involved in a pilot project with Share Our Strength in assisting ten other districts within the state of South Dakota.



**Andrea Kruse, MS, RDN, LN, Child Nutrition Director,  
Brandon Valley School District**

Andrea Kruse is the Child Nutrition Director for the Brandon Valley School District in Brandon, South Dakota. Kruse previously worked as the Registered Dietitian for the Brandon Valley School District before taking over her current role where she also works with ten other districts in South Dakota to improve their child nutrition programs.

Kruse graduated with a master's in nutritional science from South Dakota State University in 2018 and has been working as a Registered Dietitian in various settings since then. Although she has only been in child nutrition a short time, she has quickly realized her passion for feeding students nutritious and delicious meals every day.



**Kelleen Zubick, Health Strategies Director, Share Our Strength**

Kelleen directs Share Our Strength's strategies to address food insecurity and to integrate access to child nutrition programs.



**Meghan Chancey, MPH, Program Coordinator, Eastern Oregon  
Healthy Living Alliance**

Meghan focuses on the intersections of community partnerships and health in promoting healthy eating and reducing food insecurity.





**Carrie Thielen, MPH, RD, Community Health Program Manager,  
Presbyterian Healthcare Foundation**

Carrie specializes in the development, implementation and evaluation of population health programs at the state and local level.



**Brenda Williams, MBA, Healthy Food Coordinator,  
Communities Unlimited**

Brenda Williams has 17+ years of experience in community outreach and engagement, with demonstrated leadership of strategic initiatives.



**Nonie Woolf, MPH, Chair of FAST Blackfeet**

Nonie has created and led nutrition, dietetics, and healthy cooking classes. Nonie retired in 2010 and is now chair of FAST Blackfeet.



**Mackenzie Sachs, Registered Dietitian, FAST Blackfeet**

Mackenzie Sachs, RD, focuses on food and nutrition education and developing curricula for healthy eating using traditional foods.



**Cara Cliburn Allen, Research Analyst, Baylor Collaborative on Hunger and Poverty**

Cara Cliburn Allen is a Research Analyst for the Baylor Collaborative on Hunger and Poverty focusing on the Meals-to-You program. She is a doctoral candidate in the Higher Education and Leadership program at Baylor University and studies the effects of food insecurity on identity. She has led institutional data gathering and responses to food insecurity at Baylor where she served as the chair of the Food Insecurity Working Group.



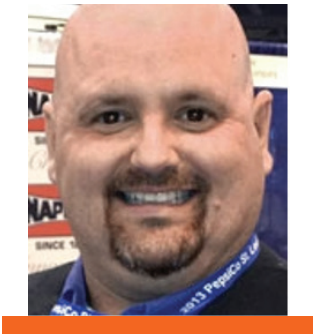
**Andrea Skipor, Program Manager, Baylor Collaborative on Hunger and Poverty**

Andrea Skipor is the Program Manager for the USDA Meals-to-You Pilot Program. She is a Licensed Master Social Worker. Andrea earned bachelor's degrees in Sociology and Criminal Justice from Columbus State University and a master's degree in Social Work from the Diana R. Garland School of Social Work at Baylor University. She has two years of experience working in Waco ISD as a social work intern.



**Jordan Laccetti, Vice President of Sales, McLane Global**

Jordan Laccetti is the Vice President of Sales for McLane Global. Jordan received his Bachelor's degree in Business, as well as a Master of Business Administration, from the College of Saint Rose in Albany, NY. As a seasoned sales professional with extensive experience in both sales and management, Jordan's responsibility as VP of Sales is to set the direction for McLane's Domestic Sales Teams, including U.S. Sales and Manufacturing, McLane Hunger Solutions, and McLane Health Solutions, and work to effectively and efficiently achieve McLane's business objectives.



**Shawn Mason, Operations Manager, PepsiCo Food for Good**

Shawn Mason has been with PepsiCo for 26 years, the last 11 as manager of the Food for Good program where he leads new partner management, new business models and go-to market strategy. Since joining Food for Good, he has spearheaded key partnerships resulting in the delivery of tens of millions of meals across the United States, including the 2020 USDA demonstration program with Baylor University, Emergency Meals-to-You. Shawn also oversees Food for Good's new e-commerce platform, FoodforGoodMealSolutions.com, which provides consumers with personalized solutions to tackle hunger. In addition to his role on Food for Good, Shawn also assists the PepsiCo Foundation with nutrition grantmaking and disaster relief responses. Shawn currently resides in the Chicago area with his family and is an avid Cubs fan.



**Margie Saidel, Vice President of Nutrition and Sustainability, Chartwells K12**

Essentially the “Chief Dietitian” for Chartwells’ 4,000 schools across the country – and a mom herself – Margie has turned her passion for public health into a career. She gives millions of students the nourishment they need every day to live healthy, happy lives. With decades of experience designing menus and nutrition education programs in schools, she leads a team of more than 60 dietitians who ensure students are fed great-tasting, nutritious meals. Her work includes developing the strategic approach to child nutrition, local community health and wellness initiatives and corporate social responsibility programs. Prior to joining Chartwells, she spent 12 years as a school foodservice director and taught foodservice management at the college and graduate levels. Margie is a registered dietitian and received a master’s degree in public health from Boston University. She is also certified with the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics in child and adolescent weight management. Her expertise has been highlighted in national media outlets, including *Reader’s Digest*, *USA Today*, *Real Simple* and *Women’s Health*.



**Mia Medina, Program Manager, No Kid Hungry Texas**

Mia Medina is the Program Manager for No Kid Hungry Texas, where she focuses on statewide outreach, grants, and manages the Texas School District Cohort. Prior to working at No Kid Hungry, Mia worked in the Medicaid Division of Texas Health and Human Services Commission where she collaborated with the Policy Council for Children and Families to come up with policy changes that could better the lives of families who have children with disabilities. She also has experience working with schools through her work at Partnership for 21st Century Learning, a nonprofit that focused on highlighting best practices in whole child learning. Mia is originally from Big Spring, Texas and is a graduate of American University where she received her Master of Public Administration and Policy. She is also an alumna of Texas Tech University where she received her Bachelor of Science in Human Development and Family Studies.



**Kathy Holt, Senior Specialist, Collective Impact, Save the Children**

Kathy Holt has lived and worked in rural East Tennessee for over forty years. She has thirty-four years of experience in education, serving both as a classroom teacher and a district level supervisor. Over the years, Kathy has gained experience and knowledge of the factors that impact rural families and affect children’s success in education, as well as formed extensive collaborative partnerships with local community leaders. Currently serving as Senior Specialist of Collective Impact for Save the Children, Kathy supports the development, facilitation, implementation, monitoring, and management of results-based, collective impact initiatives for Cocke County, TN. Knowing that food insecurity is a critical factor impacting progress toward cradle-to-career outcomes for children in Cocke County, Kathy seeks to identify proactive, collaborative, engaging community stakeholders to address this need in Cocke County, TN.



**Michelle Troup, Director of Culinary Medicine,  
FoodShare South Carolina**

Michelle works to blend the worlds of academia, medicine, culinary arts, and community empowerment to make a more sustainable, accessible food system.



**Evette Tovar-Lugo, Program Manager, No Kid Hungry California**

Born and raised in the heart of the San Joaquin Valley, Evette Tovar-Lugo is one of our very own Program Managers on our No Kid Hungry California team. After graduating from UC Santa Barbara, she returned to her agricultural roots and saw first-hand the food disparity in the San Joaquin Valley; the irony of producing food for the world while its residents are experiencing food insecurity at disproportionately higher than average rates is perplexing. She became involved with several elected officials and anti-poverty organizations such as the Central California Food Bank and Department of Social Services, among others, to combat the larger food insecurity systems at play. Evette is now committed to building a hunger coalition in Fresno County to marry both its urban and rural spaces in an accessible and equitable manner.



**Courtney Smith, Managing Director, Share Our Strength**

Courtney is the Managing Director of Share Our Strength's No Kid Hungry Center for Best Practices, which she launched in 2011. The Center supports efforts to end childhood hunger across the country by providing consulting and technical assistance, conducting research and policy analysis, and investing in program innovation to test new strategies. Before joining Share Our Strength in 2008, Courtney was a Senior Policy Analyst at the National Governors Association's Center for Best Practices. Courtney has a Master of Arts in Public Policy from the University of California at Berkeley and a Bachelor's degree in English Literature and Women's Studies from Grinnell College.