

Home as a Cornerstone: How Housing Impacts the Rest of Our Lives

Program Agenda

Wednesday, December 8, 2021, 10 to 11:30 a.m. | Virtual Zoom Meeting

10:00 a.m. Welcome

Jerome Lewis, Director, Institute for Public Administration (IPA)

Steve Metraux, Director, Center for Community Research and Service (CCRS)

10:10 a.m. Introduction

Sean O'Neill, Policy Scientist, IPA

10:15 a.m. Keynote Speaker

Michelle Taylor, President and CEO, United Way of Delaware

10:30 a.m. Respondent Panel and Dialogue

Moderator: Mimi Rayl, CCRS

Respondents: Dr. Ann Aviles, Housing Advocate and Associate Professor, University of Delaware College of Education & Human Development

Marilyn Smith, Executive Director, Dover/Kent County Metropolitan Planning Organization

*Tim Gibbs, Executive Director, Delaware Academy of Medicine/
Delaware Public Health Association*

11:15 a.m. Audience Q&A

Moderator: Sean O'Neill

11:25 a.m. Wrap Up & Next Steps

Mimi Rayl



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About this Webinar Series

Today's webinar is hosted by the Institute for Public Administration (IPA) and the Center for Community Research and Service (CCRS). IPA and CCRS are applied public service and research centers within the University of Delaware's Joseph R. Biden, Jr. School of Public Policy and Administration.

We are pleased to offer this event, which is the second in a series of webinars promoting dialogue among state and local agencies, nonprofits, private sector developers, and other stakeholders on affordable housing issues and opportunities in Delaware.

IPA and CCRS offer a broad range of experience in housing policy and research. The centers are working together to understand and address the need for affordable housing in Delaware. At the start of this collaboration in early 2020, the team met with private, nonprofit, and government leaders engaged in the affordable housing landscape to identify the parameters of this work. Since then, IPA and CCRS have produced two briefs and several public programs focused on the likely impacts of the pandemic on housing and homelessness. Our webinar series continues this work and looks beyond the pandemic to statewide housing issues and opportunities for synergistic research and engagement.



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About IPA

Established in 1973, IPA addresses the policy, planning, and management needs of its partners through the integration of applied research, professional development, and the education of tomorrow's leaders. IPA links the resource capacities of the University of Delaware to the complex needs of governments, nonprofits, and the business community. Our faculty, staff, and students collaborate on public service and applied research that make a difference in the lives of citizens in Delaware and beyond, while simultaneously contributing to the university's scholarly body of knowledge.

We apply our expertise in public administration and local government land-use planning to this housing policy collaboration.

[Visit IPA online at www.bidenschool.udel.edu/ipa.](http://www.bidenschool.udel.edu/ipa)

About CCRS

Launched in 1972, CCRS engages in community-based research, development, and service activities in Delaware and beyond. CCRS's programs share a commitment to enhancing the well-being of people and places, particularly those that experience disadvantages relative to other communities. CCRS is active in multiple areas. This includes evidence-based housing research to better understand and inform responses to issues, with a focus on homelessness and its impacts, and research on topics related to public health, including the social determinants of health. CCRS also provides technical assistance, continuing education, and other support to community development initiatives and community-based nonprofit organizations.

We apply our expertise in community leadership and development and housing and homelessness to this housing policy collaboration.

[Visit CCRS online at www.bidenschool.udel.edu/ccrs.](http://www.bidenschool.udel.edu/ccrs)

Biden School Housing Policy Team

Jerome Lewis, Director, Institute for Public Administration

jlewis@udel.edu

Jerome Lewis, PhD, Associate Professor and Director of the Biden School's Institute for Public Administration (IPA), began his faculty career at UD in 1969. He helped establish and became the director of the University's Master of Public Administration program in 1975 and started the Legislative Fellows Program in 1982. Under Dr. Lewis's leadership, IPA engages students in experiential learning. Known as "The Delaware Model," this guiding philosophy equally involves faculty, professional staff, and students in public service and research projects that make a difference in the lives of citizens in Delaware and beyond.

Julia O'Hanlon, Policy Scientist, Institute for Public Administration

jusmith@udel.edu

Julia O'Hanlon, MPA, joined IPA in 2003. Julia provides project management, research, and policy support to state and local government officials and nonprofit organizations. Julia's primary areas of expertise involve state and local management, aging-related policy issues, and healthy communities. Additionally, Julia manages IPA's Municipal Clerks Institute.

Sean O'Neill, Policy Scientist, Institute for Public Administration

oneill@udel.edu

Sean O'Neill, AICP, joined IPA in 2017. As a member of its Regional Planning + Development team Sean works on community planning and real estate-related projects with local governments and state agencies. Sean also manages IPA's local government training program and presents timely topics on IPA's First State Insights podcasts. Prior to starting at IPA Sean was Senior Community Planner for the Chester County Planning Commission.

Stephen Metraux, Director, Center for Community Research and Service

metraux@udel.edu

Stephen Metraux, PhD, is Associate Professor and Director of the Biden School's Center for Community Research and Service (CCRS), came to UD in 2018. Prior to that he was an Analyst at the National Center for Homelessness Among Veterans at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, and Associate Professor of Health Policy at the University of the Sciences. Dr. Metraux has performed extensive research on homelessness, working on issues related to homelessness and housing nationwide.

Roger Hesketh, Community Revitalization, Center for Community Research and Service

rogergh@udel.edu

Roger Hesketh, MPA, is Director of Community Revitalization and an Assistant Policy Scientist with CCRS, responsible for management of the Blueprint Communities Delaware community revitalization program and for CCRS's support of Jumpstart Wilmington, a neighborhood-focused real estate development training program recently launched by Cinnaire to grow local developer capacity. Prior to assuming his current role at CCRS in 2016 he served as Community Engagement and Program Manager for Public Allies Delaware in CCRS.

Mimi Rayl, Graduate Research Assistant, Center for Community Research and Service

mimirayl@udel.edu

Mimi Rayl, MRP, is a graduate research assistant with CCRS and a doctoral student in urban affairs and public policy at the Biden School. Mimi moved to Delaware in 2015. She has more than 20 years of experience in real estate development, including development of affordable housing.

Speaker Bios



Michelle Taylor

Michelle Taylor is President and Chief Executive Officer of United Way of Delaware, where she has worked for over 20 years. She is also chief steward of the United Way brand in Salem County, New Jersey.

Michelle leads a staff of 40, and hundreds of volunteers, as United Way implements a statewide strategy to improve third-grade literacy, to ensure young people are prepared to enter college and/or the workforce, and to help thousands of struggling families achieve financial stability. During COVID-19, she helped raise millions for food, shelter, and other human needs, and she worked with other nonprofit leaders to ensure that agencies have the resources THEY need to support their own operations throughout the pandemic.

Michelle is also working to improve racial equity and social justice in Delaware. She leads the Delaware Racial Equity and Social Justice Collaborative, which includes leaders from 200 grassroots organizations across the state, AND she chairs the Community Policing and Engagement Subcommittee of Governor Carney's Law Enforcement Accountability Task Force, which is preparing recommendations for improving policing practices in Delaware.



Dr. Ann Aviles

Dr. Aviles is an Associate Professor in Human Development and Family Sciences in the College of Education and Human Development at the University of Delaware. She earned her Ph.D.

in Policy Studies in Urban Education and master's degree in occupational therapy from the University of Illinois at Chicago. Dr. Aviles' teaching experience includes the areas of child development, education policy, qualitative methods/research, and action research. She has worked with several community based organizations to advocate for educational access, equitable funding and anti-racist systems and practices with, and for, students and families of color experiencing homelessness/poverty, incarceration, and mental health issues.

Dr. Aviles' research engagements include: examining policies, services and programs that impact the educational opportunities, material realities and mental health of youth of color experiencing homelessness/instability; Latina/o Education; Critical Race Theory (CRT); Latina/o Critical Theory (LatCrit); and positive youth/community development. Dr. Aviles is the author of several publications, including her 2015 book, *From Charity to Equity: Race, Homelessness and Urban Schools*.



Tim Gibbs

Tim Gibbs is the executive director of the Delaware Academy of Medicine / Delaware Public Health Association, and Co-Founder and Publisher of the Delaware Journal of Public Health.

Tim has dedicated his professional career to the nonprofit sector and human services delivery. Notable accomplishments include: overseeing the founding and management of Delaware's first transitional housing and hospice care facility for people with HIV/AIDS; establishing Delaware's first network for nonprofits—DiamondNet—in collaboration with the University of Delaware; developing the first online iteration of the Delaware Helpline database—now known as Delaware 211—also in collaboration with UD; and developing English

and Spanish training programs and materials for what is now called Delaware JobLink.

Tim managed the restructuring of Academy of Medicine focus and programs and brought together four other membership groups (Delaware Academy of Family Physicians, Delaware Academy of Physician Assistants, Delaware Chapter–American College of Surgeons, and Delaware Nurses Association) to share space and collaborate on programming.

A Delaware native, Tim is certified in Nonprofit Management and holds a Master's degree in Public Health.

Marilyn has a BS in Political Science from Weber State University, and an MPA from the University of Utah.

Marilyn and her husband Steve have been married for 36 years. They have two grown sons, one in Bluffton, SC, with his wife and two children, and one in Albany, NY, with his partner.

When not working, Marilyn enjoys visiting family, and exploring new roads and places in Delaware. She also enjoys music, games, snorkeling, kayaking, and entertaining.



Marilyn Smith

Marilyn Smith was appointed Executive Director of the Dover/Kent County MPO on December 3, 2020. She worked virtually for a couple of months then moved to Kent County the first of February 2021.

Prior to coming to the MPO, Marilyn served nine years as Senior Economic Development Advisor in the Albany district office of U.S. Congressman Paul Tonko, representing New York's 20th Congressional District, where she focused on economic development, business casework, outreach and managed the grants program. From 2000-2012, Marilyn was Executive Director for Cornell University Cooperative Extension in Fulton and Montgomery Counties. Prior to moving to New York State, Marilyn spent ten years working in county government in Utah.

Marilyn is an adjunct faculty member at Purdue University Global, where she teaches undergraduate public administration courses. She is completing her second term on the Family Counseling Center Board of Directors (Gloversville, NY) where she has been the Board Treasurer.