



# Bright Spots

Igniting change, together.

**SPEAKERS**

# Roque Barros

*he/him*

## **Executive Director, Imperial Valley Wellness Foundation**



Roque Barros has 30 plus years of combined experience in nonprofit and foundation management and has developed and led community building approaches and frameworks in urban and rural communities.

Prior to IVWF, Roque served as the director of the Ford Institute for Community Building, at The Ford Family Foundation. At the Jacobs Family Foundation Roque worked as the director of community building and served as interim president. In the nonprofit field, Roque served as the executive director of Los Niños, an international community development organization. In addition, Roque served as a member of Aspen Institutes THRIVE Rural National Advisory Committee. He also served on CF Leads National Cultivating Community Engagement Panel. Co-wrote a chapter "The Role of Philanthropy in Rural Community Development" in the book titled "Investing in Rural Prosperity."



# Neville Billimoria

*he/him*

## Senior Vice President of Membership & Community Relations, Mission Federal Credit Union



Neville Billimoria is an effective communications and values leader, growing organizations through external marketing, media, and sales effectiveness, as well as internal organizational alignment, corporate communications, and leadership development. He brings experience, energy, and empowerment to his leadership role as SVP Marketing and Community Relations at Mission Fed Credit Union, a \$6.5B not-for-profit, and the largest financial services organization exclusively serving San Diego, where he has accountability for a strategic array of crucial outward facing functions for over 20 years including marketing, community relations, corporate giving as well as promoting Mission Fed's public image and brand.

He is a frequent speaker on topics including brand as culture, purpose-driven leadership, social capital optimization and civic engagement for maximum impact.





# Matt D'Arrigo

*he/him*

## **Director of Creative Youth Development, Clare Rose Foundation**

Matt D'Arrigo has dedicated the past 25 years of his life to being a champion and advocate for the arts and young people. He is the Director of Creative Youth Development at the Clare Rose Foundation overseeing local, regional, and national strategy, investments, advocacy, and field building activities. He is Co-Founder of The Clare Rose Center for Creative Youth Development (CYD), a backbone organization and philanthropic intermediary established to ensure that CYD funders, practitioners, organizations, and young people have access to the resources, tools, opportunities, and relationships they need to thrive.

He serves as Board Chair for the National Guild for Community Arts Education, Vice-Chair of SD Art Matters, co-chair of the Arts Ed Impact Group for Grant Makers for Education and sits on the Board of Catalyst of San Diego and Imperial Counties, where he co-founded the Arts & Intersections Working Group. D'Arrigo is also co-founder of the National CYD Funders Forum and Arts Amplifying Youth (AAY!). He is a coach and facilitator with the Fieldstone Leadership Network in San Diego.





# Lorenza Fabre Vega

*she/her*

## CEO, Latattore Foundation

Lorenza Fabre Vega is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and the CEO of the Latattore Foundation, where she is at the forefront of transformative social impact. Lorenza has dedicated her career to enhancing community well-being through innovative programs and empathetic leadership.

At the Latattore Foundation, Lorenza has spearheaded the restructuring of the family foundation, creating a dynamic program specifically designed for immigrant parents.

In addition to her role at the Latattore Foundation, Lorenza actively engages with the community, valuing genuine connections and collaborative efforts to support and uplift those she serves. Lorenza holds a degree in Clinical Social Work, which has provided her with the knowledge and skills to lead effectively in the non-profit sector. Her approach is marked by a genuine care for individuals and a strategic vision for creating sustainable, impactful programs.



# Elizabeth Figueroa

*she/her*

## Thriving Communities Program Manager at the International Community Foundation

Liz forms part of The International Community Foundation environment team as the Thriving Communities Program Manager, focusing on Environmental Justice and Climate Resiliency in communities on both sides of the U.S.-Mexico border. In this role, she manages initiatives designed to improve ocean and coastal health, environmental

Liz Figueroa is originally from Washington, D.C. and, as the daughter of two career diplomats with the United States Department of State, spent her childhood living abroad in Russia, Belgium, and Spain. Liz is of Puerto Rican descent and speaks fluent Spanish in addition to proficient French. She holds a bachelor's degree in Spanish from Haverford College and a master's degree in Coastal Zone Management from the University of Miami's Rosenstiel School of Marine, Atmospheric, and Earth Science. She has experience in education, law, and non-profit work and is particularly passionate about urbanism and environmental justice.





# Nyisha Green- Washington

*she/they*

## Organizing Manager at?

Nyisha is an active member in the San Diego community advocating for Social Justice and Human Rights. Their journey began getting her degree in Public Health with a focus on reducing barriers in access to healthcare.

Nyisha is now the Senior Organizing Manager for a non-profit fighting at the intersections of environmental health and justice, and the increased risk of breast cancer in underestimated communities. Some of her other work in the community include being the Co-founder/Co-Director of March for Black Womxn San Diego, and sitting as a board member on For The Village, which provides low cost or free birthworker services throughout San Diego County

# Kim Jones

*she/her*

**President, Kinship Fund**

As president of the Kinship Fund, Kim's passion is to practice bold, community-driven, trust-based philanthropy that fosters meaningful, long-term partnerships so everyone in our community can thrive. What sets her apart is how she leads system transformation by disrupting the power dynamic and building bridges between funders and nonprofits. Kim brings a rich background spanning C-Suite experience in healthcare, marketing, higher education, and nonprofit leadership to be a catalyst for change in philanthropy.



# Sarah Lyman

*she/her*

## Executive Director, Alliance Healthcare Foundation



Sarah has served as Alliance Healthcare Foundation's (AHF) Executive Director since July 2019. AHF works to advance health and wellness for under-resourced and underserved populations in San Diego and Imperial Counties through grantmaking, strategic partnerships, and impact investing.

Prior to joining Alliance, Sarah served as the Executive Vice President for Empire Health Foundation (EHF) in eastern Washington State. With over 15 years of experience catalyzing results in health philanthropy, Sarah brings unique leadership to the intersection of population health, systems change and collaboration in order to advance health equity. Sarah is currently an active board member for Catalyst of San Diego and Imperial Counties and a member of San Diego State University's Public Health Advisory Board as well as various advisory boards, including the San Diego Community Information Exchange (CIE) Advisory Board. Recently she served as a Mayoral appointee for the City of San Diego's Middle Income Housing task force.





# Stephen Minix

*he/him*

## Vice President of Community at UpMetrics

Stephen is a former educator, now using his experiences to influence the impact space—philanthropy, impact investing, and nonprofits—toward true collaboration and partnership. His background as a PE teacher, Athletic Director, Administrator, and basketball coach in Watts shapes how he works to disrupt harmful power dynamics and foster progress.

As the Vice President of Community at UpMetrics, he helps partners leverage information and relationships to accelerate their goals. Passionate about uplifting communities, Stephen serves on the board of A Reason To Survive, Positive Coaching Alliance San Diego, and is the board chair for MENTOR California. He lives in San Diego with his wife, three daughters and dog Malibu.





# Brenda Solórzano

*she/her/ella*

## President & CEO of the California Endowment

A self-proclaimed change maker, Brenda Solórzano is known as a leader focused on continual learning while making time to play and enjoy life. Solórzano is the President and CEO of The California Endowment. She was appointed to the position in 2024. This is a return for Brenda, after working at the Endowment early in her philanthropic career.

Brenda began her career in advocacy circles and has continued to ensure community voice remains at the center of her philanthropic work. She is a nationally recognized leader in trust-based philanthropy, a values-driven approach that advances equity, shifts power, and builds mutually accountable relationships between funders and nonprofits. As a founding member of the movement, Brenda understands that democratizing philanthropy, putting the community at the center, and building trusted partnerships and relationships are critical to ensuring positive and healthy change.





# Mark Tran

*he/him*

## **Program Manager at the California Endowment *Catalyst Board Member***

Mark Tran is a Program Manager with The California Endowment. He joined TCE in January of 2016 and currently manages Special Projects for the Programs & Partnerships Department, which is responsible for the development and execution of The California Endowment's strategic plan, to help achieve racial equity in health in California. Programs & Partnerships achieves this through team-based learning, visioning, strategic planning, and strategic grant making.

Mark's background in community development work began years earlier with his post-Hurricane Katrina experience in East Biloxi, Mississippi. For two years, Mark received his grounding in community development and community organizing; working with the historic Black and Vietnamese American communities of East Biloxi.





# Sam Tsoi

*he/him*

## Director of Leadership & Professional Development, Nonprofit Institute at University of San Diego

Samuel Tsoi is the Director of Leadership & Professional Development at the Nonprofit Institute at University of San Diego (USD), where he designs and facilitates leadership and capacity-building programs for social impact organizations and leaders. He also coaches changemakers and teaches nonprofit advocacy at the USD School of Leadership and Education Sciences.

Throughout his career, Samuel is a changemaker, civic catalyst and policy advocate. He built cross-sector coalitions in various local, state and federal-level policy arenas, and consulted organizations on their equity journeys and projects across nonprofits, philanthropy and government. He previously led research, strategy and communications initiatives at across civil society and higher education, including Alliance San Diego, County of San Diego, Citizen University, and the 21st Century China Center at UC San Diego. He also co-founded Welcoming San Diego, a collective impact initiative to advance immigrant inclusion and belonging.





# Loretta Turner

*she/her*

## Founder of Do Good Leadership Collective

Loretta is known for her passion for empowering individuals and organizations that are dedicated to making their corners of the world a better place. She is an exceptional conscious social entrepreneur, leadership coach, and advocate for talent justice and workplace wellbeing. As the Founder of Do Good Leadership Collective, Loretta's work focuses on helping nonprofit professionals prioritize healing, endurance, and wellbeing in their work.

She brings nearly 15 years of experience as both a nonprofit leader and wellness practitioner to her work, alongside a deep connection to intuition. Loretta believes in helping the helpers, and knows that sustainable impact is only possible when we center care for ourselves and those around us.