

# Economic and Community Advisory Council

2025 COUNCIL MEMBERS





## **Loree D. Jones Brown**

*ECAC Chair*

*Chief Executive Officer*

**Philabundance**

Loree D. Jones Brown is the chief executive officer of Philabundance, a hunger relief agency serving nine counties across southeastern Pennsylvania and southern New Jersey. She formerly served as managing director of the City of Philadelphia, chief of staff for Rutgers University–Camden, and chief of external affairs for the School District of Philadelphia.

In her current role, Jones Brown represents Philabundance on the boards of Feeding Pennsylvania and Hunger-Free Pennsylvania. She also serves on the boards of Jefferson Health Plans, the Independence Foundation, and Eisenhower Fellowships. She formerly served on the boards of Project HOME, Philadelphia Health Partnership, the Committee of Seventy, the Police Athletic League, the World Affairs Council of Philadelphia, Operation Understanding Philadelphia, the Philadelphia City Planning Commission, and the African American Museum in Philadelphia.

Jones Brown has been recognized for her dedication to public service. She has participated in two international fellowship programs: Eisenhower Fellowships and the British-American Project.

Jones Brown earned a master's degree from Princeton University and a bachelor's degree from Spelman College.



## **Steve Voskuil**

*ECAC Vice Chair*

*Chief Financial Officer*

**The Hershey Company**

Steve Voskuil is the chief financial officer of The Hershey Company. In his role, Voskuil leads the company's global finance and IS organizations, including financial planning and analysis, accounting and reporting, tax, treasury, internal audit, and investor relations.

Voskuil joined Hershey from Avanos Medical, a global medical device company, where he had served as chief financial officer since 2014. Voskuil also worked for 23 years at Kimberly-Clark Corporation, a Fortune 500 global consumer products company. During that time, he served in various leadership roles, where he gained extensive financial, operational, and leadership experience.

Voskuil earned a master's degree from the Stanford Graduate School of Business, Palo Alto, and a bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin–Madison.



## **Laura Ducceschi**

***President and CEO***

**Scranton Area Community Foundation**

Laura Ducceschi has been president and chief executive officer of the Scranton Area Community Foundation (SAF) since 2012. She manages over 320 charitable funds and four foundations with more than \$90 million in total assets and oversees the SAF's philanthropic asset development, which has provided more than \$30 million through the years to support charitable causes in northeastern Pennsylvania.

Ducceschi has spearheaded many initiatives, including the Center for Community Leadership and Nonprofit Excellence; NEPA Moves; Women in Philanthropy; NEPA Thrives; the NEPA Animal Welfare Collaborative; the Careers in Care health workforce program; and NEPA Gives, a 24-hour regional giving day.

Ducceschi has received the Executive Mentorship Award from the Allan P. Kirby Center at Wilkes University in 2018, the Excellence in Diversity Award from Penn State Scranton in 2019, the Founder's Award from Meals on Wheels of NEPA in 2022, and the ATHENA Leadership Award from the Greater Scranton Chamber of Commerce in 2023. She was also recognized by *City & State Pennsylvania* as a member of the 2022 Pennsylvania Nonprofit Power 100. Ducceschi serves as a member of the Geisinger Advisory Board, a trustee on the Scranton Life Board, and a board member of the Estate Planning Council of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Ducceschi has an M.B.A. in organizational management from Drexel University's Lebow College of Business, a master's degree in communication from the Annenberg School for Communication at the University of Pennsylvania, and a bachelor's degree in communication from the University of Scranton, from which she graduated summa cum laude. She completed her Chartered Advisor in Philanthropy (CAP) certification and is a Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE). She also holds certificates in change management from Cornell University, design thinking from Harvard Extension School, executive presence and influence from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, and nonprofit board governance from BoardSource.



## **Jose Garces**

***Chef and Chief Culinary Officer***

**The Garces Group**

Chef Jose Garces, chief culinary officer of the Garces Group, is known as a leading culinary authority of Spanish and Latin-American food. He is a 2009 winner of the James Beard Foundation's prestigious Best Chef, Mid-Atlantic award and one of eight chefs in the country to hold the title of Iron Chef. In addition, Garces is the author of two cookbooks, *Latin Evolution* and *The Latin Road Home*.

Garces, a child of immigrants and a leader in the diverse and inclusive hospitality industry, has always held the well-being of his community in Philadelphia dear to his heart. To help provide ongoing and actionable assistance to the immigrant community in Philadelphia, he cofounded the Garces Foundation in 2011. The foundation provides services such as community health days, English language skills classes that target the restaurant industry, and food supplies to the food insecure.



## **John Grady**

***Senior Vice President and Northeast Region Executive***

**Wexford Science & Technology, LLC**

John Grady is a senior vice president and Northeast region executive with Wexford Science & Technology, a real estate development company that partners with universities, academic medical centers, and research institutions to develop mixed-use knowledge communities nationally. Since joining the company in 2020, he has helped create and grow communities in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, and additional locations across the Northeast.

Grady has more than 35 years of experience building and managing public-private partnerships and developments. Before joining Wexford, he was president and CEO of the Philadelphia Industrial Development Corporation, and he had previously served in a variety of roles at Cooper's Ferry Development Association.

Grady is a trustee at La Salle University and a member of the board of directors of PECO. He also serves on the CEO Council for Growth, the board of the Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce, the board of the Philadelphia Convention and Visitor's Bureau, the Innovation Advisory Board at the University of Pennsylvania's Abramson Cancer Center, the board of directors at the University City District, and the Government Affairs Committee of the Philadelphia chapter of the National Association of Industrial and Office Properties.

Grady has a master's in public administration from the University of Pennsylvania and a bachelor's degree in economics from La Salle University.



## **Jesse McCree**

***Chief Executive Officer***

**SCPa Works**

Jesse McCree is chief executive officer of SCPa Works, a regional workforce development board. SCPa Works' mission is to unlock the human talent that drives the development of businesses and individuals.

With more than 15 years of executive leadership experience in the nonprofit and private sectors, McCree has built and scaled strategic partnerships at the intersection of the future of learning and work. He leads SCPa Works' efforts to invest in, evaluate, and advance high-impact workforce development programs that drive economic mobility in partnership with business, education, and economic development providers.

McCree has managed and implemented more than \$100 million in local, state, and federal grants in support of workforce development initiatives. He serves on various national boards, including the U.S. Conference of Mayors Workforce Development Council.

McCree has a master's degree in public administration from Cornell University, a bachelor's degree in government and legal studies from Bowdoin College, and executive education certificates from Harvard Kennedy School and Harvard Business School.



## **Warren E. Moore**

***Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer***

**Inspira Health**

Warren E. Moore was appointed executive vice president and chief operating officer of Inspira Health in 2021. He oversees operations across the network's hospitals, health centers, and outpatient locations.

Before joining Inspira Health, Moore spent 23 years at RWJ Barnabas Health, most recently as CEO of Children's Specialized Hospital and senior vice president of pediatric services. He was previously executive vice president and chief operating officer of Children's Specialized Hospital and the chief administrative officer of Bristol-Myers Squibb Children's Hospital at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital.

Moore is a member of the HRET Board of Trustees, the HBS Board of Trustees, and the NJHA Finance Committee. He previously served on the Children's Hospital Associations Quality and Safety Committee, the New Jersey Council of Children's Hospitals Leadership Committee, and the New Jersey Innovation Institute External Advisory Board.

His has received many honors, including the Healthcare Institute of New Jersey Patient Advocate Award and the Rider University Distinguished Alumni Harold L. Conover Leadership Award.

Moore earned a master's in health and human services administration from Rider University and a bachelor of science in business management from the University of Maryland. He is a fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives (FACHE).



## **Mike Renna**

***President and CEO***

**South Jersey Industries**

Mike Renna is the president and chief executive officer of South Jersey Industries (SJI). In his current role, Renna promotes New Jersey's vision of working toward a clean energy future, while delivering safe, reliable, and affordable clean energy to over 700,000 natural gas customers. Prior to his leadership role at SJI, he was president of South Jersey Energy Solutions and South Jersey Energy, the region's largest energy marketer.

Renna serves on various boards of directors, including the New Jersey Chamber of Commerce and Choose New Jersey. Renna also is a member of the steering committee for the William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy at Stockton University, participates in the University of Delaware's Student Mentoring Program, sits on the board of trustees for the Hun School of Princeton, and is a member of the Jefferson Health New Jersey Business Council.

He earned a master of business administration degree from Cornell University and a bachelor's degree from the University of Delaware.



## **Peter Ruggiero**

***President and CEO***

**Crayola**

Peter Ruggiero is the president and chief executive officer of Crayola, the leading consumer products brand in the children's creative expression category. He is responsible for all aspects of Crayola's global business, providing strategic direction and vision for the company and brand.

Ruggiero began his career with accounting firm Deloitte & Touche before transitioning to Union Pacific Corporation. He joined Crayola in 1997 and evolved through multiple leadership positions, most recently serving as chief operating officer, before moving into his current role. Ruggiero has been a key member of a senior leadership team that has built Crayola into an innovation company and enabled the expansion of Crayola's U.S. and international business units. Under his leadership, Crayola's global supply chain has been transformed and expanded with enhanced networks, the automation of U.S. manufacturing, and the execution of numerous sustainability initiatives.

Lehigh University honored him in 2012 with its inaugural Global Impact Award. He serves on the board of United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley and as a trustee of Lafayette College.

Ruggiero earned an M.B.A. from Lehigh University and graduated with an accounting degree from Villanova University.



## **Brian Schaller**

***President***

**Wawa, Inc.**

Brian Schaller is president of Wawa, Inc., which owns and operates more than 1,100 convenience stores in 13 states. He leads the finance, store operations, fuel, site acquisition, construction, facilities, supply chain, and strategic sourcing functions for the company. Since joining Wawa in 2002, he has held several leadership roles before rising to his current position in 2023.

Previously, Schaller worked at Deloitte and Touche as a manager in the audit and assurance practice in Princeton, NJ, specializing in the audit of financial service companies.

Schaller serves on the board of directors of the Wawa Associates in Need Fund, which assists employees affected by catastrophic events, and the board of directors of Vybe Urgent Care.

Schaller has a master's of business administration from Villanova University and a bachelor of science in accounting from LaSalle University. He has been a licensed certified public accountant in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania since 1999.



## **Leslie Smallwood-Lewis**

***Chief Operating Officer and Cofounder***

**Mosaic Development Partners**

Leslie Smallwood-Lewis is chief operating officer and cofounder of Mosaic Development Partners. Mosaic is a Philadelphia-based, minority-certified, commercial real estate development and project management company.

Mosaic primarily focuses on the ground-up development and adaptive reuse of commercial properties in underserved urban communities. Since 2012, Mosaic and its partners have secured and invested more than \$500 million in Philadelphia neighborhoods, which has led to the creation of hundreds of construction jobs and other full-time positions, the elimination of more than 1 million square feet of blight, and additional investment in those communities and in BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and people of color) businesses. In 2020, Mosaic was awarded the rights to codevelop the Philadelphia Navy Yard, a 20-year, mixed-use redevelopment.

Smallwood-Lewis previously worked at the Goldenberg Group, a real estate development firm, where she rose to the position of senior vice president of development. While there, she led the development of a \$50 million, 342,000-square-foot shopping center in West Philadelphia. She also spearheaded a program with community support that successfully acquired and relocated private residences. Before joining the Goldenberg Group, Smallwood-Lewis practiced civil defense law at a Philadelphia firm.

Smallwood-Lewis earned a law degree from Villanova University's Charles Widger School of Law and a bachelor's degree in psychology from Brown University.



## **Bill Wafford**

***Chief Administrative Officer and Chief Financial Officer***

**QVC Group**

Bill Wafford joined QVC Group in 2023 as the chief financial officer and was appointed chief administrative officer in 2024. Wafford oversees the company's transformation office and global financial activities, which include tax, controllership, internal audit, financial communications, financial planning, and treasury for all markets and brand units.

Wafford has more than 25 years of experience in corporate finance, management consulting, and executive leadership across retail, consumer goods, and digital commerce businesses. Before QVC Group, he was chief financial officer at Everlane, a digitally native apparel brand. Previously he served as chief financial officer for retail companies JCPenney and The Vitamin Shoppe, was a partner in the advisory practice group at KPMG, and held various executive roles with Walgreens Boots Alliance and Target.

Wafford is a board member and the Audit Committee chairman for Jushi Holdings Inc. He earned an M.B.A. from the Kelley School of Business at Indiana University and a bachelor's degree from University of California, Riverside.



## Council Leadership



**Patrick T. Harker**

*President and CEO*

**Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia**

Patrick T. Harker took office on July 1, 2015, as the 11th president and chief executive officer of the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia. He was reappointed for his second five-year term effective March 1, 2021. In this role, Harker participates on the Federal Open Market Committee, which formulates the nation's monetary policy.

As an engineer by training, Harker has continued to apply his research and receive patents throughout his career. He considers the effect of automation on the labor force as “the perfect intersection” of engineering and economics. Other technological influences, including artificial intelligence and machine learning, are also playing a part in the Third District's and the nation's economy. By focusing on economic mobility, one of the Bank's research priorities, the Bank's researchers are looking for ways to create sustained, inclusive growth through practical applications. Targeting such research to the employment field can help workers, communities, and industries plan for inevitable disruptions by connecting workers to training programs while encouraging discussions on the skills that are vital to a constantly changing market.

Before taking office at the Philadelphia Fed, Harker was the 26th president of the University of Delaware. He was also a professor of business administration at the university's Alfred Lerner College of Business and Economics and a professor of civil and environmental engineering at the College of Engineering.

Before joining the University of Delaware in 2007, Harker was dean and Reliance Professor of Management and Private Enterprise at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. Prior to being appointed dean in 2000, Harker was the Wharton School's interim dean and deputy dean as well as the chair of its Operations and Information Management Department. In 1991, he was the youngest faculty member in Wharton's history to be awarded an endowed professorship as UPS Transportation Professor of the Private Sector. He has published/edited nine books and more than 100 professional articles. From 1996 to 1999, he served as editor-in-chief of the journal *Operations Research*.

In 2012, Harker was named a fellow of the Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences (INFORMS) and a charter fellow of the National Academy of Inventors. He was also named a White House fellow by President George H. W. Bush in 1991 and was a special assistant to FBI Director William S. Sessions from 1991 to 1992.

Harker is a board member of both the Chamber of Commerce for Greater Philadelphia and its Select Greater Philadelphia Council. He is also a board member at the Science Center in Philadelphia. Previously, he was on the boards of Catholic Relief Services, Pepco Holdings, Inc., and Huntsman Corporation and was a founding member of the board of advisors for Decision Lens, Inc. He was also a nonbanking Class B director of the Philadelphia Fed from 2012 to 2015. Harker has a Ph.D. in civil and urban engineering, an M.A. in economics, and an M.S.E. and B.S.E. in civil engineering, all from the University of Pennsylvania.





## **Jeanne R. Rentezelas**

***First Vice President and Chief Operating Officer***

**Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia**

Jeanne R. Rentezelas was appointed first vice president and chief operating officer at the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, effective November 16, 2023.

Previously, Rentezelas was senior vice president and general counsel, overseeing the Bank's Legal Department as well as Law Enforcement. Before she joined the Bank on June 21, 2010, Rentezelas was counsel at the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) in Washington, D.C. She actively participated in briefing FDIC Chairman Sheila Bair and represented the FDIC in federal interagency meetings, including serving on the Payment Fraud Working Group and President Barack Obama's Nondiscrimination Working Group.

Prior to working at the FDIC, Rentezelas was of counsel with Stradley Ronon Stevens & Young, LLP, in Cherry Hill, NJ, where she advised banks and other financial institutions on various financial regulatory matters. Before that, she was vice president and senior assistant counsel with Popular Financial Holdings, Inc. of Marlton, NJ. She was also an associate in the Financial Services Department of the Philadelphia office of Blank Rome, LLP, and a law clerk to Federal Magistrate Judge M. Faith Angell.

Rentezelas is a graduate of the Rutgers University School of Law and Cornell University.



## **Deborah L. Hayes**

***Senior Vice President***

***Corporate Affairs***

**Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia**

Deborah L. Hayes joined the Bank in January 2016 as senior vice president of corporate affairs, overseeing the Bank's communications and digital engagement strategy and its community development and regional outreach efforts. In addition, she directs the Bank's outreach efforts to legislative, business, banking, and community groups and manages the Bank's Economic and Community Advisory Council.

Previously, Hayes was the vice president of communications and public affairs for the University of Delaware from 2013 to 2016 and was the managing director of communications for The Pew Charitable Trusts from 2002 to 2011. She was also a founding partner and president of media strategies for the New York-based firm Westhill Partners from 1999 to 2002 and led all communications efforts for Oprah Winfrey/Harpo Productions in Chicago from 1994 to 1999. Before that, she held a senior position at MTV Networks in New York City and developed the company's internal and external communications. She has also provided communications counsel on Capitol Hill and has served as press secretary for Congressman Richard Gephardt.

Hayes is a former board member of the Monell Chemical Senses Center in Philadelphia, where she chaired its Development and Communications Committee. She was also selected to serve as a regional judge for the White House Fellows Program in 2011. Hayes has a B.A. in English literature from Tennessee State University.



## **Erin Mierzwa**

***Assistant Vice President, Strategic Outreach & Engagement  
Community Development and Regional Outreach  
Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia***

Erin Mierzwa and her team play a key role in helping the Philadelphia Fed fulfill its mission to safeguard the financial system and foster a strong regional and overall economy. Mierzwa builds relationships with banking, nonprofit, and community leaders and others in the District. She is responsible for setting the strategy for the financial institutions and community development outreach divisions and implementing innovative programs across the District to respond to needs and challenges identified. She also oversees the Bank's Community Depository Institutions Advisory Council and Economic and Community Advisory Council. Mierzwa sees her role as one that brings partners together to find ways to promote economic opportunity and revitalize communities.

A career highlight for Mierzwa was working with a diverse group of leaders in northeastern Pennsylvania during the first Research in Action Lab. The Bank offered data and research and brought together representatives from different sectors to help them think through solutions to increasing access to transportation — particularly for low-income people — in the region.

Previously, Mierzwa worked for Towers Perrin, a benefits consulting firm, where she specialized in health and welfare benefits for large companies. She helped companies renew their benefits, managed account activities, analyzed health-care trends, designed and priced health-care plans, and developed communication strategies.

Mierzwa has a master's degree in economics and a bachelor's degree in English from Lehigh University. She was formerly a licensed life and health insurance broker in the state of New Jersey.



## **Bond Kraemer**

***Senior Planning & Operations Manager  
Community Development and Regional Outreach  
Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia***

Bond Kraemer is a senior planning and operations manager in our Community Development and Regional Outreach Department. In this role, Kraemer plans key programs and events with internal and external partners to identify and respond to industry and community needs.

Kraemer manages the Bank's Community Depository Institutions Advisory Council and the Economic and Community Advisory Council. Her work with advisory council members is important to ensure Bank senior leadership engages with and learns from diverse business, community, and financial service leaders in our District. The councils play a vital role in informing Bank leadership and the Board of Governors about emerging business and economic trends.

A highlight of Kraemer's work is being part of a committee that developed and implemented an annual Future Bankers and Professionals program for high school students in Camden, NJ, to build skills in banking and financial services and introduce them to potential career paths.

Kraemer joined the Bank in 1990 as a finance analyst in accounting. Her past roles include a marketing and automation coordinator and an account executive working with financial institutions to implement Fed services. She has B.S. in finance and marketing from Drexel University.

## Senior Advisors



### **Kelly Scott Jones**

***Senior Vice President of Human Resources and Director of  
the Office of Minority and Women Inclusion***  
**Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia**

Kelly Scott Jones is senior vice president of Human Resources at the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia.

Jones has more than 25 years of experience in multiple industries. He was most recently head of people and inclusion at Alleghany Corporation. Previously, he worked at Aramark, where he held several leadership roles, including line of business president and senior vice president of human resources and diversity. In addition to these roles, Jones was the executive sponsor of Aramark's African American Employee Resource Group and was instrumental in raising funds in support of the Philadelphia Eagles Autism Challenge. He also held human resources leadership roles at Lockheed Martin and Wyeth Pharmaceuticals.

Jones has a master's degree from Rutgers University and a bachelor's degree from Temple University.



### **Theresa Y. Singleton**

***Senior Vice President and Community Affairs Officer  
Community Development and Regional Outreach***  
**Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia**

Theresa Y. Singleton is senior vice president of the Community Development and Regional Outreach Department at the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia and the Bank's community affairs officer. Singleton is responsible for overseeing research and outreach initiatives that promote community development and fair and impartial access to credit. She has guided the creation and implementation of the Economic Growth & Mobility Project. Singleton also oversees the Bank's Financial Institutions Relations efforts that serve to connect the Reserve Bank with lending institutions across the Third District.

Before joining the Bank, Singleton was the director of research and information at the Housing Assistance Council in Washington, D.C. In that role, she was responsible for the organization's research and information activities, including oversight of the communications and public relations functions. She also developed and managed the council's research agenda. In addition, she directed and contributed to research and information products that examined demographic trends, assessed policy impacts, and developed recommendations for rural communities.

Prior to her work on rural housing issues, Singleton taught undergraduate courses on the American political system at Temple University and Widener University. She has a Ph.D., an M.A., and a B.A. in political science from Temple University.



## **William G. Spaniel**

***Senior Vice President and Lending Officer  
Supervision, Regulation, and Credit  
Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia***

Although William (Bill) G. Spaniel started his career as a senior consultant for KPMG, his interest in regulatory compliance led him to a 25-year tenure with the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System. While there, Spaniel held many different roles and was able to serve on the Y2K planning and response committees and to coordinate the System's participation in the first International Monetary Fund Financial Sector Assessment Program review of the United States. He now oversees the Supervision, Regulation, and Credit Department at the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia.

Spaniel started his career in a community bank that placed a focus on outreach and support and has seen firsthand the difference that banks and bankers can make in both large and small communities. He is also interested in how financial institutions support growing and vibrant communities. Fortunately, Spaniel gets to explore much of this interest in his department's community bank portfolio, which spans the Third District. Although he only started at the Bank in 2015, he has already implemented several cultural initiatives in the supervision function.

Spaniel has a bachelor's degree in economics from the College of William and Mary.



## **Patricia A. Wilson**

***Senior Vice President, Chief of Staff, and Corporate Secretary  
Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia***

Patricia A. Wilson is senior vice president, chief of staff, and corporate secretary at the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia. As a senior advisor to President and CEO Patrick T. Harker and his leadership team, she helps direct the formulation and implementation of Bank strategy. She also oversees the Office of the Secretary, which supports the Bank's board of directors and corporate correspondence.

Wilson joined the Bank as vice president and chief of staff in 2015. Previously, she was vice president and chief of staff at the University of Delaware. Prior to that, she was chief of staff and director of faculty administration at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. Earlier in her career, she held administrative posts at the University of Michigan and the University of Chicago.

Wilson has a bachelor's degree in psychology with a minor in education from Newton College of the Sacred Heart (now Boston College). She also has a certificate in higher education administration from Bryn Mawr College and the Higher Education Resource Services, Mid-America.