



Ahsia Badi works at The New York Academy of Medicine where she provides strategic advice to neighborhoods, communities, and civic organizations looking to become more inclusive of older adults. In addition, Ahsia currently holds an appointment from the Manhattan Borough President to Community Board 6 where she serves as Vice-Chair. Ahsia was recently selected to sit on NYC's Advisory committee for Women Monuments and also sits on Bellevue Hospital's community advisory board where she Chairs the Legislation Committee. Ahsia is excited to join Coro to build a greater understanding of the complex issues that impact NYC as well as build capacity to impact change.



Albert Pulido is a Senior Policy Advisor to the Deputy Mayor for Operations at the New York City Mayor's Office. His portfolio includes the City's technology-focused agencies consisting of the Department of Information Technology & Telecommunications, the Mayor's Office of the Chief Technology Officer, the Mayor's Office of Contract Services, and the Financial Information Services Agency/Office of Payroll Administration. Previously, he has served as a senior advisor to the City's Deputy Mayor for Strategic Policy Initiatives, where he advised and managed projects for the Mental Health expansion, the Pre-K expansion, and the City's initiative to promote minority and women-owned businesses. He has a background in writing, data architecture, policy analysis, and user experience design. He received a BA in English from Cornell University and an MFA in fiction writing from the Iowa Writers' Workshop at the University of Iowa. Albert is joining Coro to be a more effective leader.



Alexandra (Ali) Sutherland-Brown is a Senior Consultant at Karp Strategies, an urban planning strategy consulting firm. Ali joined Karp Strategies shortly after its founding and has helped to grow the firm from two to nine people in under three years. She currently leads a cross-sector portfolio, including community visioning for the Lowline, qualitative analysis of an alternative affordable housing model in the Rockaways, and designing a guidebook to explain SoHo's complex zoning. Prior to joining Karp Strategies, Ali worked for the NYC Department of City Planning and the Institute for Urban Design.

Ali received her MCP from MIT and completed graduate work in Urban Studies at UChicago. She holds a BA in History and American Studies from Princeton. Ali joined Coro to learn the tools necessary to amplify diverse voices in order to have actionable conversations about how we design NYC to drive good mental health outcomes. She also hopes to gain additional expertise in leading large, complex, multi-stakeholder initiatives across NYC.



Alison Kwiatkowski is a Vice President with JLL, and serves as the Americas Project and Development Services Team Lead for the Deutsche Bank Account. In this role, Alison guides strategy and project delivery throughout the North and South American portfolio. She holds a MS in Real Estate Development from New York University and a BA in Architecture from the University of Pennsylvania. Fueled by a passion for helping foster the professional development of emerging talent in the New York real estate industry, Alison also serves on the Board for the New York Chapter of CoreNet Global as Chair of the Young Leaders Committee. Bringing ten years of experience in real estate and design to Coro, Alison is excited to learn how she can better leverage her skill set and make a positive impact on the economic development of low-income communities throughout her home city.



Amy Crader is a Vice President and Architectural Historian at AKRF, Inc., a multi-disciplinary consulting firm that integrates environmental, urban planning, and engineering services. Amy's work involves managing environmental assessments for a variety of institutional and cultural development projects in New York City, with most projects involving historic architectural resources and urban design changes. Her interest in New York City covers both its history and its future, understanding the people and places that help to redefine and reshape the City's built environment. Through Coro, she hopes to establish a broader network within and beyond fields related to urban planning and to gain a better understanding of the objectives, goals, and perspectives of other New Yorkers working to ensure a strong future for New Yorkers. Amy has a BA in cultural anthropology from Kenyon College and an MA in historic preservation from Columbia University. She also is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP).



Angie Guerrero is a Strategy Manager at Civic Builders, a non-profit real estate developer that builds and invests in charter school facilities nationwide. At Civic, she has led the design of two innovative financial products for the charter school sector that leverage governmental and philanthropic funds to incentivize commercial lenders to invest in educational infrastructure. Angie's work at Johnson & Johnson, Fitch Ratings and Public Financial Management has consistently focused on financing economic development and infrastructure projects that serve local communities.

Angie was a founding board member of Valence College Preparatory School, and is currently serving as the Board Chair and member of the Governance and Facilities Committees during VCP's planning year. She holds an undergraduate degree from Harvard College and an MBA from NYU's Stern School of Business. She joined Coro to learn about how efficiently deployed public or philanthropic incentives might be leveraged to catalyze change in other public sector areas and to become a more effective change-maker.



Cindy Lou Cuesta is Chief of Staff at Greater Jamaica Development Corporation, one of the nation's first community development corporations, now at the forefront of the revitalization of Downtown Jamaica, Queens. In her role, Cindy Lou helps advance key executive and board priorities while simultaneously leading the I.T/Systems and Communications departments. Prior to GJDC, Cindy Lou worked at several nonprofits--including NYC-based Sanctuary for Families, the Opportunity Agenda, and Community Access--focused on resource development, external relations, and strategic planning. Cindy Lou received her JD from Rutgers Law School and her BA from the University of Pennsylvania. She is passionate about social justice and serving communities through mission-driven organizations, with a particular focus on women and mental health issues. She joins Coro eager to brainstorm with professionals across sectors on how to better operate outside of silos to create a more just New York for all.



Deepa Raghunathan believes access to reliable public transportation is the key to independence and sustainability. Currently a Manager in Strategic Initiatives, an internal consulting group within New York City Transit, she works with the agency's senior executives on high-priority projects, seeking solutions that work within the constraints of a 24x7 system with nearly 8 million daily riders. Prior to this position, she worked in infrastructure finance, economic development, and budgeting. Deepa also volunteers with We Speak NYC, leading classes for immigrants to practice their English and educate them about city services, and Badass Brooklyn Animal Rescue as a dog foster and training coordinator. By joining Coro, Deepa is excited to connect with a network of other passionate individuals who envision a better New York City – though other participants have different paths to improve the city, they are all complementary and all vitally important.



Elana Ehrenberg is the Community Relations Manager at NYC Ferry Operated by Hornblower, where she not only oversees the ferry's government relations and community outreach, but also works to create strategic partnerships with local businesses, civic groups and nonprofits in all of the neighborhoods surrounding NYC Ferry landings. Since its launch in May 2017, NYC Ferry has quickly grown to become the third largest ferry system in the country. Elana received her BA from New York University studying music, but after college she became interested in access to public space and transportation. She previously worked in the New York City Council where she was the Director of Special Projects for Council Member Jimmy Van Bramer. She is also a representative in the Kings County Democratic Party for Assembly District 50 in Greenpoint. Elana joined Coro to explore new ways public-private partnerships can improve the lives of New Yorkers.



Elizabeth Ginsburg is a Senior Program Officer for Policy and Communications at Enterprise Community Partners, a national affordable housing nonprofit. Elizabeth leads communications for the New York market and directs policy campaigns with the goal of advancing legislation and scaling programs that fund and support community development. Prior to coming to Enterprise, she worked in strategy, communications, and advocacy in the private and nonprofit sectors at organizations including Citigroup and the Sustainable Endowments Institute. She also serves as Board Vice President of Community League of the Heights, a community development organization in Upper Manhattan. Elizabeth holds an MBA from NYU Stern School of Business and a BA in Environmental Studies from Brandeis University. Elizabeth joined Coro to build meaningful connections with fellow civic leaders in New York and to gain the skills necessary to effect positive change.



Emilie B. Seif is currently a Deputy Director with Storm Recovery Production at the NYC Department of Housing Preservation and Development. With HPD, Emilie assisted in developing programs that rebuilt housing and revitalized neighborhoods destroyed by Superstorm Sandy. Prior to HPD, Emilie focused on a career in sustainability that included being the Lead Site Supervisor for NYC CoolRoofs where she managed staff and led more than 1,100 volunteers in coating roofs to reduce energy consumption and carbon gas emissions. As a Senior Project Manager with AKRF, she worked on environmental impact statements for projects such as Barclay Center, Hudson River Park, and MoMA. Emilie is a Vassar College graduate. She prides herself on being politically active and an advocate for her community, sustainability, and women's issues. In a past life, she enjoyed being an antiques dealer. She joined Coro to work with other dedicated professionals while honing her leadership skills.



Fahmida Alam is a Portfolio Manager at the Fund for the City of New York (FCNY), a nonprofit established by the Ford Foundation in 1968 with the mandate to improve the quality of life for all New Yorkers. She provides financial management support to 20 nonprofit organizations under fiscal sponsorship, and is also a program officer in the Fund's essential Cash Flow Loan Program. The Cash Flow Loan program provides up to \$100 million per fiscal year in bridge loan financing to non-profit and community based organizations. Prior to working at the Fund, Fahmida was an International Trade Associate at the U.S. Commercial Service in Philadelphia and also worked with children in West Philadelphia as an after school mentor. Fahmida is excited to be participating in Coro to learn more about the nuanced public policy issues in New York City and build her leadership skills.



Gabriel Giles, PE is an Associate Vice President with AECOM, a global engineering and consulting firm, where he leads the planning and implementation of water infrastructure projects. He currently serves as program director for the NYC Wastewater Resiliency Program, implementing \$400 million in upgrades at NYC's critical wastewater facilities to help protect the environment and public health from rising sea levels and storm surge events. Gabriel holds a BA from Oberlin College in violin performance and engineering, BS and MS degrees in civil engineering from Columbia University, and an MBA in operations management from Columbia Business School. Committed to delivering more effective public infrastructure projects, Gabriel joined Coro to develop his leadership skills and broader understanding of the interactions of diverse stakeholders needed to develop and deliver successful public infrastructure projects that benefit all New Yorkers.



Inbar Kishoni is on a mission to improve the conversations governments have with their citizens, residents, and visitors. As Deputy Director of Public Engagement in the Office of Bicycle and Pedestrian Programs at the New York City Department of Transportation (NYC DOT), she manages the Street Ambassador program – a lean and agile group of ten, multi-lingual outreach specialists that has become integral to the way the agency communicates about and builds support for projects. Ambassadors go where New Yorkers go: bustling streets, schools, churches, libraries, senior centers, movie theaters, supermarkets, and shopping centers, and they ask people for their input through fun games and surveys. By being where the people are, the team establishes a presence that builds trust and transparency throughout the planning and implementation process. Inbar is excited about Coro because of its comprehensive and reflective leadership training and its framework to build lasting partnerships with other agents of change in this city.



Jason Autar is a Program Manager for NYC's Department of Youth and Community Development where he oversees a portfolio of community centers in NYCHA developments. Through this work, he supports the non-profit agencies that operate the programs in his portfolio by managing their contractual obligations and connecting these NYCHA communities with additional access to resources. Prior to his employment with DYCD, Jason worked with various populations of young people in the non-profit sector for over ten years. He joined Coro to expand his knowledge of civic issues in New York City and to develop his leadership skills that will assist in offering resources to marginalized communities.



Jenise Jenkins is Director of Operations for the NYC Family Justice Centers (FJCs), an initiative of the Mayor’s Office to Combat Domestic Violence (OCDV) to provide comprehensive, co-located services to survivors of intimate partner violence, sex trafficking and elder abuse. She manages special projects and program initiatives and oversees the administrative operations of the Centers to support the delivery of client services. Prior to this role, Jenise served as Deputy Director of a new Staten Island program and led a multi-disciplinary team of providers from city government agencies and community-based organizations in coordinating services for domestic violence survivors. She holds a Master’s in Forensic Psychology from John Jay College of Criminal Justice. Jenise joined Coro to further develop her leadership skills and build capacity to effect change.



Jerrel Baker is a Lead Analyst in the Public Finance Group at Moody’s Investors Service where he primarily focuses on credit ratings for local governments in the southeast. Prior to joining Moody’s, Jerrel was a Foreign Affairs Fellow with the U.S. Department of State, where he developed and managed programs in the Middle East and Southeast Asia focused on economic empowerment, civic engagement, human rights, and entrepreneurship. Jerrel is passionate about economic development and is an active mentor with Big Brothers Big Sisters of NYC. He is a New York transplant from Detroit and currently resides in Harlem. Jerrel received his BA in Political Science and Economics from Morehouse College and later obtained an MPA from Columbia University. Through Coro, Jerrel seeks to gain a better understanding of the political landscape in New York City in efforts to help promote policies that yield sustainable and equitable economic development.



Jerry Kajpust is the Director of External Affairs for the Leslie-Lohman Museum of Gay and Lesbian Art, the world’s only dedicated museum that exhibits and preserves art that speaks about the LGBTQ experience. Overall duties include managing marketing, media relations, communications, public relations, fundraising, grants, advocacy, outreach, donors, and government relations. He is well-networked and experienced in developing long-term professional relationships. His extensive business experience includes non-profit management, fundraising and development, sales and marketing, training and management development, art and design, travel and hotel industry, and healthcare. He has a MA in Psychology from Antioch University, and a BA in Communications from University of St. Thomas. Building on a lifelong passion for learning, through Coro he hopes to gain a better understanding of how the city works and policy decisions are made, and build on his leadership skills to effectively achieve positive change within the city and his communities.



Jessica Hamerslough is a Manager in Guidehouse's State & Local Government Practice, a consulting group that specializes in promoting long-term economic, environmental, social, and cultural prosperity through sound insights pointed at increasing operational effectiveness. Jessica leads teams to deliver strategic planning, organizational design, process improvement, project management, and change management solutions for her clients. Her work has primarily focused on serving New York City and New York State government agencies within housing, transportation, and technology. Jessica is a graduate of Northwestern University and received her MBA from Columbia University. She joined Coro to gain a deeper understanding of how New York ticks to better address root cause issues and to learn from equally passionate professionals who will constitute the next generation of the City and State's cross-sector leaders.



Jessica Cruz works as a Lead Planner for the Office of the Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. in the Planning and Development Team. Prior to joining the Office of the Bronx BP Jessica held various roles working in transportation, housing, and mental health. She graduated with a MS in Urban Planning from Columbia University and a BA in Urban Studies from the University of California Berkeley. Jessica has worked as a Senior Site Coordinator for Transform where she helped advocate for equitable and sustainable transportation for schools. As Project Associate for the Urban Homesteading Assistance Board in New York City, Jessica worked with tenants of low-income cooperatives. Lastly, during her time at Columbia she interned with NYC Economic Development Corporation and NYC Department of Transportation. Through Coro, Jessica hopes to gain a better understanding of civic issues in New York City, and advance equitable public private partnerships to positively impact communities.



Jillian McLaughlin is the Deputy Chief of Staff of the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA). She previously worked at the New York City Economic Development Corporation (NYCEDC) where she crafted public-private partnerships to drive inclusive economic growth, including an ambitious development that will train New Yorkers underrepresented in tech for jobs within the industry. Jillian also served on the junior board for Enterprise Community Partners, an affordable housing nonprofit. Before NYCEDC, Jillian worked for Michigan Governor Rick Snyder to implement his economic development agenda and the National Consumer Law Center, a think tank focused on policy issues impacting low-income families. She has a political science degree from Kalamazoo College and a MPP from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government. Jillian joined Coro to learn how to create collaborative and productive community conversations about affordable housing, land use, and development.



Jonathan Monsalve is the Director of Brooklyn Justice Initiatives (BJI), a program that provides meaningful pre-trial supervised release and post-plea sentencing options. BJI provides an array of justice reform strategies that seek to fundamentally transform the bail system, sentencing, and the harmful effects of incarceration. Prior to joining BJI, Jonathan worked as a Policy Analyst for the Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center, a national nonprofit organization that provides practical, nonpartisan, research-driven strategies and tools to increase public safety and strengthen communities. At CSG, Jonathan focused on the intersection of criminal justice and employment and collaborated with corrections and workforce systems across the country to promote access to employment for individuals with criminal records. Jonathan received an MS in Criminal Justice from New Jersey City University and is excited to join Coro to expand his network and collaborate across sectors to improve the criminal justice system.



José A. Fanjul serves as Chief of Staff to the Investigation Division in the New York County District Attorney's Office. In that role he assists the Chief of the Investigation Division in the day to day management of six bureaus. Most recently he served as an Assistant District Attorney in the Major Economic Crimes Bureau where he was tasked with investigating complex financial crime. His investigations focused on international financial institutions and securities fraud schemes. During the course of his work he has been designated a Special Assistant United States Attorney and has worked with the Department of Justice, the Federal Reserve, the Office of Foreign Asset Control, the FBI, and the Financial Conduct Authority in the United Kingdom. He has a JD from the Pennsylvania State University, the Dickinson School of Law and BA from Loyola University New Orleans. José joined Coro to develop better ways to impact the New York City community.



Juana Silverio joined National Grid in March 2017. On the NY Downstate Jurisdiction team, she focuses on Customer and Community Management. In this role, she is responsible for managing and resolving the account needs of New York City agencies and Hospitals. Additionally, she serves as the Ethics Liaison for her statewide team. Prior to joining National Grid, she worked at the U.S. Department of Energy as Deputy Chief of Staff to the Office of the Chief Information Officer. A native Long Islander, she holds a JD from Western Michigan University's Thomas M. Cooley Law School (Lansing, MI) and a BA in Communications and Political Science from the American University (Washington, DC). Juana's civic interests include social impact investing and criminal justice reform. By participating in Coro, she hopes to create sustainable relationships and to learn ways to contribute to moving NYC and its citizens forward.



Karina Mangu-Ward has a decade of experience partnering with leading nonprofits, foundations, city agencies, and community stakeholders. At August Public Inc., Karina is an organizational design consultant who helps nurture more creative, self-managing and productive teams. Her clients include New York City's Department of Education, Sundance Institute, Planned Parenthood, PepsiCo and Chanel. Prior to joining August, Karina worked at EmcArts, a consulting firm focused on the intersection of arts, culture and social innovation. Her clients included museums, cultural centers, and performing arts organizations across the US and Canada. Her passion is helping groups tackle complex challenges, navigate ambiguity, and embrace new ways of working. Through Coro, Karina hopes to help transform the institutions that shape our city into 21st century organizations, and expand arts-based opportunities for citizens to co-create the future of our city.



Keri Springett is a Marketing and Compliance Manager at Housing Partnership Development Corporation, a non-profit organization dedicated to the development, revitalization, and promotion of affordable housing in NYC. As the Marketing and Compliance Manager, Keri interfaces with city housing agencies, developers, and NYC residents to facilitate affordable housing lotteries throughout lease-up completion. She is also pursuing her MS in Urban Policy Analysis & Management with a concentration in Housing and Community Development at The New School. Keri's objective from Coro is to explore the challenges and triumphs within the civic issues outlined throughout the program, in an attempt to identify plausible solutions that can be applied to NYC's housing crisis.



Laura Manno has been the Director of Government Affairs for Charter Communications since August 2017. In New York City, Laura oversees regulatory compliance and manages Charter's relationships with key partners and stakeholders across the City footprint. Additionally, she supports legislative efforts and community engagement helping drive national initiatives for the company.

Ms. Manno previously served as Director of External Relations for the NYS Senate Democratic Conference. As Director, she engaged with members of the Democratic Conference on a wide range of issues including policy development, public events, and strategic communications and provided support to members from Brooklyn to Buffalo.

Additionally, Ms. Manno was proud to serve as Campaign Manager for state-level legislative races in 2014 and 2016. Through Coro, Ms. Manno hopes to grow her network among NYC's leading professionals and share in creative ideas with those who are dedicated to the future of NYC.



Leila Tamari is the Senior Program Officer at ArtPlace America. In her three-year tenure at ArtPlace, she co-designed and co-led the National Creative Placemaking Fund, which invested \$86.4 million in 279 creative placemaking projects across the United States from 2011-2017. Prior to ArtPlace, Leila worked with Creative Time, where she led various engagement initiatives and produced a diverse range of major public art projects in New York City – from solo artist commissions to group shows. Trained as a visual artist with an activist mentality, she received her BA from Smith College in Art History with a Museums Concentration. Leila is a native New Yorker and first generation North American. Leila joined Coro to build relationships with others in the program who intend to create positive social and civic change across various sectors.



Lucy Lai Wong is a Program Director in the Public Buildings Division at the New York City Department of Design and Construction (DDC). As Program Director, Lucy manages a portfolio of Capital Projects for the City's New York Police Department. She oversees a team of 10 design and construction project managers who streamlines the delivery of city-owned facilities. She also provides long-term guidance and strategic planning to ensure that the City's mission of design and construction excellence is achieved. Lucy's interest is in change management. She is looking to help implement policies and procedures that will transform DDC to run more efficiently and effectively as an AEC industry leader. She hopes to learn workflow strategies and best practices from her cohort. Prior to joining DDC, she worked as a Technical Architect at SOM. Lucy received a BFA from Parsons, a MArch from MIT, and a MBA from MIT Sloan.



Manasvi Menon is a Senior Strategy Manager at Intersection, an urban innovation company that is transforming how people experience cities with products such as Link, the largest and fastest free public Wi-Fi network in the world. She is a founding member of Intersection's Connected Communities practice, which delivers seamless, coordinated experiences across complex mixed-use environments. Previously, Manasvi was a consultant at WSP (formerly Parsons Brinckerhoff), a global infrastructure firm, where she partnered with city governments, municipalities, and transit agencies to improve performance and service delivery. She has served on the Digital Advisory Committee for the Regional Plan Association's 4th Regional Plan and as a Next City Vanguard Fellow. She holds an MSc in City Design from the London School of Economics and a BA in Sociology from Yale University. Manasvi is passionate about enhancing the economic, environmental, and social efficacy of cities through technology, strategy, public policy, and civic engagement. She joined Coro to connect with civic leaders and develop the tools for effective cross-sector engagement.



Maria Martello is a Manager in Accenture's Public Service practice, where she supports state and local governments, nonprofits, and education institutions through organizational and operational transformations. Maria's commitment to public sector work is driven by her passion to create lasting social change for residents, workers, and communities, as well as her interest in understanding the unique and complex environments in which public purpose organizations operate. Maria's experience working across the U.S. and internationally combined with her formal training as an engineer allows her to bring deep functional knowledge and analytical rigor to all of her work.

Maria joined Coro to deepen her understanding of the civic challenges and opportunities unique to New York City, and to broaden her perspective on the factors that inspire change in the public sector.



Megan Marini is a Social Impact Designer whose work centers on bringing diverse perspectives together for public sector innovation. She is a founding partner at 3x3 Design where she leads teams to design civic programs, services, and initiatives using ethnographic and participatory approaches that advance urban development. Megan has worked in low-resource contexts internationally with partners ranging from the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development to the World Bank and UN. Megan is currently an adjunct professor at Columbia University and New Jersey Institute of Technology's College of Art and Design and has lectured at Johns Hopkins University, IIT Institute for Design, and the New School among others.

Megan holds an MS in Urban Planning from Columbia University where she received the Planning Challenge award for her thesis on technological innovation in Haiti and has a BS in Architecture from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.



Melanie Pettit is the Chief Customer Officer for Motivate LLC, service provider to Citi Bike and seven other bike shares across the country, where she works to ensure a customer-focused attitude from product design to delivery. Previously Citi Bike Chief of Staff, Melanie now oversees the national customer service team as well as all internal and external communications for the company. Melanie started her career as a management consultant for PwC's Public Sector Strategy & Operations practice. She developed a passion for urban mobility while working for a motorcycle startup and while consulting for the NYC Mayor's Office of Sustainability on the city-wide roadmap to reduce carbon emissions 80% by 2050.

Melanie holds an MBA from the Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Ahmedabad, a MSc., Sustainable Development from HEC Paris, and a Bachelor of Urban and Environmental Planning from the University of Virginia. Melanie joined Coro to better understand how different stakeholders come together to solve New York's most pressing issues.



Michael Ohlhausen is Associate Director of Architecture at The Hudson Companies, Inc., a real estate developer that specializes in market-rate, affordable, and institutional housing developments in New York City. A registered architect in New York State and member of the AIA, he manages the design teams for numerous ground-up new construction projects for Hudson, and engages with contractors and city agencies to ensure projects successfully adhere to budgets and schedules. Prior to joining Hudson, Michael worked at Perkins Eastman, Gruzen Samton, and Perkins+Will, working on projects ranging from multi-family high-rise condominiums, to a new training facility for the NYPD. He has a BArch from the University of Kansas and an MBA from the Judge Business School at Cambridge University. Michael joined Coro to develop his leadership skills and to engage with others that have an interest in making positive impacts on New York City.



Michael Rettig is a Senior Account Supervisor at Edelman, a global public relations and communications firm. In his role, Michael develops communications strategies that help companies effectively tell their stories to key audiences. Michael's earlier career includes time at the Brookings Institution and U.S. Department of Defense, primarily centered around international development and security in sub-Saharan Africa. Michael's civic interests include economic inequality, public infrastructure, and the increasingly impactful role of city and state governments in testing and improving new public policies. Michael joined Coro to improve his understanding of the city-level policy process and his ability to contribute to making public goods effective and accessible to those in need, so we can build equitable, vibrant, and inclusive communities. Michael has a Master's degree in international relations from NYU, and a Bachelor's in political science from Pennsylvania State University.



Moira Flavin is the Deputy Director of the Community Based Strategies team in the Division of Prevention Services at the Administration for Children's Services, where she leads research to inform ACS' continuum of prevention services. Moira has extensive experience in nonprofit, government, and social justice work. She spent three years at Citizens' Committee for Children of New York, where she participated in the Campaign for Children, preventing the loss of child care and after-school services for thousands of children and championing the expansion of universal pre-kindergarten. Moira also spent four years with ACS' Agency Program Assistance unit, monitoring and providing technical assistance to prevention services programs around the city. She also served as an AmeriCorps*VISTA in Boston. She has a BA in American Studies from Brown University and a MSW from Columbia University. She has taught child welfare courses at Hunter College's Silberman School of Social Work. Moira joined Coro to develop leadership skills and to connect with a network of civically engaged New Yorkers.



Natasha Cherry-Perez was born and raised in Brooklyn, so NYC is very near and dear to her heart. Natasha's love for children, education, and her community has led her to her role as the Senior Associate Director of Community Engagement at Uncommon Schools NYC. Natasha is also currently the President her block association, steering committee member of her neighborhood garden, and Board Member and Chairperson for Early Learning Advisory Committee Chair of Urban Strategies Inc. Natasha is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. and Delta Sigma Pi - International Business Fraternity Inc.

Natasha is excited about the opportunity to be a part of Coro's Leadership New York cohort. Coro will open up new doors, build new connections, which will enable her to continue to be of service to her community, empower others, and impact as many lives as possible in the city she loves.



Nyisha Howell is Chief of Staff to the Associate Vice Chancellor for Public-Private Partnerships at City University of New York (CUNY). She is responsible for creating and managing several student-based programs and special projects. Programs within Nyisha's portfolio include CUNY Women's Initiative; the CUNY Arts Initiative that includes CUNY Cultural Corps and the New 42nd Street College Corps a partnership with The New Victory Theater. With over 16+ years of Public-Sector experience reporting directly to C-Level executives, Nyisha has held several positions within the Mayor's Office and various MTA agencies (MTA Headquarters, Bridges & Tunnels and the Business Service Center). Nyisha holds a B.A. in Social Sciences from the College of New Rochelle and an M.B.A. in Marketing from Nyack College. Nyisha considers herself a strong advocate for women's equality. She joined Coro LNY to leverage her knowledge of women's issues, and develop skills that will allow her to become a more effective leader and advocate for women in New York City.



Ousman Laast is the Policy and Public Affairs Manager for the New York City Department of Health's Prevention and Primary Care Division. Through his work, he supports the development of Healthcare policy and communications to advance chronic disease prevention initiatives in communities and within the healthcare system. Prior to this position, Ousman served as the Special Assistant for Community Affairs to U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand where he managed statewide policy on Healthcare, Senior, LGBT and Disability issues.

Ousman's commitment to public service was been honed through experience on Congressional campaigns, time spent on Capitol Hill and in congressional district offices as well as travel abroad. Ousman's engagement in the community as a Former Board Member with the New York Urban League Young Professionals, exemplifies his passions for public service, civic engagement and individual empowerment. He is a graduate of Seton Hall University holding a BS in Diplomacy and International Relations.



Prachi Patankar is Program Director for Social Justice at the J.M. Kaplan Fund. She plays a leading role in shaping the Fund’s strategies for criminal justice reform and immigrant rights. Prachi grew up in rural India, where she established a school for children displaced by dams. She previously worked at Brooklyn Community Foundation, helping design and implement grantmaking strategies through a racial-justice lens. She also worked at Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, the Tenement Museum, DRUM, and currently serves on the CAAAV board. Prachi convenes leaders from constituencies across criminal justice and immigration advocacy, and across community-based organizations, public agencies, and philanthropy, to seed innovative projects and collaborations. In this moment of racial-justice crisis and opportunity, Prachi aspires to play an influential leadership role as a funder with long-term knowledge and engagement. She hopes to strengthen her convening and advocacy capacities, informed by Coro trainings and its singular changemaker network.



Preeti Birla is a Director of Technology & Innovation at the NYC Department of Education, where she has been leading work around issues of accessibility and inclusion in technology for education. Prior to her work at the NYC Department of Education, she was on the Sesame Street India launch team at Sesame Workshop. Preeti earned her BA in Telecommunications from Michigan State University and MA in Early Childhood & Special Education from New York University. Preeti is committed to leveraging innovative solutions to address issues of diversity, equity and inclusion in education and has joined Coro to strengthen her leadership skills and build her capacity to make positive change in New York City and beyond.



Rachel Friedman is the General Manager of Logistics Operations for Con Edison Company of New York, one of the nation’s largest investor owned utilities. Founded in 1823 as the New York Gas Light company, the electric, gas, and steam service now provides energy for the 10 million people that live in New York City and Westchester County. Rachel is responsible for managing crane operations, waste transport, treatment and disposal, trucking operations and equipment repair in support of the operations throughout the service territory. Rachel is on the board of Women in Communications and Energy focusing on creating awareness and respect for women in the workplace through personal and professional development. She is also an active board member for the Columbia University School of Engineering and Applied Science Alumni Association. She volunteers with mentoring programs designed for helping women search for employment and have support in the workplace. She is a native New Yorker and wants to make the city a more affordable and family friendly place to live and work. Rachel has a Bachelor’s degree in Chemical Engineering from Columbia University and an MBA from NYU’s Stern School of Business.



Rosamond Fletcher is Director of Programs at the Design Trust for Public Space (DTPS), a nonprofit organization that unlocks the potential of NYC’s shared spaces. She leads strategic execution of DTPS’s programs, including its triennial open call for projects. Rosamond has extensive experience in forming cross-sector partnerships, managing multidisciplinary teams, and engaging stakeholders. Projects include: *Power in Place* with South Bronx Unite, *Opening the Edge* with NYC Housing Authority, and *El-Space* with NYC Department of Transportation. She teaches *Placemaking & Placekeeping* at the Urban Lab, Schack Institute of Real Estate, New York University. Previously, Rosamond produced exhibitions and programs at the Center for Architecture/AIA NY. Rosamond holds a Master of Environmental Design from Yale School of Architecture and a BArch and BFA from Rhode Island School of Design. Rosamond joined LNY to deepen her knowledge of NYC’s political landscape so she can more effectively advance public space with and for communities across the boroughs.



Rose Christ is a Government Affairs Principal in Cozen O’Connor Public Strategies, New York Practice. In this role, Rose offers a full range of government affairs and advocacy services to a diverse array of clients, including not-for-profit organizations, major corporations, local businesses, real estate firms, and associations. Specifically, Rose has expertise in the New York City’s budget process and works closely with clients to develop and implement strategies for securing significant government funding for programming and capital projects. Rose also currently serves as a trustee of the Citizen’s Budget Commission of New York and CBC New Leaders Co-Chair. Rose serves on the Executive Board of Directors of Stonewall Democratic Club of New York City and previously served as 2017 Club President and VP from 2014-16. Prior to joining Cozen O’Connor in November 2017, Rose was a Senior Advisor at Manatt, Phelps & Phillips and previously worked in the Mayor’s Office of Public Information for the City of Charleston, South Carolina. Rose graduated from the College of Charleston with a BA in communications and political science.



Shanell Lockhart is the Program Officer for College Success at New Visions for Public Schools. New Visions provides educators with curricula, training and the tools they need to analyze student performance, diagnose problems and design solutions to improve instruction for the city’s highest need students. Shanell supports strategic planning for the college access and readiness team, including communications, recruitment, systems-building, data analysis, and management of key initiatives. She also provides program and logistical support for all grant-funded projects. Shanell holds a BA with honors in comparative literature from Brown University and a MS in urban policy analysis and management from the Milano School of International Affairs, Management & Urban Policy, The New School. She joined Coro to develop her leadership skills and become a stronger, more knowledgeable change agent in New York City.



Shanti Mathew is a design strategist with a focus on public sector innovation. She is the Deputy Director of the Public Policy Lab, the United States' first nonprofit innovation lab for government. At PPL, Shanti partners with at-risk communities and government agencies to develop more effective and satisfying public services through ethnographic research, human-centered design, rapid prototyping, and formative evaluation. Her prior innovation research and strategy consulting has spanned the public, social, and private sectors. Shanti serves on the young professionals boards of the Brooklyn Public Library and the National Alliance on Mental Illness—NYC. She also sits on the Alumni Association Executive Committee of Choate Rosemary Hall. Shanti joined Coro in order to reflect on the forces shaping New York City, as well as build a network of peers from every borough and sector who are committed to increasing access to opportunities and quality of life in New York City.



Sherri Lane is the Executive Director of Center Operations for NYC's Department of Small Business Services (SBS). SBS's mission is to unlock economic potential and create economic security for all New Yorkers by connecting New Yorkers to good jobs, creating stronger businesses, and building thriving neighborhoods. Sherri oversees the City's network of Business Solutions Centers and Industrial Business Service Providers which provide free services to entrepreneurs and business owners in all boroughs. These free services include business courses, legal assistance, help navigating and selling to government, and financing assistance. She also oversees SBS's Capital Access program which includes managing multiple funds that aim to reduce the financing barriers for under-served business owners. Before joining SBS, Sherri was an Engagement Manager at Deloitte Consulting. Her cross-industry engagement experience includes strategic planning, operating model design, strategic sourcing & procurement, and technology integration. Sherri began her career as a microlender at Accion, providing access to capital for under-served small businesses. She earned her MBA from NYU's Stern School of Business. Through Coro, Sherri is excited to collaborate with and learn from other local leaders passionate about social change.



Stephanie Van Damm serves as the Northeast Community Engagement Leader for Ernst & Young (EY), a region with approximately 20,000 employees in 17 locations. She empowers EY professionals to build a better working world by using their workplace skills to make a difference in their local community. She has expertise in strategic philanthropy and partnerships, developing high impact, large scale volunteer events and board placement. Stephanie has seen the positive and transformative impact that corporations can make in the community while simultaneously developing employees both personally and professionally. She continues to enhance community engagement opportunities at EY by developing and promoting skills-based volunteer opportunities with a focus on education, entrepreneurship and equity in the workforce. Stephanie served on the executive board of the Corporate Volunteers of New York for two years and is currently an active member. She holds a BS in Accounting and Finance from New York University, Stern School of Business. Stephanie is joining Coro to better understand how major social issues are addressed and supported in order to be a conduit between corporate, nonprofit as well as other agencies to help fight some of our communities' greatest inequities.



Stephanie Ricks is the Work-based Learning Program Developer, and Employer Partnerships Manager for The City University of New York's (CUNY) Early College Initiative (ECI). There, she expands the network of employers working with ECI P-TECH Schools, while designing tools and training materials that enable employer partners to provide meaningful skills acquisition and practical work experiences to NYC students. She believes that only through education and goal centered post-secondary planning can the cycle of urban poverty and crime be broken within our communities. Stephanie holds a Bachelor's degree in Criminology, and a Master's in Public Administration. By participating in this fellowship, Stephanie hopes to expand her network, and meet like minded people with the same goals and aspirations to make change within New York City.



Tyler Nims is Executive Director of the Independent Commission on New York City Criminal Justice and Incarceration Reform, an organization that promotes an improved justice system in New York City, including the closure of the jail complex on Rikers Island. Before joining the Commission, Tyler was a litigator at Latham & Watkins LLP, served as a law clerk to US District Judge Raymond J. Dearie in the Eastern District of New York and Chief Justice Sandile Ngcobo of the South African Constitutional Court, worked in-house at Credit Suisse, and practiced civil rights litigation at the MacArthur Justice Center in Chicago. Tyler joined Coro to deepen his understanding of the forces that shape New York City and how to achieve civic change that makes the city a better place for everyone.