



PETER ADEBI

Senior Vice President, Human Resources
Cincinnati Children's Hospital

Peter Adebi is Senior Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer at Cincinnati Children's, a nonprofit, comprehensive pediatric health system ranked #1 in U.S. News & World Report's 2023–2024 list of best children's hospitals. In this role, he leads human resources and plays a critical role in enterprise strategy and risk management, changing leadership, and enterprise business leadership.

Adebi brings more than 20 years of human resources experience spanning the technology, financial services, and healthcare industries. Prior to joining Cincinnati Children's, he served as Executive Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer at Nemours Children's Health in Wilmington, Delaware. At Nemours, he co-led a workforce transformation that fueled significant organizational growth, expanding from 30 to more than 100 locations, increasing revenue from \$500 million to \$2 billion, and nearly doubling staff to over 9,000 employees, while also recruiting numerous executive leaders.

A certified Senior Professional in Human Resources (SPHR) and a Certified Physician Development Coach, Adebi was recognized as Chief Human Resources Officer of the Year in 2023 by the Delaware Valley HR Person of the Year Awards. His expertise has also been featured in multiple professional human resources publications.

Adebi earned his bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Lagos and a master's degree in human resource management from Lincoln University in Pennsylvania. He is also a graduate of the Yale Global Executive Leadership Program.



JEFF ALUOTTO

**Administrator
Hamilton County**

Jeff Aluotto was appointed Hamilton County Administrator in 2016 and serves as the County's Chief Administrative Officer. In this role, he oversees departments and functions reporting to the Board of County Commissioners, including finance and budgeting, development services, facilities and infrastructure, environmental services, economic development, 9-1-1 communications, and key social services. He also coordinates with elected and independent agencies across County government and engages with communities and stakeholders throughout Hamilton County.

Aluotto has dedicated more than two decades to public service in local government. Prior to his appointment, he served for ten years as Hamilton County's Assistant County Administrator, focusing on economic development, facility planning, and operational improvements. Earlier in his career, he managed the Hamilton County Solid Waste District, where he led countywide recycling initiatives, landfill capacity planning, hazardous waste programming, and partnerships with businesses and industry to advance sustainable waste management. He has also held roles with Butler County and the City of Oxford, Ohio.

A credentialed manager with the International City/County Management Association (ICMA), Aluotto holds an MBA from Xavier University, an M.S. in Environmental Policy, and a B.S. in Economics from Miami University. He is also a graduate of the University of Virginia's Senior Executive Institute.



JEFF BERDING

President & Co-CEO
FC Cincinnati

Jeff Berding is Co-CEO of FC Cincinnati, which he co-founded with Carl H. Lindner III as a USL franchise in 2015. With three seasons of record-setting success on and off the field in the USL, Berding led the club's expansion efforts that culminated in its ascension to Major League Soccer for the 2019 season and the opening of TQL Stadium in 2021.

Prior to founding FC Cincinnati, Berding spent more than 19 years as an executive with the Cincinnati Bengals, where he led sales and public affairs efforts. He also served for three years as volunteer president of Kings Hammer Soccer Club.

In addition to his sports leadership, Berding was elected to Cincinnati City Council in 2005 and re-elected in 2007 and 2009. On Council, he chaired the Rules & Government Operations Committee and served as vice-chair of the Finance Committee.

A fifth-generation Cincinnati, Berding was born and raised in Westwood. He attended St. Xavier High School, graduated cum laude from Miami University, and earned his MBA with honors from Xavier University.



LUKE BLOCHER

**General Counsel & Chief Strategy Officer
Cincinnati Development Fund**

Luke Blocher is General Counsel and Chief Strategy Officer at the Cincinnati Development Fund (CDF), a community development financial institution. In this role, he manages legal and strategic functions, including affordable housing lending, New Markets Tax Credit initiatives, and broader community development financing.

Blocher is also an attorney in Taft's Real Estate, Public Finance, and Economic Development practice groups, where his work supports all aspects of the development process. His practice spans acquisition and disposition, land use and zoning entitlements, financing, and leasing, with experience across a range of uses including hospitality, industrial, office, multifamily, student housing, retail, and food halls. He also has deep expertise in public finance tools and economic development incentives, advising both private developers and municipal governments engaged in real estate development and public finance.

Earlier in his career, Blocher served as Deputy City Solicitor for the City of Cincinnati, leading divisions in economic development, real estate, municipal finance, land use, planning, and transportation. He was also part of the executive leadership team in the Ohio Attorney General's Office and served as General Counsel and Director of National Strategic Initiatives for the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center. He began his career at a prominent international law firm.

Blocher earned his J.D. from Columbia Law School and his bachelor's degree in history and political science, magna cum laude, from Amherst College.



LAURA BRUNNER

President and CEO

The Port of Greater Cincinnati Development Authority

Laura Brunner is President and CEO of The Port of Greater Cincinnati Development Authority (The Port), where she has led the organization for more than a decade with a focus on reducing wealth disparities, increasing homeownership, and growing manufacturing jobs. Under her leadership, The Port has become a nationally recognized model for using real estate as a tool for inclusive economic development.

Brunner is known for her bold and innovative approach to complex challenges. In 2022, she spearheaded The Port's groundbreaking acquisition of 194 single-family homes from an out-of-town investor to preserve affordable homeownership opportunities for Cincinnati families. She also launched one of the nation's first social impact bond initiatives by issuing \$11 million to support advanced manufacturing job creation. Earlier in her career, while at developer Al. Neyer, she helped structure a project that gave minority investors a majority stake in the redevelopment of the Vernon Manor Hotel, now home to more than 700 Cincinnati Children's Hospital employees.

With a background spanning 25 years in public accounting, management consulting, and commercial real estate, Brunner brings deep expertise to her role. She has been recognized with numerous honors, including *Cincinnati Enquirer* Woman of the Year and the NAACP President's Award. In addition to her professional leadership, she has served on many arts and social service boards, including as President of the Cincinnati Ballet and as a board member of the Dan Beard Council of the Boy Scouts of America and the Mercantile Library.



JULIE CALVERT

President and CEO

Visit Cincy

Julie Calvert is President and CEO of Visit Cincy, where she leads the region's destination marketing and management organization in advancing Cincinnati's travel, tourism, and convention industries. With a career dedicated to building reputation, driving awareness, and fostering economic vitality, she has become a recognized leader in tourism, communications, and civic engagement.

Before her appointment as CEO, Calvert founded and directed Source Cincinnati, the region's first organization dedicated to global reputation management, and previously served as Vice President of Communications and Strategic Development at the Cincinnati USA Convention & Visitors Bureau. In these roles, she spearheaded award-winning marketing strategies, elevated Cincinnati's national profile, and delivered record-setting convention results.

Calvert's leadership extends beyond Visit Cincy. She chaired Ohio's Statewide Travel & Tourism Task Force during the COVID-19 pandemic, led communications for the 2015 Major League Baseball All-Star Game, and has been honored with the APEX Award from *Black Meetings & Tourism*. She is consistently recognized among the Cincinnati 300 and the Power 100 as one of the region's most influential leaders.

She currently serves on the boards of Destinations International, the Cincinnati Music Festival, and the Hamilton County Commission on Women and Girls. A graduate of Miami University, Calvert resides in Anderson Township with her husband, Chris, and their two sons.



MARKIEA CARTER

**Director, Department of Community and Economic Development
City of Cincinnati**

Markiea L. Carter is the Director of the Department of Community & Economic Development for the City of Cincinnati, where she oversees initiatives across housing, business support, and equitable development. Appointed in 2016, she also administers the city's Equal Employment Opportunity, Living Wage, and Minority/Women-Owned Business certification programs.

A Cincinnati native, Carter began her career in public service in 2007 with the same department before serving as Assistant to the City Manager. In her leadership role, she has championed workforce housing, helping create or preserve more than 1,800 income-restricted units, and has supported small businesses through grants and capital programs. She also leads sustainability-focused workforce projects linking green goals to neighborhood revitalization.

Carter is a vocal advocate for equity, small business growth, and community reinvestment in Cincinnati.



JEFF CRAMERDING

Director of Contract Administration | American Association of University Professors
Councilmember | City of Cincinnati

Councilmember Jeff Cramerding represents Cincinnati with a long history of advocacy for equitable housing and labor rights. Before joining City Council, he served as legislative aid to Councilmember Todd Portune and worked extensively on candidate and issue campaigns across the city.

A labor lawyer by profession, Cramerding is Director of Contract Administration for the American Association of University Professors at the University of Cincinnati. In the community, he co-founded Price Hill Will, a nonprofit dedicated to revitalizing mixed-income neighborhoods. He currently chairs the Equitable Growth and Housing Committee.

Cramerding lives in Price Hill with his three children and their family cat.



BRENDON CULL

President & CEO

Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber

Brendon Cull is the President and CEO of the Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber, where he leads teams that have transformed the organization's public policy, government relations, talent, and marketing efforts. He spearheaded the Chamber's transportation strategy, resulting in a successful \$2 million ballot initiative to increase funding, and managed fundraising and production for BLINK, a \$5 million art and light event that became the largest public event in Cincinnati's history.

Before joining the Chamber, Cull spent a decade leading Government Affairs at The Kroger Co., where he advised executives on policy issues. He began his career in public service as Legislative Director and Press Secretary for Cincinnati Mayor Charlie Luken.

Cull currently serves on numerous boards, including CincyTech, ArtsWave, Visit Cincy, Cincinnati Compass, Workforce Innovation Center, 3CDC, and the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland Business Advisory Board. He is also an elected member of the Clifton Town Meeting and has held past leadership roles with the Mercantile Library and Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority.

A graduate of Xavier University, Cull is a Leadership Cincinnati alumnus and completed the Chamber's Building Cultural Competency program. He is an avid reader, runner, cyclist, and live-music enthusiast. He lives in Cincinnati with his wife and two daughters.



BOBBI DILLION

Senior Manager, State Government Relations
Proctor & Gamble Company

Bobbi Dillon is Senior Manager of State Government Relations at Procter & Gamble, where she leads government relations for Ohio, Kentucky, and Indiana, as well as the company's engagement with local governments in its headquarters city of Cincinnati.

With a career spanning government relations, public service, and legal advocacy, Dillon brings a deep commitment to civic leadership. She serves on the boards of the Ohio Chamber of Commerce, Ohio Manufacturers Association, Visit Cincy, and the Cincinnati Experience.

Known for her strategic acumen and collaborative approach, Dillon strengthens organizational ability to connect with stakeholders and advance shared goals.



DENISE DRIEHAUS

President

Hamilton County Board of Commissioners

Denise Driehaus became the second woman ever elected to Hamilton County's Board of County Commissioners in 2016. A lifelong resident of Hamilton County, she is honored to serve her community in this role.

Driehaus is the Founding Chair of the Hamilton County Commission on Women & Girls, which has driven policy changes on pay equity, access to period products, and combating domestic violence. She also serves as Executive Chair for the Hamilton County Addiction Response Coalition, which has connected countless residents to treatment and supported long-term recovery from the opioid epidemic.

Her leadership has spurred strategic investments in economic development across Hamilton County's many jurisdictions. Driehaus also represents Hamilton County at the state and national level as President of the National Democratic County Officials and Vice President of the County Commissioners Association of Ohio. In addition, she is a facilitator for the National Institute for Civil Discourse and serves on the boards of the Community Learning Center Institute and the Portman Center for Policy Solutions.

Prior to serving as Commissioner, Driehaus represented Ohio's 31st District in the House of Representatives for four terms. She also owned and operated two small businesses, giving her firsthand experience with the challenges facing entrepreneurs. Driehaus is a graduate of Miami University (OH) and the mother of two children. She resides in Cincinnati.



AMY FITZGIBBONS

Vice President, Marketing & Communications
Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber

Amy Fitzgibbons is the Vice President of Marketing & Communications at the Cincinnati Regional Chamber, where she leads the organization's branding, digital growth, and audience strategy. With over 20 years of experience building and scaling marketing initiatives for both startups and large brands, she brings a forward-thinking, growth-oriented approach to regional marketing and communications.

Before joining the Chamber, Amy served as Vice President of Audience Growth at SiriusXM, where she led audience engagement strategies and helped drive expansion efforts. She previously held the position of Chief Marketing Officer at Stitcher (then owned by EW Scripps), playing a key role in the company's sale to Sirius in 2020.

Earlier in her career, Amy worked at American Express, where she helped launch OPENforum.com—a resource platform for small business owners—and led strategic partnerships with organizations such as NAWBO, SCORE, and the "Make Mine a Million" initiative supporting women- and minority-owned businesses. She began her career in growth-focused digital roles at organizations like PhotoShelter and Marigold.

Amy holds an MBA in Marketing & Corporate Strategy from the University of Michigan's Ross School of Business. Off-hours, she's a former Peace Corps volunteer in Nicaragua (2001–2003).



KIM GINN

Chief Program Officer
4C for Children

Kim Ginn is the Chief Program Officer at 4C for Children, a nonprofit in Southwest Ohio and the Miami Valley focused on supporting families, childcare providers, and early childhood educators.

Ginn has more than 30 years of experience in the early childhood education field. She joined 4C for Children in 2004 and has served in progressively senior roles, including Director of Professional Development, Strategic Director of Quality Programs, Vice President of Program Operations, before being promoted to Chief Program Officer in September 2025.

She holds a bachelor's degree from Miami University. In her CPO role, Ginn is responsible for overseeing the full portfolio of programs and services at 4C, ensuring they are aligned with the organization's mission to support adults who care for young children. She also works to strengthen community partnerships and enhance the reach and quality of education and support services delivered across the region.



JOSH HEUSER

Founding Partner | AGAR

Co-Creator | BLINK

Josh Heuser is the founding partner of AGAR, a Cincinnati-based experiential marketing and creative agency that develops immersive brand activations, public art, and large-scale community events. Since co-founding AGAR in 2009, Heuser has helped shape some of the region's most high-profile experiences, including co-creating the internationally recognized BLINK festival. Under his leadership, AGAR has partnered with major brands and cultural institutions to design events and activations that focus on human connection and placemaking.

Heuser is best known as a co-creator of BLINK, the light, art, and projection mapping festival that has drawn millions of visitors to Cincinnati and earned global attention as one of the largest events of its kind. His vision and leadership in developing BLINK have positioned Cincinnati as a hub for creativity and innovation, while showcasing the city's cultural assets on an international stage.

Heuser began his career in nightlife and hospitality, opening and operating bars and nightclubs in Over-the-Rhine after an early marketing role with restaurateur Jeff Ruby. His entrepreneurial roots trace back to his college days at Northern Kentucky University, where he earned a degree in communications in 2001 and first gained a reputation for organizing large events.

Through AGAR and his related ventures, Heuser has been a driving force in Cincinnati's creative economy, known for transforming spaces, fostering cultural vibrancy, and building experiences that bring people together.



BRIAN HODGETT

**Vice President, State Government Relations and Ohio Community Relations
Procter & Gamble Company**

Brian Hodgett is Vice President of State Government Relations and Ohio Community Relations at Procter & Gamble, where he oversees charitable giving, government and community outreach, and legislative and regulatory strategy. Previously, he led government and civic affairs in Massachusetts and New England for P&G's Gillette Business Unit.

Hodgett is deeply committed to civic engagement, serving on boards such as Cintrifuse, 3CDC, REDI Cincinnati, the Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce, United Way of Greater Cincinnati, and the Cincinnati Regional Business Committee.

He holds a bachelor's degree in political science from Ohio State University and a master's degree in political science from Florida State University.



WADE JOHNSTON

Executive Director
Tri-State Trails

Wade Johnston is the Executive Director of Tri-State Trails. An avid commuter cyclist and outdoor enthusiast, Johnston is working to transform how people interact with the built environment and the outdoors across Greater Cincinnati. Under his leadership, Tri-State Trails has grown from a grassroots coalition into the region's leading advocacy organization for active transportation.

One of the organization's most impactful accomplishments under his leadership is the CROWN Capital Campaign, which has raised \$11 million in public funds and \$10 million in private funds to build out a 34-mile urban trail loop around Cincinnati.

Johnston earned his Bachelor of Urban Planning from the University of Cincinnati's College of Design, Architecture, Art and Planning (DAAP) with a focus on multi-modal transportation, Geographic Information Science, and public relations. He is an active member of the American Planning Association and the American Institute of Certified Planners and serves on the boards of the Ohio to Erie Trail and the Mt. Washington Community Council.



KIMM LAUTERBACH

President & CEO
REDI Cincinnati

Kimm Lauterbach is President and CEO of REDI Cincinnati, the region's first-stop resource for businesses seeking to expand or relocate in the three-state, 16-county Greater Cincinnati region. A founding member of REDI's leadership team, she became CEO in 2018 after serving five years as Vice President of Business Development and Project Management, where she reshaped economic development by leading corporate expansion and relocation projects across the region. With more than two decades of experience in both the public and private sectors, Lauterbach has been instrumental in aligning diverse stakeholder interests with long-term regional economic goals.

Lauterbach is active in numerous civic and professional organizations. She serves on the boards of the Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber, Cincinnati Experience, Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky Foreign Trade Zones, BE NKY Growth Partnership, and the University of Cincinnati Research Institute. She also contributed to the Cincinnati region's RESTART Task Force during the COVID-19 pandemic and in 2022 was named to the International Economic Development Council's Excellence in Economic Development Awards Advisory Committee.

Her leadership has been widely recognized. She was named the *Cincinnati Business Courier's* 2021 CEO of the Year for Small Nonprofit Organizations, one of its 2017 Women Who Mean Business, and was twice honored by Consultant Connect as one of North America's Top 50 Economic Developers. She has also been recognized as a Woman of Influence by *Venue* and *Lead Magazine*, and in 2024 was named a YWCA Career Woman of Achievement.



DONNA LAUVER

**Workforce Innovation Network Executive Lead | Hamilton County Educational Service Center
Chair | Greater Cincinnati Business Advisory Council**

Donna Lauver is Executive Lead of the Workforce Innovation Network (WIN) at the Hamilton County Educational Service Center, where she directs regional initiatives connecting educators and employers to strengthen career readiness and workforce development. In this role, she oversees programs such as the Greater Cincinnati Business Advisory Council (GCBAC), LinkedUp Connect, job readiness initiatives, and grant-writing support, helping align schools with industry needs and expand opportunities for students.

Lauver also serves as Chair of the Greater Cincinnati Business Advisory Council, leading collaboration between business leaders and school districts to create work-based learning experiences including internships, apprenticeships, and industry-recognized credentials. Her efforts have been recognized with the Workforce Champion Award, honoring her impact in advancing innovative workforce solutions.

Earlier in her career, Lauver held roles supporting school-business partnerships and compliance initiatives at the regional level, building strong networks that continue to guide her leadership at WIN and GCBAC.

She earned her degree from Xavier University and continues to serve as a resource for employers and educators across the Cincinnati region.



CHARLIE LUKEN

Senior Counsel | Calfee, Halter & Griswold LLP

Former Mayor | City of Cincinnati

Charlie Luken is Senior Counsel in Calfee's Government Relations and Legislation group, where he advises clients on government relations strategies across industries including gaming, banking, and retail. He played a pivotal role in the passage of Ohio's constitutional amendment enabling casino development and chaired the successful 2009 statewide ballot initiative that brought casinos to the state.

Luken's career includes decades of public service. He served as Mayor of Cincinnati from 1983 to 1991 and again from 1999 to 2005, as well as representing Ohio's 1st District in the U.S. House of Representatives. He also spent 24 years in private law practice and chaired boards including the Cincinnati Art Museum, Cincinnati Southern Railway, and The Port of Greater Cincinnati Development Authority.

He is the recipient of numerous awards, including the Cincinnati Human Relations Commission Leadership Award and Cincinnati SPCA Man of the Year. He holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Notre Dame, a J.D. from the University of Cincinnati College of Law, and an honorary Doctorate of Humanities from Cincinnati State Technical College.



MILES MCDOWELL

Director of Marketing and Production | Ride Cincinnati
Assoc. Director Partnership Development | University of Cincinnati

Miles McDowell serves as Associate Director, Partnership Development for the University of Cincinnati's, College of Cooperative Education and Professional Studies (CCPS). Additionally, he serves as the Director of Marketing for a local nonprofit, Ride Cincinnati. Before joining UC, Miles spent time in start-ups, nonprofits, and private businesses, primarily in sales and relationship management roles.

Miles earned his bachelor's degree from UC's College of Arts & Sciences and is completing his Master's in Business Administration from UC's Lindner College of Business this fall.

He and his wife share five children between them. One in grad school, two in undergrad, two in high school, and along with Miles's MBA program, his wife is earning her EdD from Northern Kentucky University. Most of his time is spent studying, attending his kids' extra curriculars, and looking for loose change in the couch to help support all of those endeavors.



PETE METZ

Vice President, Civic & Regional Partnerships
Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber

Pete Metz is Vice President of Civic & Regional Partnerships for the Cincinnati Regional Chamber, where he connects the Chamber and its members to the region's most pressing civic and regional initiatives. He leads efforts on projects such as the Connected Region, Embracing Growth and housing initiatives, the Cincinnati Futures Commission, and the Center for Research & Data.

As part of this work, Metz has championed transportation investments that connect people to jobs, education, and healthcare. He has successfully advocated local, state, and federal policies that secured hundreds of millions of dollars in funding for projects across the Cincinnati region, including the Brent Spence Bridge, Western Hills Viaduct, dedicated support for Cincinnati Metro, record state transit funding, and major investments in the CROWN trail network.

In addition to his professional role, Metz serves on the boards of the Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority (SORTA), the Corporation for Findlay Market, and the OKI Regional Council of Governments, and he is Board President for NEST, Northside's community development corporation. He lives in Clifton with his wife, Becca, and their two daughters.



RALPH “MIKE” MICHAEL

**Chairman of the Greater Cincinnati Region
Fifth Third Bank**

Mr. Michael serves as Chairman of the Cincinnati Region of Fifth Third Bank (Greater Cincinnati). He previously served at the company's EVP and Head of Wealth and Asset Management, and before that as its EVP and Group Regional President. He joined Fifth Third in December 2010.

Mr. Michael received his bachelor's degree from Stanford University and his MBA from the University of California at Los Angeles.

Mr. Michael is a member of the board of directors of the following public companies: AK Steel Corporation, Arlington Asset Investment Corp., and CSAA Insurance Group. In addition to AK Steel, he currently sits on a number of local Greater Cincinnati-area boards, including Cincinnati Center City Development Corp. (3CDC), Xavier University, and the Cincinnati Bengals.



AFTAB PUREVAL

Mayor
City of Cincinnati

Aftab Pureval is the 70th Mayor of Cincinnati and the city's first Asian-American mayor. Raised in Southwest Ohio as the son of first-generation Americans, he has made equitable economic growth a top priority of his administration, along with public safety reform, affordable housing, and environmental action.

Since taking office, Mayor Pureval has guided Cincinnati through a period of economic recovery while advancing key strategic priorities. His early accomplishments include establishing the city's first annual commitment to an affordable housing trust fund, initiating comprehensive zoning reform to expand neighborhood housing options, and launching a program that deploys unarmed mental health professionals to respond to nonviolent 911 calls. Under his leadership, the city has balanced its budget after years of structural deficits and committed to carbon neutrality by 2050.

Mayor Pureval graduated from Ohio State University and the University of Cincinnati College of Law, where he represented victims of domestic violence. He lives near the University of Cincinnati with his wife, Whitney, and their two sons, Bodhi and Rami.



JOE RUDEMILLER

Vice President, Marketing & Communications
Cincinnati Center City Development Corporation (3CDC)

Joe Rudemiller is Vice President of Marketing & Communications at 3CDC, where he oversees communications for the nonprofit developer's real estate projects and promotion of Downtown Cincinnati. His work includes media relations, corporate communications, tenant support, website management, grant applications, and marketing campaigns.

Rudemiller joined 3CDC in 2014 as a Communications Officer and took over communications in 2016 before being promoted to his current role in 2019. Prior to joining the organization, he worked as a Human Resources Communications Consultant.

He earned his bachelor's degree in journalism from Ohio University.



CHRISTY SAMAD

Executive Vice President, Civic & Commercial Space Activation
Cincinnati Center City Development Corporation (3CDC)

Christy Samad joined 3CDC in 2008 as part of the Communications Team after earning her bachelor's degree in marketing and international business from the University of Cincinnati. After four years in communications, she transitioned to the Events Team, where she quickly advanced to leadership roles.

In 2017, Samad was promoted to Vice President of Event Management and in 2018 to Senior Vice President. In 2024, the Event Management and Commercial Leasing teams merged under her oversight, and she was promoted to Executive Vice President of Civic & Commercial Space Activation. In this role, she provides the leadership, direction, and focus necessary to ensure 3CDC's vision for activating civic and commercial spaces is achieved, while also overseeing venue, sponsorship, and advertising sales in addition to commercial leasing.

Throughout her tenure, Samad has managed programming for 3CDC's civic spaces, including Fountain Square, Washington Park, Memorial Hall, Ziegler Park, Court Street Plaza, and Imagination Alley. She oversees the staffing, financial management, and strategic vision that allow these public spaces to thrive, working closely with Communications and Operations teams to ensure they are promoted, safe, and well-managed.



JAKE SAMAD

Partner | Robbins, Kelly, Patterson & Tucker

Chair | City of Cincinnati Planning Commission

Jake Samad is a partner at Robbins, Kelly, Patterson & Tucker. His practice focuses in the areas of estate planning, probate estate and trust administration, business formation and succession planning, asset protection planning, and charitable giving. Jake works with individuals, families, and closely-held business owners to address personal planning issues, to help with the thoughtful transfer of assets from one generation to the next, and to assist business owners with advice concerning general business matters, which may include planning for the successful transition of the business.

Jake joined the firm right out of law school, after clerking during the summers of law school, and became a partner in 2015.

While earning his law degree from the University of Pittsburgh, Jake also received his M.B.A. from the Katz Graduate School of Business.

Jake lives in College Hill with his wife, Amy, and their two children, Jack and Audrey. Active in the community, Jake is helping with the redevelopment of the College Hill business district. He is also a member of New City Presbyterian Church, where he currently serves on the Session.



STEVE SMITH

Principal
Model Group

Steve Smith is Principal at The Model Group, a real estate development, construction, advisory, and property management firm devoted to positively transforming communities in the Cincinnati region. In his role, he contributes to strategic leadership across development, design, and operations, leveraging his broad experience to guide the firm's approach to creating vibrant, mixed-use, and residential spaces.

Earlier in his career—and still in some capacity—Smith worked with Iterum Consulting Group, a startup consulting venture he co-founded with leadership from Model Group and 3CDC, aiming to share expertise in urban development and community-building strategies.

Before that, he served as CEO of The Model Group, overseeing all aspects of corporate leadership, including master planning, project execution, and operational excellence in real estate and construction—guiding the company through a period of growth and transformation.

Smith's earlier background includes leadership at 3CDC, Cincinnati's Center City Development Corporation, where he played a significant role in urban development projects that shaped the city's urban core.

He holds a degree from Northern Kentucky University, reflecting a foundation rooted in regional higher education that pairs with his deep engagement in Cincinnati's development ecosystem.



AMY SPILLER

**State President, Ohio and Kentucky
Duke Energy**

Amy Spiller is President of Duke Energy's utility operations in Ohio and Kentucky, serving nearly 1.5 million electric and natural gas customers. She is responsible for advancing the company's regulatory and rate initiatives while overseeing government relations, community affairs, and stakeholder engagement across the region.

Spiller has built her career at the intersection of law, regulation, and energy. Prior to her current role, she served as Vice President of Government and Community Affairs for Duke Energy Ohio and spent a decade as Deputy General Counsel, where she guided regulatory strategy before the Kentucky Public Service Commission and the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio. She began her legal career in Cincinnati, rising to partner at an insurance defense law firm, and joined Cinergy (a Duke Energy predecessor) in 2003 as Associate General Counsel.

A committed civic leader, Spiller serves on the boards of the 1NKY Alliance, Kentucky Chamber of Commerce, Mt. Auburn Community Development Corporation, and The Port of Greater Cincinnati Development Authority. She also holds executive committee roles with the Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber, REDI Cincinnati, and Cincinnati Center City Development Corp., and is active in the Cincinnati Business Committee, Ohio Business Roundtable, and other regional organizations.

Spiller has been widely recognized for her leadership, including induction into the Duke Energy Business Women's Network Hall of Fame and the YWCA Greater Cincinnati's Career Women of Achievement award in 2021.



AUDREY TREASURE

Vice President, Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber
Executive Director, Workforce Innovation Center

Audrey Treasure joined the Cincinnati Chamber in December 2018 as Vice President and Executive Director of the Workforce Innovation Center. In her role, she has established the Center and its consulting services as a central place to support companies in solving challenges, recruiting new sources of talent, and implementing inclusive capitalism practices that benefit both businesses and the people they employ.

Previously, Treasure served as Senior Director at the Cincinnati Business Committee and the Cincinnati Regional Business Committee, membership organizations comprised of the region's top CEOs. Earlier in her career, she worked as the Advancement and Strategic Partnerships Officer at Antioch University Midwest, Senior Director at Junior Achievement of Georgia, and as a Teach for America Corps Member in Chicago and Atlanta.

Treasure serves on the board of 4C for Children, the Selection Advisory Committee for GreenLight Fund Cincinnati, and the advisory committee for the Center for Employment Opportunities Cincinnati. She is also Treasurer and founding board member of School Board School.

She earned her bachelor's degree in Spanish and Nonprofit Management from Indiana University and a Master of Arts in Management and Change Leadership from Antioch University. Treasure lives with her husband and three daughters in suburban Cincinnati.



MARC VON ALLMEN

Economic Development Manager
City of Cincinnati

Marc Von Allmen is a Development Manager with the City of Cincinnati's department of Community and Economic Development. Allmen is responsible for evaluating and facilitating real estate development projects, primarily in Downtown Cincinnati and the surrounding neighborhoods. He has held positions with other city, county, and regional government organizations with focuses ranging from economic development, transportation, and water utilities.

He holds a bachelor's degree in Geography from Ohio State University and a Masters in Community Planning from the University of Cincinnati.



AMY WALDBILLIG

Vice President, Workforce Development & Enrollment Services Cincinnati State

Amy Waldbillig, MPA, is Vice President of Workforce Development & Enrollment Services at Cincinnati State Technical and Community College.

Before joining Cincinnati State, Waldbillig had a career bridging education, workforce training, and public transit. She served in leadership roles at Butler Technology & Career Development Schools (Butler Tech), including as Executive Director of Customized Training and Special Projects, Assistant Superintendent of Performance & Accountability, and Vice President (Adult Workforce Education). She also worked in public transit management (including with Butler County Regional Transit Authority) earlier in her career.

Waldbillig is deeply engaged in the Greater Cincinnati region through her work with numerous organizations dedicated to workforce development. She has served on boards and committees such as REDI Cincinnati and the Southwest Ohio Workforce Investment Board. She's also been recognized for leadership: among other honors, she received the West Chester Liberty Chamber Alliance Women of Excellence Award.

She holds a Bachelor of Arts in English Literature from Miami University (Oxford, Ohio), and a Master's in Public Administration from Penn State University.



WILLIAM "BILLY" WEBER

Assistant City Manager
City of Cincinnati

William "Billy" Weber was appointed Assistant City Manager in April 2021. He oversees the departments of Community & Economic Development, Buildings & Inspections, Finance, Enterprise Technology Solutions, and City Planning and Engagement; the Cincinnati Retirement Division; the Duke Energy Convention Center; and the offices of Budget, Performance & Data Analytics, and Internal Audit. Prior to this appointment, he served as Chief of Staff to the City Manager.

Before joining the City Manager's Office, Weber was the Supervising Attorney for Development Finance in the City of Cincinnati Law Department. In that role, he concentrated on development finance, real estate transactions, and advising City administrators and elected officials, while also overseeing the operations of the Board of Trustees of the Cincinnati Southern Railway.

Previously, Weber spent several years as in-house counsel for the Local Initiatives Support Corporation, a non-profit community development finance institution headquartered in New York City, where he structured and closed financing for community and affordable housing development projects. He began his career with the Port of Greater Cincinnati Development Authority, where he helped establish the Hamilton County Land Reutilization Corporation and served as Landbank Program Manager and Associate Counsel.

Weber holds a Master's in Public Administration from New York University's Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service, a Juris Doctor from the University of Cincinnati College of Law, and a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from the College of Charleston.



KATIE WESTBROOK

Senior Vice President, Development
Cincinnati Center City Development Corporation (3CDC)

Katie Westbrook began her professional career in real estate development at 3CDC, joining the team in 2012 as a development intern. Since then, she has served in multiple roles across the organization.

Her early work focused on bringing 3CDC's commercial leasing efforts in-house before transitioning to a financial analyst role, where she concentrated on refinancing debt associated with completed development projects. Westbrook was promoted to Senior Financial Analyst in 2015, then to Senior Development Officer in 2016. She became Development Manager in 2019, Development Director in 2022, and in 2024 was promoted to Senior Vice President of Development. In her current role, she oversees the Development Team, managing project staff, underwriting projects, closing financing, and directing construction and completion efforts.

Westbrook has directly managed the financing and construction of several significant 3CDC projects, including the Empower headquarters (\$17 million) and the Court & Walnut development (\$94 million). She is currently focusing her efforts on the redevelopment of the Cincinnati Convention Center, which will include a headquarters hotel and a two-acre park and outdoor convention space.

Westbrook holds a master's degree in Community Planning from the University of Cincinnati and a Bachelor of Science in Geography from Ohio University.