

NAME	EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION	<p><b>Capitol Hill United Neighborhoods mission is preserving the past, improving the present, and planning for the future of Greater Capitol Hill through historic preservation, supporting affordable housing and addressing homelessness, promoting smart land use, and zoning, advancing public safety, and encouraging neighborhood enhancements through volunteerism and community engagement. (a) Why do you think this is important? (b) Please describe how you will engage in this mission.</b></p>	<p><b>Please describe your commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion and how you see CHUN advancing its work as a registered neighborhood organization (RNO) committed to creating fair and equitable representation and a true voice for historically marginalized or underrepresented populations.</b></p>
Sarah Silver Craig	Self Employed, Property Manager & Professional Engineer	<p>CapHill is one of the few places where your address is not a sign of social class. We are a melting pot of ethnicities, socioeconomic positions and education. We are not homogeneous with our neighbors. We can't ignore homelessness or inequities like our suburban peers. I would like to be more involved in the decision making for our community. As a 10 year+ resident I understand the neighborhood and have seen a lot of change. As a professional engineer from Mines, I am trained in problem solving issues such as land use and zoning. As the daughter and caregiver of someone living with dementia, I am extremely interested in building community engagement. As a mother of 3, I am committed to safety and our future. As the owner of a 100+ year old home, I can't help but be an avid preservationist.</p>	<p>CapHill has long been a refuge. It is a home for recovery, freedom from persecution and a place to rebuild. It is the neighborhood where you could love who you love long before gay marriage was legal. I sent my kids to Warren Village, not only because it is a top notch, but because there was no differentiation between the "haves" and the "have nots". My kids played with a diverse group of peers and never knew the difference. Cap Hill is a microcosm of world diversity and real problems. We cannot push it away; this is the real life experience and we are so lucky to embrace it. We can't hide from our most vulnerable neighbors. I would like to use my people skills to help CHUN get an even better insight into community needs and use my technical skills to help CHUN accomplish this mission.</p>
John Deffenbaugh	Senior Projects Director, RiNo Art District	<p>The mission is important to preserve the qualities that make Capitol Hill such a unique and characterful community whilst also acknowledging that sensitive evolution is necessary in order to accommodate contemporary issues including dense multifamily developments, a humane pathway for those without permanent shelter, and increased vehicular traffic. Community engagement is critical to ensure those who cherish the neighborhood have a voice in holistically integrating these issues into existing urban fabric.</p>	<p>In my role as Projects Director at RiNo Art District, which spans several historic neighborhoods, I have been committed to building relationships with local minority communities in Five Points and Globeville Elyria-Swansea. Whilst I am a white male, I am a strong ally to minority communities and have committed to understand their needs and concerns in order to promote these in our own organizational objectives. Only by working together can we achieve greater equity for all.</p>
		<p>I am committed to volunteering my time. Working in the non-profit sector but with a background in architecture, urban design and planning, and private development allows me to provide insight into both community and developer objectives in order to facilitate a balanced outcome.</p>	<p>I believe that boards should represent the ethnicities and communities of colors within the jurisdictions they oversee. This is only possible when diversity is physically represented on a board. I have championed greater representation on RiNo's own boards and would promote the same on the CHUN board.</p>

Gina Rucker	Mortgage Loan Originator, Zap Mortgage	<p>This is a beautiful community and preserving its history, beauty and charm is important for this city and all of its residents. Furthermore it is my belief that we should address the safety issues that have made it tough to walk through our beautiful neighborhoods by working with local officials and law enforcement on ways to enhance safety and protect the community. I worked in downtown Los Angeles in my early career with the LA community redevelopment agency and created a feasibility study with them on ways to enhance, protect and grow the then depressed and fledgling downtown LA. I would love to do the same here in Capitol Hill!!!</p>	<p>As a woman of color with a racially diverse background and family, commitment to diversity, inclusion and equity for all is a part of my DNA and is a deep part of everything I do. I've lived it and been helped along the way and have made it my personal mission to always give back and help others leap forward. I'm a true advocate and fighter for those that are or have been marginally, fully or partially underrepresented!</p>
George Gromke	Development Associate, Hope House Colorado	<p>The Capitol Hill Neighborhoods is a great place to live because of the variety of housing options, the diversity of people who work and live in the neighborhood, and the existing neighborhood character that balances the preservation of historical homes and buildings while also encouraging practical density solutions and neighborhood enhancements. Grassroots activism is of the utmost importance to ensure that the neighborhood continues to be a welcoming and safe community that can pride itself on not just its physical appearance but the housing, work, and recreational opportunities it provides to the residents and greater Denver community. I would love to engage with the mission through community engagement efforts - helping to ensure that everyone has a seat at the table.</p>	<p>It is always important to recognize and acknowledge the darker parts of our history that are inextricably tied to existing conditions and practices. Historical policy decisions like redlining and urban renewal have created barriers based on race/ethnicity, sex, ability, age, and other factors that we must continue to break down to create a more equitable neighborhood and city. Neighborhood organizations have an opportunity and a responsibility to give a voice to those who have been underrepresented, marginalized, or unable to speak up. As a board member, I plan to further advance the efforts around fair and equitable representation that CHUN is committed to and ensure that the organization's voice is truly representative of everyone in our community.</p>
Bruce Mann	LSC Special Projects Administrator, Colorado State University	<p>To promote community and create impactful, lasting change, we must recognize individual interests while promoting and furthering communal interests and goals. We must create space where the idea of community moves beyond just connection to a place where people feel heard, valued, and that they belong. CHUN's mission is important because it works to create conditions where the whole community is valued, and shared goals are identified. I hope to further CHUN's mission through lending my skills and experience in community building, group facilitation, volunteer organization and management, leadership and Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice development and training, communications, research and policy work, data analysis, and conflict resolution.</p>	<p>Working on and valuing diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice is a vital part of who I am as a person, a professional, and a community member. It is work that is never complete; always more to learn and more work to be done.</p>

			<p>CHUN's mission considers and balances the needs of all members of the community. To represent and advocate for all voices and members of the community, it must start with honest, open listening to marginalized and ostracized groups and members. Listening is just one step. CHUN can help amplify those stories, wants, needs, and perspectives in a variety of creative ways. The step beyond that is creating pathways and opportunities for members of those groups to have a 'seat at the table' and speak, advocate directly for themselves.</p>
WAITLIST			
Kerem Szczebak	milehimodern // Associate Broker	<p>I want to primarily focus on the historic preservation and urban planning of the neighborhood. Especially in a "newer" and ever-growing city like Denver, historic districts create a local environmental character which is so much greater than the sum of its parts, maintaining the historic settlement patterns and original fabric helps enable residents to learn about and explore our culture. Simultaneously, urban planning for Capitol Hill and surrounding neighborhoods through more appealing public spaces, more attractive amenities, and more affordable housing is crucial to maintaining it's appeal and livability, especially because it is both so densely and diversely populated relative to other neighborhoods in Denver. As both a Realtor + a resident of Cap Hill, I bring expertise and ds</p>	<p>I am a current supporter/member and former Board Member of Jewish Colorado, a non-profit agency in Denver and central community relations agency of the organized Jewish community in Colorado that works to ensure that Jewish culture remains accessible for all Jews in Colorado, acts on issues of concern to the local community, stewards communal resources, and is both a voice for the Jewish community at the Colorado State Capitol and a partner in building relationships with other faith, ethnic, and stakeholder communities. And as a resident of Capitol Hill, I would like to continue this mission by being a strong ally to other underrepresented populations by educating myself on the privileges that I enjoy to better understand the perspectives of members of marginalized communities.</p>
Carson Bryant	Associate, Economic & Planning Systems	<p>Capitol Hill sits at a critical intersection in the urban fabric of Denver, as it is connected to layers of city history and conveys a strong sense of place. A vibrant neighborhood starts with residents who are deeply invested in cultivating this. I hope to achieve this vision by advocating for policies and practices that enable others to share in this strong sense of place, such as affordable housing and treating the unhoused with dignity -- issues essential to an inclusive, thriving neighborhood. Realizing this vision will involve engagement with the relevant levers of policy and grassroots activism. I bring significant experience with urban planning and housing policy and believe I will have an insightful, thoughtful voice as a CHUN board member.</p>	<p>Capitol Hill is a central neighborhood in a city increasingly defined by rapid growth and socioeconomic stratification. As a resident, I have a responsibility to not only embrace its distinctive sense of place, but to promote a vision of the neighborhood that prioritizes equity to people from all social strata. If Denver is to become a more equitable city, it is imperative that we in Capitol Hill take the lead in advocating for housing and land use policies that promote equity. CHUN is well-positioned to advance the dialog in this city around racial and social inequities. In order to do this, CHUN has a responsibility to amplify the voices of residents who are facing the hard edges of Denver's growth, and whose voices are often drowned out by those with an existing platform.</p>

Christopher Mansour	Retired	<p>The citizens and businesses of Denver who are active in CHUN are uniquely positioned to help shape the debates and move innovative solutions to the challenges. For over the past three decades, I have worked as Chief of Staff for a U.S. Congressman [representing an urban and suburban district], Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar [as his Director of Congressional and Legislative Affairs], and the Solar Energy Industries Association [as Vice President for Federal Affairs]. In those capacities, I have worked with every level and branch of government. I have interacted with many Members of Colorado's Congressional Delegation, and I understand the most effective methods of relating to political leaders in order to achieve our shared objectives.</p>	<p>As the son of an immigrant father, I understand what it means to become an American. The Democratic Congressman I worked for represented a district with an older industrial city and growing suburbs with large Black and Hispanic populations. As the oldest RNO in Denver, CHUN is uniquely positioned to help Denver to be the best possible version of itself. My decades of government experience have required me to work collaboratively with a broad range of senior officials and leaders, in both the public and private sectors. I have been successful in my previous roles primarily due to my proven ability to create, maintain, and grow strong relationships with key decision makers. I want to put that experience to work for CHUN and for Denver.</p>
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