

# Mayor Steve Adler's Community Cabinet



**Brandi Clark-Burton**

Brandi Clark Burton grew up in Austin and has a passion for connecting people, information and resources to promote healthier individuals, families, communities, businesses and planet. As a social entrepreneur she has launched more than a dozen new companies, organizations and first-time city-wide events such as Austin EcoNetwork, Citizen Gardener, Austin CarShare, Food Shift Austin and It's My Park! Day. An active civic leader, she has served on numerous advisory boards, commissions, and task forces, and has been a trusted green advisor to top City leaders. She has also established a reputation as an inspiring public speaker and a powerful agent of change. The Austin Business Journal said, "If Austin had one green ambassador, it would be Brandi."

Brandi is a graduate of Westlake High School, Yale University and Leadership Austin. She has earned numerous accolades including being voted "Best Environmentalist" four times in the Austin Chronicle's readers' poll, winning the International Women's Day Environmental Award, the 2011 Mayor's Individual Achievement Award for Environmental Awareness and the Austin Under 40 Community Service Award, as well as awards from Keep Austin Beautiful, the Austin Business Journal, and others.



**Ashton Cumberbatch, Jr.**

Ashton is Executive Director, Foundations, for the Seton Healthcare Family and previously held the position of Vice President of Advocacy and Community Relations. Prior to joining Seton, he served as Police Monitor for the City of Austin; a partner in the law firm of McGinnis, Lochridge & Kilgore, L.L.P., where he practiced commercial litigation and employment law; and Chief of the Trial Division at the Travis County District Attorney's Office.

Over the past decade Ashton has evolved into a passionate community advocate seeking social and racial reconciliation and equity by engaging in conversations and efforts focused on education - as a member of the A.I.S.D Bond Board; economic development - as the Chair of the Greater Austin Black Chamber of Commerce; civic engagement - as a leader with A.B.B.A (Austin Bridge Builder's Alliance) and Board Chair of CAN (Community Advancement Network) Austin; and thought leadership - as 2015 President of A.A.R.O (Austin Area Research Organization). Ashton has an A.B. in Economics from Brown University and a law degree from The University of Texas School of Law. He's anchored by his faith in God and his wife of 35 years, Jennifer and their four grown children, Graham, Virginia, Benjamin and Elizabeth. Ashton also serves as an associate pastor at Agape Christian Ministries.



### **Honorable Sherri Greenberg**

Sherri Greenberg is a Clinical Professor and Fellow of the Max Sherman Chair in State and Local Government at the LBJ School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas at Austin. Her current teaching and research interests include: urban issues and governance, state government, public finance, technology policy, big data analytics, open government and public engagement.

Greenberg served as a member of the Texas House of Representatives from 1991-2001. In 1999, she was chairman of the House Pensions and Investments Committee and the Select Committee on Teacher Health Insurance. Greenberg served two terms on the House Appropriations Committee, and she served on the Appropriations Committee's Education, and Major Information Systems Subcommittees. Her other committee assignments included the House Economic Development, Elections, and Science and Technology Committees.

She was Capital Finance Manager for the City of Austin from 1985 to 1989, overseeing the City's debt, capital budget, and capital improvement programs. Previously, Greenberg was a Public Finance Officer at Standard & Poor's Corporation. She received her M.Sc. in Public Administration and Public Policy from the London School of Economics and her B.A. in Government from the University of Texas at Austin.



### **Joene Grissom**

Joene Grissom is a public relations and education policy professional with decades of experience in Central Texas. For nearly thirty years she has managed her own public relations and advertising firm, focusing on strategic planning, training, media relations, and leadership and workforce development.

Ms. Grissom spent nearly a decade working for the Texas Education Agency as the Chief Educational Consultant, where she supervised early childhood education professionals around the state. She developed curriculum and state plans and programs for early childhood education.

She has been deeply involved in the Austin community, where she served as President of Keep Austin Beautiful, Chair of the iACT Board, Board Chair of Capital Area Workforce Solutions, President of Leadership Austin, and Chair of the Community Action Network Resource Council.

Ms. Grissom received her Bachelor of Science from Central State University and her Master's in Education from Texas Women's University.



### **Dr. Kazique Prince**

A fifth generation Texan and educator, Dr. Kazique J. Prince is the Founder/CEO at Jelani Consulting, LLC, providing diversity and inclusion services to business, education, government, and non-profit organizations. Governed by a focused vision for the future and fueled by a passion to make a difference in the new global economy, he has considerable experience in the areas of Project & Program Management, Diversity & Inclusion Management, and Cross-functional Leadership Development. Kazique has served on the Kealing Parent-Teacher Association Executive Board and Board Member for Foundation

Communities. He is also Chair for the East Austin Coalition for Quality Education, Education Committee Co-Chair for the Greater Austin Black Chamber of Commerce, Advisory Council Chair for Austin's African American Cultural Heritage District, and member of the Texas Diversity Council's Central Texas Advisory Council. Kazique has taught as an adjunct professor and lecturer at The University of Texas at Austin and St. Edward's University for graduate and undergraduate students. In each capacity, Dr. Prince offers a valuable insight into the difficult challenges and shifting cultural tides that impact Austin children and their families. Meanwhile, he carved out a reputation as a dynamic and comprehensive communicator and trusted adviser.

Affectionately known as KP, Dr. Prince received his Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology at The University of Georgia at Athens, Ed.S. in Counseling Psychology at Georgia State University, Ed.M. in Counseling Psychology at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, and B.S. in Psychology from the Benjamin Banneker Honors College at Prairie View A&M University. He is also a Board Certified Diplomat in African Centered/Black Psychology through The Association of Black Psychologists. Kazique is the father of two teenagers and enjoys playing tennis, cycling, blogging, weight training, dancing, listening to live music, and urban gardening.



### **Frank Rodriguez**

Frank Rodriguez is the Executive Director of the Latino HealthCare Forum (LHCF), a Central Texas 501c3 nonprofit. The LHCF promotes the health and well-being of ethnically diverse communities by focusing on health promotion services through approaches in clinical care, behavioral changes, and social determinants of health. The LHCF provides outreach to the most vulnerable, underserved populations in the Central Texas region. The LHCF raises awareness, conducts research and assists those communities whose needs need to be addressed by the health care system. Currently the LHCF provides Affordable Care Act Insurance Marketplace outreach and

education to the vulnerable and hard to reach population.

Mr. Rodriguez served eight years as a founding Board member from 2004 until 2012 on the Board of Managers of Central Health and served as Treasurer and Vice-Chair for his last two years. Central Health is a taxing public agency that serves the health care needs of Travis County. Central Health maintains a network of health care services and owns Brackenridge Hospital and contracts with health care providers to meet the health care needs of Central Texas.

Mr. Rodriguez is a former business owner for a firm specializing in financial and business planning for both the private and public sector. Mr. Rodriguez has over 20 years of experience in business and project management, finance, economic analysis, business and market planning, and policy and operational analysis. He started his public service career in San Antonio, working for the City of San Antonio in the City Manager's office after completing the Urban Studies Program at Trinity University. He was a former Budget Director for the City of Austin and Assistant City Manager overseeing the City of Austin's operating budget of over \$700 million and capital improvement program of over \$900 million.

Mr. Rodriguez currently serves as Chair of the City of Austin's Hispanic/Latino Quality of Life Advisory Commission. He has served as Board Member of the Sendero Medicaid HMO, Vice-Chair of the City of Austin's Economic Development Commission, Chair of the Travis County Appraisal Review Board, Board Member of the Greater Austin Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Board President for the Mexic-Arte Museum, and President of the Johnson City I.S.D., as well as being involved in other civic and professional organizations.



**Kirk Rudy**

Kirk Rudy is a co-founder and Managing Principal of Endeavor Real Estate Group, a full-service commercial real estate management and development firm located in Austin, Texas. He served as the firm's Chief Executive Officer from January 2009 through December 2014. Prior to starting Endeavor in March of 1999 with his partners, he served as the City Leader for the Trammell Crow Company office in Austin where he worked from 1993 to 1999. There he was responsible for a business unit that included approximately 150 employees and managed approximately 10 million square feet of commercial

real estate.

Mr. Rudy has served as a Board Member of the Anti-Defamation League, on the National Finance Committee for President Barack Obama, and as a Board Member of the Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce and Opportunity Austin. He has served as President of the Real Estate Council of Austin and as a Board Member of the Hill Country Conservancy and Austin Area Urban League.

Mr. Rudy attended the University of Texas and received his MBA and Bachelor's degree in Finance.



**Lesley Varghese**

Lesley M. Varghese is of counsel to Jung Ko, PLLC. She is the immediate past Executive Director & General Counsel of the Asian American Resource Center Nonprofit, a community-based nonprofit formed in 2006 to support the construction of the City of Austin's Asian American Resource Center facility, a municipal bond project.

Lesley has 12 years of broad legal experience that includes public finance, business reorganization and financial restructuring (both in and out of court), government relations, and community development. She has represented a wide range of stakeholders in complex credit facilities and related litigation, including government

agencies, healthcare institutions, lenders, bondholders, trustees and investors. Lesley's pro bono matters have included civil rights cases (in collaboration with GLAAD, NAACP and MALDEF) and counseling community development corporations on finance, real estate and governance issues.

Lesley attended the University of Texas on a National Merit Scholarship and completed her law degree at American University, where she was a Dean's Fellow in Law & Government. She began her legal career in at McGinnis Lochridge in Austin. Lesley most recently practiced at the international law firm of Nixon Peabody, LLP, where she co-founded the South Asia practice and co-chaired the Law & Policy Committee for the Boston Bar Association Bankruptcy Section. Under her tenure, the Law & Policy committee, in partnership with others, successfully lobbied the Massachusetts legislature to amend the state's homestead and personal property exemptions during the mortgage crisis.

Lesley was a 2013 YWCA Women of the Year Nominee and is past president of the North American South Asian Bar Association Foundation. She is a recipient of numerous leadership and professional awards, including the Capital Area Progressive Democrats "Kick Ass Award", the Asian Image Award, the Capitol Area Asian American Democrats Activist of the Year Award, the IACT Trailblazer Award, a University of Texas DDCE Community Leadership Award, and a UT teaching award. Lesley currently chairs the UT Center for Asian American Studies Advisory Committee and serves on the Boston Higashi School Board, the Board of the Austin Symphony Orchestra, and the City of Austin Planning Commission.

Lesley speaks English, Malayalam, and limited Spanish, Hindi and Urdu.