



International Visitor Leadership Program

U.S. Department of State

WOMEN IN POLITICS AND CIVIL SOCIETY A Multi-Regional Project

These visitors are invited to the United States under the auspices of the Department of State's International Visitor Leadership Program. FHI 360 arranged their program.

Program Contacts: Ms. Copeland Barnes and Ms. Katherine Hickey, FHI 360

Department of State Program Contacts: Ms. Deanna K. Douglas and Ms. Teresa Travis, Office of International Visitors

Accompanied By: Ms. Baradel "Bonnie" BEARD, Ms. Ruth BRICE, Mr. Cliff GOULET, International Visitor Liaisons

April 22 - May 10, 2019

PROFESSIONAL OBJECTIVES

The Department of State has outlined the following specific objectives for the project:

- Examine the U.S. political system and the participation of women leaders at the local, state, and national levels;
- Explore programs and initiatives that encourage young women to get involved in civic activities including running for elected office;
- Introduce the role that women's organizations take in shaping political dialogue, and gain an understanding of effective interaction and support among women across various sectors;
- Highlight legislation and programs that promote equal pay and fair treatment for women in both civic and work spaces; and
- Introduce initiatives and legislation that address women's needs in the social arena, including health care and education.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Bolivia	Ms. Fernanda SAN MARTIN CARRASCO Congresswoman, Chamber of Deputies, Legislative Assembly
Chile	Ms. Sofia SCHUSTER UBILLA Co-Founder and Academic Director, QSV Center for Studies and Training in Management and Politics
Croatia	Ms. Biljana GACA City Councilor, Vukovar City Council
Czech Republic	Ms. Alzbeta KRALOVA Founder, Managing Partner, and Political Consultant, Institute of Political Marketing
Ecuador	Ms. Nathaly TOLEDO HIDALGO Vice President, Centro Democrático Political Party
Egypt	Ms. Christina HABIB School Counselor and High School Teacher, Smart City International School
Estonia	Ms. Heidi UUSTALU Principal, Kiviõli High School
India	Ms. Sanchaita GAJAPATHI RAJU Founder and Managing Trustee, Social Awareness Newer Alternatives Trust (SANA)
Israel	Ms. Fahima ATAWNA CEO, Siraj NGO
Mexico	Ms. Carla COLLINS Director, Municipal Public Relations, La Paz City Hall

Moldova	Ms. Rodica IVASCU Program Director, Joint Equal Opportunity Initiative, Centre Partnership for Development
Nepal	Ms. Ranju TOLANGE Elected Ward Member, Lalitpur Ward Office
Nigeria	Ms. Maryann OKON Journalist, NigeriaInfo FM, Port Harcourt 92.3
Pakistan	Ms. Wardah IFTIKHAR Program Coordinator, Women Can Do, Shoor Foundation for Education and Awareness
Slovakia	Ms. Zuzana MADAROVA, Ph.D. Researcher, Social and Economic Sciences, Comenius University
South Africa	Ms. More MOKOBANE Deputy Provincial Chairperson, Youth League, African National Congress
Sri Lanka	Ms. Gayani KODIKARA KUMARASINHAGE Legal Officer, Ministry of Provincial Councils and Local Government
United Republic of Tanzania	Ms. Lillian MABULA President, Nova Terra Solutions Ltd
Turkey	Ms. Sanem OZTURK Training and Workshop Coordinator, Women's Solidarity Foundation
Zimbabwe	Ms. Samkeliso TSHUMA Founder, Let's Connect

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Bolivia

Name: **Ms. Fernanda SAN MARTIN CARRASCO**

Present Position: Congresswoman, Chamber of Deputies, Legislative Assembly

Previous Positions: Director, Legal Issues, University of La Salle

Languages: Spanish (primary), English, French, Portuguese

U.S. Travel: Florida, New York

Other Travel: Brazil, France, Germany

Professional Background: Ms. San Martin Carrasco serves as a Congresswoman in Bolivia's Legislative Assembly. She currently heads the Assembly's Committee on Gender Rights as well as the Ethics Committee. She is interested in examining best practices in advancing women's rights and women's political participation.

Chile

<i>Name:</i>	Ms. Sofia SCHUSTER UBILLA
<i>Present Position:</i>	Co-Founder and Academic Director, QSV Center for Studies and Training in Management and Politics
<i>Concurrent Positions:</i>	University Teacher, Model United Nations
<i>Previous Positions:</i>	Professor, International Studies, Humanity School, Santiago, Chile, 2014-2015 Professor, Public Administration Program, Universidad de Chile, 2010-2013 Teacher, Model United Nations, Organization of American States, Diplomatic Academy of Chile, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 2011-2012 Content Advisor, Ministry of Public Works, 2009-2010
<i>Education/Training:</i>	M.A., International Studies, Universidad de Chile, 2013 B.A., Public Administration, Universidad de Chile, 2009 B.A., Government and Political Science, Universidad de Chile, 2007
<i>Memberships:</i>	Chilean Political Science Association International Political Science Association Latin America Association for Political Science
<i>Publications:</i>	Various publications on public policy, government, and leadership
<i>Languages:</i>	Spanish (primary), English, Italian, Portuguese
<i>U.S. Travel:</i>	California, New York, Washington, DC
<i>Other Travel:</i>	Various countries in Asia, Europe, and Latin America
<i>Professional Background:</i>	Ms. Schuster Ubilla is the Co-Founder and Academic Director of the QSV Center for Studies and Training in Management and Politics, a consultancy that serves academic institutions, NGOs, and government entities, and regularly conducts gender-focused workshops. Ms. Schuster Ubilla would like to observe best practices for promoting young women's political participation and examine grassroots initiatives to strengthen civil society.

Croatia

Name: **Ms. Biljana GACA**

Present Position: City Councilor, Vukovar City Council

Concurrent Positions: Activist, Human Rights Youth Initiative
President, Youth Organization, Social Democratic Party

Previous Positions: Member, Croatian Parliament, 2015-2016
Homeland War Memorial Center, 2015

Education/Training: M.A., Political Science, Faculty of Political Science of Zagreb, 2014

Memberships: Youth Info Center
European House – Vukovar

Publications: Various articles on peacebuilding and community engagement

Languages: Croatian (primary), English

U.S. Travel: No previous U.S. travel

Professional Background: Ms. Gaca serves on the Vukovar City Council. In addition, she is a human rights activist and President of her political party's youth organization. Her work focuses on bringing youth of different nationalities together to work on joint projects. Previously, Ms. Gaca served as a Member of Parliament, representing the Social Democratic Party. She would like to examine best practices in promoting gender and ethnic inclusivity in local politics.

Czech Republic

Name: **Ms. Alzbeta KRALOVA**

Present Position: Founder, Managing Partner, and Political Consultant, Institute of Political Marketing

Previous Positions: Account Manager, FleishmanHillard, 2015-2017
Communications Specialist, Ministry of Regional Development, 2014-2015
Public Relations Consultant, Klokán Technologies GmbH, 2013-2014
Volunteer Coordinator, ANO Political Movement, 2013
Language Assistant, Pelikan Language School, 2010-2013
Ambassador, Karel Schwarzenberg Presidential Campaign, 2012

Education/Training: M.A., Political Science, Electoral Studies and Political Marketing, Masaryk University, 2013
B.A., Political Science and European Studies, University of Palacky, 2010

Memberships: Czech Public Relations Club

Publications: Various publications on politics and elections

Languages: Czech (primary), English, Slovak

U.S. Travel: Virginia, New York

Other Travel: India, Peru, Seychelles, Thailand, various European countries

Professional Background: Ms. Kralova established the Institute of Political Marketing, which focuses on political campaign and communication research and analysis. She focuses particularly on the role of women in politics and supporting women running for elected office. She would like to further examine support for women's political participation in the United States.

Ecuador

Name: **Ms. Nathaly TOLEDO HIDALGO**

Present Position: Vice President, Centro Democrático Political Party

Concurrent Positions: Director, Animal Welfare and Social Management, Guayas Prefecture
News Announcer and Interviewer, Radio Forever Music

Previous Positions: Communications Director, Grabador Record Label, 2015-2017
Reporter, Cablevisión, 2014-2015
National Presenter, Producer, Senior News Reporter, and Researcher, Teleamazonas, 2007-2015

Education/Training: B.A., Multimedia Journalism, San Francisco University of Quito, 2007

Memberships: Cecilia Rivadeneira Foundation
Techo Ecuador

Publications: Various articles on arts and culture

Languages: Spanish (primary), English

U.S. Travel: Florida, Georgia, Illinois, New York, Texas, Washington, DC

Other Travel: Brazil, France, Italy, Mexico, Spain

Professional Background: Ms. Toledo Hidalgo is Vice President of Ecuador's Centro Democrático Political Party. She is also Director of Animal Welfare and Social Management in Guayas Prefecture in addition to working as a journalist. Through her work in political activism, Ms. Toledo Hidalgo advocates for measures to counter gender-based violence in Ecuador, to promote animal rights, and to support a new communications law. She is interested in examining political activism and policy advocacy initiatives around human rights and preventing gender-based violence in the United States.

Egypt

Name: **Ms. Christina HABIB**

Present Position: School Counselor and High School Teacher, Smart City International School

Education/Training: M.A. (Candidate), Gender and Development Studies, Cairo University
B.A., Political and Economic Sciences, The British University, Egypt and Loughborough University, London, 2016

Languages: Arabic (primary), English

U.S. Travel: No previous U.S. travel

Professional Background: Ms. Habib is a School Counselor and High School Teacher at Smart City International School. She is also working toward a master's degree in Gender and Development Studies at Cairo University. Ms. Habib is interested in examining efforts to promote youth civic engagement and gender equality in the United States.

Estonia

<i>Name:</i>	Ms. Heidi UUSTALU
<i>Present Position:</i>	Principal, Kiviõli High School
<i>Concurrent Positions:</i>	Chair, Finance and Development Committee, Lügánuse Municipal Council
<i>Previous Positions:</i>	Teacher, Kivioli High School, 1989-2004 Teacher, Tartu Pedagogical School, 1989 and 2001
<i>Education/Training:</i>	M.A., University of Tartu, 2015
<i>Memberships:</i>	Estonian School Heads Association Integration Foundation
<i>Publications:</i>	Various publications on education
<i>Languages:</i>	Estonian (primary), English, Russian
<i>U.S. Travel:</i>	No previous U.S. travel
<i>Other Travel:</i>	Various European countries
<i>Professional Background:</i>	Ms. Uustalu is the Principal of Kiviõli High School. In addition, she chairs the Lügánuse Municipal Council's Finance and Development Committee. As a high school principal, Ms. Uustalu is interested in exploring ideas and gaining practical knowledge on empowering women and girls to become political and civil society leaders.

India

Name: **Ms. Sanchaita GAJAPATHI RAJU**

Present Position: Founder and Managing Trustee, Social Awareness Newer Alternatives Trust (SANA)

Previous Positions: Executive Producer, Moving Picture Company India, Ltd. 2005-2011

Education/Training: B.A., Law, Lloyd Law College, Chaudhary Charan Singh University, 2012
B.A., Arts, Sri Venkateshwara College, Delhi University, 2004

Languages: Telugu (primary), English

U.S. Travel: Previous U.S. travel

Professional Background: Ms. Gajapathi Raju is the Founder and Managing Trustee of SANA, a nonprofit organization that uses sustainable technology to provide safe drinking water and sanitation to marginalized populations, particularly women. SANA also provides capacity-building and leadership programming to its beneficiaries. Ms. Gajapathi Raju would like to examine best practices in promoting women's involvement in politics and civil society in the United States.

Israel

Name: **Ms. Fahima ATAWNA**

Present Position: CEO, Siraj NGO

Previous Positions: Project Coordinator, Health and Environment Department, AJEEC-NISPED

Education/Training: M.P.H., Environmental Health, Ben Gurion University of the Negev, 2014
B.A., Industrial Management, Sapir College, 2008
Certification, Emergency Medical Technician, Magen David Adom, 2018
Certificate, Air Pollution and Exposure, Tel Aviv University, 2017
Diploma, Chemical Engineering, Beer Sheva Technological College, 2003

Publications: Various publications on human development

Languages: Arabic (primary), English, Hebrew

U.S. Travel: California, New York, Pennsylvania, Washington, DC

Other Travel: Mexico, Morocco, Various Asian and European countries

Professional Background: Ms. Atawna is CEO of Siraj NGO. Previously, she was a Project Coordinator at AJEEC-NISPED, an NGO that coordinates community intervention projects for the Arab citizens of Israel. She works with Israeli Ministries and local communities as well as donor groups to implement health and educational projects. Ms. Atawna is interested in examining community-based initiatives working toward similar goals in the United States.

Mexico

Name: **Ms. Carla COLLINS**

Present Position: Director, Municipal Public Relations, La Paz City Hall

Previous Positions: State Government Outreach, Baja California State Government, 2014-2015

Education/Training: M.A. (Candidate), Human and Social Development, Universidad Mundial
B.A., Communications, Universidad Mundial, 2018
Certificate, Political Marketing, Universidad Mundial, 2013

Languages: Spanish (primary), English

U.S. Travel: California, Nevada

Other Travel: Germany, Spain, United Kingdom

Professional Background: Ms. Collins is the Municipal Public Relations Director for the city of La Paz. As a municipal official in a state capital, she is frequently called upon to coordinate with state, federal, and foreign governments for official public events. Ms. Collins is interested in observing strategies that encourage women's political participation and representation in public office, in addition to best practices for strengthening civil society and supporting social inclusion.

Moldova

Name: **Ms. Rodica IVASCU**

Present Position: Program Director, Joint Equal Opportunity Initiative, Centre Partnership for Development

Previous Positions: Project Associate, Empowering Rural Women from Moldova, Soros Foundation Moldova, 2013-2014
Program Assistant, National Mentoring Program for Women, East European Foundation and U.S. Embassy Moldova, 2012-2013
President, Communications Department, AIESEC, 2010-2011
Grants Team Coordinator, Financial Department, AIESEC, 2009-2010
Project Assistant, Employers for Non-Discrimination Project, Soros Foundation Moldova
Project Assistant, Piloting Non-Discrimination Services, FHI 360

Education/Training: M.A., Business Administration, Academy of Economic Studies of Moldova, 2013
B.A., Business Management and Administration, Academy of Economic Studies of Moldova, 2011

Memberships: Center of Parenting Education and Counseling in Adoption

Publications: Various publications on gender equality

Languages: Romanian (primary), English

U.S. Travel: No previous U.S. travel

Professional Background: Ms. Ivascu serves as Program Director for the Centre Partnership for Development's Joint Equal Opportunity Initiative. Her work focuses on improving access to local public services for underserved populations. Ms. Ivascu would like to gain insight into legal frameworks for protecting gender equality and preventing gender-based discrimination. She is also interested in examining best practices for promoting political and civic leadership roles for women of all racial and ethnic backgrounds.

Nepal

Name: **Ms. Ranju TOLANGE**

Present Position: Elected Ward Member, Lalitpur Ward Office

Education/Training: M.A. (Candidate), Sociology, Tribhuvan University
B.A., Social Work, Tribhuvan University, 2017

Memberships: Lalitpur Bar Association

Languages: Nepali (primary), English

U.S. Travel: No previous U.S. travel

Other Travel: India

Professional Background: Ms. Tolange is an Elected Ward Member of the Lalitpur Ward Office. In this role, she advocates for women's equality and has designed leadership and entrepreneurial skills training programs for women in the community. Ms. Tolange would like to explore legal, regulatory, and policy frameworks that promote women's political participation and representation in the United States.

Nigeria

Name: **Ms. Maryann OKON**

Present Position: Journalist, NigeriaInfo FM, Port Harcourt 92.3

Concurrent Positions: Host, Calabar International Carnival and Festival, Carnival Commission, Cross River State Government

Previous Positions: Compere and Master of Ceremonies, Government House, Cross River State Government, 2008-2013
TV and Radio Host, Carnival Commission, Cross River State Government, 2004-2013

Education/Training: B.A., Linguistics and Communications, University of Calabar, 2012

Memberships: Radio, Television, Theatre and Arts Workers Union of Nigeria

Languages: Efik (primary), English

U.S. Travel: No previous U.S. travel

Other Travel: Kenya, United Arab Emirates

Professional Background: Ms. Okon is a Radio Journalist at NigeriaInfo FM, where she co-hosts the station's political programming segment. She is an advocate for good governance and environmental protection, as well as women's involvement in community activism. Ms. Okon is interested in examining best practices for advocacy campaigns at both the grassroots and national levels. She would also like to explore efforts to increase women's leadership representation in politics and civil society.

Pakistan

Name: **Ms. Wardah IFTIKHAR**

Present Position: Program Coordinator, Women Can Do, Shoor Foundation for Education and Awareness

Previous Positions: Product Manager, SIGOS Optiwave Technologies, Private Ltd., 2012-2014
Intern, Pakistan Telecom Mobile Limited (Ufone), 2009-2009

Education/Training: M.S., Digital Signal Processing, National University of Science and Technology, 2015
B.S., Electrical Engineering, Air University, 2011

Languages: Urdu (primary), English

U.S. Travel: No previous U.S. travel

Other Travel: Germany

Professional Background: Ms. Iftikhar is a Program Coordinator at the Shoor Foundation for Education and Awareness. She works with public universities and religious schools across Pakistan to coach young women on expanding their business and entrepreneurship skills. She has also taken part in various campaigns focused on women's empowerment and civic engagement. Ms. Iftikhar is interested in exploring community development and efforts to promote women's empowerment and gender equality in the United States.

Slovakia

Name: **Ms. Zuzana MADAROVA, Ph.D.**

Present Position: Researcher, Social and Economic Sciences, Comenius University

Concurrent Positions: Project Manager and Researcher, ASPEKT Feminist Organization

Previous Positions: National Expert, European Institute for Gender Equality, 2015-2017
External Consultant, Communication, Freedom of Choice, 2013-2015
Senior Expert, Gender Equality, Center for Education, Ministry of Labor, Social Affairs, and Family, 2012-2014
Journalist, Slovak Press Agency, 2007-2009

Education/Training: Ph.D., Political Science, Comenius University, 2017
M.A., Gender Studies, Central European University, 2010
M.A., Journalism, Comenius University, 2008

Publications: Various articles on gender and gender equality

Languages: Slovak (primary), English, Polish

U.S. Travel: No previous U.S. travel

Other Travel: Czech Republic, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Poland, Spain

Professional Background: Dr. Madarova is a Social and Economic Sciences Researcher at Comenius University. She also serves as a Project Manager and Researcher at the ASPEKT Feminist Organization. In these roles, she specializes in gender equality research and programming. She is interested in examining work on gender equality in the United States through grassroots and community activism, academia, and public policy.

South Africa

Name: **Ms. More MOKOBANE**

Present Position: Deputy Provincial Chairperson, Youth League, African National Congress

Concurrent Positions: Assistant Researcher, Limpopo Provincial Legislature

Previous Positions: Personal Assistant, Office of the Executive Committee, Limpopo Provincial Treasury, 2013-2015
Business Regulation Officer, Department of Economic Development, Limpopo Provincial Legislature, 2006-2013
Branch Treasurer, African National Youth League, 2009-2010
Secretary, Student Representative Council, Tshwane University of Technology, 2005-2006
Provincial Secretary, South African Students Congress, 2005-2006
Deputy Chairperson, Student Representative Council, Tshwane University of Technology, 2004-2005
Deputy Provincial Secretary, South African Students Congress, 2004-2005

Education/Training: B.A., Human Resource Management, Tshwane University of Technology, 2010
Postgraduate Diploma, Business Management, Management College of Southern Africa, 2018

Memberships: South African Youth Council

Languages: Northern Sotho (primary), English, Tsonga, Venda, Zulu

U.S. Travel: No previous U.S. travel

Other Travel: Botswana, People's Republic of China

Professional Background: Ms. Mokobane is the Deputy Provincial Chair of the African National Congress' Youth League for the Limpopo Province. She provides policy direction and guidance to branches to meet nationally-established mandates and ensures that leadership adheres to established codes of ethics and conduct. She is interested in exploring best practices for supporting healthy living and education initiatives for youth.

Sri Lanka

<i>Name:</i>	Ms. Gayani KODIKARA KUMARASINHAGE
<i>Present Position:</i>	Legal Officer, Ministry of Provincial Councils and Local Government
<i>Concurrent Positions:</i>	Appointed Committee Member, Ministry of Provincial Councils and Local Government
<i>Previous Positions:</i>	Interim Minister, Section 3D, Local Authorities Elections Ordinance, 2015-2016 Legal Officer, National Delimitation Committee on Demarcation of Wards of Local Authorities, 2012-2015 Acting Legal Officer, Ministry of Health, Nutrition, and Welfare, 2002-2007 Visiting Lecturer, Commercial Law, Technical College, Ratnapur, 2002-2004
<i>Education/Training:</i>	Training, Local Public Sector Management, Local Government Institute, Seoul, South Korea, 2011 Training, Municipal Bonds and Public Private Partnership Studies, Centre for Budget and Policy, Bangalore, India, 2014
<i>Publications:</i>	Various articles on local legislative processes and the role of women in politics
<i>Languages:</i>	Sinhala (primary), English
<i>U.S. Travel:</i>	No previous U.S. travel
<i>Other Travel:</i>	India, Indonesia, Netherlands, South Korea
<i>Professional Background:</i>	Ms. Kodikara Kumarasinhage is a Legal Officer in the Ministry of Provincial Councils and Local Government. Her work includes interpreting and implementing government policy decisions. She is interested in examining methods for increasing female and minority political representation, as well as promoting government transparency and accountability in the electoral process.

United Republic of Tanzania

Name: **Ms. Lillian MABULA**

Present Position: PMC Manager, Aga Khan Health Centre

Previous Positions: Accounts and Marketing Assistant, Tanzania Petroleum Services Limited, 2014-2015
Personal Assistant, Office of the General Manager, Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club, 2013-2014

Education/Training: B.A., Business Studies, London School of Commerce, Cardiff Metropolitan University, 2012

Languages: Swahili (primary), English

U.S. Travel: No previous U.S. travel

Other Travel: United Kingdom

Professional Background: Ms. Mabula is a professional in the field of health service delivery. Through her work at the Aga Khan Health Centre, she focuses on improving communication among local officials, health service providers, and communities by informing citizens of activities and services through a variety of channels. Ms. Mabula is interested in exploring best practices for increasing citizen engagement, particularly among youth and women, as a means of improving communication between civil society and government officials.

Turkey

Name: **Ms. Sanem OZTURK**

Present Position: Project Coordinator, Implementing Norms, Changing Minds Program, KADAV Women's Solidarity Foundation

Previous Positions: Lecturer, Fine Arts Faculty, Marmara University, 2008-2018
Field Coordinator, KADAV Women's Solidarity Foundation, 2016-2017
Translator, Finance Institution, 2008
Office Staff, TMMOB Union of Chambers of Turkish Engineers and Architects, 2006-2007
Text Writer, PMR Visual Communication Strategies and Publications, 2006-2007
Assistant, Foreign Relations, Ekin Publishing Group, 2005-2006

Education/Training: Ph.D. (Candidate), Sociology and Anthropology of the Middle East, Marmara University
M.A., Sociology, Mimarsinan Fine Arts University, 2009
B.A., Sociology, Middle East Technical University, 2004

Languages: Turkish (primary), English

U.S. Travel: No previous U.S. travel

Other Travel: Belgium, Egypt, Germany, Greece, Jordan, Lebanon, Switzerland, Syria

Professional Background: Ms. Ozturk is a Project Coordinator for the KADAV Women's Solidarity Foundation's Implementing Norms, Changing Minds Program. In this role, she seeks to build a network that brings together women from Turkey and Syria to combat sexual and gender-based violence. Ms. Ozturk is interested in further examining best practices and policy frameworks for preventing gender-based violence.

Zimbabwe

Name: **Ms. Samkeliso TSHUMA**

Present Position: Program Officer, Women's Institute for Leadership Development

Concurrent Positions: Founder and Director, Let's Connect Initiative

Previous Positions: Intern, Women's Institute for Leadership Development, 2011-2018
Junior Associate, Aldes Zimbabwe, 2011
Customer Service Officer, Coles Express, 2008-2009
Receptionist, Belberry Enterprises Zimbabwe, 2003-2005

Education/Training: M.A., Commerce (Applied Finance), Griffith University, Brisbane Australia, 2010
B.A., Commerce (Economics), University of South Africa, 2007

Languages: Ndebele (primary), English

U.S. Travel: No previous U.S. travel

Other Travel: Australia, Botswana, Malaysia, People's Republic of China, South Africa, Tanzania, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, Zambia

Professional Background: Ms. Tshuma is a Program Officer at the Women's Institute for Leadership Development, where she plans, implements and reports on women's civic and political participation and leadership. She is interested in examining best practices for coalition-building, leadership development, and strategic planning, in addition to promoting civic engagement among women and youth.