BRITTNEY CASTRO

CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™
Founder and CEO of Financially Wise Women

Brittney Castro, CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™, entrepreneur and personal finance expert for women, is the Founder & CEO of Financially Wise Women, a Los Angeles based financial planning firm for women. She specializes in working with busy professional and entrepreneurial women who are passionate about life and want to gain clarity around their money. Brittney's mission is to help women plan and create the life of their dreams, free from anxiety about money. She is known for her innovative, non-judgmental, compassionate approach to financial planning. She has been featured in the Wall Street Journal, New York Times, Financial Planning Magazine, Investment News, and Registered Rep Magazine. Away from the office, you can find Brittney working out, drinking green juice, reading, playing at the park with her dog Arya and of course dancing.

MEGAN CLEGHORN, JD, MBA

Chief Executive Officer
Request For Relief LLC

Megan Cleghorn, JD, MBA is the CEO of Request For Relief LLC, a national organizational wellness consultancy servicing clients facing high stress business and workplace challenges, including restructurings, downsizings, post M&A integration and traumatic events. Through RFR, Megan facilitates organizations' effective management of stress and burnout that increases employee resilience, strengthens performance and improves bottom line business results. Prior to leading RFR, Megan spent more than a decade at the premier global law firm as a corporate restructuring professional, advising companies in distressed situations on operational and financial reorganizations as they underwent transformational change. Megan is also the President of Cleghorn Performance Elevation, an elite private client executive coaching and executive communication company. Megan regularly presents nationally on topics of Leadership, Transformational Change, Advancement of Women, Organizational Wellness, and Entrepreneurship. She also is a lecturer at, and advisor to her alma mater, The Wharton School of Business, on Executive Communication and Advanced Persuasion. Megan obtained her B.S. and her J.D. at Duquesne University and her M.B.A. at The Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania.

CAROL M. DEDRICH, MBA, CFRE

Chief External Relations Officer
Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles

With over 40,000 girls, 20,000 volunteers and 140 staff, Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles is the largest and most effective leadership development organization for girls ages 5-17 in Southern California. As the Chief External Relations Officer for the Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles, Carol Dedrich is responsible for building, planning, implementing and analyzing all branding, marketing, fund development and advocacy activities, including public and media relations, web development, online/social networking, alumnae relations, major gifts, special events, annual campaigns, corporate and foundation relations, grant writing, endowment, planned giving, coordinated state and local advocacy initiatives and the professional development of her staff. She manages the development of effective marketing strategies and collaborates with the Board of Directors and Executive Leadership Team to develop strategic and organizational plans.

Carol has an extensive background in leadership, management, strategic planning and implementation, marketing, fundraising and development. Her work background includes jobs in all three economic sectors: private, nonprofit and public. Before becoming an executive with the Girl Scouts, Carol served as Vice President of Marketing & Development for the Fulfillment Fund, Vice President of Marketing & Business Development for an online real estate venture, Vice President of Development for the John Wayne Cancer Institute, and Resource Development Director for United Way in Arizona. Carol also served as an Air Defense Artillery (Patriot Missiles) Captain in the U.S. Army, and was awarded two Army Commendation Medals and various military ribbons for her leadership and service in Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

She holds a Bachelor of Arts, Business & Organizational Management degree from Michigan State University, an executive MBA from the University of Arizona and earned the professional certification of Certified Fundraising Executive (CFRE).

Carol was an avid cyclist and is currently working on her private pilot's license. She was a mentor for the Women's Step Up Network and served on the Girl Scouts National 100th Anniversary Committee. Carol currently serves on the Girl Scouts of the USA Strategic Learning Task Group and is a member of the City Scholars® Foundation's Advisory Council, an organization that trains nonprofit CEOs to lead effective and sustainable organizations.

As a Girl Scout growing up in Michigan, Carol believes she gained many life skills that have helped her journey throughout the world and succeed in her career. She also states that Girl Scouts instilled in her the courage, confidence and character to take her through many life challenges and to develop opportunities from the lessons learned.

SAMANTHA DUNN CAMP

Award-Winning Author and Essayist

Samantha Dunn is the author of Failing Paris, a finalist for the PEN West Fiction Award in 2000, and the memoirs Not By Accident: Reconstructing a Careless Life (Henry Holt & Co.), a BookSense 76 pick, and Faith in Carlos Gomez: A Memoir of Salsa, Sex and Salvation.

Her work is anthologized in a number of places, including the short story anthology, Women on the Edge: Writing from Los Angeles, which she co-edited. Other recent collections showcasing her work include the Seal Press releases Dancing at the Shame Prom: Sharing the Stories That Kept Us Small and Drinking Diaries: Women Serve Their Stories Straight Up, as well as the Counterpoint Press release edited by Anna David, True Tales of Lust and Love.

Numerous national publications feature Samantha's work, including the Los Angeles Times, O (Oprah) Magazine, Ms., and Salon. A widely published journalist, her bylines have been regularly featured in InStyle, Glamour, SELF, Men's Health, among many others. In 2000 she received the Maggie Award for Best Personal Essay in a Consumer Publication.

She has also written for the stage and has taken a few turns screenwriting as a member of the Writers Guild of America. Samantha teaches in the UCLA Extension Writers Program and at the Idyllwild Arts Center in California, and was a longtime writer-in-residence at the New York State Summer Writers Institute. She is also the founder of The Workshop, a private workshop series offering intensive sessions in creative nonfiction, memoir and essay throughout Southern California and nationally.

A former features writer for The Orange County Register, Samantha now lives in Orange, California.

GAIL FARBER

Director of Public Works, County of Los Angeles

Gail Farber was appointed Director of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works in December 2008. In this capacity, she serves as the County Engineer, County Road Commissioner, and Chief Engineer of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District. The LA County Public Works Department is the largest public works agency in the United States, with over 4,000 employee positions and an annual operating budget of more than $2 billion.

Under her leadership, the Department designs, constructs, operates and maintains roads, highways, bridges, airports, sewers, flood control and water conservation facilities, as well as water distribution systems for the County, the County Flood Control District, special districts and contract cities. In addition, the Department provides for the management and delivery of the Los Angeles County Capital Projects Program valued in excess of $3 billion and also serves as a first responder for emergency and disaster preparedness, response and recovery. It also provides leadership in the countywide transportation system, traffic mitigation efforts, and regional solid waste and hazardous waste management systems.

Gail's dedication to Los Angeles County is on par to her dedication to the advancement of women, and ongoing commitment to reflect the diversity of the communities the County serves. She is an advocate for promoting women to leadership roles and inspiring students to seek and succeed in non-traditional roles. She was instrumental in the development of the Public Works Women's Leadership Conference, which annually draws more than 500 women from across the County.

In 2013, Gail received the KCET and Union Bank with Women's History Month Local Heroes Award honoring outstanding women who have made significant contributions to improving our community. In 2014, her women's advocacy efforts were honored with a Most Powerful and Influential Woman of California award from the National Diversity Council, and in August, 2014, she was named the national Public Works Leader of the Year by American City and County Magazine.

Gail is a registered professional civil engineer with over 28 years of experience serving in a variety of executive engineering and management positions at the state, regional, and local levels of government.

LINDA FONDREN

Community Leader

Linda Fondren transformed her life from poverty and disempowerment to success, and went back to her hometown of Vicksburg, Mississippi determined to make her hometown a healthier place after Mississippi was deemed the "fattest state" in the nation for several consecutive years.

In 2009 she spearheaded "Shape Up Vicksburg," a City Hall-sanctioned weight loss challenge. Fondren signed up 2,500 Vicksburg residents, most of who were taking charge of their health and nutrition for the first time. The challenge resulted in a collective weight loss of more than 15,000 pounds among participants.

For her persistent efforts and the impact on her community, Linda was chosen as a Top Ten CNN Hero of the Year for 2010. She was also selected, among distinguished leaders such as First Lady Michelle Obama, as one of The Grio's 100 History Makers in the Making and named 2011 Woman of the Year for the City of Vicksburg.

Linda's efforts caught the eyes of major national media, including CBS Evening News with Katie Couric, NBC Nightly News, MSNBC, Dr. Oz and CNN. She has been featured in numerous magazines including Essence, Glamour, Woman's World, Shape, Success, Jet and Southwest Airline's Inflight Magazine. Radio interviews include the Tom Joyner Show and Bill Bradley.

In 2014 Linda published her first book, *Shape Up Sisters!* to spread her message and tips to a wider audience. Shape Up Sisters is a practical, inspirational and accessible guide, a get-healthy prescription for everyday women with jobs, families and real-life obstacles.

Linda is an in demand public speaker whose inspirational words continue to inspire health conferences, universities, corporations, schools and special interest groups. She is a certified personal trainer and owns an all female gym called Shape Up Sisters in Vicksburg. She is 59 years old, a mother and grandmother, and has been married to her husband, Jim, for 29 years. They currently reside in Vicksburg and are active in Real Estate Development.

WILLIAM T FUJIOKA

Chief Executive Officer, County of Los Angeles

William "Bill" T Fujioka is the current Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Los Angeles County. He has served as the County's lead public administrator since July 2007, when the County implemented a new governance structure that placed most County departments and operations directly under the executive authority of the CEO.

The CEO is responsible for managing the largest county government in the nation with a budget of approximately $23 billion and over 100,000 employees serving the 10 million residents within its borders. In addition, the CEO is responsible for countywide policy and program leadership in a wide array of service areas including health and social services, public safety, community and municipal services, recreation/culture, and the arts.

Fujioka brings over 39 years of experience in local government to his role as CEO. His public service career started as a custodian with the County of Santa Cruz. Following college, he first worked for the City of Los Angeles in 1975. He came to work for the County of Los Angeles in 1978, and held various positions in personnel and served as personnel officer at General Hospital, LAC+USC. He also held other management positions in the Department of Health Services, including chief executive officer for Coastal Health Centers and the chief executive officer of High Desert Hospital/Antelope Valley Cluster. He left the County in 1997 to become general manager of the Personnel Department for the City of Los Angeles serving in this capacity for two years. In August 1999 he was appointed Los Angeles' City Administrative Officer (CAO) and served for eight years in that capacity before retiring. After a brief retirement, he was appointed by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors in July 2007 as the first Chief Executive Officer. Mr. Fujioka is the first person to hold both the positions of Los Angeles City CAO and Los Angeles County CEO. He is also the first Asian Pacific Islander to hold these positions.

Fujioka attended the University of California at Santa Cruz. He is a lifelong resident of the County. He currently lives in Los Angeles County with his wife, Darlene Kuba, and has one son, Jason, who is in college.

STACY GECK

Associate Professor of Clinical Management Communication, Marshall School of Business

Stacy Geck is an Associate Professor of Clinical Management Communication in the Center for Management Communication at the Marshall School of Business. Stacy Geck is an expert in organizational communication effectiveness, intercultural communication, managerial communication (written, oral, and interpersonal), executive presence coaching, effective mentoring techniques, and the Myers Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI) as a certified facilitator and practitioner. Her research has been published in the Journal of Cooperative Education, the Western Speech Communication Association, and the American Society of Trial Consultants. Outside of USC, she frequently works as an independent management consultant specializing in executive effectiveness and organizational change.

Areas of Expertise

Argumentation/Persuasion

Conflict Management/Resolution

Intercultural Communication Awareness

Interpersonal Communication

Organizational Communication

Education

California State University, Fullerton M.A. Organizational Communication

California State University, Fullerton B.A. Organizational Communication

California State University, Fullerton B.A. Psychology

LORI GUIDRY, DBIA

President, Development Industries, Inc.

Since 2009, Lori has been an owner and managing principal of Development Industries, Inc. (D.I.), a certified small business providing construction management services and specializing in design and quality management. As co-owner and president of DI, Lori oversees all business development, strategic planning and operations on projects such as:

- The Governor George Deukmejian Courthouse - Long Beach, CA
- Winner of ENR's 2014 Global Best Project Award - Government Building Category
- The New Los Angeles Federal Courthouse - Los Angeles, CA
- LA County Hall of Justice Renovation - Los Angeles, CA
- Anaheim Convention Center Expansion - Anaheim, CA

In addition to her role as President of D.I., Lori is the current Board Chairman for ACE Mentor Los Angeles, and has been involved since 2002, when she first became a volunteer mentor and helped to establish a local presence for this national non-profit organization. Since its inception in 2002, ACE Los Angeles has awarded over $722,000 to local high school students interested in pursuing careers in Architecture, Construction and Engineering. Last year, Lori was recognized by ACE Los Angeles as the 2013 Construction Industry Professional "Mentor of the Year" and this year, Lori was recently recognized by the Los Angeles Business Journal at their annual "Women Making a Difference Awards" event as "Philanthropist of the Year."

Lori is a 1990 graduate of the University of Florida School of Building Construction and began her career in the Tampa, Florida area. In 1996 Lori began working for Irvine-based MBK Construction, Ltd., where her primary role involved construction management for AMC Movie Theaters' national expansion program, overseeing pre-construction efforts for this $300M/year program. Since relocating to California in 2000 and prior to joining D.I., other notable projects that Lori has worked on have been with the Clark Construction Group on the Caltrans District 7 Headquarters project in downtown Los Angeles, with Jacobs on the East Los Angeles College Bond Program, and with Webcor Builders on the Grand Avenue project in downtown Los Angeles.

MONICA HOLLOWAY

Spokesperson for the National Center for Family Literacy and Autism Speaks and Author

Monica Holloway is the critically acclaimed author of the memoir *Driving With Dead People*, described by *Newsweek* as "unforgettable," christened by Glamour as "a classic," and deemed "irresistible" by the *Washington Post*. Holloway's essay "Red Boots and Cole Haans" from the anthology *Mommy Wars* was described by *Newsday* as "brilliant, grimly hilarious." Monica's bestselling memoir *Cowboy & Wills* is the story of her lovable and brilliant autistic son, Wills, and the remarkable dog that coaxes him into the world. *People* magazine commented, "Readers would do well to listen to this sweet and heartbreaking tale of boy-dog love. There are so many of us, with or without autism, who have our animals to thank for helping us connect." The *Washington Post* called *Cowboy & Wills* "charming" and the author "forthright and winning." *Cowboy & Wills* is the prestigious Mom's Choice Awards Gold Recipient for 2010. Most recently, Monica contributed the essay "Party Girl" to the collection *Cherished: 21 Writers on Animals They Have Loved and Lost*. Holloway is presently finishing her third book, THERE GOES PERFECT, Marriage, Mayhem and the Split that Almost Killed Me! Monica has served as a spokesperson for the largest autism nonprofit in the nation, Autism Speaks, and Monica and her husband, writer Michael Price, serve on the advisory board of the National Center for Family Literacy. She works to raise awareness and participation for these two issues of autism and family literacy, about which she deeply cares as a mother and an author. In 2011, Holloway received the Women of Distinction Award from the Special Needs Network in recognition for her work and contributions to the underserved special needs communities in Los Angeles. Monica lives in Los Angeles with her family and two golden retrievers, a hamster, four hermit crabs, three frogs, two rabbits and six neon tetras.

ANDY LIPKIS

Founder and President of TreePeople

Andy Lipkis began planting trees to rehabilitate smog and fire-damaged areas when he was 15 years old. He founded TreePeople and has served as its President since 1973.

TreePeople has been an international guiding light for the citizen forestry movement. Andy's innovations include inspiring the planting of one million trees in Los Angeles before the 1984 Summer Olympics, volunteer-based disaster relief efforts during flood and fire, and trainings that increase citizen leadership in urban tree planting and care. For the past 20 years, Andy has spearheaded an approach to using integrated watershed management to apply a forest's natural infrastructure services to cities. The result: a sustainable water supply, as well as flood and pollution prevention. Andy's advocacy has resulted in numerous demonstrations and progress in the adoption of this new paradigm, including the long-term retrofit of L.A.'s Sun Valley area (pop. 80,000).

Andy is a social entrepreneur and visionary who develops, implements and communicates solutions to pressing public health, economic and environmental issues by forging partnerships between diverse and sometimes conflicting parties. For over 40 years, Andy's leadership has helped make Los Angeles a model for community-based efforts that have gone to scale in the region and around the world
Across the country and around the world, Andy has addressed groups involved in the linked issues of environment, urban forestry, sustainability, water and energy use. These include: the United Nations, the U.S. Conference of Mayors, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the U.K. National Urban Forestry Unit, the U.S. Forest Service, Greening Australia, American Society of Civil Engineers, and many others.

Andy's honors come from groups as diverse as the Baha'i Faith Daughters of the American Revolution and the South Coast Air Quality Management District. In 1991, President Bush named TreePeople a Point of Light. In 1998, Andy was honored as Founder of the Year at National Philanthropy Day. In 2009, Andy was named an Ashoka Fellow.

COLONEL (RETIRED) TOM MAGNESS

Founder, Eagle Leadership Group
Southern California Affiliate, Academy Leadership

Since first entering the U.S. Army as a cadet at the United States Military Academy, Tom has been a leadership "work in progress." He has led military organizations from Platoon to Brigade. His unique background combines his service and education as a professional engineer with the confidence and professional development that comes from being an "Airborne Ranger!" As a commander (CEO) with the US Army Corps of Engineers, he has completed numerous projects as part of multi-billion dollar construction programs ranging from locks and dams, to the border fence in Southern California and Southern Arizona, to large infrastructure projects in Afghanistan. He has taught engineering at the Military Academy at West Point and served as a coach / consultant at the Army's National Training Center. His final assignment in uniform was as commander (CEO) of a $5B construction program, leading 1,500 civilians and military in Afghanistan. Following retirement, Tom served as COO for a $300M international construction company until leaving to start his own company, teaching high-impact leadership strategies across the Country. He has published a highly impactful book on leadership – ***Leader Business: Battle-Tested Leadership Strategies for any Organization***. He currently conducts leadership seminars and keynote addresses for clients that include: GE; Proctor & Gamble; City of San Diego; Los Angeles, San Diego, & Orange County (CA); and Energizer.

MARK PESTRELLA

Chief Deputy Director
County of Los Angeles
Department of Public Works

Mark Pestrella is Chief Deputy Director of the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works. In this capacity, supports the Director in the overall management and operation of the Department.

A native of Southern California, Pestrella attended California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, where he received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering with concentrations in structural engineering and water resource management. He is a licensed civil engineer in the State of California and has taught post-graduate classes in Civil Engineering and Land Development Entitlement at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Pestrella is a 27-year veteran of the Department and has held a variety of management positions throughout the Department. Over the last decade, Pestrella has been instrumental in the development of County, State, and Federal policies related to Clean Water Act compliance, integrated water resource management, ecosystem restoration, and infrastructure sustainability.

Pestrella is also an active member of the American Public Works Association, American Society of Civil Engineers, American Water Works Association, Association of California Water Agencies, National Association of Flood and Stormwater Management Agencies (Board Member), Southern California Water Committee (Chair-Regional Stormwater Task Force), and Urban Water Institute (Board Member).

The County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works is the largest public works agency in the United States with over 4,000 employee positions and an annual budget of more than two billion dollars. The Department designs, constructs, operates, and maintains roads, highways, bridges, airports, sewers, and flood control and water conservation facilities, as well as water distribution systems for the County, the Flood Control District, special districts, and contract cities. In addition, the Department provides management services for capital projects and serves as a first responder for disaster preparedness, response, and recovery. The Department provides leadership in the countywide transportation system, traffic mitigation efforts, and solid and hazardous waste management planning.

FAYE WASHINGTON

President and Chief Executive Officer of the YWCA Greater Los Angeles

As President & Chief Executive Officer of the YWCA Greater Los Angeles, Faye Washington is a rainmaker in the world of non-profit. Her 32-year government track record of management, personnel administration, legislative and budget policy development, strategic planning and implementing budgets of over $3 billion created the landscape for her groundbreaking tenure of leading the YWCA Greater Los Angeles in its mission of eliminating racism and empowering women.

Because of the urgency of the YWCA Greater Los Angeles' mission, Washington strategically pursues funding opportunities that result in multi-generational impact and long-term residual value for the community at large. She walks with giants and demands the impossible for the sake of those who have no voice or power. Through meticulous hard work, creative vision, audacity, and persistence, Washington has become known as a "game changer."

In an economy where development is scarce, Washington has successfully orchestrated multi-million dollar facilities that will yield triple net bottom line results year after year for the Los Angeles community. Among these development projects is the state of the art, fully funded Union Pacific Empowerment Center in East Los Angeles. The center offers child development, senior programs, career transitional programs and California High School Exit Exam Preparation courses.

A savant in project development, Washington masterminded the landmark Job Corps Urban Campus. To create revenue to sustain the Urban Campus and YWCA Job Corps programs, Washington lead a seven-year, multi-tiered pitch for funding and received monies allocated by President Obama's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The Urban Campus is a seven story building with health facilities, library, dining facilities, vocational training classrooms, campus-wide green spaces, dormitory rooms and offices for YWCA staff. The project, completed in April 2012, required $70 million in total project development. Through new market tax credits and other creative financing, Washington masterfully raised the funds required, resulting in a fully funded project. The groundbreaking Urban Campus serves as a home to 400 at risk youth and offers the blueprint to replicate this vision in other urban centers around the country.

Recognized by educational institutions such as the Drucker School of Business and the Graduate School of Non Profit Management, as an authority on strategic non-profit fundraising, Washington is in top demand as a guest lecturer, panelist and keynote speaker across the country. She is associated with several high profile community groups including the United Way, The Links, Municipal Improvement Corp of L.A.; Workforce Investment Board; National Job Corps Assoc.; Downtown Breakfast Club; California Post Secondary Commission; the International Women Leadership Organization and the Affirmative Action Association for Women. Washington's contributions to the community have earned her numerous recognitions and awards, one of which was the honor bestowed by The National Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO) for her significant contributions to the community and entrepreneurial excellence.

Washington's philosophy for community programs that embrace the "whole family" approach, including child care, job training, supportive housing and indi-vidual empowerment will certainly leave a brilliant legacy of making Los Angeles a better place for its citizens to live, learn and grow.