

Black History Month
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A SECOND CHANCE^{INC.}



National Kinship Review

News, Networking & Information for
Kinship Care Professionals & Advocates



African-American Leaders Strengthening the Fabric of Child Welfare

Today, we continue our **Black History Month** tribute to past and present child welfare leaders. In this second edition, we feature those

who have made it their mission, duty and for some, their life's work, to ensure our children are safe, culturally connected, linked to family and able to thrive.

Throughout African-American history, quilts have been more than decorative pieces of fabric stitched together by the community or one pair of nimble hands. Many are created out of necessity—to warm, shelter, comfort and protect. For families, quilts help preserve traditions, like in rural [Gees Bend, Ala.](#), where quilting is passed down from African-American mothers to their daughters.

It is the power of quilts and the kinship legacy they represent that moved us to honor these African-American leaders and the bold, thoughtful and innovative threads that link them.

Join A Second Chance, Inc. in saluting the child welfare leaders who are woven into our Black History Month quilt (rows from l-r).

ROW 1

Brenda Donald: Director of D.C. Child and Family Services Agency; former deputy mayor for D.C. Health and Human Services; former Vice President of the Center for Effective Family Services and Systems at the Annie E. Casey Foundation

Robert Matthews: Deputy Director of Community Partnerships, D.C. Child and Family Services Agency

Brace Lowe: COO, A Second Chance, Inc.; Board of Directors, Black Administrators in Child Welfare; President & CEO, Lift Empowerment, LLC

Chris James-Brown: President & CEO, Child Welfare League of America; former President & CEO, United Way International; former President & CEO, United Way SEPA

Kimberly Ali: Deputy Commissioner, Child Welfare Operations, Philadelphia Department of Human Services (DHS); former Chief Implementation Officer for Improving Outcomes for Children, DHS

ROW 2

Karen Richardson: Deputy Director, Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services, Juvenile Court Services and Adoption Bureau

Dr. Larry E. Davis: Dean Emeritus, School of Social Work, Founding Director, Center on Race and Social Problems and Donald M. Henderson Chair, University of Pittsburgh; Founder, Black Administrators and Scholars

Lisa Ford: Assistant Director of Social Services, Maryland Department of Human Services: St. Mary's County Department of Social Services; former HSRC Member, Casey Family Programs; former Allegheny County member of the Annie E. Casey Foundation program On the Frontline; former Sr. Vice President of TECD and Quality Improvement, A Second Chance, Inc.

Rebecca Jones Gaston: Executive Director, Social Services Administration, Maryland Department of Human Resources; former Director, Technical Assistance Unit, Casey Family Programs

Yakiciwey Mitchell: Founder, Edifying Nations Consulting; former Senior Director of the Los Angeles County Field Office and Strategic Consultation for Casey Family Programs

ROW 3

Nina Powell: Division Chief, Resource Family Recruitment & Approval, Department of Children & Family Services in L.A. County (DCFS); Division Chief, Parents in Partnership, DCFS; former Children Services Administrator III, DCFS; former Program Manager of Family

to Family and Family Group Decision Making, DCFS

Zahirah Mann: Program Officer, the Ralph M. Parsons Foundation; former Program Officer, the Annenberg Foundation; former Program Manager, United Way

Dr. Sandra Chipungu: Interim Dean, School of Behavioral Sciences, Morgan State University (MSU); Professor Chair Doctoral Program, MSU

Dr. Joseph Crumbley: Trainer, consultant and therapist specializing in kinship care, transracial adoptions, foster care, chemical dependency and more; consultations include, but are not limited to, Casey Family Programs, Casey Family Services, Brookdale Foundation and the Child Welfare League of America

ROW 4

Lisa Hamilton: President and CEO, the Annie E. Casey Foundation; former Executive Vice President and Chief Program Officer, the Annie E. Casey Foundation; former Vice President of External Affairs, the Annie E. Casey Foundation

Dr. Jaiya John: Founder, Soul Water Rising; Founder, Harvest Project; National Science Foundation Fellow; former Professor of Social Psychology at Howard University

ROW 5

Kimm R. Campbell: Board of Directors, Black Administrators in Child Welfare; Director, Broward County Human Services Department; former Director, System of Care, Mecklenburg County

Vannessa Dorantes: Commissioner-designate, Connecticut Department of Children and Families (DCF); Chairman, DCF Statewide Racial Justice Workgroup; former Regional

Administrator, DCF

Ruth McRoy: Donahue and DiFelice Professor of Social Work and Co-Founding Director, Research and Innovations in Social, Economic and Environmental Equity, Boston College.

Leonard D. Burton: Board of Directors, Black Administrators in Child Welfare; Senior Fellow, Center for the Study of Social Policy; former Chief Operating Officer, Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative; former Assistant Commissioner, Tennessee Department of Children's Services

Eric Fenner: Managing Director, Strategic Consulting, Casey Family Programs; former Executive Director, Franklin County Children Services