



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 6, 2018

Announcing the 2019 Neighborhood Leadership Fellows Cohort

*Advanced Leadership Training to Increase
St. Louis Promise Zone Civic Engagement*



St. Louis, MO: Creating Whole Communities, in partnership with University of Missouri- St. Louis, University of Missouri Extension, and St. Louis Promise Zone- St. Louis Economic Development Partnership, is proud to announce the 2019 Neighborhood Leadership Fellows Cohort Class. The 2019 Cohort consists of 25 leaders from North St. Louis City and North St. Louis County:

Name	City	County	City Wards / County Municipalities
Sandra Abron		✓	Pine Lawn
Julia Allen	✓		4 th Ward – The Ville
Sherri Bailey	✓		26 th Ward – Academy
Amanda Davis	✓		1 st Ward – Kingsway East
Colleen Durfee		✓	University City
Alana Flowers		✓	Woodson Terrace
Niya Foster		✓	Hillsdale
Ernest Gauss	✓		27 th Ward – Walnut Park East
Francesca Griffin		✓	Ferguson – Ward 3
Montrinaa Hill	✓		21 st Ward – O’Fallon
Gary Johnson		✓	Jennings
Beverly Jones	✓		5 th Ward – Carr Square
Cathy Lovins		✓	Ferguson
Angela Mayes	✓		27 th Ward – Walnut Park
Pamela McLucas	✓		18 th Ward – Lewis Place
Rene Murph		✓	Moline Acres
Phedra Nelson		✓	Ferguson – Ward 1
Tosha Phonix	✓		27 th Ward – North Point
Melanie Randels		✓	Ferguson – Ward 3
Marcel Scaife		✓	Jennings
Lisa Smith		✓	North St. Louis County
Tonnie Smith	✓		26 th Ward – West End
Danielle Stewart	✓		1 st Ward – Kingsway West
Ja-Mes Watson	✓		3 rd Ward – Hyde Park
Terry Wilson		✓	Jennings

The mission of Neighborhood Leadership Fellows is to increase the voices of North St. Louis City and North County residents at the civic decision-making tables in order to produce more equitable regional policies for neighborhoods. The primary geographic focus for the program is the federally designated St. Louis Promise Zone.



CREATING WHOLE COMMUNITIES
A PARTNERSHIP OF UMSL, MU EXTENSION
AND OUR REGION'S NEIGHBORHOODS

ST. LOUIS
PROMISE
ZONE

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Neighborhood Leadership Fellows is a nine-month leadership training. The program, set to convene on January 10, will meet one weekend a month from January through September 2019. During the Friday and Saturday sessions, participants will engage in shared collaborative learning experiences through dialogue, and presentations among fellows and respective community and state leaders. Educational workshops will cover policies, new research, and innovations that promote equitable neighborhood development in areas of housing, education, economic development, public health and safety. Positional power trainings will give participants the foundational knowledge to lead their communities and to serve effectively on boards, commissions, committees, and in elected office. All participants who are accepted receive a \$2,000 stipend and a UMSL Chancellor's Certificate upon completion.

Accomplishments and Leadership Roles of the 2018 NLF Cohort include:

- Two (2) NLF Fellows filed to run for State Representative; One (1) winning their election in August 2018
- Two (2) NLF Fellows ran and were re-elected to Municipal Aldermanic boards
- NLF Fellow served on the Forward Through Ferguson Executive Director selection committee
- NLF Fellow was selected to be Community Champion for Trailnet
- NLF Fellow was awarded a "Top Ladies Of Distinction: Achieving Excellence" award
- NLF Fellow wrote an op-ed about Police excessive use of force that was published on CNN.com

To learn more about the program, please visit cwc.umsl.edu/nlf/

Neighborhood Leadership Fellows Program Partners:

- Creating Whole Communities (CWC). CWC, formed in 2014, brings together the University of Missouri–St. Louis (School of Social Work, Des Lee Collaborative Vision, and the Public Policy Research Center), University of Missouri Extension (MU Extension), and the St. Louis region's neighborhoods to focus on strengthening our communities. CWC looks to link the resources of the university's local efforts throughout the region to create whole communities.
- St. Louis Promise Zone – St. Louis Economic Development Partnership. The St. Louis Promise Zone program launched in 2013, designates high-poverty urban, rural and tribal communities as Promise Zones in order to increase economic activity, improve educational outcomes, reduce serious and violent crime, invest in transformative development and improve health and wellness.