



MAKING OUR CITY BLOOM

Virtual Celebration



Greater Newark Conservancy



We are so pleased to celebrate with you, Greater Newark Conservancy, and this remarkable group of individuals being honored this evening. Their exceptional leadership, creativity and passion are inspiring and their ongoing contributions to the Greater Newark Conservancy are invaluable!

Thank you,
The Walter and Judy Shipley family



**CONGRATULATIONS
TO GREATER NEWARK CONSERVANCY'S
MAKING OUR CITY BLOOM
HONOREES**

Wilfredo Caraballo, Esq.

Georgie Pinckney

Louis LaSalle

Richard Thigpen

**The New Jersey Institute
for Social Justice**



Greater Newark Conservancy

Greater Newark Conservancy promotes environmental stewardship to improve the quality of life in New Jersey's urban communities. We achieve our mission through our inter-related program areas: Environmental Education, Community Greening & Urban Agriculture, Environmental Justice, and Job Training.

RWJBarnabas Health proudly supports the

Greater Newark Conservancy and congratulates this evening's honorees,

Wilfredo Caraballo, Esq., Corporate Board Trustee at RWJBarnabas Health and

Louis LaSalle, Senior Vice President, Corporate External Affairs at RWJBarnabas Health.



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Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital and
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PROGRAM

OCTOBER 15, 6 PM - 7 PM



Virtual Celebration Greetings and Opening

ABC 7 New York News Anchor

Toni Yates

Welcome and Introduction

Greater Newark Conservancy, Executive Director

Robin Dougherty

Performance by Bri Blvck

Hip-Hop Violinist

Bri Blvck

Honoree Introductions

Louis LaSalle, RWJBarnabas Health, Senior Vice President, Corporate External Affairs

Georgie Pinckney, Prudential Financial, Associate Manager Culture & Engagement, Diversity, Inclusion & Impact

Greater Newark Conservancy Highlights

Highlight video

Chef's Table Demonstration

Cooking Demonstration with Celebrity Chef and restaurateur, **Marcus Samuelsson**

Honoree Introductions

Wilfredo Caraballo, Esq. Gaccione & Pomaco, PC
RWJBarnabas Health

Richard Thigpen, PSEG, Senior Vice President, Corporate Citizenship, PSEG Foundation, Chairman

Performance by Bri Blvck

Hip-Hop Violinist

Bri Blvck

Final Honoree Introduction

Ryan Haygood, Esq, The New Jersey Institute for Social Justice, President and CEO

Closing Remarks

Rachel Schwarz, Board of Directors



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We began with a sense of purpose that lives on today
in our commitment to Newark and communities around the world.

**Prudential is proud to support the Greater Newark Conservancy's
Making Our City Bloom Celebration. Congratulations to all of the honorees.**

Visit prudential.com/newark



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**HATS OFF TO ROBIN AND HER WONDERFUL
STAFF FOR CARRYING ON THROUGHOUT
THESE CHALLENGING TIMES.**

MARILYN PFALTZ
PLANTING SEEDS. GROWING COMMUNITY. CHANGING LIVES.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD CO-CHAIRS

KAREN WEXLER



DAVID ROSENBERG



Although we had to cancel our Annual Gala in May due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we are thrilled to be able to present this Virtual Celebration, and thank you for joining us. We are very happy to be able to recognize our esteemed honorees, all of whom have made major contributions that have impacted the residents of Newark and the wider New Jersey community. We also celebrate the wonderful work Greater Newark Conservancy has done over the past year.

Clearly, the pandemic has limited many of the activities we ordinarily offer, but through the hard work of our fantastic staff, the Conservancy has been able to continue some of our programs virtually, including “Camp Green STEAM” this past summer, Family Fun in the Kitchen, and our farm stands. We were also able to continue to offer our “Plot-It-Fresh” program, allowing residents of Newark to grow their own fruits and vegetables at the Hawthorne Avenue Urban Farm. We have even added some new educational opportunities, including the virtual Tuesday night “Know It and Grow It” series, offering gardening advice from 4 Newark-based growers, and the #EveryoneGetsaGarden program, which teaches valuable skills and sustainable gardening practices by providing families with the resources and tools needed to start their own home gardens. And in the re-entry area, the Conservancy has begun to host a support group for individuals who are returning to society after incarceration.

The Conservancy is very proud to continue addressing the issue of food insecurity in Newark, which has been exacerbated by the pandemic. Since March, we have joined with other nonprofits and the UMDNJ School of Medicine to bag and deliver, weekly, fresh produce and other essential food items to more than 2000 vulnerable Newark seniors and families. Some of that food came from our own amazing farm. To date, we have delivered over 500,000 pounds of food to people in need.

We would like to extend a special thank-you to Robin Dougherty, Executive Director; Michele Robinson, Director of External Relations; Amanda Gaglio, Database Manager/Fundraising Assistant; and Rachel Schwarz, Development Committee Chair, for their tireless efforts towards making this event a success. We would also like to thank the employees and members of the Board of Trustees of Greater Newark Conservancy for their support, and express gratitude to our donors and funders for recognizing the importance of our work. Lastly, thank you to the staff of CareSparc Consulting, who worked with the Greater Newark Conservancy team to make the vision for our Virtual Celebration bloom.

As you can see, despite living through strange and trying times, we have quite a bit to celebrate! We hope you enjoy our program.

David Rosenberg and Karen Wexler
Co-chairs, Greater Newark
Conservancy Board of Directors

**WE ARE HAPPY TO
CELEBRATE THE
GREATER NEWARK
CONSERVANCY AND
ANOTHER YEAR OF
WONDERFUL WORK.**

**KAREN WEXLER AND
JEFF FARINA**



**NEWARK DESERVES TO BE A CITY THAT
BLOOMS! THANKS TO GREATER NEWARK
CONSERVANCY FOR DOING VITAL WORK.**

SAM HUBER



MISTRESS OF CEREMONIES

TONI YATES, MISTRESS OF CEREMONIES ABC-NEW YORK ANCHOR

Toni Yates was born and raised in Jacksonville, Florida. She is a proud Seminole, having graduated from Florida State University with a major in Communications. Toni started her career in Savannah, Georgia, first as a reporter at WTOG, then with WASV as weekend co-anchor. She has twice returned to her hometown where she was a reporter for WTLV, and during a second stint reporter weekend co-anchor for WJXT. She also held two jobs in Norfolk, Virginia, delivering morning news while working a second job as Communications Director for the March of Dimes. Toni moved farther up the east coast and came to WABC-New York after spending several years in Philadelphia, where she was promoted from weekend anchor-medical reporter to weekday anchor. Toni has three children, Austyn, Alexis, and Gabriel. She resides in New Jersey and is a member of the National Association of Black Journalists. Through most of her career, Toni has been involved with the Girl Scouts.



2000 FAMILIES FED WEEKLY.

Rachel Schwarz and Marc Schiffman are proud to support Greater Newark Conservancy for its critical impact in the community.



*"All the best to
the Conservancy
as you go forward."*

**-Frank & Judy
Adamo**



**Congratulates this evening's
Greater Newark Conservancy Making
Our City Bloom Honorees:**

Wilfredo Caraballo, Esq., RWJBarnabas Health, Gaccione
& Pomaco, P.C.

Louis LaSalle, RWJBarnabas Health

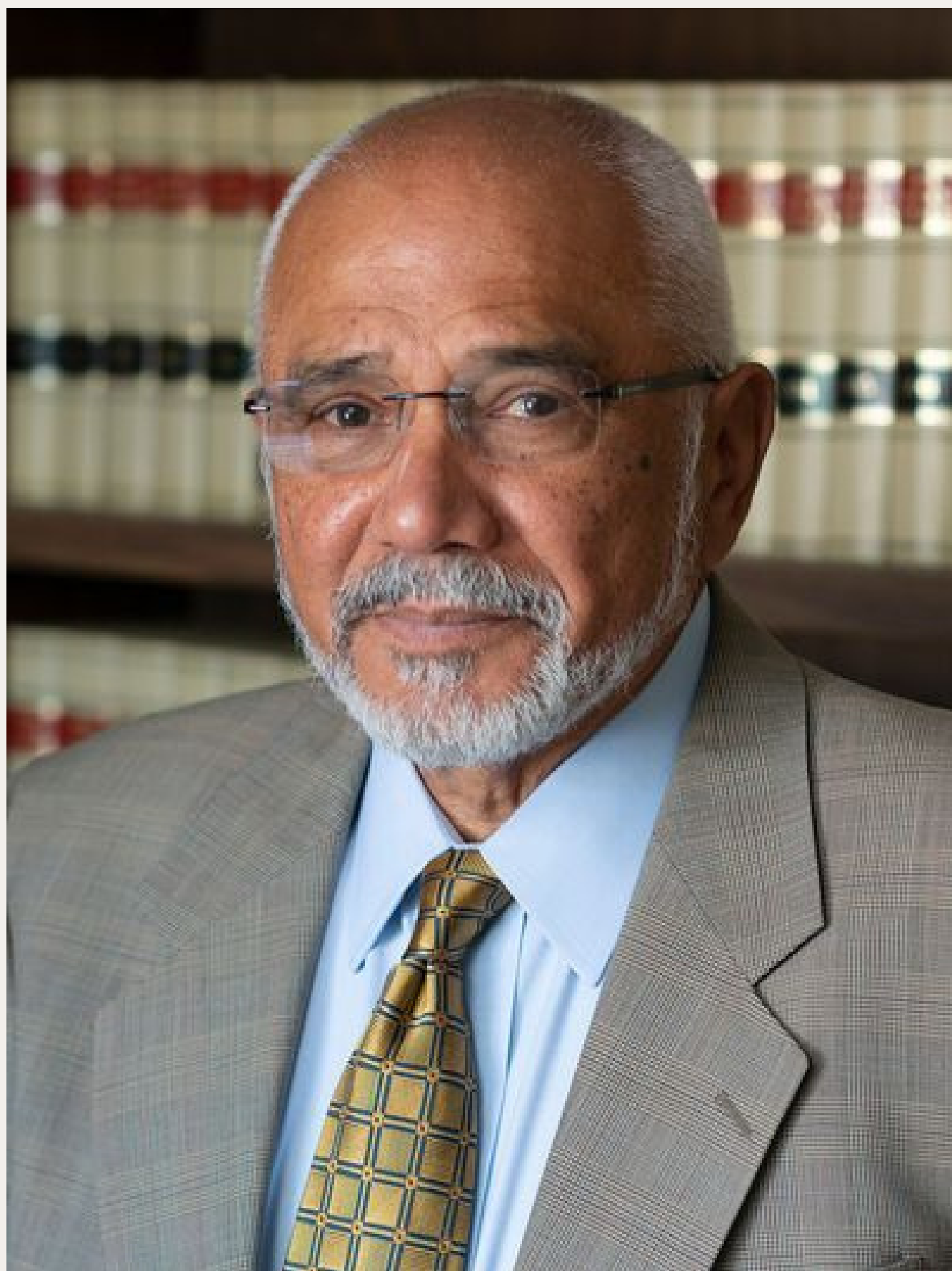
Georgie Pinckney, Prudential Financial

Richard T. Thigpen, PSEG

The New Jersey Institute for Social Justice



MEET OUR 2020 HONOREES



Wilfredo Caraballo, Esq.

GACCIONE & POMACO, PC
RWJBARNABAS HEALTH

Born in Puerto Rico and a proud product of the South Bronx, Wilfredo has valued service and hard work his whole life. After attending seminary school Wilfredo then went on to NYU School of Law where he became a lawyer specializing in Real Estate Law. An esteemed and respected public servant, he has served with several organizations including being the first person of Latino decent to serve on the Board of Clara Maass Medical Center, an elected member of New Jersey General Assembly, and a member of the Dr. Martin Luther King Memorial Commission.

Congratulations!

Thank you for all the
great work you do.

Wilfredo Caraballo, Esq.
Gaccione & Pomaco, PC RWJBarnabas
Health

Georgie Pinckney
Prudential Financial, Associate Manager
Culture & Engagement, Diversity,
Inclusion & Impact

Louis LaSalle
RWJBarnabas Health, Senior Vice
President, Corporate External Affairs

Richard Thigpen
PSEG, Senior Vice President, Corporate
Citizenship PSEG Foundation, Chairman

The New Jersey Institute for Social Justice
President and CEO,
Ryan Haygood, Esq.

GACCIONE & POMACO, P.C.



THANK YOU FOR SERVING OUR COMMUNITY.

KAREN AND DAVID ROSENBERG

Communities made stronger

We are proud to participate in the Greater Newark Conservancy's *Making Our City Bloom Virtual Celebration* in support of their commitment to improving the quality of life in New Jersey's urban communities.

www.pwc.com



Ryan Haygood, Esq.

THE NEW JERSEY INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL
JUSTICE, PRESIDENT AND CEO

Ryan, a nationally respected civil rights lawyer has been the president and CEO of New Jersey Institute for Social Justice since 2015. Using his legal expertise Ryan helps to advance the Institute's work and goal of empowering New Jersey's urban communities through meaningful job connection, affordable housing, credit, and democratic processes. As a passionate advocate, Ryan has spoken and written regularly on issues concerning race, social justice, and democracy and is frequently interviewed by media outlets, including: the Star Ledger, WBGO, MSNBC, CNN, National Public Radio, and the New York Times.



The Institute
is grateful to be honored
and congratulates
the other Honorees
on receiving the
Greater Newark Conservancy
Nelson Mandela Freedom Award



www.njisj.org



[njisj_org](https://twitter.com/njisj_org)



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**Congratulations to
the 2020 Making
Our City Bloom
honorees!**

Sam Convissor



**Serving communities. Changing Lives.
What matters to you matters to us.**

At EY, we're proud to support Greater Newark Conservancy. It's one of the ways we're helping to make our community a better place to work and live. A better and brighter future starts with all of us.

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Louis LaSalle

RWJBARNABAS HEALTH, SENIOR VICE
PRESIDENT, CORPORATE EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Lou, who has been with Saint Barnabas Medical Center since 1990, is widely recognized by his colleagues as a community-minded professional who skillfully gathers the best resources to help foster a sense of community and purpose for New Jersey residents. Lou has tirelessly devoted himself to a number of organizations such as the American Heart Association, Northern NJ Division, the Essex County Parks Foundation, and North Essex Chamber of Commerce.

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**Greater Newark Conservancy's
2020 Making Our City Bloom Gala**

and congratulates this year's honorees



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for Helping the City Where Our
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Georgie Pinckney

PRUDENTIAL FINANCIAL, ASSOCIATE
MANAGER CULTURE & ENGAGEMENT,
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In her role with Prudential, Georgie has managed hundred of events and ongoing projects that focus on a multitude of charitable areas including; clothing and food donations for local shelters, middle school beautification projects, soup kitchen lunch programs, and beautification projects with both Greater Newark Conservancy and Branch Brook Park. In 2019 alone she managed over 100 team building events. A devoted employee, Georgie has an ever positive and joyous energy that uplifts everyone she interacts with.



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We are proud to support
Greater Newark Conservancy's
Making Our City Bloom Celebration
and we join with them in honoring

Wilfredo Caraballo, Esq.

*Corporate Board Trustee- RWJBarnabas Health
Gaccione & Pomaco, PC*

New Jersey Institute for Social Justice

*Presented to
Ryan P. Haygood, Esq.
President & CEO*

Louis LaSalle

*Senior Vice President- Corporate External Affairs
RWJBarnabas Health*

Georgie Pinckney

*Associate Manager, Corporate Engagement
Diversity, Inclusion & Impact
Prudential Financial, Inc.*

Richard T. Thigpen

*Senior Vice President- Corporate Citizenship
PSEG*



The MCJ Amelior Foundation

Mary Jo Nutt



Richard Thigpen

PSEG, SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT,
CORPORATE CITIZENSHIP
PSEG FOUNDATION, CHAIRMAN

Richard is responsible for PSEG's areas of business that drive public policy through advocacy, including federal, state and local government affairs, sustainability, charitable activities and corporate social responsibility. With a long history of service, Mr. Thigpen has been a member of a number of organizations including the Regional Plan Association board, the American Association of Blacks in Energy's National Board, and a chair of the Legislative Issues and Public Policy Committee.





Greater Newark Conservancy —
We're proud to support you

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BRI BLVCK

HIP-HOP VIOLINIST

North Carolina native, Bri Blvck is a hip hop violinist and singer/songwriter who created experiences and sets a vibe through her thought provoking and creative performances. She is known for seducing crowds with the harmonies and bass lines of her original Neosoul music. Blvck has been playing violin for 13 years and was classically trained. As she was studying music in college, Blvck became bored with the limitations of classical music. She then began exploring other genres and fell in love with playing music that was closest to her soul. She is currently performing all throughout the tri-state area as well as in the subway of New York City.

In honor of Karen Wexler
and her committed,
compassionate, and
caring work on behalf of
the Greater Newark
Conservancy

The Wexler Family



CONGRATULATES THE HONOREES:

Wilfredo Caraballo, Esq.

Gaccione & Pomaco, PC RWJBarnabas Health

Georgie Pinckney

Prudential Financial, Associate Manager Culture & Engagement, Diversity, Inclusion & Impact

Louis LaSalle

RWJBarnabas Health, Senior Vice President, Corporate External Affairs

Richard Thigpen

PSEG, Senior Vice President, Corporate Citizenship
PSEG Foundation, Chairman

The New Jersey Institute for Social Justice
President and CEO, **Ryan Haygood, Esq.**

Honorable Luis A. Quintana
Councilman-At-Large
Vice President – City of
Newark Municipal Council



**HONORABLE LAMONICA R. MCIVER
CENTRAL WARD COUNCILWOMAN**

CONGRATULATES THE HONOREES:



WILFREDO CARABALLO, ESQ.
GACCIONE & POMACO, PC RWJBARNABAS HEALTH

GEORGIE PINCKNEY
PRUDENTIAL FINANCIAL, ASSOCIATE MANAGER CULTURE & ENGAGEMENT, DIVERSITY, INCLUSION & IMPACT

LOUIS LASALLE
RWJBARNABAS HEALTH, SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT, CORPORATE EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

RICHARD THIGPEN
PSEG, SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT, CORPORATE CITIZENSHIP PSEG FOUNDATION, CHAIRMAN

THE NEW JERSEY INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE PRESIDENT AND CEO,
RYAN HAYGOOD, ESQ.

MARCUS SAMUELSSON

CELEBRITY CHEF, RESTAURATEUR

Marcus Samuelsson is an award-winning chef, restaurateur, cookbook author, philanthropist, and food activist. Marcus was recently honored as a guest chef at the White House under the Obama administration, where he planned and executed the administration’s first state dinner for the first family, Prime Minister Singh of India, and 400 guests. Marcus has been honored by the prestigious James Beard Foundation on multiple occasions, including “Rising Star Chef” (1999), Best Chef: New York City” (2003) and “Best International Cookbook” (2007). He continues to maintain humility with regard to the art of food and his UNICEF endeavors, working toward immunization and curbing malnutrition for children throughout the world.



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To all of this year's honorees
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*Congratulations to all of the Honorees and
Thank you for everything you do for our community*



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**TO GREATER NEWARK
CONSERVANCY'S MAKING
OUR CITY BLOOM HONOREES,
THANK YOU FOR ALL OF THE
GREAT WORK YOU DO!**

JONATHAN PUESCHEL

**Congratulations to this year's honorees and
thank you for the great work you all do!**

Katie Porter



Louis Henston
**Congratulates this evening's
honorees:**

Wilfredo Caraballo, Esq.

Gaccione & Pomaco, PC RWJBarnabas Health

Georgie Pinckney

*Prudential Financial, Associate Manager Culture &
Engagement, Diversity, Inclusion & Impact*

Louis LaSalle

*RWJBarnabas Health, Senior Vice President, Corporate
External Affairs*

Richard Thigpen

*PSEG, Senior Vice President, Corporate Citizenship PSEG
Foundation, Chairman*

*The New Jersey Institute for Social Justice President and
CEO, Ryan Haygood, Esq.*

We are proud to support
the Making Our City Bloom Virtual
Celebration and the Greater
Newark Conservancy
for educational and outreach
programs that serve and enrich the
community year-round.

J.P.Morgan

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Robin L. Dougherty

Nutrition Education Coordinator

Megan Sweet

Director of External Relations

Michele Robinson

NYLP Coordinator

Malcolm McCain

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Landscape Supervisor

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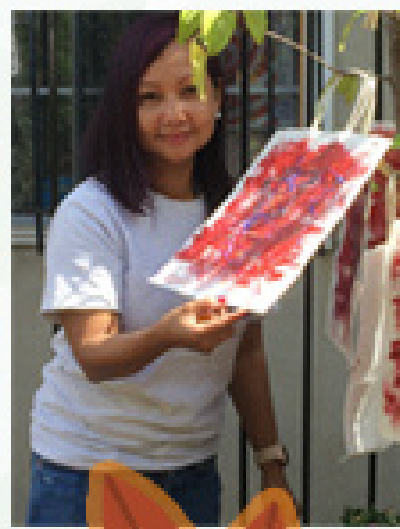
Administrative Assistant

Naimah Evans

Landscape Assistant

Akeem Jones





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