



C2
Leadership
Institute

*Cultivating Leaders at the Intersection of
Church and Community*

C2 LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE
FALL '22 COHORT

Graduation

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2022

3:00 PM - 4:30 PM PT

Virtually on Zoom Events



Featured Speakers

EMCEE BY



Hyepin Im

CEO & President

Faith & Community Empowerment (FACE)

CONGRATULATORY REMARKS BY



Debby Berman

Jewish Federation of Greater LA
Assistant Director, Education &
Community Outreach



Deepa Bharath

The Associated Press
Religion News Reporter



Bob Binnie

First Citizens Bank
SVP, Risk & CRA Programs



Bishop Grant Hagiya

California Pacific
Conference of the UMC
Resident Bishop



Consul Youngwan Kim

Korean Consulate of LA
Consul General



**Assemblyman
Duy Nguyen**

Nevada State Assembly
Assemblymember



Rev. Dr. Mark Whitlock

Reid Temple AME Church
Senior Pastor



Rev. Gary Williams

Saint Mark UMC
Senior Pastor

Fall '22 Cohort Graduates



Baldwin Avendano
Calexico UMC
Calexico, CA



Cathie Capp
University UMC
Irvine, CA



Karin Ellis
La Canada UMC
La Canada, CA



Sione 'John' Finau
Parker UMC
Kaneohe, HI



Rev. James Jin
Hanmi Grace Church
Tampa, FL



Christian Jung
First UMC of Reseda
Reseda, CA



Brenda Kilioni-Paongo
Trinity UMC
Pomona, CA



Eunbok Kim
Keystone Korean
Baptist Church
Odessa, FL



Rae Lathrop
Desert Spring UMC
Las Vegas, NV



Samuel Nam
Aiea UMC
Aiea, HI



Marcy Palos
Restore LA CDC
Los Angeles, CA



Jun Park
Relief Aid for North Korea
Los Angeles, CA



Gina Pollard
City Square Church
Phoenix, AZ



David Rennick
First UMC of Phoenix
Phoenix, AZ



Thomas Rice
First UMC of Phoenix
Phoenix, AZ



Jayson Shone
Hillside LA
El Sereno, CA



Akanesi Tupou
Morongo Basin
Cooperative Parish
Morongo Basin, CA



Rick Uhls
Shepherd of the Hills UMC
Mission Viejo, CA



Eve Williams
Advent UMC
Las Vegas, NV



Chris Wurpts
North Scottsdale UMC
Scottsdale, AZ

2022 Graduation Program

Welcome | C2 Overview
Hyepin Im, FACE CEO/President

Opening Remarks & Prayer
Bishop Grant Hagiya, Resident Bishop, CalPAC UMC

C2 Fellow Presentation
Rev. Cathie Capp, University UMC Irvine

C2 Fellow Testimonies
Rev. Baldwin Avendano, Calexico United Methodist Church
Rev. Karin Ellis, La Canada United Methodist Church
Rev. Sione 'John' Finau, Parker UMC

Special Sponsor Remarks
Bob Binnie, SVP, Risk & CRA Programs, First Citizens Bank

Special Sponsor Remarks
Consul General Youngwan Kim, Korean Consulate of Los Angeles

Special C2 Alumni Remarks
Consul General Youngwan Kim, Korean Consulate of Los Angeles

C2 Fellow Presentation
Rev. Samuel Nam, Aiea United Methodist Church

C2 Fellow Testimonies
Rev. Rev. Brenda Kilioni-Paongo, Trinity UMC
Rev. Eunbok Kim, Keystone Korean Baptist Church
Rae Lathrop, Desert Spring UMC

Special Remarks
Rev. Dr. Mark Whitlock, Senior Pastor, Reid Temple AME Church

C2 Fellow Presentation
Jayson Shone, Hillside LA

C2 Fellow Testimonies
Marcy Palos, Restore LA CDC
Jun Park, RANK - Relief Aid for North Korea
Rev. Gina Pollard, City Square Church
Rev. David Rennick, First United Methodist of Phoenix

Special Elected Remarks
Assemblyman Duy Nguyen, Nevada State Assembly

Special Partnership Remarks
Debby Berman, Assistant Director, Education & Community Outreach Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles

C2 Fellow Presentation
Rev. Eve Williams, Advent United Methodist Church

C2 Fellow Testimonies
Thomas Rice, First United Methodist of Phoenix
Rev. Akanesi Tupou, Morongo Basin Cooperative Parish
Rev. Rick Uhls, Shepherd of the Hills UMC
Rev. Chris Wurpts, North Scottsdale United Methodist Church

Presentation of the Fall '22 Graduates

Closing Remarks
Deepa Bharath, Religion News Reporter, The Associated Press

2022 C2 Graduate Highlights



Rev. Baldwin Avendano
Calexico United Methodist Mission
Calexico, CA

Project | Loving Our Neighbors

Testimony

"My name is Baldwin Avendano, I am the pastor of Calexico United Methodist Church and director of Loving our Neighbors, assistance program for migrants. My journey through C2 Leadership Institute definitely was challenging but so encouraging at the same time. I was inspired to continue finding different ways and strategies so that our program can grow and be able to reach goals we have not accomplished in the past. Hyepin and her team were very supportive all the time for me and for our church's community program. During each session I was able to perceive from them a great interest in building along with you, step by step, the development of your initiative by each one of the different tasks, tools, resources, they are able to equip you with. I am convinced that after been assisted by FACE, our program will have great success in reaching our goals."

Project Pitch

I am Baldwin Avendano pastor of Calexico Methodist Church, and director of "Loving Our Neighbors" assistance program for migrants. Our mission is to love asylum seekers, wherever and whoever they are, providing support in their emotional, spiritual and physical needs. We collaborate with the Department of Homeland Security, Border Patrol, CBP, Border Compassion, Catholic Charities, United Methodist Committee on Relief, Jewish Families, ACLU, and many others. CBP reports for 2022 a record-breaking of 2.4 million migrant encounters at the border with Mexico, in addition, those at federal facilities, and several more in Mexico seeking asylum. Since we launched in December 2018, we have served over 10,000 migrants on both sides of the border with food, clothing, women and baby products, hygiene & health kits, and much more; we also assist refugees released by ICE and CBP with transportation and providing shelter. We serve individuals and family units of different nationalities, victims of extreme violence and injustice. We can't change their past, but we are here to make a difference in their present. Please join us in helping them through this journey!

2022 C2 Graduate Highlights



Rev. Catherine Capp
University United Methodist Church Irvine
Irvine, CA

Project | SHINE Initiative – Breaking Silos,
Building Bridges, Cultivating Community

Testimony

"Throughout my life I have learned the most fruitful growth involves stepping outside our comfort zones and being pushed toward excellence by trusted mentors and colleagues. My C2 Leadership Institute experience has again proved this lesson. When first approached with the C2 Leadership Institute opportunity I was both honored and concerned – concerned about time and whether this program would actually prove fruitful. Evidence of good fruit abounds already, benefiting my congregation and the greater community. Collaborative events with our diverse worshipping community and facility sharers have increased, and we are inspired to be beacons of light reaching new heights. Gratitude abounds for Hyepin and FACE for this opportunity, and my cohort who encouraged and inspired me. I will continue to SHINE my light everywhere I go."

Project Pitch

I am Cathie Capp, Lead Pastor at University United Methodist Church in Irvine. "Belong" is one of our Core Values, and UUMC Irvine has lived this out for decades, inviting community groups to meet on our campus as well as extending interfaith hospitality to both Jewish and Muslim Groups. Our 37 year partnership with Families Forward, as well as Scouts, 12-step groups, Children's Choirs, and more makes for a vibrant, bustling campus, but the need for belonging still exists. In the past two years religious and racial hate crimes against grew by 34% and isolation increased. Individuals and families long for belonging and purpose in community, as shared by Lydia, a mother attending a recent event. Our goal is to break silos, build bridges, and cultivate community between the church and the community at large. Addressing these physical and emotional hungers, our mission to Share, Hope, Inspire, Nurture, Everyone – or SHINE – will provide a meal, engaging activities, and opportunities for learning and community service across ages, languages, and faith traditions.

Will you be a bridge in the community through partnership?

2022 C2 Graduate Highlights



Rev. Karin Ellis

La Canada United Methodist Church

La Canada, CA

Project | The Oaks Youth Center

Testimony

"I have enjoyed being a part of the the 2022 Pastor Cohort. During my initial interview with Hyepin, she explained that this program would take a lot of work and time and she was right! It has been challenging, but I have learned so much. I now have some of the tools necessary to better engage and partner with the community in order to shine both my light and the light of our church. I have also really enjoyed getting to know my fellow colleagues and am so grateful for the wonderful work they are doing! I will carry with me the tools and wisdom I have gained as I help our church become a visible and viable presence in the community. "

Project Pitch

Hi! I am Karin Ellis, Senior Pastor at La Canada UMC in La Canada, CA. We have been serving the community for 58 years. Our church would like to create a youth center for the youth of our community. Currently, there is not a place in our community dedicated for youth is grades 7-12 to gather and have meaningful interaction.

Youth today are struggling. 45% of California youth between the ages of 12-17 reported having struggled with mental health issues. Anxiety, pressure to do well in school, drugs, and family dynamics all weigh heavily on our youth. Our youth need to know they are loved and cherished.

Our Youth Center will be open after school. The students will be able to do their homework, play games, engage in meaningful conversations, and participate in a service project once a month. They will also interact with positive adult mentors who will help with homework.

Our church is located right across the street from the public junior and high schools. Previously, we reached out to the students by offering snacks after school, and we would like to restart that program on January 11. This would be the launching event to help establish a safe place for youth to gather on our campus.

Will you partner with us?

2022 C2 Graduate Highlights



Rev. Sione 'John' Finau
Parker United Methodist Church
Kaneohe, HI

Project | 'New Beginnings' An After School Initiative

Testimony

"As I reflect on my C2 Leadership Institute experience, I am thankful for the relationships that I have been able to build-starting with Hyepin. Through this amazing program and cohort, I am thankful for the new brothers and sisters that I have in California & Arizona. I am also thankful for the relationships that I have been able to build with experts in fields of social justice & community building. As I leave the C2 Leadership Institute program, one lesson that I can take away is that you must never be afraid to ask for help! Whether that is asking for help from a member who wants to participate in ministry outside of the Church, or help from local organizations that are also passionate about helping others in the community. As our Church celebrates it's 95th anniversary next year - we must ask ourselves "How can we partner with our community?" And I am thankful for this program that has provided me tips, tools and relationships that I can confidently share with my church leaders as we seek to partner with our community.

Project Pitch

Mahalo and thank you!

Aloha my name is Rev Sione at Parker UMC in Kaneohe, Hawaii. Our mission for over 95 years has been to be connected in Prayer, All & Serve. As a multicultural & multigenerational church, we have the opportunity to serve our low-income community.

Through Community Partnership we have been able to provide food for over 1000 families and fundraise over \$5,000 to help support local struggling families. The need for our after school Initiative - "New Beginnings" came out of the concerns of our young families. Hawaii is the most expensive state to live in and it is a struggle! New Beginnings at Parker UMC will be providing after School Mentorship & Tutoring. This is in partnership with Ben Parker Elementary & Grace Common a local nonprofit mentoring program. Our After School initiative will start in the New School year of 2023 and will be offered on Monday - Friday, from 3-6 pm. We will be helping over 25 Student with focus on Math & English. We hope that as the program grows, to provide mentorship, relationship & clothing to local families & children.

Again, my name is Rev. Sione Finau, Will you partner with us for 'New Beginnings' at Parker UMC.

2022 C2 Graduate Highlights



Rev. Christian Jung
*First United Methodist Church of Reseda
Reseda, CA*

Project | Kingdom Common Grounds

Testimony

"First, thank you, C2 Leadership Institute, for bringing us to where we are today. I would like to say that these few months with my fellow cohorts were rewarding and intriguing. It was rewarding because I was motivated to put forth an idea in a presentable form before potential partners. So, once an abstract dream became a concrete vision. The venue provided a safe place to shape the vision and set goals. At times, however, the requirements seemed grueling and stressful regarding preparation and procedures. Yet, the process provided a platform to express our hearts for God's mission and dream further into the future of that endeavor. Thank you again."

Project Pitch

I am Christian Jung, Senior Pastor of Reseda UMC in CA. I have 20 years of ministry experience, having served 7 churches throughout the country, planted homeless ministry in all 7, a food pantry in 4, and prison ministry in 3 of those churches. The dream of Kingdom Common Grounds began after filming a school project in Texas with a homeless named Bobby. What he said at the end changed my life: "Christian, these few hours with you were the best time of my life!" If our common ground of the moment can spark life in a person, I will invest my life in building such a common ground! Now, I envision a coffee house called Kingdom Common Grounds where dreams are brewed, hopes rise... It's where people come to share their gifts to experience the abundance of life. As a seeding ministry, our farmers market-style Kingdom Food Pantry serves over 700 people weekly to counter 70,000 cases of homelessness LA County experienced this year! We partner with Rescue Mission, LA Family Housing, and Dignity Health to bring mobile showers and health clinics to the needy. We also provide hot meals, free clothes, and counseling for their immediate needs.

Now, we dream of a laundromat, hair salon, and much more! Will you partner with us to see our dream come true?

2022 C2 Graduate Highlights



Rev. Brenda Kilioni-Paongo
Trinity United Methodist Church
Pomona, CA

Project | Beloved Pomona

Testimony

"C2 Leadership Institute has been a great resource for our class and my individual ministry in moving us all to think outside of the box that we've come to be so accustomed to. The gifts and resources available and shared in these past few months to better equip ourselves and our settings in serving the needs of our communities are beyond words yet encourages all to tap in to what we currently have and to let it shine for the greater good."

Project Pitch

Hi, I'm Brenda Kilioni Paongo, lead pastor of Trinity United Methodist Church located at the heart of old town Pomona. Established in 1953. We have been serving the community of Pomona for over 25 years through feeding programs, and being one of the few locations to offer free showers to our homeless and at-need neighbors. Our space is also used as a retreat center. For instance, Kairos Outside Prison Ministry of Southern California since 1990 addressing the spiritual needs of spouses, parents, and relatives of those in prison; for loved ones often do time right along with their loved ones. Today, Pomona is the 5th largest city in Los Angeles County made up of a diverse population of over 160,000+

residents. 71.5% are Hispanics. Here are some figures that call for our attention to the urgent needs of many trapped in the cycle of poverty and hopelessness. We're striving to expand our collaboration with current partners to partner with existing organizations already in place in our neighborhood to help those in need. The space created is working with partners on setting a set date and time for our first community engagement to be announced soon. We're envisioning a transformed Pomona where ALL have A hope and a future. Will you partner with us? CHECK us OUT.

2022 C2 Graduate Highlights



Rev. Eun Bok Kim
Keystone Korean Baptist Church
Odessa, FL

Project | Tampa Bay Korean Center &
Affordable Housing Initiative

Testimony

"I am so grateful to have met Hyepin Im, she introduced me to the C2 Leadership Institute. The past few months, I have learned many valuable skills and connections to help better my church and community. The C2 Leadership Institute program gave me the opportunity to network and discover community partners that support the needs of our community. I understand the importance of reaching out to community leaders directly to voice certain community needs.."

Project Pitch

Hello, my name is Eun Bok Kim. I am the senior pastor at Keystone Korean Baptist Church. I am pleased to share our Tampa Bay Korean Community Center and Affordable Housing Initiative. 38 years ago I came to the US, I started as a dishwasher and ended up opening five restaurants. In my work, I am very familiar with the struggles of being an immigrant. Our mission is to positively impact those in need which was inspired by Scriptures. Living in Florida, I noticed the elderly population has had the highest population growth at 64%. Florida suffers the highest rent increase in the US. We have a large Korean presence of 25,000 in the Tampa Bay area. Many Korean immigrants face high language barriers which lead to various challenges and yet there is not a single Korean community center available to serve the community. Our vision is to build affordable housing and community center that will provide housing and educational opportunities for the local community. Currently we have 2 acres of vacant land available to make this vision possible. The community center will include our vision of a gymnasium, financial literacy programs, and a daycare for children and elderly. Instead of waiting to help seniors, we recently hosted our first senior housing application seminar which was a success. We are honored to have so many different partners on board. We hope you will also partner with us as well.

2022 C2 Graduate Highlights



Rev. Rae Lathrop
Desert Spring United Methodist Church
Las Vegas, NV

Project | Connectable

Project Pitch

My name is Rae Lathrop and I'm proud to work for the Desert Spring Community Resource Center, which is an initiative of the Desert Spring UMC. DSUMC has 30 years of community involvement in southern Nevada. One of our flagship programs is an advent donation made to local or global organizations now totalling over \$400,000. In 2020, the advent donation was used to seed the Community Resource Center, which started as a food pantry and has seen tremendous growth since. We've been able to match that initial investment with funding from Clark County, State of Nevada, and Three Square food bank. As we've grown our program, I've talked with a client about their lives and sometimes the circumstances that brings them to us. We know that food insecurity is linked to other larger concerns and trend right alongside other economic indicators. The national low income housing coalitions says that for every 10% increase in the share of households severely cost-burdened is linked to 86,000 more people who are food insecure. That's why we are launching, connectable – a supportive program that matches clients of our food pantry with volunteers to walk alongside with them to find pathways for self sufficiency and independence. We're using the Open Table framework, an evidence based social program, that has shown high success with clients. Volunteers will work together as a team – and use their own experiences to support clients.

What we've learned the most since we launched the food pantry, is that it's lonely right now. If you're worried where your next meal may come from, you probably don't have anyone else to count on. You can be a part of this program by giving your time and expertise, referring anyone as a client, or giving a donation to support the ongoing training and program management. Thank you.

2022 C2 Graduate Highlights



Rev. Samuel Nam
Aiea United Methodist Church
Aiea, HI
Project | Tech Literacy Collab

Testimony

" C2 Leadership Institute compelled us to think of ministry outside the walls of our church, to be outward focused in shining our light brightly. C2 Leadership Institute reminded me of the power of connection and partnership in ministry and in life. The coursework was demanding, probably on par with a seminary-level class and Hyepin always came prepared, ready to equip us with new tools and expose us to expert advice. I am grateful for this experience."

Project Pitch

Aloha, my name is Sam Nam and I am the senior pastor of Aiea United Methodist Church and I also lead Tech Literacy Collab(TLC), a community initiative of Aiea UMC whose aim is to educate the seniors in our community to safely navigate the digital landscape.

AUMC began as a small Japanese language fellowship 122 years ago and in our rich history, we have maintained close ties with the community and our multicultural heritage. The pandemic lockdowns of 2 years ago compelled many in our community to do more of their interactions online whether it was school, work, church worship, or basic commerce and communication. The trouble is that many of our older adults have often fallen behind by not adapting or fallen victim to scammers. Last year alone in the state of Hawaii 470 seniors reported being scammed via emails and text messages. We even had a scammer emailing my church members recently! We at TLC hope to assist seniors in three specific categories: Communication, eCommerce, and Cybersecurity. The good news is we're not doing this alone. We have potential community partnerships with the United States Navy, our local government officials, two banks, and other non-profits working in related fields. We are always looking to expand our partnerships with like-minded individuals and organizations so I ask: will you partner with us to make a difference?

2022 C2 Graduate Highlights



Marcy Palos
Restore LA CDC
Los Angeles, CA

Project | Dolar Agradable & RLA Students Bank

Testimony

"I have had the privilege of being a part of the Fall 2022 Cohort of C2 Leadership Institute. This cohort has been a huge blessing in assisting me as I transition from a ministry role to a director of a Community Development Corporation (CDC). The C2 Leadership Institute course has taught me how to use practical tools in setting up our CDC as an organization that shines its light and creates great impact for the community we have been serving for decades. We forget in ministry the type of work we do on an everyday basis, the C2 Leadership Institute team has helped us to focus on how the work we are already doing can have a greater impact!"

Project Pitch

Hello I'm Marcy Palos, I'm the President and Founder of RestoreLA-CDC. We are in direct affiliation with Iglesia de Restauracion Los Angeles, one of the Largest Hispanic Churches in Los Angeles. RestoreLA-CDC believes Latino families have the potential of breaking cycles of poverty and generational wealth when giving tools to thrive! The average Latino household in Los Angeles has an income of 40 thousand dollars which is way below the average LA income is 60K thousand dollars. They are also statistically the worse prepared for retirement. Our organization has been serving our community for over 30 years. Which includes relief work which we have done for decades. But after the pandemic we realized we wanted to make a deeper impact and launched RestoreLA-CDC because we knew our communtiy needed change on a deeper level, and since then we have served hundreds of families and counting.

2022 C2 Graduate Highlights



Jun Park
Relief Aid for North Korea
Los Angeles, CA

Project | RANK – Relief Aid for North Korea

Testimony

"I have learned greatly from participating in the 2022 C2 Leadership Institute Cohort. I wanted to get my non-profit, RANK, Relief Aid of North Koreans off the ground and running. Participating in the Cohort allowed me to do it. From input from Hye Pin, the speakers, and fellow members of the Cohort, I learned how to get the funders, partners, and create programs to assist the North Korean refugees and asylum-seekers. I am grateful for the opportunity."

Project Pitch

My name is Jun Park. Since 2018 I have assisted more than 300 unhoused people to obtain temporary and permanent housing as the Housing Coordinator for APCTC. I have 25 years of combined experience from working at the Embassy of Korea, Boys & Girls Club, serving at 5 churches, and running my own business. When I heard the heart-wrenching escape story of a daring NK refugee named Nancy, I started RANK, Relief Aid of North Koreans. As the first organized assistance program focused on North Koreans resettlement in the U.S., RANK's mission is to assist North Koreans to achieve their American Dream. According to WRAPS, Worldwide Refugee Admissions Processing System, there are approximately 300 NK refugees and 250 asylum-seekers in the U.S. since 2000. Also, 7 out of 10 NKs in L.A. need assistance in housing, employment, and education. RANK assists NKs to secure affordable housing, gainful employment, and free tutoring for their children. It has partnered with (HACLA), (LAHSA) and FACE's AAPI Career Initiative, and more. We have served 50 NKs so far & projected to reach 300 in a year.

Will you partner with RANK so that NKs can achieve the American Dream!

2022 C2 Graduate Highlights



Rev. Gina Pollard
City Square Church
Phoenix, AZ

Project | Community Connections: Supper
and Storytelling

Testimony

"The C2 Leadership Institute program gave me three meaningful gifts, and I am forever grateful for them. 1. Tools - Through the interviews, written examples, and one-on-one time with Hyepin Im, I learned about grant writing, press releases, and the importance of leveraging my contacts for resources and assistance. 2. Connections - The time spent with other Fellows, giving and receiving input, and working through this program together was invaluable. I have gained connections that will last a very long time. It was important to gain skills along with others who do much of the same work I do. 3. Confidence - Working on my project has given me the confidence to push forward in seeing the development of my goal of helping people to see beyond their own stories and connect with others. I will forever be grateful for this opportunity. I highly recommend this program."

Project Pitch

Hi, I'm Gina Pollard, Senior Pastor of City Square Church in downtown Phoenix. City Square is committed to connecting to the community in justice and mercy work. We have been active with community partners in providing food and clothing to over 2000 immigrants, the unsheltered, and Native Americans on the reservations in northern Arizona. We understand that connection to those around us is essential for mental and physical health. According to Cigna healthcare research, 53% of all Americans feel lonely and disconnected, which costs approximately \$154B in lost productivity. My project, "Community Connections: Supper and Storytelling," invites people from various backgrounds to find community and connection at the supper table, hearing each other's stories. By pulling topics from current events and areas of individual concern, participants will be invited to share their experiences with the issues in the news. We want to build bridges and reduce loneliness. Building bridges reduces loneliness with the potential for increasing productivity and personal well-being. Will you partner with us to bring better connection and mental health to our community?

2022 C2 Graduate Highlights



Rev. David Rennick
First United Methodist Church of Phoenix
Phoenix, AZ

Project | (TiLT) Times Like These: Tilting people
to health futures facing tough times

Testimony

"The C2 Leadership Institute experience encouraged new ways of collaborating with community resources while connecting with colleagues who have a heart for changing lives for the common good."

Project Pitch

Hello, We are Tom Rice and David Rennick and we bring you an opportunity join us at: TiLT—"Times Like These" We live in difficult times for many and one critical area is having a reliable and sustainable means to get to work. The goal for TiLT is to build pathways and partnerships to overcome transportation insecurities. Our combined years of serving people help us to see the value beyond a handout during times when life tilts off course. Our partnerships with First United Methodist Church of Phoenix and local auto repair businesses has empowered people to find employment or stay employed and combined with financial literacy training has helped them reduce or eliminate debt and be prepared for life's emergencies. We want our partnerships to bring us closer to shaping policy, philanthropy, and culture shifts in systems. In times like this, your investment and partnership can tilt sideways moments into upside successes.

Thank you!

2022 C2 Graduate Highlights



Thomas Rice

First United Methodist Church of Phoenix
Phoenix, AZ

Project I (TiLT) Times Like These: Tilting people
to health futures facing tough times

Testimony

"My name is Tom Rice and I have been a member of First United Methodist Church in Phoenix Arizona since 1989. My C2 Leadership Institute experience has been inspirational, and I feel empowered after hearing the amazing life experiences of my fellow participants. I have gained insight and courage to find ways to assist my community and acquired knowledge which will push me to succeed in my endeavor. I anticipate changing the lives of neighbors in need, and I hope I can inspire others to come forward to assist and bring more ideas to make our community a better place."

Project Pitch

Hello, We are Tom Rice and David Rennick and we bring you an opportunity join us at: TiLT—"Times Like These" We live in difficult times for many and one critical area is having a reliable and sustainable means to get to work. The goal for TiLT is to build pathways and partnerships to overcome transportation insecurities. Our combined years of serving people help us to see the value beyond a handout during times when life tilts off course. Our partnerships with First United Methodist Church of Phoenix and local auto repair businesses has empowered people to find employment or stay employed and combined with financial literacy training has helped them reduce or eliminate debt and be prepared for life's emergencies. We want our partnerships to bring us closer to shaping policy, philanthropy, and culture shifts in systems. In times like this, your investment and partnership can tilt sideways moments into upside successes.

Thank you!

2022 C2 Graduate Highlights



Jayson Shone

Hillside LA

El Sereno, CA

Project | Breaking Bread

Testimony

"Hello! My experience here at C2 Leadership Institute was filled with emotional highs and lows. I have to admit my cohorts were impressive and were great to be in the same virtual rooms with them! What can I say about C2 Leadership Institute, but that C2 Leadership Institute challenged me to think and act on getting the assignments done that played well in strengthening Breaking Bread. Not only did the assignments challenge me, but the speakers had valuable resources and knowledge to share. Hyepin was a great facilitator and kept the pace of the sessions remarkably well along with Mirabelle and Levana, thanks, everyone!. I enjoyed breaking out into small groups with fellow cohorts to discuss and share. To end I was blessed with everyone's prayers lifted up during C2 Leadership Institute!"

Project Pitch

Hello, my name is Jayson Shone *slide* and I am the project coordinator for our homeless initiative "Breaking Bread" at Hillside LA church *slide*. Since 2013 *slide* our mission is to help transition our unhoused neighbors in restoring their dignity, self-sustainability, and into a positive community. On any given night, according to LA County Homeless Initiative, there are 70,000 homeless...49,000 who are on the streets. Today, we've reached over 4,000 people. We've provided 600 mobile showers *slide*, 5,500 meals, 2,500 pcs of clothing by collaborating with *slide* passionate like-minded partners to create a solution for this problem. When we first met Jose, he was homeless and an alcoholic. Walking with Jose, he overcame his addiction and his dream came true by reuniting him with his daughter after 15 years and granddaughter who he has never seen. Through our program, Jose is no longer homeless and is now part of his loved ones lives again. We plan to reach 500 new unhoused neighbors by the end of the upcoming year through training and hiring staff.

Will you partner with us and help many others like Jose? Thank you.

2022 C2 Graduate Highlights



Rev. Akanesi Tupou
Morongo Basin Cooperative Parish
Morongo Basin, CA

Project | Project Neighborhood-Blocking Out Hunger

Testimony

"When I first received the invitation to join the C2 Leadership Institute, my first thought was, how am I going to fit this into my already busy schedule? The first week of this course, we dived into what leadership in the community and faith-based organizations looked like. It revealed to me what church and community could look like when they work in harmony or co-exist. It encouraged me as a pastor to not only utilize the gifts and talents held within my congregations, but even so, that it's ok to explore resources outside the walls of our parishes. The C2 Leadership Institute exposed me to a different level of outreach and loving your neighbor by introducing me to various industry leaders and associates that care and provide for the community. Meeting and hearing from them was assurance. I believe this type of leadership training for pastoral ministerial leaders is essential to our faith communities. As a pastor, ministering to my congregations and the people of the community are all part of God's beloveds. My favorite parts of this C2 Leadership Institute experience are that I've gained 25 plus new beloved cohort friends from across the globe and friendships with the C2 Leadership Institute FACE staff that I hope will last a lifetime."

Project Pitch

Greetings, my name is Akanesi Tupou, and I am the lead pastor of the Morongo Basin Cooperative Parish of the United Methodist Church. In the Morongo Basin at Twentynine Palms UMC, we are a small local congregation with big hearts and we have a mission...To end spiritual and physical hunger. The project being planned is named Project Neighborhood-Blocking Out Hunger. A couple of ways we can put this into action is by nurturing our neighbor's needs. One, we worship, fellowship, and gather for Bible study to feed the spiritual needs for over 30 yrs thus far. Second, by providing three days out of the week fresh fruits, vegetables, and protein products to the community we can ensure they are fed physically 7 days weekly. It was reported in 2021 that just over twenty-five percent of residents in the Morongo Basin were not receiving food security. That's about over 2000 that were left with no food. Essential to the plan is to reach individuals and families that live in the outer pocket areas of the desert ends. Because of the limited amount of food that is available. It does not include protein, fresh fruits, or fresh vegetables. They are accessible only if you have transportation four times a week. Our goal is to provide and distribute to the Morongo Basin residents living below the poverty line with the basic essential needs met seven days a week. We need your help in leasing or purchasing a van-type vehicle that can carry and deliver fresh fruits/vegetables and protein to the community will help to stop hunger. Partnering for resources and funds can feed families, individuals, and the less fortunate. Listed here are our current community partnerships. Let's partner up and find peace and joy in feeding our neighbors. Here's how you can contact us to start.

2022 C2 Graduate Highlights



Rev. Rick Uhls
Shepherd of the Hills United Methodist Church
Mission Viejo, CA
Project | Shepherd Community Table

Testimony

"When I was first invited to be a part of this institute, I couldn't imagine how I could fit in one more thing into an already overcommitted schedule. But I said yes and I'm so glad I did. The church I was trained for really doesn't exist anymore, and I felt ill prepared to establish the kinds of community partnerships the church needs in order to thrive as we move forward. What I discovered was that C2 Leadership Institute is perfect for a pastor such as myself. Learning the skills necessary to create successful community partnerships makes me feel confident that I will be able to create thriving community partnerships that will meet the needs in our communities. If you ever get the opportunity to be a part of C2 Leadership Institute, do it!"

Project Pitch

My name is Rick Uhls. I'm the Lead Pastor at Shepherd of the Hills United Methodist Church. Most people might never guess food insecurity is a problem here behind the Orange Curtain. But the reality is that 12.7% of residents here live with food insecurity. At Shepherd of the Hills, we have a non-profit organization called "Shepherd Community Table." Our goal is to help alleviate food insecurity and provide other services to food insecure residents who often experience additional challenges. Each Wednesday evening on our Rancho Santa Margarita campus, we provide a free hot meal to anyone who shows up and provide access to our food pantry. Currently we serve over a hundred people each Wednesday. We partner with nine other faith communities, schools, and businesses, that help with this initiative. With our food pantry, 50-60 families have been fed each week who would otherwise have gone hungry and yet we know the need is greater. We want to expand this program to our Mission Viejo campus and purchase a van for delivery service to those without transportation. But the needs of our clients go beyond just having enough food. Several of our clients talk of how difficult it is to find a place to wash their clothes as there is no laundromat in Rancho Santa Margarita. It is pretty much impossible to get a job or to obtain other services if you don't have clean clothes. We plan on providing a mobile laundromat for those who have no other means of washing their clothes. We are seeking people and organizations who will partner with us in meeting these needs. Will you partner with us?

2022 C2 Graduate Highlights



Rev. Eve Williams
Advent United Methodist Church
Las Vegas, NV

Project | Inter-generational Affordable
Housing

Testimony

"There are many things that I will take with me from my experience in the C2 Leadership Institute. But I think that the main thing I gained was feeling more at ease in conversations about my project, both in the fundraising arena and with those that begin as simply as, "so, tell me about your project". I know that the lessons that I have learned and connections that I have made will last long into the future and enrich both my life and ministry for years to come."

Project Pitch

My name is Eve Williams and I am the pastor of Advent United Methodist Church, a Place to Call home, in Las Vegas, NV and I'm excited to tell you about our Intergenerational Affordable Housing initiative. Each year, more than 23,000 youth age out of foster care when they turn 18, most of them without the safety nets provided by family and community that typical teenagers may take for granted. As a result, many of them are likely to experience homelessness and many other challenges. Meanwhile, 28% of the elderly live alone and also have a profound need for community and connection. A ground-breaking Harvard study showed community and relationships are critical to an increased quality of life among groups such as these. For almost 40 years, Advent United Methodist Church has been a place to call home. Our mission has always been to support the community by building community. We have up to 2 acres on which we plan to build 40-60 units of intergenerational affordable housing, including affordable child care, a health care center, a community garden and a resource center. But what we'll actually build is connection and belonging. We are excited to be partnering with KG Development Group, United Methodist Social Ministries, National Equity Fund, potentially The Open Table, and we are engaging with many others. We'd love to have you partner with us, too.

2022 C2 Graduate Highlights



Rev. Christopher Wurpts
North Scottsdale United Methodist Church
Scottsdale, AZ

Project | Caring for Foster Children/Low
Income Housing

Testimony

"The C2 Leadership Institute program was just the tool our church needed to launch us into a more robust community partnership with our local leaders, non-profits, and businesses. I gained the tools necessary to jump-start programs that I'd previously only hoped would happen 'someday.' We're looking forward to our most fruitful season of ministry yet."

Project Pitch

Good morning. My name is Christopher Wurpts, and I am the Lead Pastor at North Scottsdale United Methodist Church. According to the Arizona Department of Child Safety, there are currently over fourteen thousand children in the state foster care system. Out of those, approximately 900 of them will be aging out of that system in the next year, and one out of every five of those young people will be homeless by the time they are twenty-six years old. Our church has had a long history of caring for foster children in our state. We created a non-profit that helps foster children find long-term employment. We partner with local agencies to provide hundreds of beds and car seats to families caring for foster kids. And now, as we look to the future, we are exploring how we can provide long-term transitional housing for some of these kids. Our hope is that, within the next five years, we will have found a way to construct several small homes on our campus to serve as a "home base" for young adults aging out of the foster care system. Do you have any ideas or resources you could connect us to to help make our dream a reality?

Thank You to Our 2022 C2 Speakers

Robert Apodaca

The 200
Co-Founder & Executive Director

Debby Berman

Jewish Federation of Greater LA
Assistant Director, Education & Community
Outreach

Deepa Bharath

The Associated Press
Religion News Reporter

Bob Binnie

First Citizens Bank
SVP, Risk & CRA Programs

Adam Briones

California Community Builders (CCB)
CEO

Michael Brown

US Department of Homeland Security
Associate Director, Field of Operations, Regions 6, 9,
and 10

Rev. Victor Cyrus-Franklin

Inglewood UMC
Senior Pastor

Julie Davis

US Bank
Mortgage Sales Supervisor

Rev. Dr. Charles Dorsey

The Dorsey Group, LLC.
Founder

Rev. John Farley

California Pacific Conference, UMC
Assistant to the Bishop for Leadership

Sarah Franks

Office of Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell
Deputy for Constituent Engagement

Rachel Gilmore

Desert Southwest Conference
Director, New & Vital Faith

Filiberto Gonzalez

Grapevine Development, LLC
VP, Development & Strategic Initiatives & FACE
Board Chair

Rev. John Griffin-Atil

Imperial Beach Neighborhood Center
Founding Executive Director

Hayana Guerrero

Silicon Valley Bank
CRA & Community Affairs Officer

Bishop Grant Hagiya

CalPac UMC
Resident Bishop

Brittany Hillman

Bank of America
AVP; Program Lead, Home Loans, Neighborhood &
Community Lending

Rev. Dr. Matt Johnson

Fletcher Group
Director of Faith-Based Initiatives

Joseph Kang

Kang and Company
Managing Director & FACE Board Treasurer

Rev. Suzana Kim

Wilshire UMC
Pastor

Consul Youngwan Kim

Korean Consulate of LA
Consul General

Vinnie Malcolm

Malcolm Media Affairs
Managing Director & President

Nelson Menendez

Bank of America
Community Lending Officer

Nancy Morikawa

Pacific Western Bank
Senior Vice President & CRA
Community Development Officer

Assemblyman Duy Nguyen

Nevada State Assembly
Assemblymember

Denise Araya Ovalle

First Citizens Bank
AVP, Community Development Governance & Risk
Controls

Consul Minwoo Park

Korean Consulate of LA
Consul General

Rev. Kurt Poland

First German UMC
Senior Pastor

Rev. Alex Powell

New Beginnings UMC
Senior Pastor

Matthew Soerens

World Relief;
Evangelical Immigration Table
US Director, Church Mobilization & Advocacy;
National Coordinator

Jess Tirado

Citizens Business Bank
VP & Community Development Officer

Rev. Ken Walden

Holman UMC
Senior Pastor

Sarah Walker

National CORE
Senior Project Manager

Rev. Gary Williams

Saint Mark UMC
Senior Pastor

Rev. Lisa Williams

San Pedro UMC
Senior Pastor

Rev. Katie Sexton Wood

Arizona Faith Network
Executive Director

William Wubbenhorst

Baylor University
Non-resident Fellow, Institute for Studies of Religion

Rev. Won-Seok Yuh

Harris UMC
Senior Pastor

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR UMC LIAISONS

California Pacific Conference of the United
Methodist Church

Rev. John Farley

Desert Southwest Conference of the United
Methodist Church

Rev. Matt Ashley

C2 Leadership Institute Program

C2 Leadership Institute is a transformative leadership program that empowers leaders and awakens them to new possibilities and sustainability for their ministries by strengthening church and community partnerships in community development through community engagement and advocacy.

FACE C2 Fellows will gain the tools, skills and relationships to create success and sustainability in their community development initiatives. Over the course of the Institute, each fellow will launch or strengthen a community project. Fellows will be mentored by various leaders, including funders, government officials, media, faith leaders and community development experts. Fellows will develop their projects using the skills they attain such as fundraising, media and government relations, partnership building, networking, financial literacy, grant writing, eventing, advocacy, program development, outreach strategies, and community needs assessments. Finally, fellows will receive ongoing one on one technical assistance to ensure successful implementation of their project.

C2 Leadership Institute Outcomes

- An activated church and community partnership committee
- Expanded new contacts with local elected officials, media, potential funders, government agencies and other stakeholders/community & business organizations
- Sponsorship request template, certificate/commendation letter request template, and press release template
- Identification of gifts in your congregation
- Elevated visibility in the community
- One established community program
- A brochure/collateral that documents all the community work the church is doing
- Engaging and inspiring the next generation to be deeply involved with the church

C2 Session Workshops

- Leadership
- Financial Literacy, Capability, and Coaching
- Sponsorship/Grant Writing
- Media & Government Relations
- Public Relations
- Public Speaking
- Networking & Building Partnerships
- Fundraising & Working with Funders
- Homeownership & Special Assistance Programs
- Racial Justice
- Making Local and Regional Databases
- Diversity and Inclusion
- Faith and Politics
- Pitching Ideas to Stakeholders
- Advocacy
- Mentorship
- Event Planning/Program Development
- Substance Abuse Resources
- Affordable Housing
- Public Service
- Threat & Security Resources
- API Community Needs and Research Data
- Model Minority Myth
- Community Reinvestment Act
- Marketing & Email Blasts
- Graphic Design
- Congregant Engagement: 5-2 Vision Committees

FACE PROGRAMS

Affordable Housing

In 2012, FACE was successful in organizing faith and community leaders to advocate for a community benefit from J.H. Snyder, who was receiving \$17 million in public funds for building a \$169 million mixed use project in Koreatown. In the aftermath, FACE has partnered with AMCAL Multi-housing Inc. in developing 100 units of affordable housing, called Meridian Apartments.

Church & Non-Profit Leadership and Advocacy Training

FACE has trained over 5,000 faith and community leaders how to leverage resources, navigate government, create partnerships, implement programs and services and effectively advocate for their community. FACE has also created a Faith and Community Collaborative on Mental Health and Drug Abuse to connect faith leaders with resources in the community.

C2 (Church and Community) Leadership Institute

C2 Leadership Institute is a transformative leadership program that empowers leaders and awakens them to new possibilities and sustainability for their ministries by strengthening church and community partnerships in community development through community engagement and advocacy.

Youth and Adult Job Training and Internships

FACE has trained many individuals both youth, college, adult workers, and seniors in job and leadership skills through our various internships, volunteer program, as well as city and federal programs including Americorps VISTA.

API JOB (Job Opportunities and Business Success) Initiative

FACE, as lead agency, won a grant funded by the City of Los Angeles Economic and Workforce Development Department to launch the API JOBS Initiative. This initiative is the first of its kind in Los Angeles to serve the Asian Pacific Islander (API) community in providing vocational training, employment, career pathway, and community/social services to linguistically isolated participants.

AAPI Youth@Work Career Pathways Initiative

FACE's AAPI Career Pathways Initiative is a partnership with LA County Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services that provides youth with paid internship opportunities in public and private sectors. In addition to job training, through this unique opportunity, AAPI Interns will be able to gain leadership skills and be mentored by influential leaders from CEOs to government officials.

FACE Board & Staff

FACE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Hyepin Im, President and CEO, FACE

Filiberto Gonzalez, FACE Board Chair & Vice President, Development & Strategic Initiatives at Grapevine Development, LLC

Justin Davis, FACE Board Secretary & Housing Chair, SVP of Hanmi Bank

Joseph Kang, FACE Board Treasurer, Managing Director of Kang and Company

Rev. John Jongdai Park, FACE Board Co-Chair; Sr. Pastor of Joong-Ang Presbyterian Church

Steve Suh, FACE Board Member, Managing Partner of Crouser & Suh

Maury Ruano, FACE Board Member, Housing Development Director of Pair-A-Dice Development, LLC

Eddie Yen, FACE Board Member, President, Los Angeles County Asian American Employees Association

FACE Staff & Interns

Hyepin Im, President and CEO, FACE

Nelson Hernandez, Senior Advisor

Nora Penaflor, Director of Operations Housing & Compliance

Mirabelle Johnson, Program Manager/Housing Counselor

Levana Kazi, Program Coordinator/Housing Counselor

Gelo Santiago, Program Coordinator

Edwin Lazala, Program Coordinator

Gwen Serrano, Program Assistant

Marly Pierre, Intake Specialist Intern

Pashioune Wilson, Intake Specialist Intern

Kasey Cooper, Intake Specialist Intern

Takudzwa Modza, Intake Specialist Intern

Allison Yim, FACE Intern

Matthew Zhao, FACE Intern

Suhh Yeon Kim, FACE Intern

Rebecca Huizar, FACE Intern

Veronica Gonzalez, FACE Intern

Join Us As A C2 Fellow!

We would like to invite you to join our future C2 Leadership Institute Cohorts! Join us in transforming our communities through the intersection of church and community and see what opportunities lie ahead.

To learn more, visit our website:
www.facela.org/c2-leadership-institute

Special Thanks to Our 2022 C2 Leadership Institute Sponsors

