



Building Community Around Florida's 4 Generations: Where should we begin?

Speaker Biographies

Thursday, February 7

Lori Parham

Florida State Director, AARP

Lance DeHaven-Smith

Professor, Florida State University

Donna Butts

Executive Director, Generations United

Gordon Price

*Director, City Program, Simon Fraser University,
Vancouver, B.C. Canada.*

Friday, February 8

Larry Baxter

Department of Elder Affairs

Karen Beiber

Viable Futures Planner

Imani Burnett

Vice President, Southeastern Council on Foundations

Jack Levine

Founder, 4 Generations Institute

Janice Jackson

Viable Futures Program Consultant



LORI PARHAM

Lori Parham is State Director, working in the Tallahassee office. She began her career at AARP in November 2004 as Associate State Director for Advocacy/ State Affairs, moving to the position of Advocacy Manager for State Affairs before becoming State Director in early 2007. Previously, she was a legislative analyst for the Florida Senate, as a technical expert to the Committee on Health, Aging and Long-Term Care. Her duties included analyzing and objectively summarizing legislation to determine its effectiveness and the impact of its passage on the state, other entities, and individuals. She also worked for the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration (ACHA) on long-term care issues in the Medicaid Research Bureau. Prior to her work at ACHA, Lori worked at the Florida State University Pepper Institute on Aging and Public Policy. She has a BA in Sociology from Belmont Abbey College, as well as a MS and Ph.D with a specialization in Aging from Florida State University.



LANCE DEHAVEN SMITH

Dr. Lance deHaven-Smith is a Professor in the Reubin O'D. Askew School of Public Administration and Policy at Florida State University. A former President of the Florida Political Science Association, he is the author, coauthor, or editor of 15 books on topics ranging from religion and political philosophy to Florida government and politics. While at FSU, he has held a number of positions applying academic knowledge to problems of public policy. He served as: Associate Director of the Florida Institute of Government; Director of the Askew School; Executive Director of the Citizens Commission on Cabinet Reform, which was appointed by the Governor and Cabinet; Executive Director of the Local Government Commission II, which was appointed by the Governor, President of the Senate, and Speaker of the House; and Executive Director of the National Public Sector Gaming Study Commission, which was established by the National Council of Legislators from Gaming States. Dr. deHaven-Smith's scholarship is nationally recognized. He has appeared on Good Morning America, the Today Show, NBC Nightly News with Tom Brokaw, CBS Nightly News with Dan Rather, the Jim Lehrer News Hour, CNN, NPR, and other national TV and radio shows. Dr. deHaven-Smith was an infantry rifleman in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam era. He began his teaching career in 1981 as an Assistant Professor of Political Science at Florida Atlantic University. While there, he worked his way up the academic ladder to the rank of full Professor and held a number of administrative positions, including Provost of FAU's campuses in Broward County. He joined Florida State University in 1994.



DONNA BUTTS

Since 1997, Donna M. Butts has served as the Executive Director of Generations United. Donna has more than 30 years of experience working with non-profit organizations at the local, national, and international levels. Her career began in her home state of Oregon. Over the years she has held leadership positions for many youth development organizations including the YWCA, Covenant House, and National 4-H Council. Prior to joining GU, Donna was the executive director of the National Organization on Adolescent Pregnancy, Parenting and Prevention.

In 2005 Donna was selected as a delegate to the White House Conference on Aging. In 1998 she was appointed to serve on the National Kinship Care Advisory Panel. In 1999 she was invited by the United Nations to attend the Inter-Regional Expert Group Meeting on Developing a Framework for Policies for a Society for all Ages in Seoul, Korea. Donna is a graduate of Stanford University's Executive Program for Non-Profit Leaders. She serves on several boards including the International Consortium of Intergenerational Programmes and the Journal of Intergenerational Relationships, and is a respected author and speaker.



GORDON PRICE

Gordon Price, is Director of the City Program at Simon Fraser University. He sat on City Council in Vancouver, B.C., for six terms from 1986 to 2002. He also served on the Board of the Greater Vancouver Regional District and was appointed to the first board of the Greater Vancouver Transportation Authority (TransLink).

Gordon is also an Adjunct Professor in the School of Community and Regional Planning at the University of British Columbia, where he developed and teaches a new course: *Vancouver and Its Times*. He is also a long-time columnist for Business in Vancouver.

Gordon speaks on urban issues and the development of Vancouver in cities around the world, and is also a regular lecturer on transportation and land use for the City of Portland, Oregon and Portland State University. He sits on the Boards of The Sightline Institute and the International Centre for Sustainable Cities.

Gordon is also an enthusiastic photographer, and has been documenting Vancouver and other cities since the early 1980s. He also publishes an electronic magazine called Price Tags.

He has written several essays on Vancouver and transportation issues (*The Deceptive City*, *Local Politician's Guide to Urban Transportation*). In 2003, he received the Plan Canada Award for Article of the Year - "*Land Use and Transportation: The View from '56*" - from the Canadian Institute of Planners.

Gordon has led countless tours to view Vancouver's recent development, organized bike tours for the Vancouver Heritage Foundation, and is available to guide groups interested in this dynamic city.



LARRY BAXTER

Larry E. Baxter, MS, serves as Bureau Chief for Communities for a Lifetime for the Florida Department of Elder Affairs. Communities for a Lifetime is a statewide initiative that assist Florida cities, towns and counties in planning and implementing improvements benefiting the lives of all residents, youthful or senior. This initiative recognizes the diverse needs of residents and the unique contributions individuals can make to their communities.

Prior to working with the department Mr. Baxter held the position as Operations Director for Early Intervention and Prevention Services (EIPS) with Eckerd Youth Alternatives, Inc. (EYA). In this capacity he lead EIPS' planning, business, program, and partnership development activities. Mr. Baxter was the EYA lead in the collaboration with Duke University for the design and development of the EYA Step Up after School curriculum. From 1997 through 2002, Mr. Baxter served on the Board of Directors for the Orlando, Florida, Area Agency on Aging, which is responsible for services to seniors for Orange, Brevard, Osceola and Seminole Counties. He also served an additional period on the Brevard County Advisory Board.

Over the next several months Baxter and his staff, in partnership with AARP, are hosting a series of community forums throughout the state promoting the Communities for a Lifetime initiative. Florida's demographics are changing. Florida's elder population is expected to double by 2030, with the baby boomers beginning to turn 60 in 2006. Florida's elders bring more to the state then they cost in services, with 135b in spending power and 3.5b in donations to charities, as examples. Seniors are a tremendous voting block throughout the nation.



KAREN BEIBER

Dr. Karen Beiber is currently the Viable Futures Planner at the Jefferson Area Board for Aging. As part of her duties to oversee the implementation of the 2020 Plan: Aging in Community, she also works one day a week at the Institute on Aging at the University of Virginia as coordinator for the Community-Based Research Grant initiative.

Dr. Beiber holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education/Early Childhood Development from the State University of New York at Fredonia, a Masters of Science in Counseling and Student Development from Radford University and a Doctor of Philosophy in Family Studies from Virginia Tech with a graduate certificate in Gerontology.

After serving as the Assistant Dean of Students for Residence Life at Roanoke College for ten years, Dr. Beiber was on the Family Studies faculty at Virginia Tech and Ohio University, and worked as a research associate at the Center for Gerontology at Virginia Tech. Her current work incorporates her education and training in utilizing a lifespan perspective to incorporate community members of all ages to work together to plan and implement policy and practice that makes this region a great place to grow up and to grow old.



IMANI BURNETT

Imani serves as Vice President of the Southeastern Council of Foundations, the regional association of grantmakers for the southeastern region. Her responsibilities include developing new programs for foundation staff and trustees, as well as identifying opportunities and strategies to increase philanthropy in the region. Imani has served on the board of directors of Grantmakers for Effective Organizations and acted in an advisory capacity for numerous national international and regional initiatives. She has also served on planning committees for Council on Foundations conferences.

Prior to her tenure at the Southeastern Council, Imani worked at the California Community Foundation where she directed the start-up and development of a leadership and capacity building program for CEOs of nonprofit organizations in south central and East Los Angeles. Imani has contributed over 30 years of service to the non-profit sector, managing programs in youth employment and training, early intervention, family planning, adult education, drug and alcohol intervention and treatment and leadership development. She also taught in the school of public administration at University of Southern California.

Imani earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in communications from Howard University in Washington, D.C and a Masters in Education from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Her creative writing is published in Sisterfire, edited by Charlotte Sherman Watson and My Soul is a Witness – African American Women and Spirituality edited by Dr. Gloria Wade-Gayles. Imani is the proud mother of one daughter Janinah Kalee Burnett, an accomplished lyric soprano.



JACK LEVINE

Jack Levine, founder of 4Generations Institute, is a communications and public policy consultant. He previously served as President of Voices for Florida's Children for 25 years. Jack's expertise is in developing and delivering messages to the media, public officials, and a diverse network of advocates on the value of preventive investments in children, parent leadership, grandparent activism, and dignified services for elders.

Through public speaking, seminar and workshop leadership, and an array of community advocacy events, Jack shares information, provides inspiration, and leverages advocate enthusiasm in the direction of public policy action. Jack serves as Partnership Director for GRAND Magazine, a national publication reaching out to the some 77-million Baby Boomers in their active and energetic grandparenting years. He holds a Master's degree in Child Development and Family Studies from Purdue University, and a degree in English Literature from Hunter College, City University of New York. A native of Long Beach, New York, Jack has been a teacher and urban youth counselor, and for four years, worked as a waiter and dining room captain in resort hotels in New York and Miami Beach.

Jack served on the charter board of Voices for America's Children, and advises The Family Institute of the College of Human Sciences, Florida State University and the University of Florida's College of Law. Jack is a Kiwanian and was a founding member of the Florida Commission on Responsible Fatherhood.

A graduate of Leadership Florida, Jack was the first recipient of Leadership Florida's *Distinguished Alumnus Award*. He has been honored with the *Florida Juvenile Judges' Media Award*, the *Voice for Children Award* from the Children's Home Society of Florida, and was named *Floridian of the Year* by The Orlando Sentinel.



JANICE JACKSON

Janice Jackson is a nationally known advocate for programs and services that enable older adults to live independently and with dignity in their communities. Ms. Jackson has 30 years experience working with aging services at the local, state, and federal levels. Currently she is President of Jackson, Wilson & Associates and consults in advocacy strategies and program development.

Ms. Jackson worked with the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a) for ten years, as legislative director, executive director and director of the Center for Aging Policy, an affiliated organization, where she coordinated the advocacy efforts of 655 area agencies on aging (AAAs) and 230 Native American aging programs. Before coming to n4a, she worked on Capitol Hill for both the Senate and House Special Committees on Aging, was director of the Oregon Association of Area Agencies on Aging, coordinated an Administration on Aging-funded elder abuse prevention project in Pennsylvania and started her career in aging as a senior nutrition project director in California. She received her Masters of Social Work from the University of Washington in Seattle, with an emphasis in gerontology and community organization.

Ms. Jackson has appeared on the Today Show and in CBS and ABC evening news stories about the need for community services to support older adults and their caregivers. She was highlighted in the New York Times as one of the ten most influential aging advocates in Washington DC.