



MICHIGAN ENERGY WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT CONSORTIUM
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Michigan Energy Workforce Development Consortium (MEWDC) 2024 MEWDC ANNUAL SUMMIT GENERAL SESSIONS & SPEAKERS

1. West Michigan Collaborative Panel

Amber Fogarty | Training Programs Manager | Consumers Energy

Amber Fogarty is a Training Programs Manager for Consumers Energy, responsible for the implementation and maintenance of all pre-apprentice training programs, DOL Registered Apprenticeships and state and national apprenticeship grants. Amber is a US Army veteran and the co-chair for Consumers Energy's Veterans Advisory Panel. She also sits on the National Board of Directors for Veterans In Energy and the governor-appointed Michigan Women Veterans Coalition. Before coming to the energy industry, Amber taught middle school English and was a middle school guidance counselor. She has been at Consumers Energy for the past ten years.

Monique Holliday-Bettie | Manager - Workforce Development & Analytics | DTE Energy

Monique Holliday-Bettie, with 25 years of service at DTE, currently holds the position of Manager for Workforce Development & Analytics within Diversity, Equity and Inclusion division. Her cross functional team is responsible for strengthening career awareness as well as creating and managing talent pipelines for the company and its industry partners. Her team is focused implementing strategies through a collaborative effort and manage programs to address in-demand jobs within underserved communities, supporting youth and adults across Michigan.

Julie Parks | Dean of the School of Workforce Training | Grand Rapids Community College

Julie Parks is Grand Rapids Community College's Dean of the School of Workforce Training overseeing multiple programs that last year touched the lives of more than 20,000 people. She is intensely focused on helping people gain in-demand skills for rewarding careers. Parks has more than 15 years of experience in workforce development and curriculum development. She is recognized as a leader on campus, in the community, and nationally. Recent honors include the 2019 Bellwether Award Finalist for Public Works Academy, the 2019 Innovation of the Year from the League of Innovation for the Sterile Processing Technician Apprenticeship Program, the 2018 and 2019 Impact Award Recipient from West Michigan Works!, the 2018 Community Partner of the Year from Connect Explore Achieve with Career Readiness, and the 2017 Special Project Award from the Michigan Association of Continuing Education & Training for ESL/CNC Precision Machining Pilot Program. She also received the GRCC Employee Excellence Award in 2010. Parks earned a bachelor's degree in economics and history from Michigan State University and a master's degree from Central Michigan University in Education, focusing on training and development.

2. Keynote - All In: Building A Diverse Workforce in the Evolving Energy Industry

Cornell Johnson | Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion | Center for Energy Workforce Development

Cornell focuses on expanding equity and inclusion strategies and policies across The Center for Energy Workforce Development (CEWD) and its member companies. Cornell leads the strategy that positions CEWD to be a world class, benchmark company for sustainable diversity, equity, and inclusion and align these values with the enterprise's business objectives. Cornell oversees the implementation of initiatives focused on change efforts to ensure the development of more diverse, equitable, and inclusive energy workplaces. CEWD's commitment to advancing DEI is rooted in the belief that diversity of experience, backgrounds, and perspectives leads to better outcomes for our members, employees, and communities we serve. Cornell is responsible for the

creation and implementation of CEWD's internal and external diversity, equity, and inclusion global strategy and initiatives as well as expanding the Urban Energy Jobs Program, a joint initiative between The National Urban League and CEWD to increase diversity in the industry's workforce.

Prior to joining CEWD, Cornell was the Head of DEI where he was instrumental in the growth of the DEI programs and initiatives for Centuri Group, Inc. While with Centuri, Cornell successfully launched programs that contributed to a sustainable more inclusive workforce, oversaw ERG initiatives and the DEI Council for the enterprise, and was a member of various councils that focused on industry diversification.

Cornell is also very passionate about philanthropy and grass root relationships. Powered by this passion, he currently serves on the board for KIPP DC, The L.E.A.D. Fund and development committee for The Appellate Project making a difference in the lives of tomorrow's leaders!

3. General Session - All In: Building a Diverse Energy Talent Pipeline
Angela Tompkins | Vice President and Chief Diversity Officer | Consumers Energy

Angela Tompkins is Chief Diversity Officer and Vice President of Community Affairs of Consumers Energy. In this role, Tompkins leads and advances the company's diversity, equity and inclusion (DE&I) and strategic talent sourcing strategies. She partners with Consumers Energy's leaders to embed diversity, equity and inclusion within Consumers Energy's corporate culture. Tompkins also establishes and builds business and community relationships to help boost diversity within the company's talent pipeline. She also advises the company's employee resource groups.

Tompkins also leads Consumers Energy's corporate giving and community affairs functions, extending the company's DE&I reach to cultivate a broader, more immersive external impact.

Tompkins' previous Consumers Energy roles include executive director of strategic talent sourcing and senior human resources consultant. She provided statewide human resources consulting services to the company's natural gas distribution, storage and compression teams. Tompkins joined Consumers Energy in 2013 after holding previous leadership positions in the food distribution, non-profit legal services and automotive industries. She began her career as a prosecutor for the City of Detroit, Mich.

Tompkins serves on the boards of directors of the Michigan Chapter of American Association of Blacks in Energy (AABE), the Michigan Diversity Council and the Michigan Roundtable for Diversity and Inclusion. She also serves on the Advisory Council for the College of Engineering at the University of Michigan.

Under Tompkins' leadership, the company's DE&I initiatives have been recognized by Forbes, DiversityInc, Military Times, Best for Vets, Corporate Equality Index, Corp! Magazine, National Organization on Disability, and Montel Williams' Military Makeover. Tompkins was most recently recognized as a 2022 Tough Enough to be a Girl Scout honoree, a 2021 Top Diversity Officer by the Energy Inclusion Conference, a 2021 Corp! Magazine Salute to Diversity Business Leaders award recipient and a 2020 Michigan Chronicle Women of Excellence honoree.

She holds a bachelor's degree in political science from Eastern Michigan University, a juris doctorate from Thomas M. Cooley Law School and a Master of Laws (LL.M.) in labor and employment law from Wayne State University Law School

Stephanie Stevenson | Manager of Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion | DTE Energy

Stephanie Stevenson serves in the pivotal role of DTE Energy's Manager of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI), and holds key strategic and operational responsibilities in the Office of Diversity. Further, she provides guidance to nine DTE Employee Resource Groups (ERG) and 21 Business Resource Groups (BRG) to ensure alignment with the organization's DE&I priorities.

Stephanie is a seasoned Human Resources (HR) and Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) professional with a Bachelor's degree in Business Management from the University of Phoenix. In addition, she holds Senior Certified Professional (SHRM-SCP) and (SPHR) Senior Professional in Human Resources certifications from the Society for Human Resources Management and HRCI, respectively.

Stephanie also applies her certification in Strategic Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (SDEI) Certification from the Human Capital Institute and the DiversityFirst™ National Diversity Council Certified Diversity Professional (NDCCDP Certificate). Originally hailing from the East Coast, Stephanie has called the metro-Detroit area home for nearly two decades.

A devoted spouse and avid traveler, she finds joy in exploring new cultures and embracing diverse experiences. Stephanie's passion lies in the meaningful work she does, guiding and fostering a culture of inclusion.

Beyond the professional realm, one can find Stephanie exploring the world with a curious spirit and an unwavering commitment to making a positive impact in both her personal and professional spheres.

4. Partner Spotlight - All In: Energy Industry Partnerships Eric Brown | President & CEO | Urban League of Grand Rapids

Eric D. Brown is the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Urban League of West Michigan, formerly the Grand Rapids Urban League. Celebrating his first year at the helm and celebrating the organization's 80th anniversary year, he leads Michigan's second largest affiliate of the National Urban League, distinguished as one of the Best in the Midwest, since October 2021.

A visionary leader, non-profit administrator, and fierce advocate for racial justice, Eric is no stranger to the Urban League movement. Regarded as one of the "brightest college interns" the agency had the privilege to mentor; Brown is fondly remembered for his drive to succeed and his keen business sense and an entrepreneurial mindset. As the city's oldest and largest community-based movement devoted to economic empowerment for Blacks/African Americans, Brown serves as the eighth president of the historic civil rights organization, eight— representing the number of new beginnings, with his trajectory for new beginnings having taken off like a rocket. With a multidisciplinary business and operations approach, he brings a history of strong, steady, and stable leadership to his new role along with more than 15 years of experience working with diverse institutions. He assumes the helm at a time when not only our city, but the nation as a whole commits to addressing institutional racism, economic, academic, and health disparities, and issues of social and economic justice. His laser focus on improving the quality of life for individuals and families-of-color throughout West Michigan, is exactly what the Urban League needs as it enters its eighth decade of service.

Coming into the Urban League, Brown brings his track record of leadership skills, operational, nonprofit and corporate expertise. He previously served as the Chief Financial Officer and Director of Real Estate for LINC UP, a non-profit housing corporation; Senior Director of Business Strategies for the Heart of West Michigan United Way; and served as the first President of the West Michigan Minority Contractors Association. In addition, he worked for a number of CPA and for-profit firms in Controller and Senior Accountant positions. A proud and successful graduate of Grand Rapids Public Schools, Eric obtained his undergraduate degree from HBCU Southern University in Louisiana, where he majored in Business Administration with a focus in Accounting and also played college football. He returned home to obtain his MBA in Management from Western Michigan University and also served as a football coach to then Creston High School and also as an AAU basketball coach, in his spare time.

Eric's driving passions are for access and equity, racial justice and economic empowerment and espouses to his own Five E's of Success: Enthusiasm, bring the right attitude/right mindset; Effort, bring the good energy and give your best 100%; Execution, make a plan and know exactly what you want; Excellence, set the bar high and always over deliver; and Evolve, believe in yourself, believe in your plan, work continuously to make it happen.

Married to his lovely wife, Maleika Joubert Brown for over 25 years, they have three adult children and two very spoiled dogs.

5. General Session - All In: Diverse Community Engagement in the Evolving Energy Industry
Regina Strong | Michigan Office of Environmental Justice Public Advocate

Regina Strong leads the Office of the Environmental Justice Public Advocate (OEJPA) in Michigan's Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE). Gov. Gretchen Whitmer created the office in 2019 as an external and internal voice for Environmental Justice throughout Michigan. It establishes and implements processes and reporting of Environmental Justice complaints and helps resolve issues. As public advocate, Regina also leads the state's Interagency Environmental Justice Response Team and established the Michigan Advisory Council on Environmental Justice.

For more than 30 years, Regina has been a leader in public affairs, advocacy, and the fight for justice and equity. Achieving Environmental Justice and intentionally addressing systemic inequities are core elements of her work. Previously, she directed the Sierra Club's Michigan Beyond Coal campaign, leading a team focused on transitioning our energy generation to clean, renewable energy. Regina also previously served as executive director of Community Development Advocates of Detroit, the trade association of nonprofit developers building affordable housing in the city. Throughout her career, she has advocated and organized to address inequities, ensure communities can speak for themselves, and build collaborative opportunities for change.

Regina earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Michigan State University and a Master of Science degree from Purdue University. She is an Environmental Leadership Program senior fellow in the Great Lakes Region.