

**PROJECT VOTE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FALL 2008**

The members of Project Vote's Board of Directors represent a mix of individuals who bring business and academic expertise, as well as leaders from the low income communities and communities of color which Project Vote works to empower. They provide strategic direction and oversight for the organization.

Donna Massey, President of the Board of Directors, is a life-long resident of Arkansas, residing for the past 20 in Little Rock. An employee at a FedEx shipping center, she is also a member of the Pulaski County Quorum Court and Justice of the Peace for the 6th District. She uses these elected positions to advocate for greater investment in youth programs. A grandmother with four children of her own, she is the Co-Chair of her local ACORN chapter, the Oak Forest Community Organization. She worked her way through her local community college and is currently pursuing an MBA. In her free time she is a singer with the local group "Blue-Eyed Soul".

Maxine Nelson, Vice-President of the Board, is a registered nurse in Pine Bluff, Arkansas. She has over 35 years of experience as a leader for social justice and civil rights in Arkansas and the United States. She has served as a member of the school board and City Board of Directors in Pine Bluff. She serves as Secretary of the national board of directors of ACORN (the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now). She is also a long-time board member at KABF radio, a community radio station in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Julie Smith, Secretary of the Board, was a leader in recent efforts to increase Ohio's minimum wage. A former single mother, like other Project Vote Board Members she has firsthand knowledge of what it takes to motivate people to take action at the polls. In 2006 she trained as a Precinct Voter Action Network Leader, taking responsibility for registering voters on her block and building a list of people committed to voting and moving them to the polls on Election Day. Now a nationally recognized leader on the minimum wage issue, she is also a member of Ohio ACORN's Board of Directors.

Sunday Alabi, Board Treasurer, has been working in community organizing for more than 20 years. For twenty-five years an employee of the University of Minnesota, Mr. Alabi has served as chair and treasurer of his local ACORN chapter, liaison with the ACORN charter school, chair of the political action committee, and has helped train countless community organizers. A naturalized citizen, Mr. Alabi has spent his career as a community activist working on a variety of campaigns, including fighting against predatory lending and helping to start the Minnesota living wage initiative, which became a model for national action on the issue. Mr. Alabi lives in Minnesota.

Becky Bond is the political director at CREDO Mobile and Working Assets, a company that has raised \$60 million for progressive change through donation linked products. In 2004 Ms. Bond spearheaded Working Assets' campaign to fund and facilitate the registration of over one million new voters. In 2006, she launched Pollworkers for Democracy, an election protection volunteer project that connected concerned citizens with opportunities to protect the election from inside key election precincts. Ms. Bond is an expert in the field of online voter registration and the use of mobile phones to organize and work for social change. Under her direction, CREDO created technology that has helped over one million people fill out voter registration forms online in 2008 alone and launched the seminal 2006 study of the effect of text messaging on "get out the vote," demonstrating a four percentage point lift in voter turnout from SMS. Becky also serves on the board of the New Organizing Institute.

Lorraine C. Minnite has taught American and urban politics at Barnard College since 2000. Prior to that she was the Associate Director of the Center for Urban Research and Policy at Columbia's School of International and Public Affairs. Her research is concerned with issues of inequality, social and racial

PROJECT VOTE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FALL 2008

justice, political conflict and institutional change. Prof. Minnite has consulted with various labor, advocacy and governmental organizations which have relied on her expertise in voting, public policy and demographic patterns in New York City. An experienced survey researcher, Prof. Minnite has published on various aspects of political participation, immigration, voting behavior and urban politics, and is finishing a book on the politics of electoral rules tentatively titled, *The Politics of Voter Fraud*. With Frances Fox Piven and Margaret Groarke she is co-author of *Keeping Down the Black Vote: Race and the Demobilization of American Voters*, forthcoming from The New Press. Prof. Minnite holds a B.A. in History from Boston University and a Ph.D. in Political Science from the City University of New York.