

Implementing a Just and Equitable Energy Transition: A Webinar Series

Philanthropic Perspectives

Speaker Biographies

David Beckman, Pisces Foundation

David Beckman is an environmental strategist with wide-ranging experience developing and executing initiatives that protect the environment and public health. In 2012, David became the founding president of the [Pisces Foundation](#). He leads the Foundation's efforts to support innovators working to ensure people and nature thrive. David is the founder and a member of the governance assembly of [Mosaic](#), a participatory grantmaker building movement infrastructure to strengthen the environmental field. Previously, David co-founded and led the national Water Program at the [Natural Resources Defense Council](#). David serves on the boards of the [Water Foundation](#), where he was the founding board chair, and [Environment Now](#). Throughout his career, David has contributed to print, radio, and television stories on environmental and philanthropic topics, including op-eds in newspapers such as The New York Times and Los Angeles Times. He is a graduate of the University of California, Berkeley, and Harvard Law School.

Lois DeBacker, The Kresge Foundation

Lois DeBacker serves as managing director of The Kresge Foundation's Environment Program, which focuses on helping cities combat and adapt to climate change while advancing racial and economic justice. She joined the foundation in February 2008. Lois' prior experience includes more than 16 years at the C.S. Mott Foundation in a series of positions of progressive responsibility, including the role of Associate Vice President – Programs. Before joining the Mott Foundation, Lois worked for 10 years in the Michigan state government in both policy-development and program-management capacities. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from the University of Michigan and a Master's degree in Public Affairs from the Princeton School of Public and International Affairs. Her graduate work focused on urban and domestic policy. Lois serves on the Gulf Health and Resilience Board of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine's Gulf Research Program. She serves on the External Advisory Board of the University of Michigan's Graham Environmental Sustainability Institute and as the secretary of the board of directors of the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center.

Tamara Toles O'Laughlin, Environmental Grantmakers Association

Tamara is an environmentalist focused on equity, access, and community. She develops skill-building programs and creates multimedia campaigns to dismantle privilege and increase opportunities for vulnerable populations to access healthy air, clean energy, and a toxic-free economy at the local, regional, and national levels. Tamara casts a wide net in service to the environmental community. Most recently she joined the Environmental Grantmakers Association (EGA) as its CEO and President. EGA represents over 200 foundations globally, holding approximately \$200 billion in assets and giving more than \$1.8 billion annually to environmental causes. She is the founder of Climate Critical Earth, a visionary new organization supporting the next generation of climate leaders. Tamara drives mission-critical work and organizational investments to build a multiracial, multi-generational climate movement that is ready to hold leaders accountable to the long view of justice. Previously, she served as the North America Director at 350.org and 350 Action as the leader of programming.