

Meet the Board



Julie Andoscia has been in the pharmaceutical industry for 17 years. For the majority of her career, she has represented medications that treat a wide variety of respiratory diseases. Due to her passion for helping people that suffer from lung disease, Julie has been active with the American Lung Association for many years. In 2015, she joined the Lung Association's Local Leadership Board in Rhode Island. For the past two years, Julie has served as Board Vice Chair and will serve as chair starting in January 2023.

Julie is a great supporter of local Lung Association events, leading a team of her colleagues to participate in several events spanning multiple states. For many years, she has led a team for the Fight For Air Climb in Providence, RI and she now spearheads a regional program to have AstraZeneca teams at local LUNG FORCE Walks throughout the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic. In addition to promoting this regional effort, Julie personally captains LUNG FORCE Walk teams in Rhode Island and Connecticut and volunteers at various Lung Association events throughout the year.

Julie is a native Rhode Islander. In her spare time, she enjoys making jewelry and sharing her work with others at craft shows. She loves spending time with her family, husband Terry, teenage daughter Ava and friends.



Julia Andoscia
Sr. Biologic Sales Specialist
AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals
Board Chair (2023-2024)



Janet A. Peters, M.A.
Assoc. Director of Academic Tutoring
& Assoc. Dean of Curricular Support
Brown University
Vice Chair, Chair Elect (2023-2024)

Janet serves on the Rhode Island Leadership Board for the American Lung Association. She is also a LUNG FORCE Walk committee member and team captain for the Buzzin' Bees team. In addition to her involvement in the local Walk, Janet is a longtime volunteer for the Fight For Air Climb and Autumn Escape Bike Trek events and was very involved in the planning of the Providence LUNG FORCE Expo in the fall of 2019. Her connection with the Lung Association's Rhode Island office came shortly after the sudden loss of her wife and life partner of 23 years to lung cancer in March 2019. The support received from Lung Association staff in Providence was incredible and Janet knew this was how she could initiate change and bring greater awareness to lung disease and the importance of lung health.

Nominated as a LUNG FORCE Hero in 2020, Janet has met with Rhode Island's congressional leaders on LUNG FORCE Advocacy Day, encouraging them to support funding for the Lung Association's research while sharing a piece of her story. She is passionate about promoting lung health, equitable healthcare practices, and building connections and awareness initiatives with underserved communities.

Janet earned her B.A. in Psychology from Rhode Island College and a Master of Arts in Higher Education from Louisiana State University.

Rhode Island Leadership Board Fiscal Year 2024



Regina Bartlett
Research Administrator
Ocean State Research Institute, Inc.

Regina Bartlett is a speaker, blogger, marathoner, and author who broke a 30-year battle with her weight and lost 250 pounds now shares her inspiring story about getting to the heart of who you are to discover why you eat. Regina speaks on the highs and lows of her weight over the years and how five simple things helped her beat the odds and cross the finish line of the New York City Marathon.

Regina began working with the American Lung Association as a guest speaker at a local LUNG FORCE Expo and representing the organization at LUNG FORCE Advocacy Day to share her story of how lung disease has impacted her life.

Regina is currently a Research Administrator for Ocean State Research Institute, Inc. as well as the Founder of Navigating Weight Loss. She was a featured speaker at TEDxNewport in March of 2018, sharing her moving talk: These (Jiggly) Arms -Self Value and Life-Saving Weight Loss to a sold-out crowd in Newport, Rhode Island.

Regina resides along the gorgeous Rhode Island coastline where she spends her days with her amazing husband Jeff. They filled their empty nest from their combined family of six adult children with two very tiny, adorable Chihuahuas named Sid Vicious and Taxi Fitzgerald.

She's active in her church, sings on the praise team, and is amazed every single day at how God has totally changed her life. After completing her marathon goal, she set her sights on another childhood dream: becoming a Black Belt in Shorin Ryu Karate. You can read about her adventures in life on her blog and order her book, Food, Sweat, & Fears, at ReginaBartlett.com.

Our Mission:

To save lives by improving lung health and preventing lung disease through research, education and advocacy.



Angela Butler, BIS, RRT-NPS, CPFT, AE-C, NCTTP
Health Advocate RRT/COPD
Ambulatory Care Transitions/Clinical Integration
Lifespan, Rhode Island Hospital & Miriam Hospital

Angela is a respiratory therapist and works as a respiratory specialist Health Advocate at an acute care hospital in Providence, RI. She educates patients at the bedside and explains the pathogenesis of pulmonary disease process with understanding, risks factors, identify signs and symptoms, and triggers along with smoking cessation. Community outreach is essential to quality care and outcomes for her patients. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, she facilitated a Better Breather Club with monthly meetings and enjoyed participating in Harmonicas for Health with her members, pending future meetings based on COVID spread.

Prior to her position as a respiratory specialist Health Advocate, she spent 30 years in leadership roles, such as clinical educator, but most dear to her heart is connecting with her patients at the bedside with follow-up calls to their home.

Angela has participated in many events with the American Lung Association and LUNG FORCE in the past and now serves on the Local Leadership Board to continue her path of dedication and passion towards lung health. In 2019, the Lung Association presented Angela with the LUNG FORCE Health Advocate Award.



Michael T. Crawley,
CPA, MBA, MST
Partner
Citrin Cooperman

Michael T. Crawley is a partner and the audit practice leader in Citrin Cooperman's Providence, Rhode Island office with more than 20 years of experience. Mike provides attest services for privately-owned businesses, nonprofit organizations, and governmental entities. He directs all phases of the firm's engagements, including client relationship, planning, fieldwork, and financial reporting in the construction, manufacturing and distribution, telecommunications, utilities, education, and restaurant and hospitality industries. Mike also provides CFO consulting services to clients.

Mike's connection to the American Lung Association's mission to save lives by improving lung health and preventing lung disease began when he was 12 years old and lost his uncle to an asthma attack after his uncle was jogging to catch a bus in New York City. The experience left Mike, also a lifelong asthmatic, eager to 'do something' in his uncle's memory. That opportunity arrived years later when a colleague approached Mike about getting involved on Lung Association's Rhode Island Leadership Board. Shortly after joining, Mike served as Chair of the Rhode Island Leadership Board for two years and Chair of the Providence Fight For Air Climb planning committee during its first eight years. Mike continues to participate in the Lung Association's local fundraising events and serve the organization on its Rhode Island Leadership Board, Northeast & Mid-Atlantic Regional Board, and National Finance Committee.

Mike's experience with the American Lung Association unlocked a passion to make a difference in others' lives. Mike highly values his family and friends and enjoys sports. He spends the majority of his free time planning or attending fundraisers for the Friedreich's Ataxia Research Alliance (FARA), American Lung Association, and other organizations. Mike leads FARA's largest volunteer grassroots fundraising organization and met his wife Marissa at a FARA fundraiser. Mike and Marissa live in Cranston, RI with their daughter Ella.



Members of the Board at the Lung Association's Community Connections event

Brenda Figueroa

Senior Grant & Contract Administrator
Office of Sponsored Projects, Brown University

Brenda Figueroa is a Senior Grant and Contract Administrator in the Office of Sponsored Projects at Brown University since 2017 and has been in Research Administration since 1998. Her main focus is negotiating and issuing subawards under Brown University prime agreements and she works in close collaboration with a number of partner offices on and off campus to help ensure the overall effective coordination of research administration services, systems, policies, and processes. Brenda has been involved with the Lung Association since 2004 and has been a long-standing Board Member, past Chair, and has been involved with Fight For Air Climb planning committee, LUNG FORCE Expo Planning Committee, Volunteer Development Committee and other community outreach events, as needed.

In addition to her work with the Lung Association, Brenda is involved as a member of other community Boards and Committees. Brenda holds a Master of Business Administration from Bryant University and a Bachelor of Science from Roger Williams University.



Erin Herzog

Director of Membership
Engagement & Programming
Greater Providence Board and
Northern Rhode Island Board of
REALTORS

For the last 20+ years, Erin has specialized in membership development for REALTOR® and hospitality trade associations. In her current role, Erin works with real estate professionals as they navigate their careers in this fluctuating market. From onboarding new REALTORS® to organizing content and speakers for professional development, Erin is a go to resource in the real estate community.

Volunteerism and community involvement are personal credos that Erin learned from the best - her parents. Erin serves on this Board in honor of her mother, Maureen Herzog, who passed away from complications of COPD in 2021.

Originally from New Jersey and former resident of Washington, D.C. and Naples, Florida, Erin currently makes her home in Providence. She has a B.S. in Hospitality Management from Widener University and is a recent graduate of Leadership Rhode Island, SIGMA II Class. When not in the office, you can find her on the tennis court, traveling and spending time with friends and family.

Jennifer Hyde

Vice President, Director of Marketing Communication
BankNewport

Jennifer Hyde is the Vice President, Director of Marketing Communication for BankNewport. Jennifer's career has focused on Marketing and Customer Engagement with positions at Citizens Bank, Capital Design (Providence) and Spire (Boston). Jennifer holds a Bachelor of Arts in Public Relations and Marketing from the University of Rhode Island and a Master of Science in Corporate and Organizational Communications from Northeastern University. She resides in Rhode Island with her husband and two children who both have asthma and inspire her passion to support those impacted by lung disease.



Sarah Ilgenfritz

Student Ambassador, University of Rhode Island

Sarah joined the American Lung Association's Rhode Island Leadership Board as a Student Ambassador in 2021. She began working with the Lung Association as a Tobacco-Free Ambassador for Tobacco Free Rhode Island. She also participates in her local LUNG FORCE Walk and several other Lung Association events and fundraisers.

While a student at South Kingstown High School, she was the President of Rebels Inspiring Positive Lifestyles, a youth prevention initiative. She is currently studying Clinical Psychology at the University of Rhode Island.



Hina Khan, MD

Assistant Professor of Medicine
Brown University, Warren Alpert School of Medicine

Dr. Hina Khan is an Assistant Professor of Medicine in the Hematology and Oncology division. She is a Thoracic Oncologist at the Cancer Center at Brown University-Lifespan Cancer Institute in Providence, Rhode Island. With her clinical and translational expertise, Dr. Khan has led several University, pharmaceutical and NIH-funded projects as a principal investigator. Her ongoing translational work focuses on enhancing responses to immune checkpoint inhibitors in preclinical and lung cancer organoid models; and build on the role of Chi3L1 in response to immune checkpoint therapy in metastatic lung cancer. She is the site investigator for the CCC-19 (consortium for COVID-19 and cancer) and TERA-VOLT (Thoracic cancers international COVID-19 collaboration registry) registries, and heavily invested in studying outcomes of COVID-19 in lung cancer patients.

Dr. Khan also has a truly informed commitment to increasing diversity in clinical trials, given her background as a South Asian immigrant and an academic lung cancer expert. In Rhode Island, she has studied the burden of Radon exposure and its genomic imprints on lung cancer. She is identifying areas with significant exposure and studying ways to improve patient outcomes. She leads a comprehensive program of public education and nodule management to increase Lung Cancer Screening in the Underserved Populations of Rhode Island.

Linda Mendonça has been a registered nurse for 42 years practicing school nursing for 25 years, overseas and in five states as a military spouse. Her school nursing career includes experience with pre-K to high school students in many states. She has vast experience with current best practice and new initiatives in school health, including the need for data collection in school nursing practice to best meet the needs of students and facilitate their academic success. With the practice of school nursing in the arena of public health, Linda pursued education and certification in public health nursing. Linda earned her Master of Science in advanced public health nursing and her Doctor of Nursing Practice in Transformative Systems Leadership from Rush University in Chicago. She has served on school nursing organization boards on the state and national levels. Dr. Mendonça is President of the National Association of School Nurses (2021-2023) and a Fellow in the National Academy of School Nursing. Her current professional roles include being an Assistant Professor teaching community/public health nursing at Rhode Island College School of Nursing and providing consultation in school nursing for the Rhode Island Department of Health.

One of her passions is environmental health and she was selected to participate in a year-long fellowship with the Alliance of Nurses for a Healthy Environment 2019-2020. Throughout her career, Dr. Mendonça has made time to volunteer with the American Red Cross and disaster medical assistance teams with medical reserve corps.



Linda Mendonça,
DNP, RN, PHNA-BC, NCSN, FNASN
Assistant Professor,
Community/Public Health Nursing
Rhode Island College
School of Nursing

Matthew Riley
Mortgage Loan Originator
Executive Financial Group

Matthew Reilly entered the Mortgage industry and immediately excelled due to his professionalism and expansive customer service background. He strives to take a personal and professional interest in each of his clients, going above and beyond to ensure his clients receive all available financing options, and have seamless transactions.

Matt began volunteering for the American Lung Association in 2017, participating in the Fight For Air Climb in Providence and soon after joining the planning committee. Matt has helped to secure many sponsors through his strong community connections and passion for the Lung Association's mission. He expanded his role with the organization in 2022 when he became a member of the Rhode Island Leadership Board.

When Matt is not working and volunteering at the Lung Association, he enjoys skiing and hiking with his friends and family. He also enjoys volunteering for the RI APDA, and the local YMCA. Matthew currently resides in Warwick, RI.



Board Purpose:

To advance the American Lung Association's mission to save lives by improving lung health and preventing lung disease in the local community through revenue regeneration, advocacy, and fostering diversity, equity and inclusion in our practices, programs, and processes.

Kelsey Theroux
Senior Retail Operations Representative
Navigant Credit Union



Kelsey is an experienced service consultant with a demonstrated history of working in the banking industry. She currently serves in a Senior Retail Operations Representative role at Navigant Credit Union.

Kelsey came to the Lung Association after her mother, Martha, was diagnosed with lung cancer in February 2018. Since Martha's diagnosis, Kelsey has become a fierce advocate for lung cancer awareness and early detection, participating annually in the LUNG FORCE Walk with her team, Martha Matters. Every year, the team comes together to raise thousands of dollars to support lung health and lung cancer research.

In addition to the LUNG FORCE Walk, Kelsey participates and volunteers in as many events and committees as she can, serving on the Fight For Air Climb and LUNG FORCE Walk committees. She has also participated in the Autumn Escape Bike Trek along Cape Cod.



Hamid Torabzadeh
Student Ambassador
Brown University

Hamid Torabzadeh is an undergraduate student at Brown University in Providence, RI in the Program in Liberal Medical Education (PLME), where he is pursuing a concentration in Public Health and plans to matriculate to the Warren Alpert Medical School in 2026. He is an advocate, researcher, and community leader in the clinical, public health, and healthcare fields. On the research front, Hamid has cross-disciplinary experience working on clinical challenges at the University of California, Los Angeles and The Lundquist Institute for Biomedical Innovation, and health policy experience as Consultant for the World Health Organization and Research Assistant with Brown University's School of Public Health. At the community level, Hamid currently serves as Field Relations Working Group Lead for the American Red Cross National Youth Council, Co-Chair of the U.S. Youth Advisory Council for the UN Ocean Decade, and Student Member of the Rhode Island Public Health Association, advising on various public and environmental health, humanitarian, and public policy topics.

Hamid's connection to the American Lung Association is inspired by his upbringing in Long Beach, CA, home to one of the largest ports in North America. Growing up in Long Beach, Hamid was exposed to high asthma rates, air pollution, and other environmental effects prominent in a port city. Hamid has since served as Research Assistant with the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA researching 3-dimensional imaging methods of mitochondrial networks in lung cancer in order to improve patient outcomes. He also worked closely with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health and Los Angeles County Office of Education Superintendent to advocate for student lung health and policies to reduce vaping and air pollution in classrooms and improve overall environmental health.

At Brown University, Hamid is an Analyst for the Healthcare Investment Group, Business Manager and Editor for the Undergraduate Journal for Public Health, and Chair of the Brown University Simulation of the United Nations, while also involved with other groups on campus.

Peter N. Woodberry is the Dean of Business, Science and Technology, Emeritus at the Community College of Rhode Island. He was awarded an AB in Psychology from Syracuse University, an MPA in Public Policy Studies from New York University and a Ph.D. in Adult Learning and Educational Leadership from the University of Connecticut. Peter joined the American Lung Association Local Leadership Board in Rhode Island in 2016 and for the past two years has served as Board Chair. In 2017, Peter became a member of the Lung Association's Northeast & Mid-Atlantic Regional Board.

Peter became active in the Lung Association along with his wife Helen Scotte Gordon when she was diagnosed with stage 4 non-smoker's Lung Cancer in 2013. He and his dear wife Scotte recruited a team to participate in the first Rhode Island LUNG FORCE Walk fundraiser. Scotte playfully titled their team "The Cole Avenue Clunkers." Upon his wife's passing in 2015, Peter has continued to assemble the Cole Avenue Clunkers each spring to raise funds to support the important mission of the Lung Association in remembrance of Scotte.

In 2017, Peter represented his wife, a LUNG FORCE Hero, in Washington, DC for LUNG FORCE Advocacy Day. Mr. Woodberry has also served on numerous staff-led planning committees related to the LUNG FORCE Expo, LUNG FORCE Walk and Fight For Air Climb and served as the Board Chair from 2020 to 2022.

Peter has many hobbies and interests including beekeeping, sailing, wood-turning, encaustic painting, traveling and daily exercise.



Peter N. Woodberry, Ph.D.
Dean, Emeritus
Community College of Rhode Island

Email Daniel Bowler, Executive Director for RI & CT, at Daniel.Bowler@Lung.org to learn more about Leadership Board opportunities.