

UlsterCorps Service Summit 2019

SPEAKER BIOS

Kelly M. Formoso is the Executive Director at the Mid Hudson Valley Chapter of the **American Red Cross**, Kelly ensures strong visibility for the American Red Cross in the Hudson Valley. She increases community awareness, participation and commitment to the Red Cross by being an active community participant. Kelly has worked for the American Red Cross for over 10 years serving in a multitude of roles. Kelly focuses externally on core mission delivery, fundraising and engaging local media, donors and their communities. She helps manage the community resilience programs, working with community partners to ensure that the communities build local capacity to prepare for, prevent, respond and recover from disasters.

Lisa Hantes has made a life of all things food and beverage. She began her career with the Four Seasons Hotels, has managed fine dining and casual dining restaurants, and music venues. She has project managed hotel and restaurant developments and is currently a co-owner of another local business, Keegan Ales. She was invited to join the Board of Directors of Angel Food East in 2010 to help streamline their systems in order to become more economically sustainable. She was elected Facilitator in 2013 and volunteers with a team of cooks every Monday. Lisa joined Ulster Literacy Association as a volunteer ESL tutor in 2015 after completing their free 18 hour training class. When ULA was granted the federally funded RSVP grant in 2017, she was asked to join Ulster Literacy as the Volunteer Coordinator. In that capacity, she recruits, helps train and supports the more than 115 active volunteer tutors.

Carol Hargrove is the Director of Public Transit for Ulster County Area Transit and has been involved in transportation for over 25 years. Her career started with school bus, with the last 19 years in public transit. Carol is a true believer in public transit and is proud to say that UCAT has been noted as a model agency in New York State.

Dr. Virginia Hlavsa (ViVi) taught English at Queens College, has written extensively on Faulkner and is a published poet. Mainly, she is an organizer. In 2011 she organized the first **SSIP (Settled and Serving in Place)** to help seniors stay in their own homes and remain active in their communities. Now there are six such groups in our area.

Patrick McDonough has spent most of his adult life in public service, working for non-profits, in government, and in education. He is a volunteer himself and serves as Docent, and as Secretary of the Board of Directors, with the John Burroughs Association. For the past four years, he has run the Senior Volunteer Program at the **Ulster County Office for the Aging**, helping seniors all over the county to find meaningful opportunities for giving their time and talent to the community.

Amy Summers is the Program Coordinator for **Raising HOPE**. Amy is responsible for the overall coordination and organization of the Raising Hope administrative, operational and programmatic components, as well as recruitment of Mentors & Mentees. Amy was the former Director of the Big Brothers Big Sisters satellite program at Amherst College, she is an experienced facilitator of women's empowerment workshops, meditation and stress reduction classes, and conscious communication counseling. She has a degree in Women's Studies with a concentration in Workshop Development and experience as an entrepreneur, as the former owner of Transformations Workshop Center and Gallery in Amherst MA, and currently operating Aquoga ® Aquatic exercise and adapted yoga classes in Ulster County.

Lauren E. Whitman is the Sr. Volunteer Recruitment Specialist at the Eastern New York Region of the **American Red Cross**, Lauren recruits volunteers for all lines of service including Biomedical, Disaster, and Military & Veteran services. She proactively seeks out individuals and groups to get them engaged in the Red Cross mission. Lauren has worked in the Volunteer Services Department at the American Red Cross for 4 years. Lauren collaborates with internal and external partners to fill high priority volunteer positions with candidates. She designs recruitment strategies and materials, and works with teams of volunteers to implement across the Eastern New York Region's 24 counties.