



## **Board of Directors FY08**

### **Gisela Morales-Barreto, ED.D. Board President**

is the present President board of MIRA Coalition, board member since 1998, Gisela is the Chief Officer for Child and Family Services at Dimock Community Health Center. Prior that Dr. Morales-Barreto was the Director of School Health for Boston Public Health Commission, Director Scholl Based Health Centers Program. Graduate from Universidad Catolica Andres Bello de Caracas, Master on Counseling Psychology from Boston Colleg, Pre-Doctoral on Teaching Fellow in Clinical and Community Psychology Program from Boston University, Doctorate in Counseling and Consulting Psychology University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

### **Ricardo Neal, MSW Board President-Elect**

Ricardo is the Executive Director of the Freedom House, a large community based organization in Dorchester serving a diverse population of children and families. Ricardo is a graduate of Boston University School of Social Work, a leader in local education policy efforts and a board member of the Haymarket Fund.

### **Juliana Badaro Board Clerk**

Juliana Badaro has served on the board for three years. She is currently a counselor and advocate at Brockton Family and Community Resources, where she works with survivors of homicide victims. She is also pursuing a course of study in political science at Bridgewater State College. Other board involvement includes the Brockton Women's Commission, the Mayor's Office Advisory Committee (Brockton), and Brockton's Community Connections Advisory Board. She lives in Attleboro, MA.

### **John Raposo Board Treasurer**

John works as a strategy and business development manager for the Global Physical Security/Digital Video Surveillance (DVS) Services team in Global Technology Services (GTS). He brings over 12 years of business and marketing strategy experience to his position. Since joining the startup DVS team in February 2007, John has been responsible for developing and implementing the global physical security services strategy for GTS.

### **Julia Abramovich**

Julia Abramovich is a Marketing and Business Development Manager in the Retail practice at IBM Corporation. She has more than ten years of work experience in consulting, project management, Human Resources, and organizational design. Ms. Abramovich earned an M.B.A. from the MIT Sloan School of Management and a B.A. from Brandeis University. Julia is fluent in Russian as she grew up in the former Soviet Union, bringing a first generation immigrant perspective to MIRA's Board of Directors.

### **Molly Baldwin**

Molly Baldwin is the Founder and Executive Director of Roca, a community-based, youth development organization serving young people in Chelsea, Revere and East Boston, Massachusetts. For over twenty years she has been a tireless advocate, mentor and community convener reaching out to the highest-risk young people from our area's most dangerous urban areas, and bringing together all the major institutions and agencies that affect these young people's lives. Her efforts have brought together the adults, community partners and institutions that have helped over 15,000 young people make profound and positive changes in their lives. Ms. Baldwin is the recipient of numerous regional and national awards including: The Boston Ten Point Coalition Award, The Fraternidad Guatemaleca de Massachusetts Recognition Award, The Instituto de Salud Latina Award, and the American Medical Association National Congress on Adolescent Health Award for Excellence in Intervention.

### **Serge Bologov**

Arrived to US as a refugee from Kiev (Ukraine) in 1992. Since 1995 Executive Director of the Russian Community Association of Massachusetts, Inc. (RCAM). Board Member of several organizations, including: Boston Partnership for Older Adults (BPOA); Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC); Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition (MIRA). Chair of the MAA Coalition (a coalition of Mutual Assistance Associations representing refugee communities in Massachusetts). Member of the Board of Governors and Chair of the Russian Community Services Committee of Combined Jewish Philanthropies (CJP). President of the Coalition of New American Voters (a statewide grassroots organization that promotes civic participation and community involvement among immigrants and refugees in Massachusetts).

### **Fausto Da Rocha**

Founder and Executive Director of the Brazilian Immigrant Center.

### **Carline Desire**

Carline Desire is the Executive Director of the Association of Haitian Women, Inc./Asosiyasyon Fanm Ayisyen nan Boston (AFAB) and KAFANM, Inc. (an Affordable Housing Project). She has been an activist in the Greater Boston community since 1984. She has founded and co-founded several organizations and coalitions. Before becoming the executive director of AFAB, she worked as a teacher, social worker and manager in MA -Boston and Somerville- and in Haiti. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in International Relations and a Master of Science and a Master of Arts in Community Economic Development and Public Policy.



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### **Sister Lena Deevy**

Lena Deevy is the Executive Director of the Irish Immigration Center. She came to the US in 1989 to pursue her Master's degree from the Harvard School of Education. While studying for her Master's degree, she completed a research project on undocumented Irish immigrants. There she learned firsthand of the difficulties facing immigrants in the US today and committed herself to work for justice for all immigrants. One year later, in 1990, Sr. Deevy became the first Executive Director of a self-help Irish immigrant organization, the Irish Immigration Center.

Sr. Deevy served as the Chairperson of the National Coalition of Irish Immigration Organizations from 1998 to 1999, and has served as the Chair of the Governor's Advisory Council on Refugees and Immigrants. In addition, she has served as a member of the Massachusetts Diversity Team and on the Department of Public Health's refugee and Immigrant Health Advisory Council.

### **Philip Gordon, Esq**

Philip Gordon is an experienced employment attorney, and serves as the Managing Partner of The Gordon Law Group, LLP. Honored as a Massachusetts Super Lawyer in 2006 for the third consecutive year (as published in *Boston Magazine* and in *Massachusetts Super Lawyers*, Nov. 2006), and Top 100 Lawyers in Massachusetts in 2005.

Philip has acted as lead counsel in federal and state court and administrative proceedings; acted as lead negotiator in direct and facilitated dispute resolution sessions; and negotiated many employment offers, contracts, releases and severance agreements.

### **Muradiou Joseph**

Muradiou Joseph as a Union Organizer For Service Employees International Union Local 615 (SEIU) Organized Security Officers for better wages, benefits, respect and the right to join the union of their choice. Organized rally, helped security officers draft petitions, wrote campaign flyers and leaflets, organized workers meeting, helped workers identify issues and possible violation of their rights. Prior Muradiou was a Community Organizer with Greater Boston Interfaith Organization (GBIO), Before was the Assistant house Manager for Cambridge Housing Authority. Master in education from Cambridge college and major on social work from the state university of haiti.

### **M. Bilal Kaleem**

is the Executive Director of the Muslim American Society of Boston (MAS Boston), which is the largest Muslim

organization in New England, working to educate, organize, and empower the Muslim community to be active, contributing citizens who play a significant role towards positive social change. He received his B.S. and M.S. from MIT, and is currently pursuing graduate study in sociology and religion at Boston University with some coursework at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government. His focus is the American Muslim community and their role as positive citizens in society. He has played a leading role in developing many of MAS Boston's youth programs, as well as outreach programs for the broader community. He has several years of experience as a teen mentor and counselor, having led a variety of youth groups and study circles. He also served as a mentor and teacher at the Somali Development Center in Roxbury, MA, an organization serving refugee families and youth from Somalia.

### **Sidney Liang**

Sidney is a program director at the Lowell Community Health Center and leader in Lowell's vibrant Cambodian community.

### **Sister Jennifer Pierce**

Sister Jennifer Pierce teaches ESOL and citizenship classes in Lawrence and Lowell. Most recently, she has traveled to visit organizations and Sisters in Africa to share her experiences.

### **John Shayeb**

John Shayeb is an organizer with SEIU 1199. Hired by the Massachusetts AFL-CIO as their first organizer to focus on immigrant rights, John has long been involved in connecting organized labor to the immigrant community.

### **Bishop Filipe C. Teixeira, OFSJC**

Born in Banga-Kwanza-Norte, Angola in 1966, to Cape Verdean parents. Studied for the Priesthood at the Archdiocese of Luanda-Angola at age 14. Studied at the Seraphic Seminary of the Capuchins Priests in Camabatela Kwanza Norte. Emigrated to the US and studied at Saint John's University, New York. Graduated in 1991 and accepted into the Archdiocese of Boston. In 1995, joined an Independent Catholic church. Ordained to the Diaconate. Ordained to the Priesthood in 1996. Started Saint Martin De Porres Church in Dorchester and began work with high risk teens specifically with Cape Verdean youths. Founded the YOUNG CAPE VERDEAN CLUB, Inc to ministry young people in the inner city areas. In 2000, opened a church in Brockton to ministry to Portuguese speaking community. Called to the Episcopacy in 2001. Elected to the House of Bishops and consecrated as a Bishop for the Northeast Diocese of Saint Francis of Assisi, CCA. Founded an Immigration Ministry Center, and a



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Religious order of Saint Joseph Cupertino to work with immigrant and refugees. Recipient of various awards and recognitions for outstanding community work and service.

### **Corinn Williams**

Corinn Williams is a co-founder in 1997 of the Community Economic Development Center of Southeastern Massachusetts (CEDC) located in New Bedford, Massachusetts. She has served as Executive Director of the CEDC since 2002. She has been involved in creating economic opportunities in numerous community development programs and efforts to support local Microbusinesses, providing training for jobseekers, adults and youth as well providing a wide range of support services to the immigrant community including worker rights, tax preparation and English classes. She was a "first responder" at the scene of the ICE raid in New Bedford and worked closely with the MIRA coalition to mobilize local and statewide organizations to support the raid victims. She is a research consultant with NOAA on projects to assess the socio-economic impact of fishing regulations on the New Bedford fishing community. Her work has also included consulting assignments in community and microenterprise development in Central Asia and Latin America. She received her B.A. at Southeastern Massachusetts University and an M.A .and ABD in Economic Anthropology at the University of Connecticut.

### **John Willshire Carrera**

John is an immigration attorney with Greater Boston Legal Services. Working with his partner Nancy Kelly, and organizations and lawyers across the region, John led the legal response to the New Bedford raids. Under the leadership of John and Nancy, GBLS is recognized as one of the leading immigration legal services organizations in the nation.