

Kal Brito *(he/him)*



Kai is an accounting professional with a passion for sustainability. He is currently attending Madison College for an Accounting degree and wants to work for an organization that supports sustainability and climate change policy. He serves on the Board of Directors for WORT FM radio and is a student employee.

Kai joined the Sustainable Madison Committee because he wanted to participate in community-wide, policy level change for the local Madison-area. He is working on youth engagement to ensure that young people are part of the conversation. He also believes that affordability, racial equity, and accessibility are important parts of climate change action.



In his free time, Kai is interested in strength & conditioning, tanking the damage in RPGs, being “on the air” on LIVE radio, and just generally showing up to community events on the Madison College campus and in the city. Also his favorite restaurant in Madison is Short Stack Eatery, followed by Ha Long Bay at a very close second.

Susan Millar



Professionally: Cultural anthropologist by training, fieldwork in Indonesia
- Now, Senior Scientist Emeritus at UW-Madison and climate advocate

Personal life:

- very much a family person - mother of 2, grandma of 5, widowed 5 years ago (pancreatic cancer took my husband of 50 years).
- a vegetarian, gardener, biker, hiker, dancer, who is grateful to live in a near west-side 90-year old all-electric house.

Volunteer life:

- Although concerned about climate warming since my 20s, I became an activist upon joining 350 Madison (now 350 Wisconsin) about 7 years ago. In this role, I helped establish (in 2019) and continue to co-lead its Community Climate Solutions Team.
- I plan to continue devoting my time to helping reduce GHG emissions. This is a key reason why I sought to join the SMC, which I did in **summer, 2022.**

Fun fact: I delight in seeing solar panel fields and wind turbines!

John Guequierre (he/him)



John's consulting company (I-OSC, LLC) advises architects, engineers, developers and builders on prefabricated, affordable, green buildings of all types. John's current projects are in Oregon, Vermont, and New York. John is also President of Otologic Technologies, Inc. bringing AI to improving the diagnosis of ear diseases. He is an active mentor at MERLIN in University Research Park, helping technology startups launch their ideas.

John's ancient French surname is pronounced "you-gair". He joined SMC in November, 2023.

John is passionate about the environment and the impacts of climate change. After 10-years on the board of the Wexford Village Association, a neighborhood suffering some of the worst damage from the 2018 flood event, he has seen first hand the importance of taking action. John is an active volunteer in 350 Wisconsin, and enjoys engaging with the Madison Alders in his network on issues of sustainability and housing affordability, and all of the associated issues like public transit.

John has been married to Polly for 55 years. They met while they were both students at UW Madison. They have 3 children and 3 grandchildren. John's first job, as a teenager, was working as an EMT for his parents' ambulance service serving a small community in SE Wisconsin.

John enjoys biking the many amazing trails around Madison, and happily bikes or takes the bus from his west side home to the campus and downtown areas rather than driving. He even sings in a church choir, albeit not very well, but it's a way to enjoy live music.



Erinn Monroe-Nye



Erinn is the Energy Services and Policy Manager at Madison Gas and Electric. In that role she oversees MG&E's electric vehicle programs and coordination with the state's Focus on Energy program. She has held numerous positions with energy-related consulting firms, nonprofits and utilities, most notably as the director of Focus on Energy. She has a masters degree in international public affairs and a graduate certificate in energy analysis and policy from UW Madison.

Erinn joined the Sustainable Madison Committee because she has a deep passion for decarbonization and believes change at the local level is crucial to meeting our greenhouse gas emission reduction targets. Erinn has dedicated her entire career to helping people reduce their carbon footprints by reducing energy use and adopting cleaner technology.

In her free time Erinn loves traveling with her family and has a dog, a lizard and flock of backyard chickens (silkie).





KIMBERLY CHO

Currently, I am a co-owner of Half Cup Studio, a creative communications company with the tagline “visual storytelling with a conscience.” We aim to co-create a socially responsible future through our collaborations with mission-driven businesses, non-profits, and campaigns.

I joined SMC because I am invested in the future of my local community and the planet. I’m excited to learn about all the incredible work taking place in the community and from my fellow committee members. I look forward to being a part of the continuous process of making changes in the present, preparing for the future, and co-envisioning how we can serve as a model for cities across the globe.

I rely on a double espresso shot to be my first dose of motivation in the morning. I love to read, garden, and have long analytical conversations about pretty much anything. I aspire to be a more ‘human’ human being.

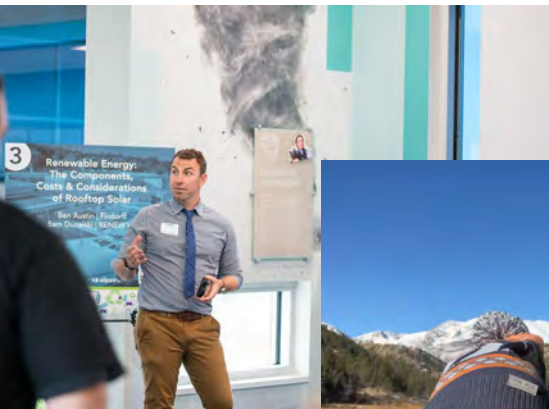
Robert Beets

- Science communicator, consultant
- UW Life Sciences Communication
- MKE » SEA » DC » MSP » Madison
- Walking in parks
- Kayaking on lakes
- Hiking and camping
- Poetry and photography
- Prime Root LLC
- Own It: Building Black Wealth
- Rolling Meadows neighborhood
- Civic engagement and democracy

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Sam Dunaiski



Sam is the Executive Director at RENEW Wisconsin, a Madison-based nonprofit that advocates for policies that support more clean energy implementation. He oversees an organization of 16 people who work on the regulation, legislation, and programming of solar, wind, renewable fuels, hydropower, energy storage, building electrification, and electric vehicles. Sam joined RENEW 5 years ago after leaving a decade-long career as an operational meteorologist in the Twin Cities. He has a BS in Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences from UW-Madison.

Sam has been on the Sustainable Madison Committee since 2017 and is a former co-chair of the Committee. He joined the SMC to help mitigate climate change and to provide a scientific voice on the Committee about man-made global warming. Sam hopes that his involvement on the Committee will lead to more change at the local level and that his City will become more adaptive to fight climate change.

In his free time, Sam enjoys anything outdoors; including camping, skiing, and hiking with his family. On Saturday mornings, he can often be found watching soccer from his basement, especially if his favorite team, Liverpool is playing.

Fun Fact: Sam grew up in rural, northern Minnesota where many of this family are enrolled members of the Fond du Lac band of Lake Superior Chippewa. Sam once won a chicken McNugget eating contest and is an excellent parallel parker.

Denise DeMarb



I am committed to equity, community building, and making Madison more dynamic — economically, socially, and environmentally.

My primary goal is a public transit that provides comprehensive, affordable workforce transportation. We should examine all options as a city and choose the mix of transit modes that provides the best services at a reasonable cost.

Cristina Carvajal



I am the founder and executive director of Wisconsin EcoLatinos, a non-profit organization working to engage the Latino community in environmental conservation and advocate for an equitable and sustainable environment. I also serve in the Monona Lake Waterfront Ad-hoc Committee and the Wisconsin Environmental Equity Tool Committee.

I have been a member of the Sustainable Madison Committee for one year, I joined SMC because I'm a climate change advocate and I feel the urgency of the moment to bring all communities together to reduce carbon emissions and create a sustainable environment.

I'm originally from Colombia and I've lived in Wisconsin for 21 years with my husband and 3 kids. I learned to live with Wisconsin's winter I even learned how to ski! But my favorite seasons are spring and summer. I love outdoor activities, hiking, kayaking and being inspired by nature.

Sujata Gautam (सुजाता गौतम)



Born in Kansas, raised in Texas, with roots from Nepal and hands perpetually in the soil :)

Sujata stewards the outreach and education efforts for the Dane County Department of Waste & Renewables as the Sustainability Engagement Coordinator, leading exciting & creative projects such as the Trash Lab, which invites community members to rethink and reimagine their relationship with “stuff”. She is a circular economy enthusiast, and is proud to be part of a team that is working to advance the circular economy in Dane County by creating more local reuse, repair and recycling opportunities for materials through a Sustainability Campus. Sujata is also Board Member on Sustain Dane and has served on Madison's Sustainable Madison Committee (SMC) since 2020.

Sujata joined SMC with hopes to help inform, guide and champion Madison's sustainability efforts in manner that centers wellbeing for all. She would love to see Madison become a zero waste city and wants to be a part of the dream team to make that happen! :)

In her free time, Sujata enjoys a variety of outdoor activities, as well as dancing, yoga and volunteering with the Wisconsin Prison Mindfulness Institute.

Fun Fact: Sujata used to be a volunteer firefighter in rural Vermont

Xanthe Saalman (they/she) 🌍 🦜 🌻 🎻 😎 🦘



I love street art!



Xanthe is an 12th grader at Madison Country Day School. She leads her school's activism club and is a leader on the Dane County Youth Environmental Committee. She also volunteers with Citizens Climate Lobby (lobbying Mark Pocan and running the Instagram account), Sierra Club, Midwest Environmental Advocates, and Action for the Climate Emergency where she is very active in the fight against Line 5. She is very passionate about solving the climate crisis and increasing sustainability, and hopes to pursue it as a career!

Xanthe has been an SMC member for just over a year. She joined SMC to explore a climate action at the local government level and deepen her engagement with sustainability efforts. She is also proud to be a youth voice on the team and can't wait to see how Madison continues to push towards its net zero goals and incorporate youth in that process!

Fun fact: Xanthe has played the violin for over 12 years and loves to play the piano and guitar, too!

← evidence: baby Xanthe with violin :D

Sam Worden (she/her)

Previously Sam has worked at Exact Sciences as a corporate, hydroponic farmer where she implemented sustainability solutions within the culinary department. Since April, she's worked for Sustain Dane as their program coordinator.

Sam was appointed as a SMC member in 2022. She joined to be more involved with local sustainability initiatives and inform her peers.

Fun Fact: I'll be traveling to the Netherlands next spring for about a month!



Cat mom, farm-to-table enthusiast, photography lover, and always looking to book the next trip



Lance Green

I've loved living in my home on the East Side for over 40 years and have served on the SASY Neighborhood Association Council. On the Friends of Starkweather Creek board for over 12 years, I'm happy to help work for the Creek's health and provide paddling and nature opportunities for folks of all ages.

As a member of the Sustainable Madison Committee since 2011, I've felt proud to have helped write and implement much of our original plan, and now to devise a new path for our efforts. I've also worked on proposals to grow our urban canopy and reduce our use of pesticides, which I hope will be implemented soon.

Between gardening, kayaking, enjoying live music and playing pinball, my life here in Madison is pretty sweet!



Riley Willman (he/him)



Riley currently serves as the Elections Supervisor with the Wisconsin Elections Commission which keeps him pretty busy! He's been a member of the SMC since 2022 and joined because he wanted to be more involved in the sustainability community in Madison. He believes that climate change is the biggest issue of the day and actively wants to do everything we can to make Madison as resilient as possible.



He and his husband live in downtown Madison and love walking and biking around the city with their dog Andouille. A fun fact about Riley is that he started playing rugby with the Madison Minotaurs!

Heather Driscoll (she/her)



Heather recently became the Event Coordinator for Savanna Institute - a nonprofit laying the groundwork for widespread agroforestry in the Midwest. She works to advance agroforestry adoption by coordinating accessible and inclusive educational and fundraising events. She has two decades of organizing experience through her work at environmental nonprofits, green businesses, the government, and on local political campaigns.

Heather joined SMC in February 2020 just in time for the last in-person meeting! Her motivation for serving is to continue to push Madison forward on climate solutions and address environmental justice issues.

Heather lives on the eastside of Madison with her husband, two children, and three adorable cats. In her free time, she loves bicycling around with her kids, singing karaoke, and camping in the woods.

Alder Nikki Conklin (District 9)

I am a deeply-rooted, progressive community leader with a vision for a healthier & more equitable community.



With my parents ❤️

I grew up in the small town of Montello just north of Madison. My town was predominantly white and later I moved to Madison seeking a more diverse place to live. While living in Madison, I have learned the many challenges our marginalized community faces.

As a single Black mother, I put myself through college and graduated with my Bachelor's degree in Human Services with a Social Work Training Certificate. I have been very active with the Lussier Community Education Center (LCEC) on many levels including as a volunteer, staff member, Americorps worker, and as a member of the LCEC Board of Directors.

For the last 12 years, I've lived in Wexford Ridge raising my 3 beautiful children here. I'm running for re-election because I want to continue to represent the voice of the people and make sure everyone is heard. I want to bring **POWER TO ALL THE PEOPLE** in District 9. As Alder, I have listened and have engaged with my constituents and if elected again I plan to continue to build upon the work I started. As a mom raising my children in the district, I have a vested interest in the decisions made today and how they will affect all families for generations to come.

MGR Govindarajan (District 8 Alder)



I'm a student studying legal studies & political science at UW-Madison. I'm connected to multiple student organizations throughout the campus area, and have previously worked with the Student Government a lot. I've been apart of the SMC since April of 2023, as that's when my term as Alder began.

I was interested in the SMC because sustainability is an issue that matters a lot to me, and people in my community. We're the ones who will inherit this Earth, and it's never too early to get involved.

One fun fact about me is I can not function properly if I don't start the day off with cereal, specifically cocoa puffs.

I'm excited to work with all of you!

Alder Nasra Wehelie (District 7)



I was appointed to the District 7 alder seat in November 2020 and later ran for her first full term as District 7 alder unopposed in April 2021, and again in the April 2023 Spring Election.

I worked professionally in the non-profit sector for more than 15 years in various capacities. In addition to my role as an alder, I am the founder and CEO for Empathy 4 Equity LLC, which aims to develop strategies for building a "culture of empathy" within organizations to better connect employees and their communities. I also serve on the Board of Directors for the Wisconsin Leagues of Municipalities and the Board of Directors of the Boys and Girls Club of Dane County.

As a collaborator, the following additional values are important to me and the work I do.

Partnerships-- Developing strategic partnership to sustain relationships that leads to trust.

Empathy-- Our human capacity for empathy cultivates authentic and meaningful relationships and empowers collaboration.

Social Change-- Committed to understanding issues of power and privilege within ourselves and our communities, within our institutions and societal systems.

Jessica Price - Sustainability and Resilience Manager



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The Nature
Conservancy



- Boomerang Badger, nature lover, amature gardener
- Joined the City of Madison team in August 2021
- Working to make my 109 year old house energy efficient and carbon free

Gregg May – Sustainability Program Coordinator



- Enjoys a cup of hot tea, a good game of cribbage, and any excuse to get up north.
- Joined the City of Madison team in June 2023
- Working to get solar on the garage of historic building that I live in on the near eastside.

Gabriel Saiz – Sustainability Program Coordinator



- Grew up in Madison, coming back from working at the Desert Botanical Garden in Phoenix, Arizona
- Have two pets Ishka and Dibe
- I enjoy chilling with succulents and cooking