

CNL Board Essentials Trainer Biographies

Megan Joseph, Founder, Impact Launch

Megan Joseph, MA is the founder of Impact Launch, a collective of social impact professionals that support individuals, organizations and initiatives to work effectively for equitable and sustainable outcomes in policy, systems and community change throughout California and beyond.

Megan has worked hands-on for over two decades with community-based organizations and multi-sector collaboratives to design and facilitate leadership development, strategic planning, capacity building and project design. As Executive Director of Rise Together, a multi-county initiative to cut poverty in the Bay Area, Megan implemented a 250-member coalition for policy and systems change, addressing issues of employment, affordable housing and early childhood education for critical populations. As Director of Community Organizing for the United Way of Santa Cruz County she founded and supported multiple sustained initiatives, including the Santa Cruz County Youth Violence Prevention Task Force and the Community Corrections Partnership Community Engagement Task Force.

Megan was recognized with the 2015 National Community Indicators Consortium Emerging Leader award for her work using community indicators as a catalyst for change to reduce youth violence. Megan has practiced Radical Transformational Leadership for a decade with Dr. Monica Sharma, and over the last 10 years launched several leadership programs that have trained over 1,500 change makers to design and implement change in their organizations and communities. She has served as faculty at JFK University and is an advisor for One of Us Foundation. Megan earned an MA in Consciousness Studies from JFK University and an MA in Criminology, Law and Society from UC Irvine.

To learn more about Megan and Impact Launch, visit their website www.impactlaunch.org

Wendy Willoughby, Managing Director, Center for Nonprofit Leadership

Wendy began working with the Center for Nonprofit Leadership in late 2008 and for over 14 years has had the pleasure and honor to learn from some of the most dedicated and passionate leaders in Nevada County's nonprofit sector.

Prior to CNL, Wendy served as the Development and Education Director at the Foothill Theatre Company in Nevada City. She holds a BA in Theatre and Dance from UC Irvine and while living in Southern CA, helped found the Vanguard Theater in Orange County and was an artistic company member and Development Director for the award-winning Los Angeles Theater troupe, Circle X.

Wendy also works for our Nevada County Fair as their Community Outreach Coordinator, managing several key areas of the annual Fair's activities. Being a 4th generation Nevada County resident, she was delighted to return to her home town to raise her family near dear relatives and friends. She lives with her husband, Matthew, daughters, Olivia and Simone, their 2 fluffy black cats and 2 of the sweetest black Labs in the world, Wheeler and Raina. She spends much of her free time attending NU High School Girls tennis matches and soccer games.

She has been dedicated to the support of her children's educational entities and served as the Board President of Tall Pines Nursery School for 4 years and then continued on the board of the Grass Valley Charter School Foundation, eventually serving as their Board President for 8 years. In addition to her efforts on behalf of the board, she is very proud to have been the creator and co-producer of the GVCS festival, the Blue Marble Jubilee. Wendy's newest adventure in service began in 2022 when she was elected to the Nevada Joint Union High School District's Board and continues into her second term there.