



Fund Our Future: Panelist Bios

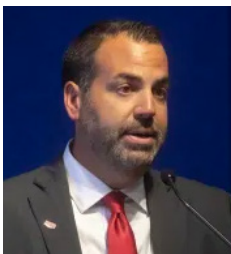
Reverend Peter Cook, Executive Director of the New York State Council of Churches



The Reverend Peter Cook serves as Executive Director of the New York State Council of Churches, which represents 7,000 congregations across the state of New York. Ordained in the United Church of Christ, Rev. Cook received his BA from Lewis & Clark College in Portland, Oregon, and an MA in Liturgical Theology and an MDiv.

from Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, California. Prior to serving the Council, he served as Senior Minister at First Congregation Church in Burlington, Vermont, and the Plymouth Church in Framingham, Massachusetts, and Pastor of St. John's United Church of Christ in Waukegan, Illinois. Throughout his ministry, Peter has been a strong advocate for the development of affordable housing, leading the Council's Who is My Neighbor Community Development Initiative to help faith institutions use their property to better serve their community.

Ryan Delgado, Chief of Staff, NYS AFL-CIO



Ryan Delgado was named Chief of Staff of the 2.5 million-member New York State AFL-CIO in June 2019, coordinating the efforts of the organization's various staff departments on behalf of its 3,000 public sector, private sector, and building trades affiliated unions. Ryan also serves as the federation's Political Director, responsible for

managing the endorsement process of the Federation and the coordinated political action program of the AFL-CIO's State affiliates. Ryan was appointed and confirmed as a Commissioner of the NYS Insurance Fund in 2017, and prior to joining the State AFL-CIO in 2011, worked throughout the Labor Movement at the New York State Public Employees Federation, Local 1102 RWDSU UFCW, and the New York City Central Labor Council, as well as in the New York State Assembly.

Ron Deutsch, Private Consultant on Social and Economic Justice Issues



Ron Deutsch is currently a private consultant working on social and economic justice issues. Ron was most recently the Executive Director of the Fiscal Policy Institute (FPI) from 2013-2021; an independent, nonpartisan, nonprofit research and education organization committed to improving public

policies and private practices to better the economic and social conditions of all New Yorkers. Ron has been a tireless advocate for working families for nearly 30 years in Albany. He led the Statewide Emergency Network for Social and Economic Security (SENSES, a statewide anti-poverty advocacy organization) for 13 years and then became the Director of FPI's sister 501(c)(4) organization, New Yorkers for Fiscal Fairness for 8 years. Ron is a graduate of the State University of New York at Albany. He is also on the board of thegivingcircle.org and has been with the Giving Circle since its inception. He served as President of the organization from 2008-2018 working on numerous Giving Circle projects and events.

Robert Jackson, New York State Senator



Senator Robert Jackson is a Democrat representing Senate District 31 in northern Manhattan since 2019. He currently chairs the Senate's Civil Service and Pensions Committee. Throughout his career in public service, he has taken on difficult fights on behalf of New Yorkers and never backed down: in his first elected position as School

Board President where he launched the Campaign for Fiscal Equity school funding lawsuit, walked 150 miles to Albany to highlight the cause, and won a court judgment that awarded \$16 billion for NYC public schools. In his 12 years on the City Council, he sponsored the Small Business Jobs Survival Act and fought for justice and equality. Now, as a State Senator, he champions public education, workers' rights, climate justice, gun safety, and more. He knows how to get things done and has a record to prove it. Born and raised in Manhattan, Sen. Jackson and his family live in Washington Heights. He attended New York City public schools and graduated from State University of New York at New Paltz. He is married and the devoted father of three daughters.