

Water Innovation and Leadership Development Program

2024 Program Fellows

Bethel Abate, Programs Manager, DC Water, Washington DC

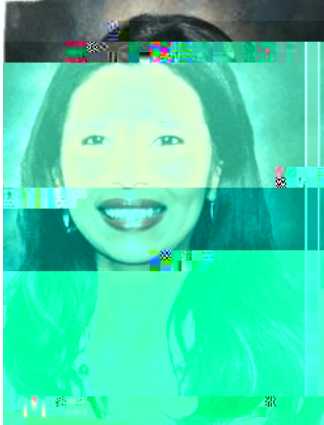
Bethel Abate, P. E., PMP is a Civil Engineer/Program Manager at DC Water. She has a B.S in Civil Engineering and a Master of Engineering in Project Management. Ms. Abate has over 15 years of experience in the professional engineering field with expertise in civil project and program management. Her experience includes local and international project/program management and construction supervision on multimillion-dollar engineering projects. At DC Water, she provides engineering and program management support for the Department of Wastewater Engineering on planning, design, and construction projects, including facility planning, concept designs, development and updates Standard Specifications/SOPs and design reviews/shop drawings. She also serves as the technical committee vice chair for her local Water Environment Federation (WEF) and American Water Works Association (AWWA) association. In her spare time, she enjoys traveling and volunteering at the local women's shelter and with the children advocacy ministry.

Tirusew Asefa, Systems Decision Support Manager Tampa Bay Water, Clearwater FL

Dr. Asefa is the lead for decision support group at Tampa Bay Water, the largest wholesale water supplier in the Southeastern US. He oversees the agency's work on surface and groundwater resources assessment, supply planning, demand forecast and management, and climate adaptation among other responsibilities. Currently, he oversees several M nBT/F.3 Tm7.4ent, a(W)4(ork)-(s)-5P-9(i)5(n)-9(g(ag)-7(6(M)de)-9(l)5(es)-33(i)

William Bulloss, Assistant Director of Strategy, Innovation, and Sustainability
Western Virginia Water Authority, Roanoke VA

Will Bulloss currently serves as the Assistant Director of Strategy, Innovation, and Sustainability for the Western Virginia Water Authority, a combined utility serving approximately 300,000 citizens in the Roanoke region. His work focuses on external affairs, economic development, organizational performance management, and infrastructure investment. He has broad experience managing public infrastructure programs and implementing continuous improvement thinking to teams. He has helped develop pathways for e



Indira Gonzales, Section Manager

Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, Laurel MD

Indira is a Civil Engineer with more than 20 years of experience in design, construction, and project management of water/wastewater projects. She is currently manager for the contract services section in the Engineering and Construction Department of WSSCWATER in Laurel, MD. She is proud to work in a company that provides safe and reliable water to more than 1.9 million people.

Indira oversees the company's construction standards, cost estimating team and material evaluation process for water/wastewater products. She is also part of the Strategic Plan Development Team in her company. She enjoys giving back to the community, and supporting initiatives to make water a safe and sustainable resource for generations to come.



Kimberly Gupta, Director of Operations

Portland Water Bureau, Portland OR

Kimberly Gupta is the Director of Operations for the Portland Water Bureau. She is responsible for operating and maintaining the surface and groundwater systems, specifically the infrastructure related to water supply, treatment, transmission, and distribution facilities; ensuring compliance with drinking water regulations; operating an accredited drinking water laboratory; and managing the Bureau's Security and Technology Groups. Prior to joining the Water Bureau in 2010, she was an engineer at the East Bay Municipal Utility District for over 8 years. Kim has a master's degree in Civil/Environmental Engineering from the University of Nevada, Reno, and is a registered professional civil engineer in both Oregon and California. She is a certified water distribution and treatment operator in Oregon, holding D4 and T3 certifications, and serves as the Bureau's Direct Responsible Charge. Kim is also an active member of the American Water Works Association and serves as a Commissioner on the National Blue Ribbon Commission for Onsite Non-Potable Water Systems.

Patrick Jensen, Principal Civil Engineer

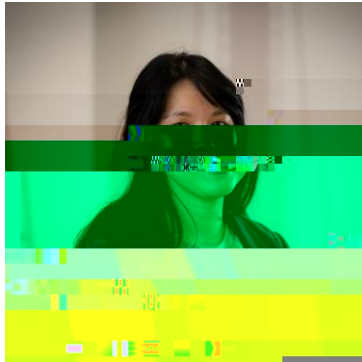
Chicago IL

Mr. Patrick Jensen, P.E., is a Principal Civil Engineer in the Collection Facilities/TARP (Tunnel and Reservoir Plan) Section of the Engineering Department at the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) and has been working there 14 years on large infrastructure projects. As a Principal Civil Engineer, Mr. Jensen now serves as a project manager for flood and pollution control projects within its service area, oversees the MWRD's collection systems asset management plan as well as sewer rehabilitation design projects. He has a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from Marquette University in Milwaukee, WI.

Khanh Kim, Managing Engineer

Houston, TX

Khanh Kim earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry in 2001 and he is currently a Professional Engineer in Civil Engineering. Mr. Kim has over 17 years of experience at the City of Houston, which encompasses water quality, hydraulic modeling, water demand planning, scoping capital improvement projects for water main replacement, and



Jennifer Lee, Environmental Regulatory Compliance Manager
City of Burlingame, Burlingame CA

Jennifer Lee is a California native and works as the Environmental Regulatory Compliance Manager for the City of Burlingame located in the San Francisco Bay Area. Jennifer's main role is to ensure that the City complies with its NPDES stormwater permit and oversees inspection programs, conducts building plan review, and educates the public on stormwater pollution prevention. Jennifer also works on regulatory compliance for drinking water programs, such as the annual water loss audit, annual water quality report, and the Lead and Copper Rule. Prior to working for the City of Burlingame, Jennifer was a Water Conservation Analyst for the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission. Jennifer worked on public outreach and education programs to help the residents of San Francisco save water by promoting rebates, incentives, and public outreach programs. Jennifer has been working in local government since 2013 and believes that working for cities is a rewarding career path. She holds a Masters of Environmental Management from Duke University and a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science and Management from University of California Davis.

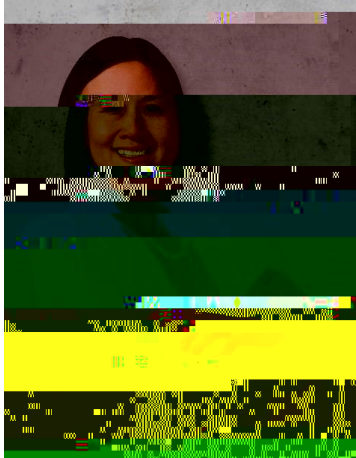


Andre Miller, Utility Engineer/Project Manager Capital Projects
Orange Water and Sewer Authority, Carrboro NC

Andre is a licensed professional engineer registered both in Mexico and the US, currently in North Carolina. Throughout his career of more than 20 years as a civil engineer, he has worked in the public, private, and consulting sectors all around the United States and Mexico, delivering innovative and sustainable solutions for water and wastewater treatment and management. He started out working for the state of Jalisco, Mexico, where he was tasked with providing innovative, cost-effective solutions to meet the water and sanitation infrastructure needs for ten municipalities located in some of the more impoverished areas of Mexico. He has also had a variety of experiences in the US ranging from larger, higher resourced organizations like Orange County Sanitation District in Orange County, California, to lower resourced communities as a project manager for San Bernardino Municipal Water Department in San Bernardino, California. Now, as a Utilities Engineer / CIP Project Manager at Orange Water and Sewer Authority (OWASA) in North Carolina, he performs comprehensive and highly complex engineering and project management functions for major capital projects through all phases of the project management life cycle.

Crystal Tulley-Cordova, Principal Hydrologist
Water Resources for the Navajo Nation, Fort Defiance AZ

Crystal Tulley-Cordova, PhD, MWR is a Principal Hydrologist in the Navajo Nation Department of Water Resources - Water Management Branch. She is an enrolled member of the Navajo Nation, and



Andrea Yang, Deputy Executive Director
Greater Cincinnati Water Works, Cincinnati OH

Andrea Yang brings more than 20 years of legal, policy, and administrative experience in government, private, and nonprofit sectors to her current role as Deputy Executive Director of the Greater Cincinnati Water Works (GCWW). Andrea has served the City of Cincinnati in various roles in the Solicitor's Office and GCWW as chief counsel for real estate, infrastructure, and utilities, and as an economic and community development and real estate attorney.

Andrea graduated from the University of Cincinnati Law School and earned both a Masters of Regional Planning and Bachelor of Arts (Biology and Society) from Cornell University. She lives in the Clifton neighborhood of Cincinnati with dog Bowdie and her husband Rainer and enjoys hiking, travel and pottery.
