



DECLARED CANDIDATES FOR THE GUILFORD COUNTY DEMOCRATIC COUNTY BOARD

CHAIR

Kathy Kirkpatrick



Kathy Kirkpatrick here, running again for GCDP Chair. Over the past 2 years, GCDP has developed and implemented a strategic plan, run 3 fund-raising campaigns and a successful Unity Dinner. We had a strong showing in the 2022 election and are already working toward the 2023 and 2024 elections. Toward this end, we have 4 new teams up and running: Service to Others, Messaging, Voter Registration and Protection, and Candidate Recruitment and Training. I thank you for allowing me to serve as Chair for the past two years, and I would be honored to serve GCDP again.

FIRST VICE CHAIR

Justin Cundall



Justin is a committed local Democrat who has engaged with the party since the 2016 election. Dedicated to getting Democrats elected at every level, he worked as the only coordinated campaign staff in Guilford County during the 2022 midterms and spent hours knocking doors in 2018 and 2020. Graduate of the DCCC's Organizing Crops and National Democratic Training Committee Staff Academy, Justin knows how to build a grassroots volunteer movement. He is currently the president of the Guilford County Young Democrats, a board member of the NC College Democrats, chair of the precinct MON3, and soon-to-be graduate from UNCG.

SECOND VICE CHAIR

Cheryl Sims



Cheryl A. Sims a native of Washington, D.C. relocated to Greensboro, NC in 2018. Graduated from the University of Central Florida, Bachelor's in political science, 1997 and a Master of Public Administration from Illinois Institute of Technology, 2010. Ms. Sims worked 10 years with the Florida Legislature as a Chief Legislative Aid in both the House of Representatives and the Senate. Government Affairs with the Greater Orlando Association of Realtors, the Campaign Finance Institute, DC and the Shedd Aquarium, Chicago. She is eager to put her knowledge, ideas, skills, and abilities to use with the Guilford County Democratic Party.

THIRD VICE CHAIR

Shelly Headen



I am Shelly Headen, a resident of Oak Ridge precinct 1 for over 20 years and recently the Secretary/Treasurer for the precinct. I am a CPA in North Carolina and the mother of three daughters aged 24, 21, and 18. I am employed with Clifton Larson Allen, a top US accounting firm, as recruiter for their West region as well as a new owner of franchise, Prolift, a garage door installation and repair company for which I serve in accounting and marketing. My role as a recruiter has given me technology skills in social media, Canva, and many other software.

Kevin Kazaks



My name is Kevin Kazaks. I am a public-school educator, Marine Corps Officer, husband and most importantly, father to my young sons, Jack and Ben. Throughout my life I have been drawn to service, and I believe that service is what our party represents; the desire to uplift others, improve our institutions, and continue to strive towards a more perfect union. As 3rd Vice Chair of the County Party, I will use my position to reach a broader coalition of voters, engage new voters, and ensure that our messaging is clear, concise, accessible, understandable, and unified.

GREENSBORO VICE CHAIR

Franca Jalloh



Franca R. Jalloh, 40 under 40 Most Influential Leader -- Non-Profit Founder, Executive Director, Community Advocate & Immigration Legal Service Rep. Franca Jalloh is a mother of 3 beautiful daughters, a non-profit business executive, community leader, educator, advocate and a respected member of our community. Franca was a candidate for Greensboro City Council At-Large, the first Muslim woman & first-generation immigrant from Africa to ever do so in Greensboro, North Carolina earning over 6,500 votes as a first-time candidate. She was honored as a 40 Under 40 Most Influential African American in the North Carolina Triad area in 2020.

HIGH POINT VICE CHAIR

RURAL VICE CHAIR

Binaya Aryal



I have been Rural Vice Chair, Precinct Chair, SDRI , SEC Member. Recently, we've seen a significant influx of immigrant population in NC. Guilford County and these immigrants have played a pivotal role in positioning our Party strongly in this recent election. I persuaded them to join our party. The last two years we were unable to meet people in person due to Covid now I am planning to reach out to them in person to make GCDP great. I have enthusiasm, time and energy to work for the party. I'm expecting active support from all of you.

SECRETARY

Jess Eckler



Jess Eckler is equal parts self-proclaimed nerd and jack of all trades. During her time as secretary of the LGBTQ+ Dems of Guilford County and North Carolina caucuses, she has created social media pages while assisting with maintaining the current page and sharing pertinent information with the members. She has also developed standard templates for agendas and meeting minutes and instituted a method for timely meeting notifications. In her free time, she is an avid gamer and enjoys spending time with her closest friends, her wife, and their brood of two dogs and four cats.