

Jim Schuyler, Executive Director

Jim Schuyler is a graduate of New York University and Harvard Law School. His career has been as an attorney and lobbyist, in the New York City Mayor's Office, as Counsel to the U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Housing and Urban Affairs, as Legislative Counsel to the National Association of Home Builders, as a Partner in a law firm, and as Principal in his own lobbying and strategic planning firm. Jim moved to Richmond in 2001 and served as Interim Executive Director of Equality Virginia and Executive Director of the Beth Ahabah Museum and Archives. He currently serves as Vice Chair of the Virginia Fair Housing Board and serves on the Board of Managers of Congregation Beth Ahabah. He was a member of the 2007 Class of Leadership Metro Richmond.

Carolyn Spohrer, Deputy Director

Carolyn P. Spohrer is VACAP's Deputy Director. She coordinates the Virginia CASH Campaign and the VACAP Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) grant program, working with communities throughout Virginia to develop local free tax preparation coalitions. Carolyn is a graduate of Ithaca College with a B.S. in education and taught high school for many years. Before joining VACAP in March 2004, Carolyn was Area Director with Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Virginia.

Ken Ackerman, Virtual CAP Project Manager

Kenneth Ackerman is the Project Manager for the national Virtual CAP project funded by the U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services/Office of Community Services to support sharing of information among Community Action Agencies and to promote replication of successful CAA initiatives. Ken's involvement with Community Action began in 1971 as a VISTA volunteer in rural Virginia. He then directed a desegregation program in Prince Edward County (VA) where the public schools had been closed from 1959-1963 as a measure to fight school integration. He subsequently served as Executive Director of the Monticello Area CAA from 1976-2000 after initially working as the agency's Chief Planner.

Ken has also provided leadership with numerous state, regional and national organizations including Virginia Community Action Partnership, Comprehensive Health Investment Project of Virginia, Virginia Statewide Human Services Information and Referral Advisory Council, Governor's Job Training Coordinating Council, Southeast Rural Community Assistance Program, Project Discovery, Inc., Virginia Housing Coalition, and National Low-Income Housing Coalition. Ken is certified as a peer reviewer for the Award for Excellence/Pathways to Excellence in Community Action.