Andrea (Drea) Hall comes to Community Renewal Society with over ten years of organizing experience in the city of Chicago and a track record of building teams and coalitions for racial and economic justice, most recently as a senior manager at the Chicago Public Schools within the Office of Family and Community Engagement. Drea has always had a passion for working with people, especially those who she can help empower to help themselves and lead. Within the Organizing program at CRS, she will focus on the key issue of Police Accountability. Growing up in the city of Oshkosh, Wisconsin, Drea experienced homelessness off and on (she lived in a shelter for the majority of her freshman year of high school). While homelessness and instability affected her greatly, she always knew that she wanted to continue her schooling and better herself, her family and the community. Education was her key to success. After graduating from high school, Drea graduated with her bachelor’s degree from the University of Wisconsin in Whitewater and a master’s degree in social work from Washington University. As Senior Organizer working on reentry and criminal justice reform for The Chicago Coalition for the Homeless, Drea successfully advocated for housing for those coming home from prison and impacted policy that opened doors for men and women at the Chicago Housing Authority. Additionally, she worked for Le Tendre Education Fund, and was an organizer with SEIU healthcare. Drea is strategic, collaborative, relational and committed to equipping our congregations to organize for racial and economic justice.

Zach McRae is a Program Associate at The San Francisco Foundation. As an Program Associate, his responsibilities range from assisting senior staff in the strategy development of program initiatives and/or special projects, conducting research and evaluation for funding opportunities and provide recommendations for funding opportunities, to serving as a liaison with community partners and key stakeholders. Zach leads and coordinates specific projects that include Community Benefits Agreements (CBAs), criminal justice reform, education equity, anti-displacement and affordable housing strategies, and supporting small business development. Zach also leads and coordinates the partnerships between different public agencies and The San Francisco Foundation. Zach works between the Anchoring Communities and Expanding Access to Opportunity Pathways at The San Francisco Foundation to help bridge collaboration within the Foundation to achieve its goal of improving regional racial and economic equity.

Chas Moore is the co-founder of the Austin, Texas based Austin Justice Coalition a grassroots activist-led organization aimed at demanding criminal justice reform and building community at both the local and national level. An advocate for the underserved, Chas champions efforts that deliberately meet community needs like back-to-school drives, fundraisers for those who have been brutalized by police, feeding the hungry and pioneering programs for black youth, men and women. Chas Moore believes that hope for equality and generational change must begin with the reshaping and reclaiming of a black community.
Sam Sinyangwe is a policy analyst and data scientist who works with communities of color to fight systemic racism through cutting-edge policies and strategies. Sam has supported movement activists across the country to collect and use data as a tool for fighting police violence through Mapping Police Violence. Previously, Sam worked at PolicyLink to support a national network of 61 Promise Neighborhoods communities to build cradle-to-career systems of support for low-income families. He also worked with city leaders, youth activists and community organizations develop comprehensive agendas to achieve quality education, health, and justice for young black men. He has been named one of the Forbes 30 Under 30 and The Root 100. Sam grew up in Orlando, FL, and has been involved in organizing and advocacy since he was in high school. He graduated from Stanford University in 2012, where he studied how race and racism impact the U.S. political system.

Father Richard Smith, Ph.D. is the Vicar of St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church in San Francisco’s Mission District. He holds a Ph.D. in Ethics and Social Theory from the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, and has taught Religious Studies at various Bay Area universities. He has worked for immigration reform at the city, state, and national level and has worked for social justice in both El Salvador and Nicaragua. To respond to neighborhood violence by individuals, gangs, and law enforcement in the Mission, he organized Mission Nightwalks, a coalition of neighborhood faith communities. He is an advocate for police reform in both San Francisco and at the state level in California.

Anand Subramanian, Managing Director, leads PolicyLink efforts to advance police accountability and community-led alternatives to policing, including serving as the executive director of the San Francisco Blue Ribbon Panel on Transparency, Accountability, and Fairness in Law Enforcement. Anand also co-directs PolicyLink Legal and oversees work on fines and fees and arts, culture, and equitable development. He formerly led strategic communications for PolicyLink work in California, including the Alliance for Boys and Men of Color. Prior to joining PolicyLink, Anand worked at the Insight Center for Community Economic Development, the Law School Consortium Project, and as an associate attorney at Sheppard, Mullin, Richter, and Hampton after earning his JD from Northwestern University School of Law. He sits on the board of directors of the national advocacy organization, South Asian Americans Leading Together (SAALT), and sings and plays guitar in the band Fair and Kind.