



The Pamlico Rose Institute BoD – Coming together to serve those who served

Robert Greene Sands, PhD

Co-founder, CEO/Chair, BoD. Pamlico Rose Institute co-founder Robert Greene Sands, an anthropologist, serves as CEO. He brings to PRI over 25 years of work in applying theoretical aspects of culture to a diverse set of practical applications to meet organizational and community needs. Sands has been active for 13 years in the design and development of critical culture and language learning programs for the DoD and other US Governmental organizations, and institutions of higher education. Before that, Sands worked in archaeology, cultural resource management, and historical preservation in support of Federal agencies. With colleague David Steckel and Rob's wife Allison, Rob started Pamlico Rose Institute in 2016 with a unique mission, serving at-risk Veterans and finding a historic property in need of rehabilitation to house that mission and serve as a Center of Healing. Using a generous inheritance from his mother, Betty Ann Sands, PRI purchased property in Washington, NC's historic district that has become the Rose Haven Center of Healing (the rose was Betty's favorite flower). Rob's vision of using Rose Haven as safe and trusting space where nature, creative expression, movement and building community for at-risk women Veterans started in 2017 when the house and barn at 219 E. 3rd was purchased for \$17,000. Gardens have been designed and developed, the house is on the last stages of renovation and the barn, although in use, is next for renovation. PRI and Rose Haven has already made an impact on women Veterans and the community of Washington. A well published author and lecturer/presenter, Sands is also an adjunct anthropology professor at Norwich University where he teaches in the online Strategic Studies and Defense Analysis Department.

Kaitlyn O'Donnell, B.A.

Community Resource Associate. Ying to Rob's yang, Kaitlyn joins him leading PRI into 2021. A 2019 graduate in psychology from Washington College in Chestertown, MD, Kaitlyn served as a 2019-2020 VISTA/AmeriCorps member supporting PRI. She works 20 hours a week as the Community Resources Associate where she manages a portfolio that basically includes much of the operations, social media, newsletter, outreach, grant support, and providing a much-needed generational perspective to PRI. While at Washington College, she was a member of the Education Honor Society, served as President for the PSI CHI International Honor Society and was a member of the Washington College Crew team. Kaitlyn is a graduate student in the online Masters in Applied Psychology program at Adler University.

Betty G Beacham, PhD

Senior Strategic Advisor. Betty serves as a senior advisor for the Pamlico Rose Institute. She is a retired educator and Executive Director, has more than 50 years of experience in instruction and administration in K-16 education, grant writing, program design, program management and program evaluation. For the past 25 years, she has worked at East Carolina University in the Dean's Office, College of Education, building school/university/afterschool partnerships that link national service programs, (AmeriCorps and VISTA projects), with the educational needs of disadvantaged youth. Her programs have been recognized at the state, regional, and national levels.

Kelly Earp, PhD

BoD Vice-Chair. A public health anthropologist, Kelly brings extensive (17 yrs) and multidisciplinary (PhD, Public Health; MA, Medical Anthropology; BA, Psychology/Anthropology) skills and expertise to research, entrepreneurship, strategy, operations, implementation, and technical skill-sets. These efforts have included work across multiple sectors (corporate, government, non-profit, academic) and funders (i.e., private, government – NIH, USAID, CDC, etc.) while working domestically and internationally (Haiti, Tanzania). Her research specific work has focused on methods, implementation, process, behavior change and evaluation across the following focus areas: mental health, cross-cultural health, cultural models, cross-cultural methodologies, infectious disease, international health, and stigmatized conditions.

Shannon Landrum, EdD

BoD Secretary. Shannon holds an EdD in Adult and Community College Education and a MS in Fisheries and Wildlife Science from North Carolina State University. Shannon is currently a biology professor at Gaston College. Her tenure as an educator has spanned 17 years. She is an expert in military Veteran transitional processes into higher education, with a focus on transition into community college. Shannon served on the Board of Directors at Carolina Tiger Rescue for 10 years, before serving as the Executive Director for 2 1/2 years. She is deeply committed to aiding military Veterans in their transition from the military into higher education. She is part of a military family; her husband, father, stepfather, father-in-law, grandfathers, several great-uncles, and her great-grandfather all served. She was part of her husband's transitional journey from the Navy into community college, which made a lasting impression on her and helped hone a research focus on how to best develop practice and programming to facilitate the transitional process for all military Veterans.



Allison Greene-Sands, PhD

BoD Treasurer. Allison is a senior policy leader for the Department of Defense, working across the areas of the Office of Force Resilience, sexual assault and harassment, diversity and inclusion and suicide prevention. She has been the Acting Director of the Office for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and Acting Deputy Director of the Office of Force Resiliency (OFR). Currently, she is the Chief Strategy Officer for the DoD's Sexual Assault Response and Prevention Office (SAPRO). She led/participated in task forces both in the DoD and other US agencies on resilience topics. Allison served for three years on the White House Task Force to Protect Students from Sexual Assault chaired by now President Joe Biden in the Obama Administration. She was the chair of DoD's Prevention Collaboration Forum Working Group. Before her work in the DoD, Allison was an assistant coach for Old Dominion University's (ODU) award-winning and perennial top 10 women's basketball team for a decade. She pioneered outreach and recruiting of international athletes while at ODU. Allison was a standout basketball player at Dartmouth College and played professionally in Europe. In 2016, Allison received the Secretary of Defense Medal for Exceptional Civilian Service, one of the highest honors a civilian can earn, for her work at SAPRO.

Greg Smith, BS

BoD Member. Greg brings a wealth of experience in serving at-risk populations, including Veterans in the local community. Greg is a long-time resident (26 years) of Washington, NC. and has a BS in biology from East Carolina State University. He is a career advisor for North Carolina Works and is active in serving marginalized and under-represented populations in Washington, Beaufort County and in eastern North Carolina. Through his work, Greg is a member of the BC 360 Housing and Homeless Task Force, Beaufort County Housing Committee, and Beaufort County Economic Board, to name a few groups and organizations. He and his wife Kelly are also members of Civitan on the Pamlico. Greg and Kelly have been active as volunteers in Pamlico Rose projects and events since the beginning.

Litonya J. Wilson, MS, Col USA (retired)

BoD Member. Colonel Wilson retired from the US Army after 26 ½ years of service. She has a BS in Packaging Engineering Management from Michigan State University and an MBA from Texas Southern University. During her time in the US Army, she held key leadership and staff positions at all levels to include commanding a Battalion of over 750 Soldiers and Deputy Chief of Staff of a Division of over 30,000 Soldiers and family members. She deployed on three different occasions including a year to Saudi Arabia in support of Operation Desert Storm/Shield. Litonya's finished her career as culminating assignment was as Deputy Director for the DoD Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office, working to promote military readiness by eliminating sexual assault. As part of her duties, she hosted workshops at the End Violence Against Women International (EVAWI) and Pennsylvania Collation Against Rape (PCAR) conferences, and delivered presentations on behalf of the DoD to the US Peace Corps, US Institute for Peace (Working Group on Women, Peace & Security), Congressional Members, and White House Staff. Since retiring Litonya has been active in her community. She joined and began volunteering through Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. Sigma Gamma Rho focuses on improving the lives of women and children through "Scholarship, Service and Sisterhood." Litonya has chaired the Health and Wellness Committee implementing initiatives focusing on "Healthy Living, Healthy Choice and Healthy Generations", to include creating an annual "Women's Wellness Expo" and establishing a garden. Litonya was the co-facilitator on our first Women Veterans Discussion Series, "Issues affecting Women Veterans of Color."

Shawn Jones MBA, LCSW, MSW, SFC (USA Retired)

BoD Member. Shawn served four years in the USAF and 16.5 in the Army. He earned a social work degree while serving in the Army and worked as a clinical social worker in the Fayetteville area during his transitioning phase back into the civilian world. He accepted the position of Program Director and later as the Interim Executive Director at Stop Soldier Suicide, a national 501(c)3, shortly after retiring. During Shawn's 4-year tenure, SSS grew to a nationally-recognized Veteran Service Organization providing "personalized care and continued case management to help identify each individual's specific needs." Shawn currently works as a military and family life counselor as well as providing briefings and presentations on resilience at Fort Bragg. Shawn was featured in Ep. 10 of our podcast, Rose Haven Chronicles, where we talked about the crisis of Veteran suicide in the aftermath of the Fort Hood investigation.

Darby (Arakelian) Sullivan, MS

BoD Member. Darby is a Vice-President of Command Strategies, LLC, conducting defense and intelligence-related business development and customer engagement for industry and academia. Ms. Sullivan has over 20 years of experience supporting the US Intelligence Community. She is a former CIA Operations Officer. She also previously served with the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) and with the Air Force Office of Special Investigations as a Senior Counterintelligence / Counterterrorism Specialist; former AFOSI Counterintelligence and Counterterrorism Analyst. Darby will bring an extensive knowledge of Federal grant-making to PRI.