Jeff Cohen, Managing Director, FSG

Jeff Cohen has more than ten years of experience advising private and community foundations, nonprofit organizations, government agencies, and corporations on strategy, program design, and evaluation. Jeff has led a variety of engagements encompassing strategic planning, education program strategy, evaluation, business planning, and program development. He spends much of his time working on U.S. education issues and has recently co-authored two FSG white papers on financial aid and its role in helping students complete their post-secondary education. Jeff has also worked extensively with place-based funders.

Prior to joining FSG, Jeff was a management consultant at McKinsey & Company, where he served companies in the telecommunications industry as well as education organizations. Jeff's prior nonprofit experience includes work in MIT's development office. He has also been extensively involved with education-related nonprofit organizations as a volunteer.

Amy Holmes, Director, Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors

Amy leads the New York Advisory team, and directs strategic planning and program development for families, donor collaboratives and private foundations. She helps donors define their philanthropic goals and implement giving programs to achieve them. She manages philanthropy focused on music, literature and the arts, arts education, green spaces, and criminal justice system reform, and has overseen large-scale disaster response and community resilience initiatives. Amy joined Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors in 2004, and has researched and led giving programs in youth development, education, and the Afghan Women Leaders Connect collaborative fund.

Amy previously served as Development Associate for the Stanley M. Isaacs Neighborhood Center, a settlement house in Yorkville and East Harlem in New York. She serves as Chair of the board of the Support Center for Nonprofit Management, and as Secretary of the board of Harlem United, an agency providing medical, social, and supportive services for adults with HIV/AIDS.

Amy received a Master of Public Administration degree from the Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service at New York University, and a B.A. from the College of William and Mary in English Literature. She lives in Queens with her young sons, and has gotten pretty good at cleaning smashed banana off Lego blocks.

Pat Roe, Vice President of Philanthropy, Strada Education Network

As Strada Education Network's vice president of Philanthropy, Pat Roe is responsible for assessing the landscape for grant-making in support of employer engagement and workforce development initiatives related to student success and support.

Roe's portfolio encompasses working with institution innovation teams and postsecondary-focused community-based organizations to ensure wrap-around services, (i.e. coaching, mentoring, networking, internships, and scholarships) help students successfully transitioning into career fields.

Roe has spent more than three decades in philanthropy, focusing on postsecondary student success. She holds a bachelor's degree from Indiana University.

Dr. Kenyatta Lovett, Managing Director of Higher Education, Educate Texas

Dr. Kenyatta Lovett is the Managing Director for Higher Education within CFT's Educate Texas initiative, leading the higher education team, which supports a critical component of the education continuum that improves economic mobility for all Texans.

Kenyatta serves as a thought driver on workforce development, helping to lead Educate Texas forward in improving post-secondary education outcomes across Texas.

Kenyatta has a deep background in higher education reform and workforce and economic development. He has a passion for students and spent more than 16 years in higher education leadership roles in the state of Tennessee, working at the campus, system office, state program, and policy level. His efforts have centered on delivering equitable outcomes in higher education, especially for African-American, Latino, and economically disadvantaged students.

As the assistant vice chancellor of community colleges, he helped to design and build Tennessee's current framework for a comprehensive technical and community college system. Kenyatta was instrumental in the successful launch of the Tennessee Promise program, Tennessee Reconnect program, and an early math remediation high school program. Kenyatta successfully led the launch of the nation's first statewide higher education advocacy organization and think tank focused on college completion and degree attainment. Additionally, Kenyatta served as the assistant commissioner for workforce services at the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development. He also worked at the central office and campus level within the state's higher education system, Tennessee Board of Regents.

Kenyatta brings to Educate Texas a powerful statewide workforce track record; from launching Tennessee's first apprenticeship office and developing grant opportunities for work-based learning in Tennessee high schools to creating "braided funding" to support Tennessee community college students facing housing, food, and transportation challenges.

Kenyatta earned his bachelor of fine arts from Howard University and his M.B.A. in supply chain management and PhD in public policy and administration from Tennessee State University.