



Learnings from the National Direct File Pilot and Implications for Tax Equity Friday, June 21st from 1 pm – 2:15 pm ET

Speaker Bios



Laurel Blatchford

Laurel Blatchford was appointed as Treasury’s Chief Implementation Officer for the Inflation Reduction Act in January 2023. In this newly created role, Laurel is leading a team focused on the implementation of Treasury’s provisions of the IRA across Treasury and the IRS.

Over the course of her 25-year career, Laurel has held senior leadership roles in the non-profit, government and philanthropic sectors. Most recently, as Managing Director and Senior Advisor at Blue Meridian Partners, she collaborated on \$100M of investments focused on economic mobility and advised Blue Meridian’s portfolio of grantees on their approach to policy as a tool for impact and influence. Prior to joining Blue Meridian in 2020, she was President of Enterprise Community Partners, one of the nation’s largest affordable housing and community development intermediaries. During her six-year tenure at Enterprise, Laurel led a team of 250 staff working in 12 markets across the United States that built capacity on the ground, piloted new advisory solutions for local leaders, and connected partners to capital, including public sector grant funding as well as private capital.

Laurel also has extensive federal and local government experience; she served as a senior political appointee in the Obama Administration, including as Executive Director of the Hurricane Sandy Task Force and Chief of Staff at the US Department of Housing and Urban Development between 2009 and 2013. Prior to that, she served as a senior leader at City Hall and in New York City’s housing agency during the Bloomberg Administration. She also served on both the Obama-Biden and Biden-Harris presidential transition team and was nominated for a Senate-confirmed role in the Biden-Harris Administration. She is a graduate of Williams College and the Harvard Kennedy School of Government and lives with her family in Washington DC.



Bryndan Steuve

Bryndan Steuve joined Treasury’s Inflation Reduction Act implementation office in November 2023 as the Direct File Lead. In this role, Bryndan collaborates with the IRS to manage policy development and execution for Direct File. Prior to joining Treasury, Bryndan oversaw economic mobility initiatives for United Way Worldwide and led MyFreeTaxes, the nation’s largest virtual IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program, assisting over 500,000 individuals annually to access free tax filing services. Before his tenure at United Way, Bryndan oversaw economic, small business, and workforce development initiatives at the Local

Initiatives Support Corporation and the International Rescue Committee in San Diego. He graduated from the University of California, Davis with a degree in international development.



Adam Ruben

Adam Ruben is the Vice President of Campaigns & Political Strategy at Economic Security Project, where he oversees all campaign work including the Child Tax Credit, Earned Income Tax Credit, and stimulus checks at the state and federal level. He also leads political work through Economic Security Project Action. He was the architect behind MoveOn’s successful campaigns to take back the House, Senate, and White House creating a tech-enabled model of scalable field organizing that has spread throughout the progressive

movement. Adam has three decades of experience at the leading edge of online campaigning and fundraising, grassroots organizing, communications, and progressive political campaigns. He spent more than four years growing the Fight for \$15, melding traditional communications with digital strategy, and has consulted with organizations including NARAL Pro-Choice America, Working Families Party, Voter Participation Center, Run Warren Run, PCCC, and Global Zero.



Igor Volsky

Igor Volsky is the Executive Director of Groundwork Action. Volsky has served as Executive Director of Guns Down America and as Vice President at the Center for American Progress. He is the author of “Guns Down: How To Defeat The NRA And Build A Safer Future With Fewer Guns.”



Gabriel Zucker

Gabriel Zucker is the Program Director of Tax Policy and Partnerships at Code for America, where he has led the development and rollout of FileYourStateTaxes and co-founded the Coalition for Free and Fair Filing. Zucker has nearly a decade of experience in the evaluation, design, and implementation of progressive policy. He previously did research and advocacy on tax benefits access and paid leave delivery as a Public Interest Technology Fellow at New America; served as Director of Research for the progressive voter turnout startup VoteTripling.org; worked on healthcare access and homeless services at the Department of Veterans Affairs as a member of the U.S. Digital Service; and co-led the campaign to end veteran homelessness in Connecticut. Zucker holds a BA from Yale where he double majored in ethics, politics, & economics and music, and a Masters in applied statistics from Oxford, where he was a Rhodes Scholar. He grew up and lives in New York City.