

Groundwork Bios

Cindy Breunig is a white queer woman who uses the pronouns she/her/hers. I grew up in a farmhouse near Black Earth, Wisconsin and spent a lot of time outside with the land, animals and trees. My life has been shaped by incredible people, mentors and experiences that have helped me in my own journey to become more fully human, including past work with the Barry Farms public housing community in Washington D.C., the Puente de Paz women's mental health program in Guatemala, and Voces de la Frontera in Wisconsin. I am infinitely inspired by the capacity of human beings to transform ourselves and the world around us with courage and love. I have been a member of Groundwork since 2004 and have grown deeply from the relationships and growth it has inspired. I currently work as a full-time Spanish Medical Interpreter, a part-time interpreter instructor at Madison College, and I am finishing my Master's degree in Education in Adult Learning. I find joy in sharing lots of love and laughter with my partner Lovesta, our 15 month old son Elias, and our hound dog Ruby.

Jordan Bingham grew up in a tiny town in southern Indiana. I became acquainted with social justice work in the early 2000s via political movements for LGBT equality and environmental justice. Professionally, I work in public health and local government, aiming toward transformation through a focus on racial equity and community inclusion. My continued challenge is to find ways to get outside of my comfort zone, and to work with both white people and people of color towards collective liberation and recognition of our shared humanity.

Martina Rippon is a long-time activist for many causes. You may see her behind the scenes and helping out in many ways.

Melissa Gombar joined Groundwork in 2012. A big part of my racial justice work revolves around the role of institutions, particularly government, addressing and dismantling racism. I am currently working with local municipal government to infuse racial justice in daily operations. I am a trainer by trade, and I have recently completed a Master's Degree in Organization Development at Edgewood College to continue to help predominately white organizations change to become more inclusive and transformative.

Shawna Lutzow identifies as a white, gay/lesbian woman and uses she/her/hers pronouns. Shawna has worked at Madison-area Urban Ministry since August 2011, starting her career there as an AmeriCorps member with the Circles of Support program. She now coordinates the Mentoring, Family & Reading Connections programs for youth and families impacted by parental incarceration and Reentry Simulations, which is a role play workshop for community members that focuses on barriers individuals face after a period of incarceration. Shawna learned about Groundwork at the White Privilege Conference in 2014, went through their workshop series and has been a member ever since.