



INLAND EMPIRE

U.S. Green Building Council  
Inland Empire Chapter

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## 2011 USGBC-Inland Empire Chapter Board of Directors Candidates



**Kristeen Ramirez**  
*Development Coordinator*  
Frontier Project Foundation  
**Membership Category:** Non-Profit

### **Why do you wish to be a member of the Chapter's Board of Directors?**

Over the past several years, the Frontier Project has become more active in the activities and membership of the USGBC-IE. In my current role as the Development Coordinator of the Frontier Project, I see a direct connection to the goals of our foundation and the goals of the local USGBC chapter. I believe I can bring a fresh perspective to the Chapter Board of Directors, and would like to use my experience working for the Frontier Project to work toward the good of the Inland Empire Chapter in meeting the needs of our membership.

### **Please provide a summary of your relevant experience, expertise relationships and resources that you can bring that will benefit the Chapter.**

With an undergraduate degree in Sociology and a Masters of Public Administration, my educational experiences have prepared me to work successfully with different groups of people and at a variety of organizations. As I began my career with the Cucamonga Valley Water District as an Administrative Analyst in 2004, I had the opportunity to be involved in projects for all facets of the water company: engineering, operations, legislative, conservation, and public relations. As my role transitioned and I became the Public Affairs Officer, I was involved in the design, planning, and, ultimately, the completion of the Frontier Project. The experience of being involved in the Frontier Project from the ground up has given me a valuable perspective on green building, non-profit organizations, and every aspect that goes into a building when seeking a LEED rating. As the only full-time staff member of the Frontier Project Foundation- the Development Coordinator- I interact daily with other non-profit organizations, colleges and universities, and groups we are partnering with to provide training to the local communities in a variety of environmental-related fields.

**Please describe your experience serving other volunteer / non-profit /trade organizations and identify any leadership positions held.**

I have been involved with the Chaffey College Global Career Center advisory committee, working to develop and promote a successful future workforce among the Chaffey College student community. I also sit on the USGBC-IE's Emerging Professionals Technical Advisory Committee, and have been assisting with the development of internship opportunities, training, and networking opportunities for the young members and non-members of the USGBC-IE. Through this program, I have had the opportunity to oversee 6 interns at the Frontier Project. In the 2011, I will be a co-chair of the Municipal Management Association of Southern California (MMASC) Inland Empire Chapter, working to promote career growth among mid-level managers of municipal organizations and governments.

**Identify your areas that you would like to see the chapter grow and better accomplish its vision and how you could assist in that effort.**

As the economy begins to recover, it is our role as a leader in the region to offer opportunities for employees to prepare for the new green jobs on the horizon. Because of state building code requirements and available federal funding for training the opportunities are endless for the Inland Empire to become a hub for green enterprise. By connecting with the members of the USGBC-IE, local education institutions, and our surrounding USGBC chapters, we can harness our power to offer training opportunities to prepare the future workforce, and to encourage "green" employers to become prevalent in our region. Another important aspect is to acknowledge that many "green" jobs exist where you least expect it. We need to highlight companies who might not be considered "green" in the traditional sense, but who have a process or component of their company that can be considered environmentally sound. In this way, we can enhance our membership. At the same time, we need to promote the students and new employees who are entering environmentally sustainable fields, and assist by providing them the hands-on training and internship opportunities they need to get ahead as the economy turns around.