


Revolutionary Ideas in Relocation

NJRC Spring Conference Agenda

May 2, 2024

THE OLDE MILL INN
225 Morristown Road,
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

 New Jersey Relocation Council

09:30am -10:00am
10:00am -12:00pm

CORPORATE ROUNDTABLE REGISTRATION **CORPORATE ROUNDTABLE**

Moderated by

Tina Wendel, Global Mobility Manager, Americas – SAP

Ursula Wong, Manager, Global Mobility – Prudential Financial

Sponsored by: Envoy Global

11:00am -12:00pm
12:00pm - 01:00pm
01:00pm - 01:15pm

GENERAL REGISTRATION

LUNCH (ALL MEMBERS AND GUESTS)

WELCOME REMARKS & SPONSORSHIP ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Melissa Knight, NJRC Chairwoman, Catalent Pharma Solutions

Alice Oswald, NJRC President, AVE

Michelle (Missy) Gobrecht, NJRC Sponsorship Chair, National Corporate Housing

01:15pm - 01:45pm

NJRC SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTATION

Sharon Byrnes, Community Outreach Co-Chair, Director, Global Mobility

01:45pm - 02:45pm

“COMING TO AMERICA” HISTORY OF US IMMIGRATION

Join us for an informative and interactive session on the history of immigration in the US, our status, and insights into the future. We will discuss the positive impacts that immigration has had in the US and what roadblocks may exist.

Moderated by

Addie Hogan, Founding Partner at Corporate Immigration Partners will be joined by a corporate panel to discuss the current and future state of immigration in the United States.

Panelists

Sara Meek, Mobility Partner HR - Novo Nordisk Inc.

Judy Bergstresser, Manager Regional Mobility, North America, Evonik Corporation

Ryan Harris, Partner, Corporate Immigration Partners, PC

02:45pm - 03:00pm
03:00pm - 04:00pm

BREAK

RIOTOUS HOT TOPICS IN TODAY'S COMBATIVE MARKET

In today's changing relocation environment, the panel will discuss hot topics impacting our international and US domestic mobility industry. With attention towards cost containment, we'll explore alternative relocation options, employee experience, and we'll foresee volume predictions for 2024. We will also discuss the use of Repayment Agreements, how they are implemented and how to communicate this to your transferees. Last but not least, you'll hear the latest on the real estate lawsuit settlement.

Moderated by

Rick Smith, Tax Managing Director, KPMG

Panelists

Becky Woods, Sr. Director, Global Mobility, ADP

Bernadette Coghlan-Walsh, Real Estate and Mobility Services, Messer-US

Sharon Byrnes, Director, Global Mobility

Michael T. Jackson, SHRM-CP, Vice President of Member Engagement and Public Policy, Worldwide ERC

Jennifer Connell, Vice President, Advisory Services, Weichert Workforce Mobility

04:00pm - 04:15pm

PRESIDENT'S CLOSING REMARKS

Alice Oswald, NJRC President, AVE

04:15pm - 06:15pm

RECEPTION

Cocktail Reception with Networking & Raffle Prizes! Raffle tickets will be sold during the conference in support of the NJRC Scholarship Program @ \$5 per ticket or \$20 for a sleeve of 10 tickets. Sponsored by: Relocity



Tina Wendel, Global Mobility Manager, SAP America, Inc.

Tina is a Global Mobility professional with over 23 years of HR experience, of which 17 years has been in the Global Mobility space leading global and domestic initiatives, as well as global teams and transformation. Currently Tina is a Global Mobility Manager for the Americas regions with SAP.



Ursula Wong, CRP, GMS-T Global Mobility Manager, Prudential Financial

Ursula has twenty plus years of global mobility experience in corporate's environment. Her focus is on development and execution of global mobility program and being the strategic partner to the corporate HR and business management. She enjoys meeting fellow experts in the global mobility community to exchange knowledge and experience and share our funny and memorable global mobility stories.



Melissa Knight, MSHRD, SPHR, SHRM-SCP, CRP, GMS-T, Senior Manager, Global Mobility & Immigration., Catalent Pharma Solutions

Melissa “fell into relocation” freshly out of university as a relocation associate on-site at Merck & Company and never looked back. Bringing over 26 years of industry experience, she currently manages the Global Mobility and Immigration function at Catalent Pharma Solutions in Somerset, NJ. She has held similar roles at Teva Pharmaceuticals and PVH Corp and developed expertise in building out the mobility function within the corporate structure. Prior to transitioning to the corporate side, she worked for a variety of relocation suppliers in roles including client relations, sales & marketing, global counseling, temporary housing, and inventory management. Melissa holds a BA in International Politics from Penn State University, a MS in Human Resources Development from Villanova University and has studied International Politics and Economics at New College, Oxford University. She holds CRP, GMS-T, SPHR & SHRM-SCP designations. She is the current Chairwoman of the New Jersey Relocation Council and a former board member of the Delaware Valley Relocation Council (now PARC).



Alice Oswald, GMS, Vice President Business Development, AVE

Alice is a seasoned hospitality and sales professional with 18 years of experience providing seamless corporate housing solutions for professionals who need temporary housing. Alice is passionate about delivering high-touch service to her clients, developing sales strategies, and mentoring her team. She has been active in NJRC since 2010, serving in various leadership roles including Planning Committee Chair, Secretary, and Vice President. She now proudly holds the position of President.



Michelle (Missy) Grobecht, CRP, GMS, Global Account Executive, National Corporate Housing

Michelle (Missy) Grobecht is a 27-year veteran of the corporate housing/hospitality industry, with extensive knowledge and proven success in developing global solutions to meet the unique needs of our Global Mobility and Travel partners. Her passion is developing, implementing, and managing best in class programs to meet and exceed corporate objectives among Fortune 500 clients across multiple continents. Missy holds both CRP and GMS certifications and has been on the board of New Jersey Relocation Council for 12 years. Missy currently resides in Bucks County, outside of Philadelphia, PA. In her free time, Missy enjoys spending time with family/friends, hiking, going to the beach, and often is found at a field supporting her daughter's love of field hockey and track and field.



Sharon Byrnes, Director of Global Mobility

Sharon is a Director of Global Mobility responsible for global and US domestic mobility programs. As a global mobility professional over the past 30+ years, her area of expertise focuses on strategic program design, policy design, and program administration. Sharon served on the Board of Directors for Worldwide Employee Relocation Council (WERC) and was elected to the Executive Board as Vice Chair-Talent Community. During her tenure with the WERC Board, Sharon also co-developed the GMS-T designation and co-facilitated GMS-T training. She has been recognized for her contributions by receiving WERC's Chairman Award, and twice received the Distinguished Service Award. She has previously served on the GWS Program Planning Committee and has spoken at numerous industry events. Sharon holds the SGMS-T designation. Sharon is actively involved with the New Jersey Relocation Council (NJRC), serving as past-Chairman of the Board, past-President of the Board, and past Chair of the Community Outreach Committee. She is also a member of the Society of Human Resource Management (SHRM). Sharon also holds a New Jersey real estate license, and has earned her Project Management certification from Rutgers University. Sharon holds a B.S. degree in Business Management and an MBA from Seton Hall University. Sharon is also six-sigma green belt certified.



Addie Hogan, Founding Partner, Corporate Immigration Partners

Addie has over 15 years of experience advising clients on all aspects of US-based business immigration law and moving foreign talent worldwide. She counsels employers on complex immigration policies and processes and helps them set up comprehensive immigration programs globally. Addie's experience managing teams of attorneys and paralegals who prepare various employment visas and permanent residence matters give her deep insight into the role managers play within the corporations she counsels. Addie also holds a designation of Global Mobility Specialist (GMS®) from WorldwideERC, and she is a frequent contributor to MOBILITY magazine on business traveler compliance. Additionally, she leads the firm's Pro Bono efforts, earning the prestigious Super Lawyers Pro Bono Award for herself and her colleagues.



Sara Meek, GMS-T, Mobility Partner, Novo Nordisk

Sara has been in Mobility with Novo Nordisk Inc for 8.5 years. Her current role, Mobility Partner, supports relocation and immigration services for the company's sites in Princeton-NJ, Seattle-WA, Lexington-MA and Mississauga, Canada.



Judith Bergstresser, GMS, (Judy), Manager of Regional Mobility, North America, Evonik Corporation.

Judy oversees all inbound and outbound expats within the U.S., Canada, Mexico and Costa Rica. She is also responsible for International Local Hires, Domestic Relocation and oversees all Immigration matters. Judy brings more than 20 years of International experience in various roles within Human Resources and Global Mobility. She holds a Bachelor' Degree in Organizational Management from Cabrini University.



Ryan Harris, Partner, Corporate Immigration partners, PC

Ryan began his immigration career in 2006 as a paralegal with a renowned immigration law firm. After graduating near the top of his class at the University of California College of the Law, Ryan spent five years litigating high value civil cases to verdict before returning exclusively to immigration practice in 2017. He relies on his litigation experience in overcoming many complex USCIS challenges to immigration benefits applications. In his 10 years of immigration practice, Ryan has represented clients ranging from multinational employers with large foreign national populations to small, developing startups that need help in scaling their programs. His practice has primarily focused on nonimmigrant visa issues and complex USCIS and Consular adjudications that require innovative, strategic approaches. He guides clients on options for permanent residence sponsorship and general compliance issues. Ryan also has a history of working with the ACLU Immigrants' Rights Project and various other Bay Area NGOs to defend immigrants' rights outside of the business context.



Rick Smith, GMS, Managing Director, KPMG Global Mobility Services

Rick joined the firm in 2019 from a wealth management company. Rick is responsible for the delivery of global mobility support and consulting services ranging from payroll, policy design, tax compliance, corporate tax/transfer pricing, business travel and other consulting support to multi-national organizations, including some of the firm's largest clients. He is a national instructor for KPMG's annual training sessions, and has presented at multiple payroll/mobility organizations throughout his career.



Becky Woods, GPHR, SHRM-SCP, Sr. Director, Global Mobility, ADP

Becky has over 18 years of experience in the talent management and global mobility industry. She received the Meritorious Service Award from Worldwide ERC in 2022, was named a Top 100 2021 and Top 250 2022 Global Mobility Professional by Benivo and speaks globally at various industry conferences on Global Mobility topics. Prior to joining ADP in 2017, she was Director, HR Operations at News Corp and previously at Immedis (formerly Expaticore) and BGRS (formerly Prudential Relocation). She is a Board Director for the Haven Adolescent Community Respite Center and was Chair of the NYC SHRM Global HR Special Interest Group for the past 10 years. Becky earned her B.A. from Amherst College, her M.B.A. from the Thunderbird School of Global Management, and has lived and worked in multiple countries.



Bernadette Coghlan-Walsh, CRP, GMS-T, Head of Real Estate & Global Mobility Services, Messer LLC

With over 25 years of experience in the field of Global Mobility, Bernadette is currently Head of Real Estate & Global Mobility for Messer LLC. She was formerly Head of Global Mobility for the Linde Group. Bernadette holds both the GMS-T and CRP designations from Worldwide ERC. She received a Master's degree from Johns Hopkins University Krieger School in Intercultural/Multicultural and Diversity Studies and a Bachelor's degree from Pitzer College. She is also a State Licensed Residential Real Estate Appraiser in the State of New Jersey. Bernadette has been a member of NJRC since 2008 and was elected as Executive Board Vice President in April 2024.



Michael T. Jackson, SHRM-CP, Vice President of Member Engagement and Public Policy, Worldwide ERC

Mike Jackson, SHRM-CP, is Vice President of Member Engagement and Public Policy at Worldwide ERC, the premier membership association for professionals in the workforce mobility industry. At Worldwide ERC, Mike leads U.S. and international public policy initiatives encompassing areas such as immigration, sustainability, North American real estate and mortgage issues, global tax, and compliance matters. Mike also oversees engagement with key mobility industry stakeholders via WERC's policy forums, volunteer groups, and industry partnerships. Prior to this role, Mike served as Worldwide ERC's Chief of Staff, overseeing various internal activities including the human resources and technology functions.



Jennifer Connell, SCRP, GMS-T, HCS, Vice President, Advisory Services, Weichert Workforce Mobility

Jennifer leads the Advisory Services team at Weichert Workforce Mobility, leveraging analytical insight and a strategic perspective to help global corporations transform their workforce mobility programs and advance their talent management goals. Her expertise in research and data mining, workforce strategy and policy design gives global organizations a competitive edge in attracting the talent they need to move their company forward. With over 20 years of experience in workforce mobility, Jen began her career with Weichert in 1999, working in Operations. Prior to joining Weichert, she gained a solid foundation of HR knowledge through various positions in employee benefits with Watson Wyatt Worldwide and Sun Life of Canada. Today, Jen regularly serves as a resource for business publications and speaking engagements, covering a broad range of topics, including core-flex approaches, cost containment, choice programs, workforce development and duty of care. She currently serves on the board of the Canadian Employee Relocation Council and chairs their Research Committee. In Weichert's latest video series, Let's Make Work Happen, Jen interviews clients regarding a specific challenge and in doing so, demonstrates how mobility advances the organization's larger goals. Jennifer earned her Master's in Business Administration at the University of Massachusetts and holds the Global Mobility Specialist, Certified Relocation Professional, and the Human Capital Strategist designations.





THANK YOU

A special thank you to all sponsors. NJRC would like to take the time to thank all of our generous sponsors who support our valuable forum for education and exchange of ideas. Sponsorship provides many benefits, but most importantly it helps ensure that NJRC remains the source for regional relocation networking and information.

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