

National Civil War Museum Advisory Council Member

<u>Member Contact</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>Location</u>
Richard C. Cooper, Manager of Interpretive Services	The National Underground Railroad Freedom Center	Cincinnati, OH
<p>Richard C. Cooper is the Manager of Interpretive Services at the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center where he oversees the development and presentation of the overall interpretive educational strategies used with the general public in the exhibit galleries to include guided tours, demonstrations, self-guided activities and third-person interpretations. Mr. Cooper actively works with the Exhibits and Collections Departments to develop the interpretation of traveling exhibitions. Rich came to the Freedom Center in the capacity of the Interpretive Services Coordinator where he was in charge of maintaining the day-to-day operations of the Interpretive Services program within the museum’s 150,000 square foot facility that opened in 2004. Rich received his B.A. in American History from the University of Cincinnati and is a member of the American Association of State and Local History as well as the co-facilitator of the Teaching American History grant.</p> <p>The National Underground Railroad Freedom Center is located on the banks of the Ohio River, the very river that once symbolized the boundary between slavery and freedom for many. The Freedom Center, which opened in 2004, has welcomed over 800,000 visitors from all 50 states and 20 nations.</p> <p>The Freedom Center inspires today’s freedom movements through exhibits, programs, research and interactive experiences, promoting collaborative learning and open dialogue. Our mission addresses the needs of our community, the nation and the world: “We reveal stories about freedom’s heroes, past and present, challenging and inspiring everyone to take courageous steps for freedom today,” while providing forums for inclusive dialogue and encouraging every individual to take a journey that advances freedom and personal growth.</p> <p>The mission of the Freedom Center is anchored in the history of the United States and, in particular, the stories of the Underground Railroad, which not only brings to life the denial of freedom that slavery represented, but also the heroism of those who overcame it through timeless values of courage, cooperation and perseverance. The Freedom Center is made up of three (3) buildings, which symbolize those cornerstones of freedom. The Freedom Center stands as a reminder that the fight for freedom continues to this very day, in the United States and around the world, and that it involves all of us.</p> <p>For more information, visit www.freedomcenter.org.</p>		