

Meet the Dimensions Liberatory Partnerships Cohort Participants!

BLAC

Kinya Baker MSW, RSW (she/her/elle) is a distinguished registered social worker and educator specializing in governance, equity, and community development, with over 17 years of impactful experience. Known for her unwavering commitment to social justice, Kinya has had a prolific career, including work across refugee camps in Africa for the United Nations and other organizations. For the past decade, she has driven social change in Canada by collaborating with local governments and organizations to develop anti-racist, welcoming, and inclusive communities.

Motivated by her personal experiences with inequities and a fervent passion for anti-racism, Kinya founded Shades of Humanity Consulting. This venture aims to create spaces for transformative conversations on equity and inclusion. She has delivered numerous compelling keynote addresses, workshops, and training sessions, significantly supporting organizations in strengthening their inclusion goals. Based in Toronto, Kinya leads Shades of Humanity's operations in both Alberta and Ontario, continuing her dedication to fostering equitable and inclusive environments.

Tracy Dodd, MD, PhD is an Internal Medicine Physician at Johns Hopkins. She worked as a Scientist in the field of Cardiac Physiology. She is very driven to create change in her community and bring diversity to medicine. While in medical school, she helped to create a program that would encourage minority students to explore careers in medicine.

Stacey Aviva Flint is a public speaker, educator, Urban Planner, and philanthropist. Stacey Aviva serves as the Director of Education and Community Engagement for the Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA) JEDI initiative (Jewish Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion). As a Jewish woman of color, combating racism and antisemitism are central to her work.

Stacey Aviva has a BA in Political Science from the University of Cincinnati, a Master of Urban Planning and Public Policy for UIC (CHICAGO), certificates from Spertus Institute for Jewish Learning and Leadership/Northwestern School of Professional Studies in Jewish Leadership and adult Jewish Learning (Spertus Institute). Her Jewish professional career began as the Policy Director for Chicago's Jewish Council on Urban Affairs (JCUA), combating racism and antisemitism and advocating for housing reform, criminal justice, immigration reform, and Jewish/African American dialogue. Stacey Aviva spent over a decade specializing in urban economic development overseeing the construction and financing of Affordable Housing, mixed-use spaces, Brownfield Redevelopment, and New Market Tax Credit financing. She has designed engagement strategies for synagogues, and Jewish educational and civic institutions.

She is a nationally sought-after speaker, and her writings have been featured in The Forward and her blog at the Times of Israel, and her Eli Talk, Kahal Amim-Many Faces, One Community, has been viewed 2,000 times.

Stacey Aviva serves on the board of Jewish Family Service of Colorado, The Hadassah Foundation, the committee for Jewish Life at the Rose Community Foundation and is a fellow of the Mandel Institute's Executive Leadership Cohort 4.

Monique Gore's passion for higher education began during her time as an active student leader at Gettysburg College. At Rutgers University-Camden, she served as the Assistant Coordinator in the Office of Campus Involvement, where she managed evening and weekend events, community service programs, student organization recognition, and Greek Life. In June 2012, she returned to her alma mater to work in the Office of Student Activities and Greek Life. There, she excelled in student programming, advising the Campus Activities Board, The Attic nightclub space, and over 80 active student organizations. After four years, Monique was promoted to the inaugural Director of Programming and Outreach in the Office of Multicultural Engagement (OME) in the summer of 2016. In this role, she developed a marketing and branding strategy for the new office and created a transition pre-orientation program for first-generation, low-socioeconomic status, BIPOC, and queer students.

In 2021, Monique became the Executive Director for the Office of Multicultural Engagement, leading all of the office's efforts to promote multicultural competencies through campus-wide programming, faculty partnerships, student organization advising, and alumni engagement. Monique holds a Bachelor of Arts in Africana and Women's Studies with a concentration in Latin American Studies from Gettysburg College and a Master of Science in Organizational Leadership from Cabrini College. She has been recognized with the National Association for Campus Activities' Outstanding Diversity Achievement Award - Individual in 2018 and the Young Alumni Achievement Award for Career Development in 2021. Currently, Monique is the Director of the Intercultural Center at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, NC. In this role, she fosters the campus community's cultural competencies through lectures, training, and cultural dinners. She supervises a full-time staff of three and advises multiple cultural student organizations. Outside of work, Monique loves creating with her four sewing machines and spending time with her son, Russell, and her dog, Maxx.

Ava M. Hart, MSW, LCSW, IMH-E, EMDR certified, is the owner of A.M. Hart Parenting Consulting LLC. a Private Practice in Middletown Connecticut. Ava provides psychotherapy for individuals in need and specializes in trauma therapy, Infant Mental Health, and Perinatal Mood and Anxiety Disorders.

Ava also provides supervision and mentoring for up and coming young social workers that are eager to enter the field of clinical therapy. She has cemented herself as a pillar in the Middletown community facilitating parenting classes through the family advocacy program, honorably serving four years on the Middletown Board of Education, serving three years on the Middletown Commission of Human Relations, and developed the Middlesex County NAACP college preparation program. She has worked with children, adults and families for more than 20 years in multiple settings.

Ava is the creator and braintrust of a clinical workshop named Trauma Bonded Sistas, which is an affinity group for Black women that addresses race-based trauma and its impact on mental health. She is an author of a book; *The Calm Before The Storm, When Bad Things Happen*. Recently she established The Hart Wellness Collaborative Inc. a non-profit organization on behalf of her family, that will provide mental health workshops and youth mentoring.

Shameka Jones is a multifaceted individual, balancing her roles as a wife, mother to three adult sons, and grandmother to two cherished granddaughters. Her professional journey in healthcare is marked by a Masters degree in Healthcare Administration and a Bachelor's degree in Healthcare Management. As the owner of 360 Health Transformations LLC, where she serves as a certified transformation coach, Shameka seamlessly integrates biblical principles, psychology, science, and nutrition to promote holistic well-being and wholeness.

In addition to her business endeavors, Shameka is the founder and President of the Women's Healing and Empowerment Network. She spearheaded their inaugural Woman Heal Thy Soul Conference in Columbus, Ohio, a gathering dedicated to empowering women to heal, transform, and thrive.

Shameka is also a skilled Neuro-Linguistic Programming Practitioner, an ordained minister, and a best-selling co-author of *The Unchained Goddess* and *Woman Heal Thy Soul: Becoming Unstoppable: Reawaken Your Resilience, Courage, and Strength*. Currently, she holds a prominent position as a Senior Manager at a Fortune 100 Healthcare Insurance Corporation, bringing over two decades of industry experience to the table.

Her true passion lies in empowering women to heal, enhance their health, and live purposeful, fulfilling lives—a mission she lovingly describes as living “Whole and on Purpose.” As a business owner, manager, acclaimed speaker, author, and transformational coach, Shameka Jones continues to inspire and lead women toward holistic health and personal success.

Jessica Ariel-Wamala is the Head of Technical Operations at Promise, a fintech platform dedicated to financial inclusion, low-income assistance, and debt relief. With a background in

international development and fintech, Jess has led transformative projects that address systemic barriers faced by marginalized communities. She holds an MPhil in Modern Middle Eastern Studies from the University of Oxford as a Rhodes Scholar and a BA and MA in Political Science from Villanova University. Passionate about racial justice, gender empowerment, and technology, Jess brings a strategic and empathetic leadership style to her work, driving innovative solutions for financial empowerment.

JWOC

Stephanie Ann Russell is the Associate Director of Operations at the National Council of Jewish Women. Stephanie Ann is responsible for onboarding activities, oversight of technology, facilities, special projects, workplace culture, intern program and knowledge management systems. Stephanie Ann has worked in the not-for-profit arena for many years with experience in association management, board management and development, organizational leadership, budget planning and team and relationship building.

Stephanie Ann is passionate about making sure the people she crosses paths with feel safe and welcomed in her space. She cares deeply about democracy and what's happening in the world. Stephanie Ann is the sole caregiver to her 85-year-old mother who is living well with Dementia.

Stephanie Ann's downtime is spent making sure her mom continues to live her best life. Stephanie Ann also enjoys spending time with friends and family, traveling, volunteering, working in her yard, obsessing with MSNBC and watching reality TV while spoiling her pup, Zoe Blu.

Tammy Briant Spratling is Chief Executive Officer of Community Tampa Bay, a non-profit that envisions a community free from discrimination in which every individual is treated with dignity and respect.

Tammy has taught civil rights law at Florida State University College of Law and Stetson University College of Law. She previously served as Assistant Dean for Student Affairs at Stetson Law. She has also taught in the University of South Florida's College of Education. She speaks and writes about transformative learning theory, education law and policy, constitutional law and the modern Civil Rights Movement, ethics, and social identity, belonging and inclusive practices. Formerly an Assistant State Attorney in the Child Welfare Division of the 6th Judicial Circuit's State Attorney's Office, Tammy is a member of the Florida Bar and American Bar Association. She is also a 2014 graduate of Leadership Tampa.

Finding balance in community, service, and the arts, and commits herself to making Tampa Bay a better place through social justice advocacy initiatives. Tammy is Past-President of the

Gasparilla International Film Festival where her passion is bringing educational films to the Tampa Bay area that serve as tools for personal growth and transformation.

Tammy received dual BA and BS degrees from the University of Tampa and her JD from Stetson University College of Law.

Elly Gonzales is the Post-Baccalaureate Fellow and Program Manager at Trinity University for the Philosophy and Literature Circle. Graduated from Trinity with a B.A. in Mathematics, her research analyzed economic disparities across the state of Texas as a result of infrastructural racism and redlining. Her research in relation to the Philosophy and Literature Circle program involves Somatic Healing and Abolitionism. Elly is an alum of the Philosophy and Literature Circle program and continues involvement through Intentional Peer Support training and organizing. She is a Native Texan, lover of indigenous philosophy and poetry, and an enthusiastic creative.

Rebecca Deville is a dedicated Program Manager at Reading Partners, where she champions the creation of equitable, inclusive, and supportive environments for students. Leveraging the power of educational equity, she strives to interrupt systemic racism, poverty, and social inequality.

Rebecca holds a Bachelor's degree in International Relations from the University of Oklahoma. After graduation, she dedicated four years to national service with AmeriCorps, a federal program that engages individuals in intensive community service work addressing critical needs in education, public safety, health, and the environment. During her AmeriCorps service, she worked with both Reading Partners and Teach for America, helping to instill a love of learning in students.

With over 10 years of experience in the education sector, Rebecca has led numerous initiatives aimed at improving student outcomes, supporting community volunteers, and coaching the next generation of service leaders. Her passion for transformational change drives her commitment to fostering environments where all students can thrive.

Jazmin Rogers is a results-driven Director of Community Engagement with over 5 years of experience in strategic partnerships, event management, and advocacy. A 2022 Emerging Young Leader and 2024 PROpel AVL Award Nominee, Jazmin lives on Cherokee land in Western North Carolina. She discovered yoga in 2013 and began teaching in 2018, helping individuals unlock their potential. Following George Floyd's killing in 2020, she combined activism with spirituality, leading workshops on education, trauma, and economic development. Jazmin has taught over

300 classes, impacting 4,000 people. She also volunteers with CoThinkk and the Block Collaborative, preserving Black Asheville's legacy.

Gia Worthy is a (soon-to-be) thirty, flirty, and thriving woman looking to expand her horizons with this next step in her life! Born and raised in Springfield, Massachusetts, her love of traveling never keeps her in one place for too long!

Gia pursued her undergraduate degree in Sociology at Western New England University before she went on to a Masters in Gender & Cultural Studies at Simmons University. Her passion for social change led her to become an HIV-prevention instructor at the YWCA for a year and a half before transitioning to her current role as the Associate Director for Student Engagement at American International College.

In her spare time Gia enjoys podcasting, watching reality TV, reading, writing, and traveling. She has been part of the Survivor Diversity Campaign's social media team on Twitter for 4 years and counting and loves integrating her work in DEI initiatives into her hobbies!

Rain Pryor director, writer, wife and mother. Pryor shares her views on race and has led panel discussions on diversity in education and in the entertainment industry at Princeton University, The Jewish Federation of Los Angeles, Chicago and Baltimore, Atlanta, and Cannes.

Pryor has also received honors for her commitment to arts education by Business Women of Baltimore, and Baltimore Department of Education.

Her leadership skills began back in the early 90s when Rain was part of a gang ceasefire effort in Los Angeles and was a substance abuse dual diagnosis counselor where she helped establish treatment protocols for two rehabs in Los Angeles. Rain leveraged all of her experiences to run for local office in Baltimore MD in the 3rd District in 2019.

Pryor is a Schusterman Fellow, developing her leadership skills and participating in panel discussions on race and intersectionality, and helping to find the "Both/And's" during times of conflict.

Pryor is truly a brilliant performer. Her performances are considered thought provoking through truthful storytelling, and she has spot on mimicry, which landed her to be nominated by the NAACP three times. She won an NAACP award for her irreverent solo show "Fried Chicken & Latkes, and for her role as the evil stepsister in the Michael Jackson produced musical "Sisterella." Rain was also nominated for the prestigious ADELCO Awards for her Off Broadway run at the National Black Theatre in Harlem.

Rain currently resides in Baltimore with her husband Dave Vane, and daughter, but calls herself Bicoastal, flying back and forth between home and Los Angeles.

WDR

Willow Anderson is a white settler of English, Scottish, Irish, German, and Dutch ancestry who lives in Mi'kma'ki (Atlantic Canada). She owns a company called Social Fabric Institute Inc. which helps teams understand the current state of equity, diversity, and inclusion in their organization, what needs their attention or amplification, and the related solutions.

Willow has an M.A. in Conflict Resolution from the University of Bradford and a PhD from the University of New Mexico and has spent a large part of the time since getting her PhD trying to parse out the helpful skills and knowledge from the harmful grind culture habits of academe.

In her spare time, Willow volunteers with projects which further community building, belonging, inter-racial justice and healing; She leads a small group of white-bodied leaders in a community of practice which explores how racism and colonialism can show up in our workplaces and in ourselves – and how to foster positive change in both. In that work (and equity conversations more broadly) Willow deeply appreciates (and learns from) Resmaa Menakem's work on somatic abolitionism.

Willow finds joy in dancing, wild berry picking, dark chocolate, hiking, being a mediocre crafter, intercultural conversation, being near the ocean, and being silly with her kid.

Deborah Holmes has been a trainer for diversity, equity, inclusion, anti-bias, and anti-racism for 25 years in a variety of school, corporate, non-profit, and faith settings. She first retired from a career as a teacher (Lawrence, KS), elementary and middle school principal (University City, MO) and assistant superintendent and interim superintendent (Kirkwood, MO). Then she retired from teacher training initiatives (STEM Teacher Quality) and leadership programs and coaching (Transformational Leadership) based at the Institute for School Partnership, Washington University, St. Louis, MO.

Early in her career, she wrote teacher resource books, articles for professional publications, and grants. She has served as an adjunct faculty member at two St. Louis area universities, is a certified strategic planner, and has been responsible for assessment and curricular programs birth through grade 12. Deborah was a co-chair of the Educational Equity Action Team - a group that initiated the Dismantling Racism Institute for Educators (DRIE).

In addition to anti-racism facilitation, Deborah enjoys gardening, playing pickleball, dabbling in music, and traveling with family and friends.

Gwen Hopkins has spent the past 17+ years delivering strategic, efficient, values-aligned operations to make social sector work effective, equitable, and joyful. For the past nine years, she's led operations at DataKind and Global Health Corps, working with global teams of 25-35 to maximize the impact of mission-driven partners through increased access to talent, data, and information. Gwen is passionate about shaping nonprofits' day-to-day work to embody the world they're working to build, embedding values like DEI in every aspect of what we do. She lives in the Finger Lakes near her hometown of Rochester, NY with her partner and their rescue dog, Bean.

Sara Shapiro-Plevan, Ed.D, is all about relationships. Her essential focus: understanding how relationships influence our ability to seek wholeness and strive for equity as we create sustainable networks, communities and workplaces. As the CEO and founder of the Gender Equity in Hiring Project (GEiHP), she puts our Jewish values of equity and justice into action to build Jewish workplaces that tap into the best of our human potential, transforming the endemic culture of gender bias that so often keeps our best talent from rising into leadership, and most especially, women from advancing into the C-suite. Sara draws on her practice as a consultant, coach, facilitator and network weaver to examine the systemic ways gender, power and privilege affect the Jewish workplace.

Rahel Y. Smith, SPHR, SHRM-SCP, CPC (she/her) is a Coach, Human Resources Consultant, DEI collaborator, and founder of Values Forward Leadership, LLC. She currently works with social justice nonprofits and movement-building organizations, supporting leaders and HR teams to build equity-oriented and people-centered workplaces.

Prior to founding Values Forward Leadership, Rahel spent 20+ years as a nonprofit and small business professional, holding director-level roles overseeing HR, finance, operations, and IT. Her approach is influenced by many years of social justice and anti-racism work, peer-to-peer counseling practice, culturally relevant Healing Centered Coaching training, and strengths-based models (StrengthsFinder and Appreciative Inquiry are a few faves). Rahel is a trusted thought partner, sounding board, and coach for organizational leaders and HR staff navigating their workplaces towards building an equitable and people-centered culture.

Rahel is a white Ashkenazi Jew, raised middle class, with lived experience as a person with a disability, cis woman, cancer survivor, and part of the LGBTQIA+ community. Beyond work,

Rahel is often found agitating for change through faith-based organizing, or enjoying Shabbat dinners, board games, gardening, speculative fiction, or riding her recumbent bike Trixie.

Shaina Wasserman (she/her/hers) serves as the Senior Director of Strategic Operations at SRE Network. An experienced Jewish educator and senior leader with over 20 years of experience in Jewish communal institutions across the country, Shaina has a strong commitment to gender equity and a track record of embedding respectful workplace practices within Jewish institutions. In her prior role as vice president of communal relations at J Street, Shaina introduced new workplace policies and practices, including bringing in DEI expertise and respectful workplace training, and created WNBA, an affinity group for women, non-binary people, and allies at J Street. She also completed the Ta'amod respectful workplace training led by Fran Sepler. Shaina has professional and volunteer experience in faith-based community organizing, Jewish service learning, synagogue life, programming and internal operations, having previously held roles with The Jewish Education Project in New York, Congregation Beth Am in Northern California, and the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago. She received her master's degrees in Jewish Nonprofit Management and in Jewish Education from HUC-JIR in Los Angeles and dual bachelor's degrees in History and in Near Eastern and Judaic Studies from Brandeis University. Shaina resides in Arlington, Massachusetts, where she enjoys hiking, completing the NYT Bee and crossword puzzles, and spending time with her nieces.