

THE WOMEN'S DIVERSITY NETWORK

2023

# ANNUAL DIVERSITY SUMMIT

ADVOCATING. CELEBRATING. EDUCATING.

APRIL 29, 2023 | 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

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CO-HOSTED BY:



# 2023 ANNUAL DIVERSITY SUMMIT



## SCHEDULE

**8:00 - 8:45 AM**

REGISTRATION & BREAKFAST  
NETWORKING & EXHIBITOR TABLES  
STUDENT CENTER MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM

**1:30 - 2:00 PM**

ENTERTAINMENT  
STUDENT CENTER THEATER

**9:00 - 10:15 AM**

WELCOME & KEYNOTE PANEL  
STUDENT CENTER THEATER

**2:15 - 3:30 PM**

SESSION 2  
BREAK OUT ROOMS

**10:30 - 11:45 AM**

SESSION 1  
BREAK OUT ROOMS

**3:45 - 5:00 PM**

AWARDS, CLOSING  
REMARKS, MEDITATION  
STUDENT CENTER THEATER

**12:00 - 1:15 PM**

LUNCH  
NETWORKING & EXHIBITOR TABLES  
STUDENT CENTER MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM

# Land Acknowledgement

Adapted from Dr. Melina Abdullah

We acknowledge the land we inhabit is the ancestral homelands of First Nation peoples. We pay respect to all Indigenous people past, present, and future for their continued presence on their homeland and for their diaspora.

We pay homage to people stolen from Africa, placed in bondage, and called “slaves,” who never submitted and were always fully human. We pay respect to their unbroken connection to the divine and each other — and for their still unpaid labor.

To both our Indigenous and African forebears, we commit to the struggle for liberation and reparations.



# WDN AFFIRMATIONS

- Nothing can dim the light that shines from within.
- Celebrate your successes and failures; both require great courage.
- We can do the impossible as long as we can convince ourselves that it has been done before.
- I'm loving and lovable and deserve good things and good treatment.
- I am a problem solver.
- I will be an upstander when people are being treated poorly around me.
- I will give members the benefit of the doubt, knowing they are here because they want to be.
- I treat people equitably.
- I will ask for help knowing there's endless talent around me and people who know my success is our success.
- I choose my words carefully and deliver with ease.
- I won't compare my behind-the-scenes reel to someone's highlight reel.
- I will look at others as inspiration, not competitors.
- I will keep my eye on the prize no matter how sweaty I might get over the small stuff, knowing I shouldn't sweat the small stuff.
- My playing small does not serve the world. I will allow my light to shine and, in doing so, will give permission for others to shine too.
- I don't need to be the loudest person in the room to make an impact.
- I will be a better listener.
- I have a lot of valuable contributions to make, even if I don't know precisely what they are right now.

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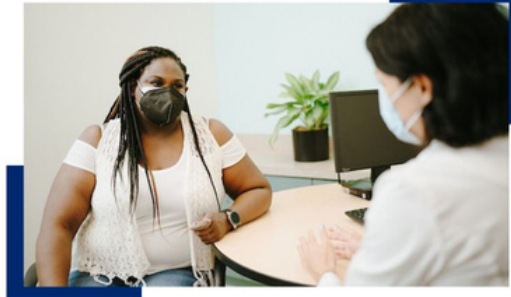
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- MICHELLE OBAMA

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## Join PPGNY Action Fund's Advocacy Collective

Advocacy Collective members work to further our mission, advance legislative priorities, and uphold a reproductive justice framework in their community organizing & events.

As a member, you'll have the opportunity to join one or more of our committees in regions across New York State.

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WDN is committed to working on justice and equity so that we can help uplift lives that have been marginalized. We are so proud of the work WDN has accomplished over the years. In order to continue to do that work we need financial support from people like you. Join us in making a donation to WDN today!

- The WDN Board of Directors

Invest in a more equitable world.  
www.womensdiversitynetwork.org/donate





# 2023 ANNUAL DIVERSITY SUMMIT

## KEYNOTE PANEL

9:00 - 10:15 AM

LOCATION: STUDENT CENTER THEATER

### THE STATE OF SOCIAL JUSTICE ON LONG ISLAND

## Keynote Panel

### The State of Social Justice on Long Island



**Terryl Dozier**  
LI United to  
Transform Policing  
& Community Safety



**Pilar  
Moya-Mancera**  
Housing Help Inc.



**Eugenia Woods**  
Women's Diversity  
Network Leader



**Sarah Smith, LMSW**  
Macro Social Worker



**Abena Asare**  
Associate Professor  
& Brookhaven  
Landfill Action  
& Remediation

Social justice is the equal distribution of opportunities, rights, and responsibilities despite physical traits and/or beliefs and behavior differences. It is a multifaceted issue that advocates for better treatment of all people. The community leaders on this panel each play an essential role in furthering social justice and environmental justice on Long Island. They are here to help you understand what is happening on Long Island when it comes to policing, housing, food insecurity, the environment, the LGBTQ+ community and to inspire you to find your path toward social justice.

# WORKSHOPS - SESSION 1

10:30 - 11:45 AM

## STRATEGIES FOR KEEPING LAWMAKERS ACCOUNTABLE

**LOCATION: STUDENT CENTER THEATER**

**PRESENTED BY THE ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, INC. - SIGMA PSI OMEGA CHAPTER**

**PANELISTS:** Retha Fernandez, Former Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer Suffolk County, Kimberly Jean-Pierre, Assemblywoman District 11J, Jason Richberg, Suffolk County Legislator LD 15, DuWayne Gregory, Councilman Town of Babylon, Dr. Teresa Bryant, Chair LI Regional Women in NAACP

Building an effective, responsive government requires an informed and engaged electorate and elected leaders who understand the importance of partnering with their constituents. In this workshop we will discuss different strategies for how elected officials and community members can build relationships while centering transparency and accountability in the process.

## YOUTH WORKSHOP: WHAT HAPPENS WHEN?

**LOCATION: STUDENT CENTER GREENHOUSE**

**PRESENTED BY JOSEPHINE HALL & ANDREA WAYNE**

**NYS EDUCATORS & CO-FOUNDERS OF WE ARE JUST WRITE**

Grades 9th-12th ONLY. Students of all ages need opportunities to make sense of their lives so that others cannot tell their stories. Sometimes these opportunities may include harsh truths. Across the country, laws are being created to censor teaching and learning about Black history, sexuality, and other topics deemed inappropriate for our young people. What happens when you learn uncomfortable truths about history? What happens when you read the 1619 Project? What happens when you learn about how slavery in the United States impacted our economy, education, healthcare, etc.? What happens when you teach these uncomfortable truths? In this workshop, we will explore what happens WHEN young people and educators alike learn about these topics. Join us for this interactive look into a curriculum that engages students with these uncomfortable topics and provides a safe space for them to do so. If they don't tell their stories, who will?

## STOCKS FOR BEGINNERS

**LOCATION: STUDENT CENTER ROOM 141**

**PRESENTED BY RAY THOMAS**

**SOCIAL ENTREPRENEUR, FOUNDER OF XPOSURE FOUNDATION, INC., 3 TIME NY EMMY AWARD PRODUCER**

This workshop is designed to help level the playing field by teaching people about the concept of investing. You'll learn the basics, gain some insight, and ready to get started.

# WORKSHOPS - SESSION 1

10:30 - 11:45 AM

## TOXIC MASCULINITY

**LOCATION: STUDENT CENTER ROOM 142**

**PRESENTED BY MEMBERS OF THE WOMEN'S DIVERISTY NETWORK AND THE LONG ISLAND SOCIAL JUSTICE ACTION NETWORK**

"Patriarchy promotes insanity. It is a the root of the psychological ills troubling men in our nation" - Bell Hooks Together we'll discuss how toxic masculinity shows up and impacts our lives, what to do when exposed to it, and how to not replicate the pattern.

## LEGACY PLANNING IS FOR EVERYBODY

**LOCATION: STUDENT CENTER ROOM 143**

**PRESENTED BY SUZANNE ETINGER, ATTORNEY AT LAW, ETINGER LAW FIRM**

Are you prepared for unexpected deaths or incapacity of an elder? This workshop will help you understand what is necessary to provide for the passing of your assets to whom you want, when you want, and the way you want. It will help you understand how to protect your family's assets from the high cost of care at home or in a facility as you or a loved one ages.

## NAVIGATING BIAS, HARASSMENT, & MICROAGGRESSIONS IN THE WORKPLACE

**LOCATION: STUDENT CENTER PLAZA WEST**

**PRESENTED BY DR. VALERIE JAMES, MICROAGGRESSION SCIENTIST**

Participants will work directly with the UnSugarCoated Microaggression Scientist, Dr. Valerie James. They'll identify the differences between 3 types of microaggressions. Evaluate the context of microaggression behavior and how to address it in the workplace and beyond.

## FAMILIES OF LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY: CREATING A SUPPORTIVE AND AFFIRMING ENVIRONMENT

**LOCATION: STUDENT CENTER PLAZA MIDDLE**

**PRESENTED BY ZEE GORDON, LGBTQ SERVICES COORDINATOR FOR PRIDE FOR YOUTH**

This interactive workshop helps to raise understanding and awareness surrounding gender identity and sexual orientation. It helps individuals develop skills for responding to anti-LGBTQ+ bias and creating a supportive and affirming environment for the LGBTQ+ community."

## SUPPORTING YOUNG CHILDREN'S MENTAL WELLNESS & ADDRESSING TRAUMA IN EARLY CHILDHOOD

**LOCATION: STUDENT CENTER PLAZA EAST**

**PRESENTED BY ERIKA DEANS, LMSW TRAINER & EDUCATOR**

**DONNA RAPHAEL, MA PROGRAM & DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIST**

As all behavior has meaning, families should be equipped with tools and resources to help support children's mental wellness. This workshop will review techniques for trauma-informed care, along with responses for social, and emotional care addressing behavioral challenges.

# LUNCH & FOOD SPONSORS

12:00 - 1:15 PM ..... STUDENT CENTER MULTI PURPOSE-ROOM

**LUNCH WILL BE A TASTING OF CULTURAL CUISINE.  
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AND WATER**

# ENTERTAINMENT & PERFORMERS

1:30 - 2:00 PM ..... STUDENT CENTER THEATER



## INDIGENOUS SINGING & DRUMMING - JEFFREY PEGRAM

Jeffrey L Pegram is a Traditional/Contemporary Native American Singer Composer who has been singing for over 40 years. He has traveled the World with his musical talent and has been nominated for various Musical Awards Grammys, Native American Music Awards. Jeffrey is also a Cultural Educator/Speaker/Lecturer.



## PHYSICALLY INTEGRATED DANCE - HEIDI LATSKY DANCE

Heidi Latsky Dance disrupts space, dismantles normal, and redefines beauty and virtuosity through innovative performance and discourse. Dedicated to reflecting the true diverse nature of the world we live in, HLD brings rigorous, passionate, and thought-provoking work to broad audiences.



## LATIN DANCING - JUBILÉ LATINO

Jubilé Latino is a closed Latinx- Afro infused dance team that focuses on embracing and appreciating Latin culture. Jubilé brings a home to minorities at Stony Brook University by inviting racially diverse groups to learn, perform, and compete in dances such as bachata, salsa, merengue, reggaeton and much more. They welcome all racial/ethnic groups in hopes of offering a cultural performance experience to their affiliates.



## INDIAN DANCING - SATYA PRADEEP

Satya Pradeep is a performer, teacher and a choreographer in the Indian Classical Dance forms of Bharatanatyam and Kuchipudi. Trained under exponents, Padmabhushan Kamala Narayan, Sangeet Natak Akademi Awardee R. Rhadha and Padmabhushan Vempati Chinna Satyam, Satya blends tradition with innovation.

## LITURGICAL DANCE EUGENIA WOODS



## STEPPING CHAPTER OF ALPHA PHI ALPHA FRATERNITY, INC.



# WORKSHOPS - SESSION 2

2:15 - 3:30 PM

## IDENTIFYING YOUR LEADERSHIP STYLE

**LOCATION: STUDENT CENTER GREENHOUSE**

**PRESENTED BY SHANEQUA LEVIN, FOUNDER & CEO, WOMEN'S DIVERSITY NETWORK, ACTIVIST, AUTHOR, AND MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER**

We all have different personality traits that influence how we show up and lead. This interactive session will help you understand:

- The goal that influences what you do
- The mode in which you do things
- The attitude which explains why you do it
- The Center, which identifies the part of self from which you do it
- The Chief Feature that blocks or distorts your doing

You'll leave this workshop understanding yourself and others more.

## BEYOND ROE: ABORTION STIGMA, POLICY, AND IMPACTS

**LOCATION: STUDENT CENTER ROOM 141**

**PRESENTED BY LAUREN LAMAGNA (THEY/SHE) DIRECTOR OF ADVOCACY & GOVERNMENT RELATIONS, PLANNED PARENTHOOD HUDSON PECONIC  
NADIA NAPOLITANO (SHE/HER/HERS/ELLA) PATIENT ADVOCATE  
SARIKA KUMAR (SHE/THEY) DIRECTOR OF DIGITAL ORGANIZING, PLANNED PARENTHOOD FEDERATION OF AMERICA**

The constitutional right to access abortion ended when Roe v. Wade was overturned in June 2022 - an unprecedented ruling rooted in abortion stigma with large scale implications. The overturning of Roe v. Wade and the rise of abortion bans have disproportionate impacts on historically underserved and marginalized communities, such as Black and Brown communities, Indigenous communities, LGBTQ+ communities, immigrant communities, rural communities and folks with low income. Come talk about abortion stigma, learn about differing impacts of recent state and national policies, and leave knowing what you can do to protect and expand access in New York.

## IMPACT OF LOCAL COUNTY ELECTIONS ON ISSUES WE CARE ABOUT

**LOCATION: STUDENT CENTER ROOM 142**

**PANEL LED BY CRYSTAL BERGER, FORMER CHIEF OF STAFF FOR A NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATOR**

THIS WORKSHOP IS SPONSORED BY NATIONAL GRID.

You'll discuss and hear from panelists about different parts of government and the role they play in your life.

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# WORKSHOPS - SESSION 2

2:15 - 3:30 PM

## LIVING WITH COVID "THE NEW NORMAL" AND YOUR CHILD

**LOCATION: STUDENT CENTER ROOM 143**

**PRESENTED BY DR. EVE KRIEF, PEDIATRICIAN AND FOUNDER, LONG ISLAND INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES AGAINST HATE**

We will discuss the impact the Covid pandemic has had on children with respect to both their physical and mental health. We'll also touch upon the racial health disparities the pandemic highlighted and vaccine hesitancy.

## BUILD WEALTH EQUITY WITH DIVERSITY, EQUITY, & INCLUSION

**LOCATION: STUDENT CENTER PLAZA WEST**

**PRESENTED BY THERESA SANDERS, PRESIDENT & CEO OF THE URBAN LEAGUE OF LONG ISLAND**

This panel will discuss how individuals, government, and business entities can build wealth with diversity, equity, and inclusion.

## YOUTH WORKSHOP: MAINTAINING HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

**LOCATION: STUDENT CENTER PLAZA MIDDLE**

**PRESENTED BY ASHLEY CUEVAS, PROGRAM COORDINATOR AT GIRLS INC. OF LONG ISLAND**

Grades 9th-12th ONLY. We'll discuss one's personal identity, boundary setting, communication, exercising personal rights, and navigating interpersonal relationships with a special emphasis on healthy and safe relationships.

## THE TIME IS NOW - LEADING SOCIAL MOVEMENTS ON LONG ISLAND

**LOCATION: STUDENT CENTER PLAZA EAST**

**PRESENTED BY JACOB DIXON, FOUNDER & CEO CHOICE 4 ALL**

Whether you are an activist, an organizer, a community leader or a supporter, it's important for Long Island to build its capacity to actualize movement building and activism as a strategy tool in lead real change. Through an interactive presentation and a facilitated community conversation, attendees will walk away with best practices and a toolkit to support movement building work on an individual, community or systems level.

# 2023 ANNUAL DIVERSITY SUMMIT



## AWARDS CEREMONY

3:45 - 5:00 PM

### REMARKS

WDN LEADERSHIP

### AWARDS



YOUTH JUSTICE LEADERSHIP AWARDS  
YOUTH AWARDS SPONSORED BY JOVIE CHILDCARE REIMAGINED



ADVOCATES OF THE DECADE

HEALTH EQUITY CHAMPION

RACIAL EQUITY CHAMPION

ALLY CHAMPION

ADVOCATE ON THE RISE

TRAIL BLAZER

PARTNERS OF THE YEAR

### CLOSING WORDS & MEDITATION

MEDITATION BY RETHA FERNANDEZ OF SOLI





## HONOREES

### ADVOCATE OF THE DECADE



**SUSAN GOTTEHRER**  
Director, Nassau County  
New York Civil Liberties  
Union

**Susan Gottehrer** is the Director of the Nassau County New York Civil Liberties Union, the New York State affiliate of the ACLU, and has been a life-long activist and part of the New York Civil Liberties family since 2006. She has done extensive lobbying on state and local legislation, has led advocacy efforts to end mass incarceration, clean up conditions at the Nassau County jail, implement police reform in Nassau County, and provide language access to residents of Long Island. She holds a Master's degree in Education from Columbia University, a Master's in Political Science from the New School for Social Research, and a Master's in Public Administration/Policy Analysis from New York University. She is an adjunct Political Science Professor at Pace University, Adelphi University, and Long Island University, served as Director of the P.S. 101 After School Program, and has eight years of Public Relations experience.

### ADVOCATE OF THE DECADE



**IRMA SOLIS**  
Director, Suffolk County  
New York Civil Liberties  
Union

**Irma Solis** is the Director of the Suffolk Regional Office at the New York Civil Liberties Union, where she organizes legal, educational, and community outreach in Suffolk County on issues ranging from police accountability to education reform. Irma is passionate about deconstructing systems to reclaim people power. Irma has more than 20 years of experience leading campaigns to win transformative legal and policy change at all levels of government in communities in upstate New York, Brooklyn and Long Island. These include racially targeted housing code enforcement activities in the Town of Brookhaven, wage theft by unscrupulous employers, violations of the Fair Housing Act, day laborers right to seek work in public spaces, Latino students' right to public education and discriminatory practices by the Suffolk County police. As an organizer and facilitator, Irma values humor, empathy, humility, creative expression, disruption, contemplation, and systems thinking. Irma has worked for New York State Attorney General's Consumer Frauds Bureau, Central American Legal Assistance, Workplace Project and Long Island Housing Services. She has consulted for Latino Justice and other social justice organizations as community organizer and trainer with a focus on social and racial justice, leadership and organizational development. Solis received her law degree from University at Buffalo School of Law and her BA from Binghamton University.

### HEALTH EQUITY CHAMPION



**ADESUWA WATSON**  
Director, Suffolk County  
Dept. of Health Services  
Office of Minority Health

**Adesuwa Watson** has been with the Suffolk County Department of Health Services - Office of Minority Health (OMH), since August of 2008. She first served as the Health Program Analyst for the Office and as of April 2021, serves as Director for the Office of Minority Health, which strives to address health disparities and inequities for racial and ethnic minorities in the County. As a Public Health Professional, Mrs. Watson sits on and chairs multiple committees that address health disparities, health promotion, cultural responsive care and community engagement. She received her BA in Psychology, minoring in Biology and Africana Studies and went on to complete her Master's Degree of Public Health in Social Behavior and Community Health, from the State University of New York at Albany.

As a strong public health advocate, she is passionate about community work, has contributed countless hours to projects that focus on health disparities and community collaboration. Her work centers on raising up voices of the community, access to quality care issues, health literacy, prevention of infant and maternal mortality and morbidity, behavioral health, HIV/AIDS, STIs & other chronic conditions. She feels strongly, that every day we must work to challenge unequal systems, recognizing the power of community engagement and centering equity in all that we do.

## HONOREES

### RACIAL EQUITY CHAMPION



**DANA LUBIN GARCIA**

Senior Vice President &  
Senior Placement  
Specialist in Insurance

In 2018 **Dana Lubin Garcia**, a white woman from Long Island, was introduced to the Socially Conscious Women's Collective (SCWC), a community of white women and non-binary folks on an anti-racism journey under the direction of Black speaker, educator, and author Catrice M. Jackson. Catrice is the CEO of Catriceology® and the founder of the Justice is Love Coalition. Dana's life changed when she attended a SheTalks WeTalk workshop led by Catrice, a transformational experience designed for participants to confront and uproot their racism.

Through Catrice and by joining the SCWC, Dana connected with like-minded white women and non-binary folks committed to racial justice work, and began to comprehend the massive debt that she and all white people owe to Black people in this country – a concept that she previously hadn't considered, having been raised in the individualism of white pseudo-supremacy.

Since 2020, the SCWC has mobilized white communities to pay more than \$1.8M in reparations to support Black joy and Black economic justice, including raising funds for 5 Black women and families to own their homes debt-free. Dana is honored for the recognition that the Women's Diversity Network has given to her as a result of Catrice and her leadership of the SCWC's collective and heart-centered commitment to Black liberation. Dana accepts this award in solidarity with fellow community members who recognize the importance of racial justice advocacy and the urgent call for white folks to follow Black leadership.

### ALLY CHAMPION



**CHERYL KESHNER**

Senior Paralegal at  
Empire Justice Center

**Cheryl Keshner** has been an activist for social justice and an advocate for Long Island's underserved communities for many years. Since 2008, she has worked as a legal advocate with the Empire Justice Center, where she assists low-income Long Islanders, particularly Latino immigrants, in accessing and maintaining government benefits, in defending their rights to decent housing, and in addressing the many inequities they face daily. Cheryl is passionate about advancing the rights of people with limited English proficiency and works to ensure that they are treated with respect, regardless of their immigration status. She is the founder and coordinator of the Long Island Language Advocates Coalition, which works to attain equal access to healthcare, law enforcement, social services, education, and justice through the courts for people who may not read write, speak or understand English proficiently. In 2012 and 2013, LILAC was successful in obtaining passage of executive orders in both Nassau and Suffolk mandating county agencies to provide comprehensive language access. As a member of United for Justice in Policing LI and other coalitions, Cheryl has monitored the SCPD's compliance with the 2014 Department of Justice Settlement agreement, which directed it to address a pattern of biased policing against the Latino community. She has worked in tandem with many amazing advocates to challenge discriminatory policing practices and policies and has long advocated for concrete improvements, particularly in the areas of language access and domestic violence. Prior to joining the Empire Justice Center, Cheryl worked as a social worker with Nassau/Suffolk Law Services where she assisted numerous homeless individuals and families, provided representation at DSS hearings, and challenged punitive welfare reform rules. She has also worked as a community organizer with the NYC Commission on Human Rights. Cheryl has an MSW from Hunter College School of Social Work and believes strongly in moving from case to cause. She is proud to have been a original member of the Women's Diversity Network and is thrilled to see how WDN has flourished over the years.

## HONOREES

### ADVOCATE ON THE RISE



**EMILY KAUFMAN, LCSW**  
LI United to Transform Policing  
& Community Safety  
Steering Committee

**Emily Kaufman** is a licensed Clinical Social Worker whose background includes extensive work in the Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice systems. In these roles, Emily brought an anti-racist lens to her work and a strong commitment to advocacy when assisting families to confront systemic and institutional racism. Currently, Emily maintains an insurance-based private therapy practice. Emily strives to provide quality mental health services to all who seek help, regardless of income level.

In her spare time, Emily organizes for systemic change. She is one of the founding organizers of the Long Island Network for Change, started in 2016, and the lead facilitator of their monthly meetings. Emily has previously led LINC's Racism Discussion Group to educate and dialogue with white people about the ways in which white supremacy shows up in our systems and our individual lives and to explore ways to identify and interrupt it.

Emily also serves on the Steering Committee of LI United to Transform Policing and Community Safety since its founding in 2020. Emily co-chaired the Alternative Crisis Response workgroup during the writing of The People's Plan, leading the development of the Crisis Response proposal, which seeks to reduce/eliminate police involvement in mental health, substance use and homelessness crises. Emily currently serves as a member of the Traffic Committee, actively working to address racial disparities in traffic stops in Suffolk County.

As long as marginalized communities face unjust treatment, lack of resources and criminalization, Emily will be organizing for change. Complacency is not an option.

### TRAIL BLAZER



**DANA BOYLAN, ESQ**  
Deputy Director of. Suffolk  
County Department of  
Human Services

Attorney **Dana Boylan** is the Deputy Director of Suffolk County's Department of Human Services where she is responsible for supporting the department's operational processes specific to Youth Services, Minority Affairs, Women's Services and MWBE. This includes fiscal, administrative, program planning, implementation, and oversight processes. Through these responsibilities she endeavors to support Suffolk County's commitment to its marginalized and vulnerable populations through the improving or developing of effective operational strategies that result in increased efficiencies, lower barriers or improved access to government and community resources.

Since joining the department, a key motivating role has been participating and informing the planning of Suffolk County's prospective design-build, Raise-The-Age facility for youth involved in the criminal justice system.

Previously, Dana Boylan served as the first African American female Executive Director of the Nassau County Office of Youth Services; and as an Assistant District Attorney with over 13 years of service at the Nassau County District Attorney's office. There, as Director of Community Re-entry Initiatives and Youth Development Programming, her primary areas of focus were community relations, re-entry and youth development. This role resulted in the design and implementation of a New York State DCJS-supported and funded gang and gun outreach program, as well as other prevention and intervention initiatives for youth and young adults including mentoring and paid internship programs for those involved in the criminal justice system. She is most proud of designing, implementing and piloting an Alternative-to-Incarceration plea initiative which resulted in quantitative successful and reduced-recidivism outcomes for young adult offenders existing the criminal justice system.

In her home community, Ms. Boylan serves as the Village Justice for the Incorporated Village of Westbury. She was appointed in 2022. Elected thereafter in 2023, she is the first African American to serve in that role. She is a member of a number of service organizations including Alpha Kappa, Alpha, Inc. Pi Pi Omega Chapter, Jack and Jill of Nassau County, the Nassau County Women's Bar Association, and the Westbury Arts Council to name a few.

# HONOREES

PARTNER OF THE YEAR



PLANNED PARENTHOOD HUDSON PECONIC

Planned Parenthood Hudson Peconic (PPHP) provides sexual and reproductive health care at 10 health centers and two mobile health centers in Suffolk, Westchester, Rockland, and Putnam counties in New York. They offer a wide range of sexual and reproductive health care services regardless of the individual's age, race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, immigration status, or ability to pay.

For 90 years, they have provided exceptional health services, accurate information and education, and fearless advocacy for reproductive rights and justice.

PARTNER OF THE YEAR



ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, INC. SIGMA PSI OMEGA CHAPTER

Service and sisterhood have been the cornerstone of **Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®** since 1908. With the theme Soaring to Greater Heights of Service and Sisterhood, the 2022-2026 administration seeks to build upon Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority's rich legacy of service by galvanizing our sisterhood of more than 120,000 active members to lead on the front lines of change, education, and advocacy. This administration has six initiatives. **Strengthen Our Sisterhood** will serve as the administration's "Foundation Initiative" as we strengthen our bonds to support our service mission.

The remaining five initiatives will serve as the "Program Initiatives" which include:

- Empower Our Families
- Build Our Economic Wealth
- Enhance Our Environment
- Advocate for Social Justice
- Uplift Our Local Community

These initiatives are designed to improve the lives of those we serve. They will work collaboratively to maximize their outreach on progressive endeavors and consistently produce leaders who will advance their credo of service.

*Congratulations to the*

## YOUTH JUSTICE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM 2023 INAUGURAL COHORT

- Sahar Abassi
- Dylan Hall
- Brian Hall
- Channing Hughston
- Guanxin "Acey" Li
- Jesse Porter Bell
- Nafisa Rahman
- Asher Rodgers
- Julie Saint-Hilaire

- Charlotte Sampson
- Raifah Sheikh
- Kaitlan Thomas
- Nathaniel Thomas
- Ivy Wang
- Elias Wayne
- Nia Wilson
- Aamyah Wilson
- Sage Wu

# 2023 ANNUAL DIVERSITY SUMMIT

## THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



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# 2023 ANNUAL DIVERSITY SUMMIT

## WDN MERCHANDISE

**SHOP OFFICIAL WOMEN'S DIVERSITY NETWORK MERCHANDISE**

**ALL PROCEEDS DIRECTLY BENEFIT WDN PROGRAMS!**



[www.womensdiversitynetwork.org/merchandise](http://www.womensdiversitynetwork.org/merchandise)



## SAVE THE DATE

The Women's Diversity Network Fundraiser

# Jazz

## JUBILEE

Sunday, July 23, 2023  
The Curry Club  
Port Jefferson, NY

SAVE  
THE  
DATE

SAVE  
THE  
DATE

# Women's Diversity Network's

## Founder, CEO, & Board Chair



**Shanequa**  
Levin



**Kathryn**  
Abbatiello



**Debbie**  
Mercer-Miller

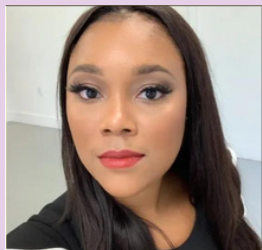


**Pascale**  
Jean-Noel

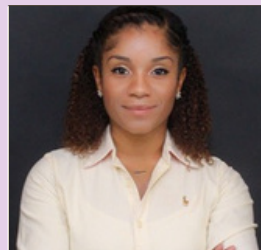


**Carla**  
Simpson

## Board Members 2022-2023



**Jazmyne**  
Archer



**Jasmine**  
Johnson



**Sandra**  
Kребelj-Douglas

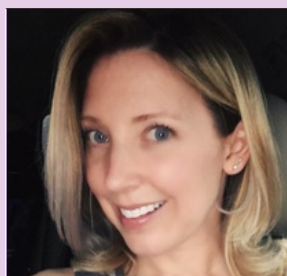


**Christine**  
Pellegrino



**On Leave**  
**Farrah**  
Mozawalla

## Staff



**Kate Howlett**  
Assistant Director



**Tanika Steele**  
Wealth Equity Fellowship  
Program Manager



**Carol Burnett**  
Maternal Justice  
Program Manager

# HERE'S YOUR CHANCE TO GET INVOLVED!

## **Who are WDN Leaders?**

The WDN Leadership Team connects people together to break down barriers to inclusion. WDN Leaders value and celebrate their differences and acknowledge shared goals. They commit to educating themselves and Long Islanders about issues that impact marginalized groups and serve as curators of educational workshops, discussions, and trainings, as well as help plan the annual Diversity Summit.

## **BECOME A WDN LEADER**

- WDN Leaders may be individuals or representatives from an organization or business.
- Benefits include free entry to trainings, the Summit, listed as a Summit co-host, and co-branding opportunities.
- Leaders support WDN through an annual donation and are interviewed before being accepted.

## **OTHER OPPORTUNITIES**

### **Join the**

#### **MATERNAL JUSTICE COALITION**

The Maternal Justice Coalition is a diverse, complementary group of organizations, agencies, clinicians, and individuals working together to decrease implicit bias, health inequity, and racial disparity in the maternal care of Black women and other vulnerable populations. Coalition members serve on one of the following committees:

- **Advocacy's** goal is to support legislation that reduces maternal mortality.
- **Research's** goal is to identify preventative solutions.
- **Resource's** goal is to distribute kits that promote a healthier pregnancy.
- **Education's** goal is to give presentations about Maternal Mortality.

### **Volunteer as a**

#### **WEALTH EQUITY FELLOWSHIP ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER**

The Wealth Equity Fellowship is a workforce development program designed to create pathways for Black and Latina women and Black and Latinx gender-expansive people, to earn higher wages, reduce barriers to high wage employment opportunities and expand their economic mobility.

Wealth Equity Advisory Board Members are professionals working in a variety of fields who are available on an ad hoc basis for support calls from fellows, connections to networking opportunities, and exposure to potential jobs in their respective fields.

## **Interested In Getting Involved?**

Call us **516-847-4411** Email us [info@womensdiversitynetwork.org](mailto:info@womensdiversitynetwork.org)



WOMEN'S DIVERSITY NETWORK

# WE WANT YOU ON BOARD

We are seeking applications for new, volunteer, nonprofit Board Members!



EDUCATING. ADVOCATING. CELEBRATING.

The Women's Diversity Network (WDN) aka WDN Resource Center connects and mobilizes women and gender-expansive people of different backgrounds to create positive change through unity and collective work. We are a social movement organization practicing transformative justice processes based on group leadership where marginalized lives are centered. Areas of focus are health, wealth and gender equity, racial bias, systemic racism and youth justice leadership development.

## ARE YOU INTERESTED IN:

- ✓ MAXIMIZING YOUR IMPACT
- ✓ APPLYING YOUR LEADERSHIP SKILLS
- ✓ HELPING GROW THE ORGANIZATION
- ✓ CREATING POSITIVE CHANGES THROUGH A MORE UNIFIED SISTERHOOD

## APPLY TO JOIN THE WDN BOARD!

### WE ARE SEEKING INDIVIDUALS WITH THE FOLLOWING INTERESTS/EXPERIENCE:

- Representing WDN as ambassadors to move the mission forward, and seek out opportunities for funding, board, organizational, and program development
- Knowledge/experience with nonprofit organizations and/or Boards
- Interest in advancing wealth, health and racial equity for marginalized people



**WDN**  
WOMEN'S DIVERSITY  
NETWORK

## CONNECT WITH US

Submit your letter of interest and resume to [founder@womensdiversitynetwork.org](mailto:founder@womensdiversitynetwork.org)



[www.womensdiversitynetwork.org](http://www.womensdiversitynetwork.org)



516-847-4411

# BE THE CHANGE

APPLICATIONS  
ARE BEING  
ACCEPTED NOW  
FOR  
2023-2024!

## VIRTUAL YOUTH JUSTICE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

LEARN. GROW. CONTRIBUTE.

### About

The Youth Justice Leadership Program (YJLP) is a 7-month long virtual program for youth in grades 9-12 who are interested in building leadership skills and making a positive change in the world. The program is designed to inspire and empower students to become leaders and active change makers in their communities and beyond. Youth participants will develop civic agency through history, literacy, and service while focusing on diversity through a justice lens. Youth participants will engage in eye-opening, meaningful, interactive sessions that enforce critical thinking, civic responsibility, and justice while building confidence, competence, and awareness of socially relevant issues. The YJLP will meet twice a month from October 2023 through April 2024. Sessions will be held virtually on Wednesdays from 6:00 – 7:30 pm. The program will culminate with an in-person project exhibit and awards ceremony in April at the Women's Diversity Network Annual Summit.

### Benefits

- Earn community service hours – up to 30+ hours
- Meet and build friendships with other young people
- Program is attractive to colleges/universities
- Interactive facilitator/student experience, program is limited to 20 students
- Develop leadership skills in a fun, exciting way that will help at school, in your community, and in your future career

### Facilitators

The program is facilitated by NYS certified educators. We also invite guest speakers including community leaders, social justice advocates, and leadership development style experts. Our facilitators and speakers help students develop skills and knowledge that are not taught in traditional classrooms.

# NOTES

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# NOTES

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